

# LIFEDATE



LUTHERANS  
FOR LIFE

Spring 2026



# Stand Firm For Life

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# LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

Equipping Lutherans and  
their neighbors to be Gospel-  
motivated voices For Life!

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# Stand Firm. Be Strong. Endure.

by Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske



**S**tand firm. Be strong. Endure. These are all biblical words of exhortation. Each one implies the same thing: Being faithful to our calling as disciples of Christ is an ongoing struggle. As Luther reminded us in his Small Catechism, the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature “do not want us to hallow God’s name or let His kingdom come.”<sup>1</sup> As long as sin remains in the world, there will be opposition to Christ’s Church and to the truth of His Word.

We make progress in one area of the life arena, only to lose ground in another. Attitudes toward abortion might be shifting for the good in one state, while others push for later term abortions and wider access to medical abortion and the morning after pill.<sup>2</sup> The tide may start to turn regarding gender issues, but the widespread acceptance of divorce and pre-marital sex continues to spread, even among the Church. And studies have shown that American Christians are becoming more sympathetic toward physician-assisted suicide.<sup>3</sup>

There is certainly plenty of work for us to do, work that will continue to face opposition. Therefore, we must continue to heed the encouragement to stand firm. We must remain steadfast and faithful in the face of the devil’s attacks and the world’s hatred, both for the sake of our own souls and for those of our neighbors.

However, we must also remember the words of St. Paul, which caution us against thinking that this is something we can do alone.

**“Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall” (1 Corinthians 10:12).**

Standing firm against the forces of evil is not something that we sinners can do by our own power. If we tried, we would most certainly fall.

Thankfully, our Lord does not leave us to stand by ourselves! Far from standing alone, Jesus invites us to come and stand in Him and in the strength that He supplies (1 Peter 4:11). For He has already entered this battle against sin and death and has conquered in the fight. Now, by faith in Jesus, we are brought into His victory to stand covered in the righteousness of Christ Himself and equipped with His strength, gifts we receive through His precious Word and Sacraments.



**“Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved” (Philippians 4:1).**

1. SC, Lord’s Prayer, 3rd Petition.
2. For example, Minnesota lawmakers seeking to join the list of states to allow for abortion up to birth, and Illinois lawmakers recently introduced legislation to make the morning after pill accessible for free on college campuses.
3. Gallup: Most Americans Favor Legal Euthanasia. <https://news.gallup.com/poll/648215/americans-favor-legal-euthanasia.aspx>.

## You Need to Know in Whom You Have Faith

by Diane Albers, President of Lutherans For Life



I am an avid reader, often reading one or two books a week. It all started with my mama who got a library card for me when I was in second grade. And then there was the children's librarian who was always ready with book suggestions. I was the kid who read all the stories in my reader the first day I got it! Even today, if I cannot find time to read, I get cranky!

As a teacher, I wanted my students to know the wonder of reading, how it can take you away to another time or place. I made sure to read aloud each day and tried to pick books that would intrigue them and make them want more. (My favorite "chapter book" to read to kindergartners was *Jumanji*. "Don't stop, Mrs. A! What happens next?")

Of course, I also knew that without being able to read well, many doors would be closed to my students. Without learning their ABCs, phonics rules, and grammar rules, they would not be successful readers, and life would be more difficult for them. They would also need to practice, practice, practice these skills so that they would be able to read the words and also comprehend their meaning.

**"Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm" (Ephesians 6:13).**

There can be an analogy drawn to learning the skills to read and comprehend the meaning of those words and learning to stand firm in the faith. In order to stand firm in the faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, is vital. In order to stand firm, you need to know in whom you have faith. You learn that in Scripture by reading it, by hearing God's Word proclaimed by your pastor, by participating in Bible studies. Without all of this "practice," it would be impossible to stand firm in what God says. Ephesians 6 goes on to list what you need to stand firm: the belt of truth around your waist, the breastplate of righteousness, shoes with the readiness that comes from peace, the shield of faith to extinguish the flaming arrows of Satan.

I think of my son, Justin, and everything he had to wear as an Army Ranger, not only to protect himself, but also to fight off the enemy. Standing firm is serious business to the Army—and even more important in God's business! God expects you to be prepared to uphold His word, and if you are reading this, then you know that it is LFL's mission to "equip Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life." Contact Michele Hartshorn, Director of Volunteer Relations, at [mhartshorn@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:mhartshorn@lutheransforlife.org), or any LFL staff or board member, or your LFL State Federation President to find out more about being an active member of Lutherans For Life. After all, "You're in the Lord's Army!"



# Our Identity, Our Purpose, Our Security

by Deaconess Chrissy Gillet – Word of Hope



As Christians, we know our identity, purpose, and security are not rooted in circumstances or routines—they are grounded in who we are in Christ and whose we are. Scripture reminds us that we are in the world but not of the world (John 17:14–16). When life feels uncertain, we do not look to temporary anchors; we look to the eternal One who never changes.

The Bible prepares us for suffering and upheaval: **“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world”** (John 16:33). Our Lord Himself suffered, and we share in His sufferings (Romans 8:17). Therefore, when major changes shake us, we do not despair—we turn our eyes to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2).

## Our True Anchors According to Scripture

- Identity in Christ: **“You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession”** (1 Peter 2:9). Our worth is not tied to jobs, relationships, or health.
- Purpose in God’s glory: **“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God”** (1 Corinthians 10:31). Even in transition, our calling remains to glorify Him.
- Security in His promises: **“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble”** (Psalm 46:1). When the world feels unstable, His Word is our firm foundation.



## How We Respond in Times of Change

- Fix our eyes on Christ: **“Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things”** (Colossians 3:2).
- Stand on God’s Word: **“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path”** (Psalm 119:105).
- Pray without ceasing: **“Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you”** (1 Peter 5:7).
- Lean on the body of Christ: **“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ”** (Galatians 6:2).

Life changes may shake our routines, but they cannot shake the Kingdom of God. Our hope is not in stabilizing the present moment—it is in the eternal security we have in Jesus Christ. When the world feels uncertain, we cling to the truth: **“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure”** (Hebrews 6:19).

# Our Rallying Cry: Stand Firm For Life!

by Rev. Paul Clark, Lutherans For Life of Michigan



“**I**mitate the action of the tiger; Stiffen the sinews, summon up the blood,” says King Henry V to his troops before battle (*William Shakespeare, Henry V, Act 3, Scene 1*).

That is what is known as a **rallying cry**, words that ignite people to act for a common cause or purpose.

**Stand Firm For Life.** In effect, this is *our* rallying cry, as we seek to protect and hold sacred human life in all its phases, from fertilization to the grave. We are in a spiritual and cultural battle. **Stiffen the sinews; summon up the blood. Take courage! Stand Firm For Life!**

But standing firm implies having a *solid foundation*. How firm is your foundation?

When a skyscraper is constructed, the first step is to drive steel or concrete piles deep into the ground to form a foundation that will safely support this tall and massive structure, enabling it to endure storms and wind and quakes.

We have such a foundation in Jesus Christ and His Word. For **“you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord”** (Ephesians 2:19-21).

