

# Lutherans For Life • 2016 Annual Report

## Created • Redeemed • Called



**“But now thus says the Lord, he who created you ...  
‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.’” (Isaiah 43:1)**

### Champions For Life by LFL President Lynette Auch



**B**y definition, a champion is “a militant advocate or defender” of a cause, “one that does battle for another’s rights or honor” (Merriam-Webster). This is an appropriate definition of Lutherans For Lifers. You are champions For Life—defending and going to battle for another.



As champions For Life, we believe we were **CREATED**: “Then God said, ‘Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness ... So God created mankind in his own image ... male and female he created them’” (Genesis 1:26a-27 NIV). “[T]he Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being” (Genesis 2:7 NIV). We were “handmade” by God, in HIS own IMAGE with HIS very BREATH within us!

As champions For Life, through the amazing grace of God’s Son, Christ Jesus, we have been **REDEEMED**: “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8b NIV). Through the shedding of His precious, innocent blood, our chains are gone. The ransom was paid to deliver us all from the bondage of sin that the human race was born with.

As champions For Life we have been **CALLED**: “But now thus says the Lord, he who created you ... ‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine’” (Isaiah 43:1). We are called—by name—into a relationship with the passionate God to make our Creator God’s glory known to a lost generation. We are called—by name—into service to the LORD of Life to be champions for the precious gift of life.

The life-affirming ministry of Lutherans For Life is made up of champions For Life—all working to equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

Thank you, Heavenly Father, for raising up champions For Life—Your created, redeemed, and called children. Amen.

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## Our 2016 theme: Created • Redeemed • Called

– Our culture says human value comes from looking good, feeling good, and doing good. Our culture bases human value upon what we are able to do or not do. But God bases human value upon what He has done—created, redeemed, called!

### A New Executive Director

January 1 was the start of the first full calendar year with LFL's new executive director, Rev. Michael W. Salemink. Rev. Salemink wrote, "As I begin my service as executive director of Lutherans For Life, I appreciate your partnership and support. I thank the board of directors for allowing me this opportunity, and I thank the staff members for welcoming and encouraging me so far. I thank Dr. Lamb for his 19 years of exemplary and effective leadership and ... mentorship, both of which have prepared a joyful and fruitful path for my labor. I ask for your prayers for insight, energy, and steadfastness for me; for unity among us; and for the Lord's clear direction and abundant blessing. I invite your input as we go forward together into God's work and with His Word."

### Life Sunday

The "official" Life Sunday was January 17, 2016. Using the theme Created • Redeemed • Called, LFL offered new resources that could be used any time during the year including bulletin inserts, Bible study, children's message, worship service, and sermons.



### March for Life

On January 22, 2016, Rev. Salemink and LFL's Y4Life Director Laura Davis, as well as a delegation of Lutheran youth participants, were present at the March for Life in Washington, D.C.—testifying to the truth of the Gospel and demonstrating its power.

### New Board of Directors Members

At our February 2016 meeting, the board of directors of Lutherans For Life elected three new members: Deaconess Tiffany Manor, Dr. Sheila Page, and Rev. Charles St-Onge. Deaconess Manor resides in New Hartford, Connecticut, and serves the LCMS New England District caring for church workers and their

families. Dr. Page lives in Aledo, Texas, where she practices neuromusculoskeletal medicine and testifies regarding life issues before state and federal legislatures. Rev. St-Onge is pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and Caribbean Area Facilitator for LCMS International Mission. The board also thanked Mr. Rich Greiner, Mr. Gary Mrosko, and Dr. Rodney Rathmann upon completion of their board service.

### An Open Letter

On January 6, 2016, LFL issued "An Open Letter to President Barack Obama" that reached over 255,000 people via Facebook, our website, and our weekly "Life Notes" email. The letter concluded, "Mr. President, we hope against hope that your views on abortion change, though we suspect they are very deeply imbued. But we do ask that you use your deep-felt anger over the children of Sandy Hook and other victims of gun violence to strive to have some empathy for ordinary people like us who have the same deep-felt anger over the tragedy of abortion."

### Life Teams/Mission & Ministry



In October, we rejoiced in launching the reviewed and revised Life Team Tools training during the LFL National Conference in Bloomington, Minnesota. Also in October, Hilary Haak, our mission and ministry director, was hired to help support and equip congregations as they go through the Life Team Tools training and as they begin to equip their congregations to be Gospel-motivated voices for Life. (Find out more about Life Team Tools at [www.lutheransforlife.org/about/life-chapters-and-life-teams](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/about/life-chapters-and-life-teams).)