**We are well-grounded in Christ.** By the Spirit’s power, our pillars are set deeply into the bedrock of His Word. The howling winds and torrential rains of the culture of death will assault us, but we can and will **Stand Firm For Life**, for we have Christ, who *IS* our life. We have the Word of truth that cannot return void but accomplishes all that God wills and desires.

The shifting sands and loose topsoil of this world cannot provide a firm foundation. We live in a time of spiritual darkness that pervades the culture and, sadly, even some areas of the contemporary Church.

Too many hibernate in a cocoon of silence in relation to abortion and life issues. They hide behind the smokescreen of the so-called “separation between Church and state,” refusing to address topics that are integral to the Gospel of Life that Jesus came to bring.

**Only the Light of Jesus** can dispel the morbid mantle of darkness in this world. Time is fleeting. Babies are dying. Women are suffering great harm from the abortion culture. Marriages are crumbling. Many are lost in the mindless confusion of gender identity and dysphoria.

The famous writer Sir Walter Scott kept a large garden at his estate in Melrose, Scotland. In its center stood a sundial that had these words engraved upon it: **ERCHETAI NUX**. That is Greek for “The night is coming.”

And so, it is. Time is short. The battalions of darkness array themselves against all that is good, all that is noble, all that is holy. But we have the **LIGHT** that overcomes the darkness.

For we have a warrior—the **very SON OF GOD Himself**—who grabs hold of us and will not let go. Jesus came down into the mud and mire of this corrupted world

and gave His life for us. He took into Himself the poison of our sins—all of them—even the sin of abortion. He was crucified, He died, and He rose—for us! He loves us fiercely and has done everything necessary to bring all His beloved people safely home.

Whatever troubles and anxieties come upon you, or when you become fearful of those who oppose you, remember that Jesus Christ is with you always. His Word stands. **“I will never leave you or forsake you. I am with you always”** (Hebrews 13:5b). **“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also”** (John 14:3).

**Courage, dear saints!** You have not been abandoned to stand alone on the wintry plain of despair. You are grounded in Jesus.

So, **“stiffen the sinews, summon up the blood!”** **Stand Firm For Life.** That is our rallying cry. But make sure you are well-grounded, piles driven deep into the bedrock of Christ and His Word. Attend the Divine Service. Receive His precious body and blood. Go to Bible class. **Know WHAT you believe and WHY.** Be a Gospel-motivated voice for the unborn, for the weak, the defenseless, the aged, the infirm, and the dying. Keep watch for wolves in sheep’s clothing who may appear Christ-like on the exterior, but who hold positions that are in contrast and opposition to God’s Word.

*Merciful Lord, help us to stand firmly on the foundation of Your Holy Word, to proclaim the truth of life and salvation through Christ alone, the sanctity of all human life, born and unborn, and Your design of male and female, sexuality and marriage. Help us to be who we are called to be as Your people, washed by the sparkling waters of Holy Baptism, and brought into Your blessed kingdom of grace. Dear Lord, help us to value this treasure aright. “Sustain me, O Lord, till Your Day of returning, and harvest me homeward at last, to shine in the homeland that quiets all yearning, where sorrow and danger are past” (LSB 654). Amen.*





And what an event it was!

I'm sure it's happened to you, too. You're busy doing the work, fulfilling the vocations God has called you into: changing diapers, driving kids to school, filling out paperwork, finishing a project, or working the line. You're multitasking and problem-solving and planning your next step like a pro. And then it happens—despite the people and the tasks that are vying for your attention—a Bible passage you learned in your youth comes to mind. And you're struck by its truth.

That's exactly what happened to me as I stood in the back of a ballroom filled with over 550 participants at Y4Life in Washington, D.C., in January. Philippians 1:1-3—the NIV version I memorized as a child—came to mind and rang true:

*"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus"* (emphasis mine).

At that moment, as I was preparing to walk to the front of the room to welcome our attendees, I was overwhelmed with gratitude. Gratitude to God for His life-giving and life-affirming work. Gratitude to the Y4Life and LFL team members who had been working for months to prepare for the event. And gratitude to the youth and young adults and chaperones and exhibitors who were present, thankful that they not only desired to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life but also for dedicating their time, talent, and finances to learning about life issues and marching publicly to uphold life.

**But they weren't the only ones. I was also thankful for YOU, supporters of LFL and partners in the Gospel.** Your prayers and financial support, your student sponsorships and efforts to "Keep DC Free" for our participants helped us raise over \$9,000 in scholarships and almost \$32,000 for the event. Your gifts helped make that moment, and the conference to come, possible.

And your blessings extended far beyond the moment. Your prayers for travel kept us safe on the way to and from the event, despite a massive snowstorm that was headed our way. Your donations covered honorariums and travel expenses for speakers; provided a hat, scarf, and snack bag for each participant attending the March; and prepared a warm, hearty breakfast for youth before they spent hours in the cold. Your gifts covered the cost of equipment transportation, ballroom rental, and travel for the four staff members we needed to run the event. And you did much more. Yes, God worked through your prayers and contributions to make the entire event possible.

And what an event it was!

The conference began with devotions led by LFL's Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske. Then we followed up God's Word with an opportunity to meet others in the room—using mixers and questions to make introductions. The speakers came next—Dr. Donna Harrison and Dr. Adam Francisco—both offering apologetics for

the unborn. The evening ended with poster-making and a special event for college students.

Friday morning, youth and young adults heard from an international speaker, author, and leader in the pro-life field—Ryan Bomberger, Creative Director and Co-founder of the Radiance Foundation. His unique story—conceived in rape but raised in love through adoption—was inspirational to many of our participants. I'd encourage you to listen to his message (and others!) on our YouTube page, Y4Life, or on our website [y4life.org](http://y4life.org).

Ryan's presentation was followed by a pre-March devotion led by Rev. Harrison Goodman, Executive Director of Mission and Theology at Higher Things, and after I provided instructions, we were off to the March!

I'm sure you've seen pictures of the March by now. Though the streets look crowded, pictures can't convey the vast number of people who joined us. The March for Life is the largest pro-life gathering in the world, and it is such an honor to provide youth with the opportunity to be part of it. This mountaintop experience is filled with joy, song, and the truth that life is valuable.

Youth participated in the March; when they were done, many went on to tour Smithsonians, memorials, or the Bible Museum before joining us at the hotel for evening sessions. Youth had two options: participate in a panel discussion on mental health or attend a session on care for families of suicide victims.

On our last day together, we focused on how God has fearfully and wonderfully made us for service. Rev. Michael Frese spoke first on vocation, and Rev. Dr. Todd Peperkorn led our final presentation on how to be served, embracing God's work to uphold life through His Word and Sacraments. The conference closed with a devotion led by Rev. Chad Hoover.

Even now Paul's words echo in my thoughts: **"I thank my God every time I remember you ... because of your partnership in the gospel ..."**.

It's true, you may not have been present with us at Y4Life in Washington, D.C., but your gifts and prayers blessed us just the same. And those good works, the very same works God prepared for you in advance to do, have made a difference for life.

There were so many reasons to be thankful during Y4Life in Washington, D.C., and you are one of them. Thank you.

P.S. If you'd like to help make Y4Life in Washington, D.C., possible next year, please follow the QR code.



## Be Sober-Minded – Be Watchful

by Rev. Caleb Stoeber, Lutherans For Life of Kansas



Saint Peter warns us in Chapter 5 of his first letter:

**“Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world” (1 Peter 5:8–9).**

While all of Scripture is true and faithful at all times and places, this warning from St. Peter can certainly feel more starkly true in our day in the defense of God-given life. If the devil isn't devouring at one end, he is certainly devouring at the other. In 2024, there were 19,811 abortion procedures performed in my state of Kansas—the highest recorded for a single year and more than double the 7,849 in 2021. That is according to our own state Department of Health and Environment, not private statistics.

Most of the abortions in Kansas took place on children who were conceived and whose mothers lived out of state, which makes the work of sidewalk counselors and pregnancy resource centers more difficult, as they must be able to connect those seeking assistance with resources with which they are unfamiliar.

But if that weren't enough for the devil's prowling nature, he is again reminding us that he wants mankind to commit murder at all times, not just on those in the womb. Compassion & Choices (formerly the Hemlock Society) has been gaining ground across the United States in expanding “right to die” (otherwise known as “death with dignity”) laws. We know they seek to advance their practice through all fifty states and are slowly adding states as their funding and resources allow.

**If you think that they will stop with new laws simply enabling those who are suffering to choose death six months early in a highly regulated environment, please be sober-minded and watchful.**

This isn't the way the laws have worked, nor is it what these groups are advocating. They want unrestricted access to murder at any time for any reason, just like abortion advocates have always wanted. There is no such thing as “safe, legal, and rare” as many have advocated for in the past, either in abortion or in euthanasia.

Canada, our neighbor to the north, is proof of such practice. The nation is continually expanding its euthanasia laws to encompass more people since euthanasia became legal in June of 2016. In 2024, there were 16,499 deaths due to legalized euthanasia, accounting for 5.1 percent of all deaths in Canada. It has gone from being illegal eight years ago to now causing five percent of all deaths, and they don't get repeat customers.

By the way, if you want to see how the Canadian culture has accepted euthanasia, I think it is telling that 21 percent of all legalized euthanasia deaths in Canada took place in 2024. The current law prohibits those who are mentally ill from seeking such a death, but that provision is already set to expire as soon as legislators get on board. It is likely that by no later than 2027, Canada will expand those “rights” to those who are mentally ill and possibly to minors with parental consent.

It is sobering, to say the least, to observe how quickly the idolization of euthanasia has come to Canada and now to thirteen states and the District of Columbia. Illinois, Delaware, and New York have just been added in the last few months, which means the impact is just beginning. And the Kansas courts in Douglas County are seeing a challenge by Compassion & Choices to make Kansas yet another state in their euthanasia network.

Be sober-minded and watchful. How? Pray that God would not let our state or nation suffer another blow to life. Teach your children, friends, and neighbors that they are not a burden but a gift to be cherished no matter their condition, no matter the struggles, no matter the cost. Prepare for the day in which “medical aid in dying” (or MAID) will be legal and encouraged in this state.

**Do we have the means to support those who are encouraged to die, especially when the state itself encourages it? This is what the Christian life looks like: supporting those who cannot support themselves in God-fearing and life-affirming ways.**

*This article originally appeared in the Lutherans For Life of Kansas e-newsletter for March 2026 and is reprinted by permission.*



## Put On the Full Armor of God

by Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske



**M**any in the For Life camp will use the language of warfare when describing our efforts to defend the sanctity of life. We speak of struggling, battling, fighting, and defending against those who look to death as the answer to life's problems. And perhaps rightfully so. The work we do to defend life at every stage and in every condition is difficult and arduous, and there are certainly plenty of forces standing in opposition to us. Speaking of pro-life efforts as a struggle or a battle against the culture of death is more than appropriate.

Of course, this is nothing new. St. Paul often used the language of warfare when describing the Christian life in his epistles to the various churches in Rome and Asia Minor. One of the more familiar passages is his encouragement in Ephesians 6:11 to **"put on the full armor of God."** In this exhortation, Paul paints the picture of the Christian as a fierce warrior, properly dressed and equipped to fight and vanquish his enemies. It's quite a powerful image!

However, to properly understand the image that St. Paul paints for us, we must be careful to remember who the true enemy is. It is tempting to think of our earthly opponents, the human proponents of abortion, physician-assisted suicide, etc., as our enemies. Unfortunately, when we do that, we can end up thinking that our true goal is merely to win—to destroy our enemies, either by words, rhetoric, or power. If that were the case, we may become the very thing we fight against, seeing our neighbors as obstacles to be defeated instead of as those created, redeemed, and called by our loving God.

No, we are not to see our neighbors as our enemies in this ongoing battle. Rather we should see them as casualties. They are fallen sinners, people whose hearts and minds have been corrupted by sin and warped by the devil, and who now sit as prisoners and slaves to him. They do not need to be vanquished; they need to be rescued!

And that is precisely what that armor of God is for, at least in relation to your neighbors. Think about those weapons again:

**"The belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the sword of the Spirit, which is none other than the Word of God" (Ephesians 6:14-17).**

These are the very means that God used to bring you into His salvation. God hasn't entrusted you with these tools to destroy your fellow men but to save them from the clutches of the evil one!

After all, that is our true enemy in this battle. Satan and the other **"cosmic powers over this present darkness, the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places"** (Ephesians 6:12) are our true enemies in this fight. The devil has been a liar and a murderer from the beginning (John 8:44), and it is he who continues to expand the domain of death by corrupting the minds of men.

It is against him that God has equipped us to stand in the battle. **“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil”** (Ephesians 6:11, emphasis mine).

And notice carefully the purpose for this armor. It has been given to us that we may stand. We are not expected to defeat the devil in this battle, merely to stand firm against his attacks. Jesus is the One who has been sent to destroy Satan and his might. And this battle has already been won by our Lord. As the writer to the Hebrews reminds us, by His own death, Jesus has destroyed the devil along with his power to frighten us with death (Hebrews 2:14).

We are called to stand firm in this victory that Christ has won for us. As we bear the armor of God and wield His weapons, we are standing behind the protective wall of Christ. Think of the closing words of Psalm 46, the words that inspired Luther to write his famous hymn, “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.” **“The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress”**(Psalm 46:11). Jesus doesn’t merely stand behind us to prop us up in this fight or shout encouragement to us from the sidelines. He gathers us into Himself as troops behind an impenetrable wall.

Through His Word and Sacraments, along with the faith He creates by these means of grace, Jesus Himself defends us against the attacks of the evil one and equips us to remain faithful in the battle against death. At the same time, as He equips us to stand firm in this fight, He is also using us to defend our neighbors, that they too might rejoice in the victory that Christ has won for the world.

May God enable us all to don His armor and wield His weapons faithfully, standing firm against every assault of the devil and reaching out in defense of our neighbors.





# LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

## SPRING GALA! THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE

**PLACE:** Concordia University Wisconsin – Mequon

**DATE/TIME:** Friday, May 15, 2026, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
*Fellowship time starts at 5:30 p.m.*

**LOCATION:** Concordia Center For Environmental  
Stewardship Building (CCES)

**SPEAKER:** Katie Coblentz

*Katie is using her story of  
escaping transgenderism  
to warn and help others  
who are in the midst  
of the same struggles.*



Learn More



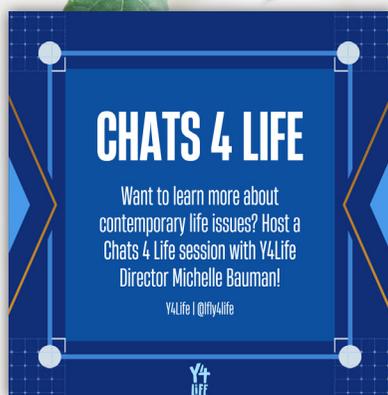
**Come and stand boldly For **Life!****  
**Find out more at:**  
**[lutheransforlife.org/spring-gala-2026](https://lutheransforlife.org/spring-gala-2026)**

## JOIN US ONLINE!

Consider hosting a virtual **Chats 4 Life** session! During these sessions, youth learn about a contemporary life issue they're interested in and are encouraged to ask questions and engage in discussion with Y4Life Director Michelle Bauman. Want to host a **Chats 4 Life** session at your school or church? Email Michelle at [michelle@y4life.org](mailto:michelle@y4life.org) to request a Zoom session! Please give 2-3 months' notice when requesting a **Chats 4 Life** session to avoid calendar conflicts.

**For Life Conversations** – Recorded 5-15 minute interviews on life topics shared on our Facebook page and website.

**Find us on YouTube!**



## Request a Speaker



**LUTHERANS  
FOR LIFE**

[LUTHERANSFORLIFE.ORG/REQUEST-A-SPEAKER](http://LUTHERANSFORLIFE.ORG/REQUEST-A-SPEAKER)

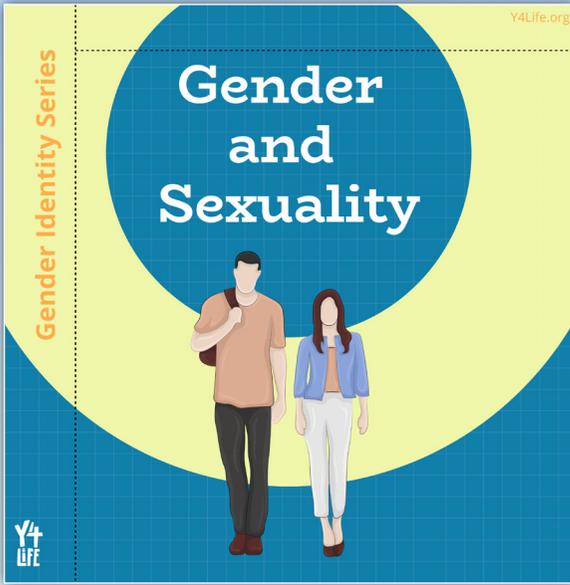


**Lutherans For Life** will work with you to help meet your needs for a speaker or preacher at a worship service, Bible study, circuit pastors' forum, rally, conference, convention, public or parochial school, college/university, workshop/seminar, or just about any other event at your congregation.

**Begin your planning now by contacting Lutherans For Life at [info@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:info@lutheransforlife.org) or 515-382-2077.**

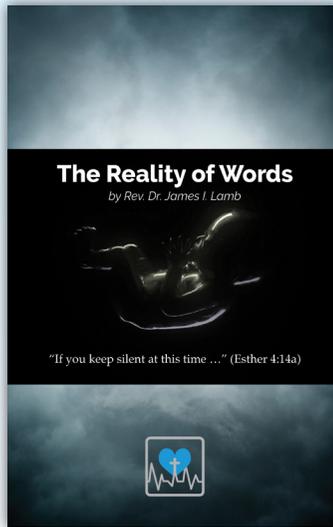
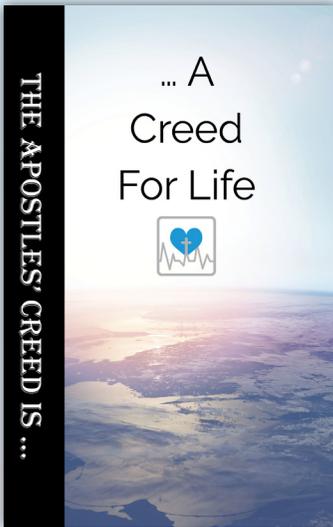
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**Gender and Sexuality –**  
 An infographic booklet –  
 Sex and gender. They're  
 hot topics in today's  
 society, aren't they?  
*Item Y4L123-1. \$4.50 ea.*

**Find more Y4Life  
 resources and swag at  
[y4life.org!](http://y4life.org)**



**A Creed For Life – Item LFL1655. \$0.50 ea.**  
 Inside this brochure are some pro-life thoughts  
 on the creed and some related Bible passages.

**The Reality of Words – Item LFL105B. \$0.50 ea.**  
 Here is the reality of what abortion is and does:  
 Abortion kills little girls and little boys in terrible  
 ways before birth.

**Self-Harm**

**What is NSSI?**  
Self-harm behavior is often referred to as non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI). This occurs when someone, such as a youth, intentionally harms him or herself to cope with stress and not with the intention of ending his or her life by suicide.

Psalm 147:3 "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."

Self-harm behaviors most often appear as cutting on arms or thighs, hitting one's head, or burning. Yet, it can also include pinching to the point of bruising, pressing nails into one's skin until bleeding, and pulling out hair.

888-21-STORY  
888-277-8279  
info@word-of-hope.org

If you or someone you know might be engaging in self-harm behaviors, help is available at Word of Hope.

**Self-Harm – A Word of Hope Brochure – Item WOH002. \$2.00 ea.**

*Angels*  
and the  
Sanctity of Life

by Pastor Michael Salemink



Life-Affirming  
Encouragement  
for Single Parents

by Pastor Michael Salemink





**Angels and the Sanctity of Life – Item LFL210B. \$2.00 ea.**  
**Life-Affirming Encouragement for Single Parents – Item LFL312B. \$2.00 ea.**



**A 4Life View of IVF**

Infertility is often difficult for a couple to bear, and Christians are called to respond with compassion to those who are suffering. For this reason, the goal of this brochure is twofold: to share facts that could prevent future suffering and to speak with sensitivity, compassion, and hope about the issue of infertility.



**A 4Life View of IVF – Item Y4L105. \$4.50 ea.**



Order LFL Resources at [cph.org](http://cph.org) or 800.325.3040. Shipping/handling applies to all orders. Quantity pricing on select resources.



# LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

Available in App Stores



Use the Lutherans For Life app to become a Gospel-motivated voice For Life!

[lutheransforlife.org/lfl-app](http://lutheransforlife.org/lfl-app)

Do you know a family in your congregation who is having its fourth or more child? Fill out the form at the link below, and the Miami Valley Life Chapter will send a blanket made with love directly to this expectant mother in the United States (as well as Puerto Rico, and APO and FPO addresses). No strings attached! [lutheransforlife.org/lambs-lutherans-assembling-mercy-blankets](http://lutheransforlife.org/lambs-lutherans-assembling-mercy-blankets)



**Buying or selling a home or commercial property?** Support Lutherans For Life at the same time! Call 877.543.3871 or email [proliferealestate@yahoo.com](mailto:proliferealestate@yahoo.com) for more information. [realestateforlife.org](http://realestateforlife.org)  
[lutheransforlife.org/real-estate-for-life](http://lutheransforlife.org/real-estate-for-life)



**Frontline Call** – For all LFL Frontline volunteers! Monday, April 13, 2026 – 7:00 p.m. CDT/8:00 p.m. EDT. There will be a devotion, activity update, life project ideas, guest speakers, and Q & A. **For topics, speakers, and Zoom links, go to the LFL homepage calendar.**



For those who have had an abortion, a Word of Hope ... 888.217.8679  
[word-of-hope.org](http://word-of-hope.org)  
[info@word-of-hope.org](mailto:info@word-of-hope.org)



**And remember** ... Every time you shop at any of the 1,800+ online stores in the **iGive** network, a portion of the money you spend benefits LFL. It's a free service, and in fact, smart shoppers will enjoy **iGive's** coupons, free shipping deals, and sales. Start iGiving at: [www.iGive.com/LFL](http://www.iGive.com/LFL)



## Free Downloadable Resources!

**Life Quotes 2026** – Share the For Life message all year long with **Life Quotes!** **Life Quotes** are quotations on life issues—many from LFL resources and publications—for use in weekly congregational bulletins. You are also free to use the quotations in your monthly newsletter. The quotes are dated but could generally be used any time.

**Life Thoughts in the Church Year** are designed to help pastors and congregations see the church year through the lens of the sanctity of human life. **Life Thoughts in the Church Year** are based on the appointed readings from *Lutheran Service Book* using both the One-Year and Three-Year Lectionaries.

[lutheransforlife.org/resources/life-quotes](https://lutheransforlife.org/resources/life-quotes)

[lutheransforlife.org/resources/life-thoughts](https://lutheransforlife.org/resources/life-thoughts)

**Verba Vitae** – A Serious Christian Journal of Life and Its Significance – *Verba Vitae* is committed to bringing the classical Christian tradition into conversation with life issues now confronting us. Modeling the reasoned logos of the theological tradition, *Verba Vitae* explores the truth-claims made by thinkers and examines the grounds upon which these assertions are made.

**Lutherans For Life** is proud and honored to be involved in the *Verba Vitae* project in fellowship and collaboration with the **Institute of Lutheran Theology**. We are especially delighted to bring the Church and the world the fine scholarship its contributors and their reflections represent.



[lutheransforlife.org/verba-vitae](https://lutheransforlife.org/verba-vitae)

## Stand Firm For Life – Don't Be a Kibitzer

by Deaconess Janet Nicol, Word of Hope



When we speak of our *LifeDate* theme, **Stand Firm For Life**, we are not only speaking about the protection of physical life—although that matters deeply—but about the way life is honored, sustained, and wounded every day through our words and actions. Life is diminished when relationships are severed, when forgiveness is withheld, when careless words push people to the margins. These are not small things; they strike at the heart of what it means to be truly pro-life.

I always like improving my vocabulary and here is a fun word:

**Kibitzer**—a person who offers unsolicited advice or distracting commentary.

We've all encountered one, and if we're honest, we've all *been* one. I know I have! After all, another definition includes someone who jokes or makes wisecracks while others are trying to focus. (Guilty as charged!)

But how do we keep from becoming full-time kibitzers, and how do we let go of resentment toward those who offend us with their unwelcome words? The answer is forgiveness. Chances are, we've all been on both sides—offering unsolicited advice and receiving it. (And yes, I just turned a noun into a verb.)

I recall a situation when a friend decided to leave my husband and me out of social situations we had been invited to in the past because of a perceived lack of concern for her daughter. It caused me great loss of sleep at one time. I never heard words of forgiveness, even though I issued an apology, she never acknowledged it, and her friendship seems lost forever. I then struggled for a long time, forgiving her for her lack of forgiveness toward me. Forgiveness isn't just a concept; it's a battle of the heart.

So, each day, we must ask ourselves:

*What resentments have I been clinging to today?*

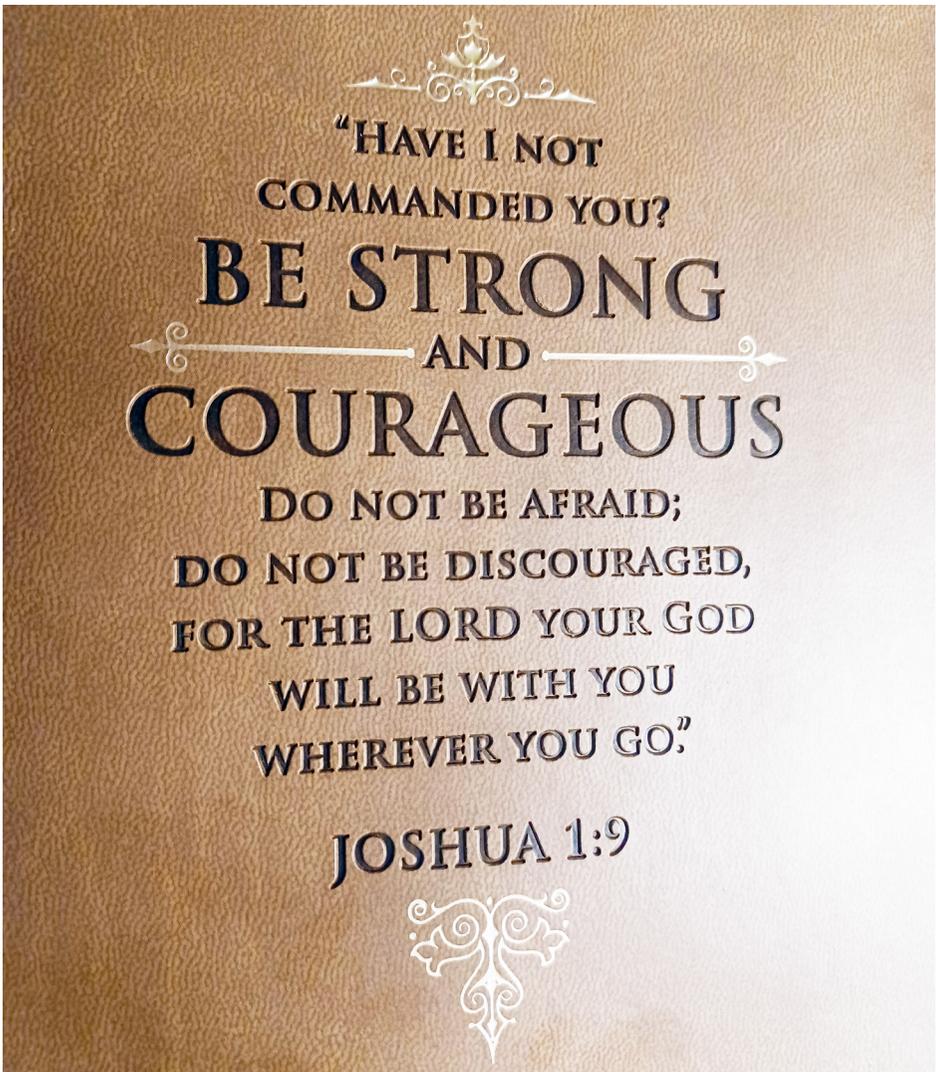
And just as importantly, we must recognize the moments in which *we* have hurt others with our words, whether or not we remember the exact phrasing. Thankfully, confession doesn't require perfect recall—but forgiveness does demand deeper reflection on why we struggle to let go. This is, without a doubt, one of the hardest things to do.

Ephesians reminds us that standing firm requires armor, because life is constantly under assault—not only in obvious ways, but in subtle, relational ones. Our enemy, Satan, delights in turning words into weapons and resentment into strongholds. Left unguarded, we either become kibitzers who wound others with our speech, or we harden ourselves against those who have wounded us. Neither posture upholds life.

But Christ stands firm for us. He absorbs our sharp words, our failures to forgive, and our quiet resentments into His own body. In Baptism, He names us as His own. In the liturgy, He speaks life over us again and again. In the Lord's Supper, He places His very life into our hands. This is what arms us to stand firm—not in self-defense, but in mercy.

Words matter. That’s why the old saying—“sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me”—is one of the most frustrating clichés ever uttered. We all know it isn’t true. Words do wound, and no amount of pretending otherwise will change that. Christians, we have *better* words—words that bring life, redemption, and peace. These are the words of Christ: spoken over us in Baptism, repeated in our liturgy, heard in sermons, and most profoundly, received in the Lord’s Supper. Don’t deprive yourself of these words, nor of Christ’s tangible body and blood. Go to church. Hear the forgiveness that is freely given. Because that, and *only* that, will help us stop being kibitzers—and more importantly, help us forgive the kibitzers in our lives.

To stand firm for life, then, is to guard the life God has given—not only in the womb, but in friendships, families, congregations, and communities. It is to choose forgiveness over bitterness, humility over commentary, and life-giving words over those that slowly erode trust and love. This kind of standing firm is costly. It is also holy. And it is only possible because Christ first stood firm for us.



## Membership in Many Forms

by Virginia J. Flo



**"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it"**

(1 Corinthians 12:27).

God has given us the wonderful gift as believers of being members of the body of Christ. Through Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection we are given membership. Being a member of this glorious body of Christ is a great reward, as through our Baptism we were given the great inheritance of life eternal, the ultimate promise fulfilled.

Belonging to something means we are not alone. God has chosen each and every one of us and claimed us as His own. He created us and He redeemed us after sin put us on a path to eternal death. It's through Baptism He has called us into an eternal relationship in His care and keeping. We belong and are members of this great collection called the body of Christ.

God is a giver of great magnitude. Unless we turn our back and reject His promise, it is a free gift. There are other types of memberships, but the eternal gift is beyond anything we could choose (or imagine). The fact that we are members of our families is another gift from God. Our participation in that role varies by person, but it is a membership. We are also members of the church we belong to, and keeping up those memberships is an important part of growing our faith, serving our Lord, and being the good stewards God intends for us to be.

You may be members of other organizations both religious and secular as you have a personal interest in the purpose of those organizations. **Lutherans For Life also has a membership program. Some may view that as purely financial. However, it is much more than that.** Financial support is extremely important to the maintenance and survival of LFL's life ministry. However, membership shows support and commitment to the ministry and keeps you informed. Participation breeds support, and that is extremely important. When you are involved, even if it is only through financial gifts, you become, through your action, a voice For Life—which is the mission of LFL. Your commitment to life ministry will hopefully garner your prayer support for LFL as it becomes near to your heart. You may become active in life ministry at your church or community, as that also fulfills the mission of LFL.

When LFL began in the late 1970s, Life Chapters were started to bring life ministry to the people around the country. State Federations were also developed to support the work being done in those Life Chapters. Later the position of Life Ministry Coordinator (now Life Advocate) was developed. And then the Life Team concept was added to provide several different levels of participation that best serve the needs of the participants and those being served. It was intended that each of these participants would immediately become members of LFL, so as the needs in the Frontlines expand, with more participation, the organization could keep up with the additional resources and life ministry support through the added memberships. And, of course, maintaining those memberships on an annual basis is essential. It

may be time to remind everyone of the need to keep up those memberships so LFL can continue to support you through the LFL staff as they develop helpful resources in many forms.

You may be thinking, *“I support my church and several other organizations to which I already belong. It’s difficult to also include Lutherans For Life in my commitments.”* You are the only one that can make the determination of what you can afford and the appropriate priorities in your life. Please include this request of maintaining a membership with LFL in your prayers and ask the Lord to give you the guidance you need. It isn’t always the amount but the commitment.

Being a member of the body of Christ is a gift given by God focused on our salvation. Membership in other organizations is optional, although the work of Lutherans For Life is life ministry with a total focus on serving the Lord through the Gospel-motivated message For Life. I would strongly encourage you to be faithful in your support of the work of Lutherans For Life, as it is so very important as people are facing life issues daily and need to know God’s love for life through God’s Word.

**Please consider renewing your membership or becoming an LFL member. Here is where you can act to do so right now:**

[lutheransforlife.org/membership-gift](http://lutheransforlife.org/membership-gift)

A woman with short brown hair and glasses is looking down at an open book. The book has a yellow cover. The background is dark.

## Want to be a voice For Life?

## Lutherans For Life can help YOU!

*Be a For Life servant ... you can make a difference!*

### THREE WAYS TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!

**It only takes one!** A Life Advocate works with their pastor to share God’s love For Life!

**Grab your friends!** A Life Team is a group of life-affirming volunteers at church creating meaningful and fun ways to support life!

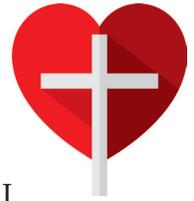
**Strength in numbers!** A Life Chapter is one or more churches working together to impact their communities.

[lutheransforlife.org/volunteer-relations](http://lutheransforlife.org/volunteer-relations)



*... from fertilization to forever*

## A Prayer for Mothers



**Dear Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

Your great Trinitarian love has given every one of us a mother.

As she remains alongside me and carries my crosses with me, I come to know Your own presence and power.

**Thank You** that she prepares, preserves, and protects Your gift of life.

**Thank You** that she shows me devoted attention and affection from You.

**Thank You** that she reflects how gently You instruct and how relentlessly You defend me.

**Thank You** that she conveys your patience in her listening, assisting, and encouraging.

**Thank You** that she sacrifices her body to serve my well-being after the example of Your Son.

**Thank You** that she stretches her heart to heal and strengthen mine because You have created, redeemed, and called every human being as Your precious treasure forever.

For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, grant unto her a double portion of the loving-kindness You have showered upon me through her.

Increase her comfort and confidence in her mothering as a holy and blessed vocation from Your hand.

Bless especially the ones upon whom the burden and work press heaviest, including single mothers, stay-at-home mothers, mothers who work outside of the home, mothers of large families, and mothers whose sons or daughters have extraordinary needs.

In the mercy of Your forgiveness, in the promise of new creation, and in the communion of Your kingdom, relieve our sisters for whom motherhood has brought loss or sorrows, as well as Your daughters who have not known the joy of motherhood.

With Your Son, Your saints and angels, and the righteous women who have gone before us to deliver the faith, gather them, and by their witness gather us, into the never-ending wedding feast of the Lamb, where they will shine with Your own glory and honor. Amen.



## A Prayer for Fathers



**Dear Father in heaven,**

Your great love for Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, has brought forth every human life as Your own precious treasure forever.

And though You reign exalted over all the universe, You come near to each of us in the blessing of a father.

**Thank You** that You have bound one such man also to me in an echo of Your own incarnation next to us in the flesh.

**Thank You** that my father protects me and provides for me at Your ordaining.

**Thank You** that he supplies me with shelter and security that teaches me about You.

**Thank You** that his diligence sustains me and his devotion consoles me with Your hand.



**Thank You** that his affirmation expresses Your unconditional acceptance.

**Thank You** that his counsel and his example support me and prepare me to do Your will.

I humbly implore You to enfold him this day and unto eternity in the same heavenly grace that he has shown me.

Establish him in peace and joy, knowing that His fatherly labors fulfill Your command and that

You receive his service as a worship of You.

Let Your blessing rest especially with fathers in exceptional circumstances, including single fathers, adoptive and fostering fathers, fathers of large families, and fathers whose sons or daughters have extraordinary needs.

Grant special healing and hope also to our brothers who have endured fatherhood's losses or sorrows and to the ones who have not known the delight of fatherhood.

As they have ensured our survival, give them all length of days, and in Your Son's resurrection to everlasting life, gather them into the fellowship of their fathers and the great reward that awaits every one of us who follows in the faith they have maintained, sharing in Your everlasting gladness. Amen.



**Y4Life**, the youth branch of Lutherans For Life, hosted the 2026 **Y4Life Summit** from February 20-22 at Concordia University, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Each February, the Summit takes place on a Concordia campus. Through the use of educational sessions and hands-on opportunities to support life, the Summit is specifically designed to equip high school and college youth to uphold the lives of others. Youth learn how to spot a life issue and are also given practical and concrete ways to respond to the issue with both a Gospel-motivated voice and through acts of mercy.

This year's Summit welcomed 45 youth from across the nation. Eight different colleges and universities, all with active **Y4Life** teams on their campuses, sent representatives to the **Y4Life Summit** including Purdue, KU, Luther Classical College, Concordia Chicago, Concordia Wisconsin, Concordia Nebraska, Concordia St. Paul, and Concordia Texas. High school students also attended from a variety of states including Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Missouri.

While participating in the **Y4Life Summit**, youth learned about Christian citizenship, the life-affirming benefits of marriage and family, IVF, the complex intersection between mental health and homelessness, and how to engage as a compassionate Christian using a Gospel-motivated voice in a world broken by sin. All educational sessions were led by experts on life issues, including three local speakers—Minnesota South District President Lucas Woodford, Rev. Scot Missling, and Rev. Joshua Miller—as well as two experts from Lutherans For Life—Deaconess Chrissie Gillet (**Word of Hope** Director) and Michelle Bauman (**Y4Life** Director).

In addition to learning about life issues, those who attended the Summit worshipped together, watched a For Life movie, and partnered with the St. Paul Outreach Center at Jehovah Lutheran Church for a service project. Attendees packed over 400 snack kits and made fleece tie blankets for the unhoused in the Minneapolis and St. Paul communities.

The conference offered youth an opportunity to transform their beliefs into actions and build deep relationships with other life-affirming youth. If you'd like to find out more about the **Y4Life Summit** or discover resources and gatherings **Y4Life**—the youth branch of Lutherans For Life—has to offer, please contact Director Michelle Bauman at [Michelle@y4life.org](mailto:Michelle@y4life.org).



## Congregational House of Refuge

The **Congregational House of Refuge** program assists congregations to equip their members and neighbors to prevent abortions, provide healing for those affected by previous abortions, and protect the unborn and the vulnerable in their community.

The **Congregational House of Refuge** represents a Gospel-motivated witness and service For Life. Your Gospel-motivated voice For Life is embodying God's truth and Christ's love to receive every human life as a blessing—no matter what size, skills, or circumstances.

A **Congregational House of Refuge** congregation commits publicly and lovingly to support its members and neighbors experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. Giving voice to the **Congregational House of Refuge** Statement embodies this commitment. The formal designation makes the church a refuge for anyone to feel safe, encouraged, and supported, while receiving the delights that come with carrying and caring for a child. **To become a Congregational House of Refuge:**

- The pastor reviews the program carefully recommending it to church leaders.
- The congregational leaders review and approve the program.
- The leaders share the program with the congregation for approval.
- The pastor reads a commitment statement in worship twice a year.
- The congregation becomes involved through mentoring, praying, and designating a representative to oversee the program details.

**SHINE YOUR LIGHT  
INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY,  
SHARING HOW YOUR  
CONGREGATION  
IS A SAFE PLACE.**

**CONGREGATIONAL  
HOUSE  
OF  
REFUGE**

Visit LFL's website, under the Frontlines tab, to view the **Congregational House of Refuge** program resources: Program Guide, the **Congregational House of Refuge** Statement, and the **Congregational House of Refuge** Commissioning and Installation Litany. For more information on the **Congregational House of Refuge**, please reach out to Volunteer Relations at [info@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:info@lutheransforlife.org).

[lutheransforlife.org/congregational-house-of-refuge](https://lutheransforlife.org/congregational-house-of-refuge)



## Lutherans For Life on IVF and IVG

On February 18, 2026, the national Lutherans For Life board of directors approved an updated position statement on in vitro fertilization (IVF) and in vitro gametogenesis (IVG). The new statement, which gives an overview of the issues involved, concludes with the reasons behind LFL's opposition to IVF and IVG and LFL's concern for those who have been involved and are affected by IVF and IVG.

"And be it further RESOLVED, that Lutherans For Life acknowledges that children resulting from IVF (and in the future from IVG/IVF, if the technology is implemented) are ones for whom Christ died, are precious to God, and are ones with whom He has richly blessed our communities; and be it further RESOLVED that ...

"Lutherans For Life thanks God for couples who desire to bear children, and fully recognizes the deep pain and sorrow suffered by those impacted by infertility; and be it further RESOLVED that ...

"Lutherans For Life encourages couples who are infertile to seek out physicians who will attempt to diagnose and apply God's First-Article gifts to treat any disorders that have rendered them infertile; and be it further RESOLVED that ...

"Lutherans For Life encourages those who lack a reversible cause for their infertility to find worth and purpose in God's love, take comfort in the Christian community, and accept God's 'no' to biological children as a vocation to benefit the neighbor in another way, possibly including fostering and/or adopting; and be it further RESOLVED that ...

"Couples who are not able to bear children be allowed to grieve and wrestle with God, and that the Church bear these crosses along with the couple; and be it further RESOLVED that ...

"Couples who have used IVF and some of whose young children remain frozen, consider bringing them to birth, or allowing for their adoption by couples willing and eager so to do; and be it further RESOLVED that ...

"For those couples who have used IVF and sincerely regret having done so, there is forgiveness at the foot of the Cross; Lutherans For Life encourages them to confess to their pastor and receive God's absolution through him."

**The complete statement—and many additional position statements—can be found at: [lutheransforlife.org/life-issues/position-statements](https://lutheransforlife.org/life-issues/position-statements).**

In October of 2025, LFL Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske, in commenting on President Trump's IVF policy said, "We continue to maintain that every child conceived, including those conceived via IVF, are precious to God and worthy of every dignity. Likewise, the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ covers all sins, and every parent who knowingly or unknowingly may have destroyed life through IVF should know that their sins have been atoned for."





Equipping youth to be...

**Gospel-motivated voices 4 Life!**

Y4Life equips high school and college-aged youth to share the Gospel-motivated message that **YOU are made 4 LIFE.**



YA For Life seeks to equip young adults in their 20s and 30s to be Gospel-motivated voices for LIFE! Through service, celebration, worship, and education, young adults are encouraged to engage in life-affirming activities and become advocates for LIFE in their families, churches, communities, and world.

*Let's connect!*

Find out more at [Y4Life.org](http://Y4Life.org), [YAForLife.org](http://YAForLife.org), or by contacting Michelle Bauman, Y4Life and YA For Life Director, at [michelle@y4life.org](mailto:michelle@y4life.org).



Lutherans For Life  
YA For Life



@lfly4life  
@lflyaforlife

# Step Up 4 Life 2026!

by Dave Probst, Director of Development



Step Up 4 Life: Called to Serve, Equipped to Share

Lutherans For Life is excited to share with you our **Step Up 4 Life: Called to Serve, Equipped to Share** campaign. This year, **Step Up 4 Life** will celebrate our shared efforts to equip Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices for life! Thanks to the support of our faithful donors, volunteers, and Lutheran congregations, together, we are equipping the next generation, strengthening Frontline volunteers, and extending Christ's love and hope through **Word of Hope** together!



## Equipping the Next Generation

Through **Y4Life** and **YAForLife**, your donation helps shape young leaders to stand firm in a culture that challenges life at every stage. Your support provides scholarships for conferences and retreats, strengthens curriculum development, and equips youth leaders with digital learning tools and training to clearly articulate God's truth. Because of you, young people boldly share the hope of Christ and defend life in schools, churches, and communities, raising a new generation of Gospel-motivated voices for life.

## Strengthening Frontline Volunteers

Through **Volunteer Relations**, your generosity trains and supports a nationwide network of volunteers serving congregations and communities. Donations provide access to online training, materials, professional mentoring, volunteer resources, and connection to our **Congregational House of Refuge** program. Your support equips volunteers to serve effectively, bringing Christ-centered hope and compassionate care where it is needed.

## Sharing Hope through Word of Hope

Through **Word of Hope**, your gifts provide spiritual counseling for those contemplating abortion, post-abortion healing, and other life struggles. Support provides training for professionally called church workers to assist with its 24/7 **Word of Hope** hotline and access to a groundbreaking suicide awareness, intervention, and postvention course to equip youth and adults with vital skills to address self-harm and physician-assisted suicide care for individuals, families, and friends. With your help, **Word of Hope** can share Christ's forgiveness and hope with confidence and clarity.

When you participate in our **Step Up 4 Life: Called to Serve, Equipped to Share** fundraising campaign this spring, you are not just funding Lutherans For Life and our ministry efforts. You are equipping youth, volunteers, congregational members, and churches to share our life-affirming mission with others.

[lutheransforlife.org/step-up-4-life-2026](https://lutheransforlife.org/step-up-4-life-2026)

## Lutherans For Life ...

- **Applies God's Word**, both His Law and His Gospel, to all the life issues—abortion, assisted suicide and euthanasia, sexual purity and bio-technology.
- **Assists For Life Christians** in offering the hope and help of the Good News of Jesus Christ to all, whatever their circumstances.
- **Believes God gives the gift of life to all people**—from the moment of conception until natural death.
- **Needs your support to continue to encourage, educate, and uplift with a Gospel-centered, Word-based message of hope, forgiveness, and new life!**
- **Witnesses** to the sanctity of human life through education based on the Word of God.
- **Serves** through individuals who volunteer at pregnancy care centers, with hospice, through prayer, and in a wide variety of caring activities.
- **Educates and encourages** through conferences and presentations, printed resources, Life Sunday materials, Bible studies, curricula, audio and video, and through [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org).
- **Equips** local congregations to speak out on life issues in their communities through Life Chapters and Life Teams, or as a Life Advocate. LFL State Federations, Life Chapters, and Life Teams also support a variety of compassionate, caring pregnancy and post-abortion ministries (including our own Word of Hope) that offer pre- and post-natal counseling, parenting skills workshops, and lifestyle counsel.
- Is a **Recognized Service Organization** (RSO) of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.
- Is a **ministry partner** of the North American Lutheran Church.
- Is not subsidized by any church body.
- Is supported entirely by individual donations and grants.



**LUTHERANS  
FOR LIFE**

Equipping Lutherans and  
their neighbors to be Gospel-  
motivated voices For Life!

**Our Mission** – Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life

**Our Vision** – Every Lutheran, both individually and in community, upholding the God-given value of human life and influencing society to do the same

**Our Philosophy** – Lutherans For Life believes that the Church is compelled by God's Word to speak and act on behalf of those who are vulnerable and defenseless. The crisis of our times is the repudiation of biblical truth manifested in the wanton destruction of innocent human life through legalized abortion-on-demand and the growing threat to the lives of others through legalized assisted suicide and euthanasia. Therefore, as Lutherans For Life, we will strive to give a Gospel-motivated witness to the Church and society on these and other related issues, such as chastity, post-abortion healing, and family living. We will call God's people to compassionate action and foster life-affirming alternatives for those facing difficult situations.

### **National LFL Board of Directors**

Diane Albers, President – St. Louis, Missouri

Rev. Byrene K. Haney, Vice President – Fort Dodge, Iowa

Dr. Roni Grad, Secretary – Tucson, Arizona

Alice Steljes, Treasurer – Pawnee, Illinois

Kim Berry – Benton Harbor, Michigan

Mike Albers, State Representative – St. Louis, Missouri

Col. John Eidsmoe – Pike Road, Alabama

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Deaconess Pamela Nielsen – Ballwin, Missouri

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Rev. Joseph Signore III – Ocala, Florida

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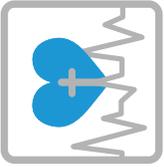
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