### Social Media

Our Facebook group for Life Chapters, Life Teams, and LMCs continues to grow. The group offers a way to share and exchange ideas and is a place to connect with other frontline volunteers. Go to: [www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL](http://www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL). Also be sure to like LFL's regular Facebook page; follow us on Twitter; and check us out on Instagram, YouTube, and Vimeo.

### New Resources

New resources offered in 2016: **Created • Redeemed • Called** Life Sunday materials (bulletin insert, *Just For*

Our Mission: Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.



*Kids* insert, sermons, and service). New bulletin inserts: *The Miracle of the Incarnation, God Smiles on Fathers, Mothers Are Saints on Earth*. New brochures: *Biblical Biology, Life Issues and the Pew; Questions and Answers Concerning the End of Life; The Soul Wound of Abortion; Three Inches, Two Ounces*. New booklets: *Christ the Life of All the Living, Going Gracefully* (PDF posted online). New DVD: *Together for Good* (on adoption—produced by Peace Lutheran Church in Arvada, Colorado). New Life Team Tools 1-4 (DVDs and Field Manuals). 2016 LFL National Conference audio and video. *Life News* continues to be offered monthly as a free downloadable PDF.

equipping youth to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life on their campuses and in their communities. This year, the Y4Life Campus Ministry Program continued its work by launching two new college-campus groups and helping revitalize old groups. We are on track to have active student life groups on nine Concordia University campuses by the end of 2017. We also hired our first college intern in the summer of 2016, Sarah Krueger, a junior at Concordia University Texas. She was such a blessing to work with, and we look forward to continuing this internship program in the future. In July, Y4Life was given the unique opportunity to partner with Thrive Pregnancy Center in St. Louis and LCMS Life Ministries to host an experiential learning center at the 2017 LCMS National Youth Gathering. Thousands of students were able to learn about the God-given value of human life in a fun and interactive way. Y4Life was also blessed to receive a cumulative \$24,000 from LWML (Lutheran Women’s Missionary League) in grants from the Texas, Michigan, and Washington/Alaska districts. Praise God! Please keep the Y4Life student leaders across the country in your prayers as they equip others to be a voice for the voiceless.

## Word of Hope



LFL’s post-abortion ministry, **Word of Hope**, continues to grow under the umbrella of Lutherans For Life. **Word of Hope** is the only Lutheran post-abortion helpline in existence. With nearly 300 calls

each month, **Word of Hope** has many opportunities to share the compassion of Christ. Grace Kern, director of **Word of Hope**, reports: “Our hotline continues to be busy. It’s always such a blessing when a previously abortion-minded woman calls back saying because of the counseling she received at **Word of Hope**, she is now holding a precious baby in her arms—and she wants to thank us for helping her. What an awesome God we have!” (www.word-of-hope.org; 630.990.0909)

## Thank You

Thank you for your ongoing and often sacrificial support of Lutherans For Life during 2016. Your prayers, volunteer efforts, and financial support allow LFL to continue to equip Gospel-motivated voices For Life! You are examples of Christ’s love in action. Your partnership with LFL is needed today more than ever before!

## Y4Life

Y4Life and its ministry had a great year in 2016,

### Income – 2013, 2014, 2015

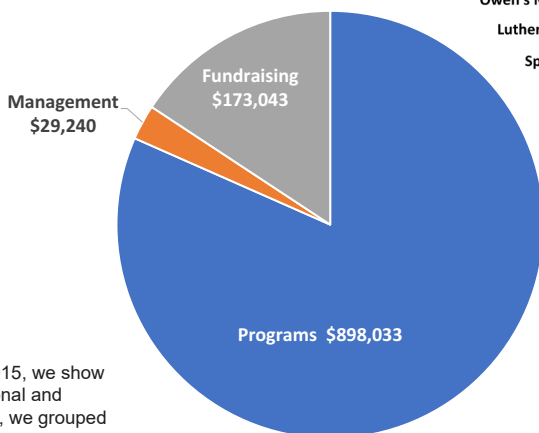
2013 Income	\$932,487
2014 Income	\$989,357
2015 Income	\$1,082,499

### Expenses – 2013, 2014, 2015

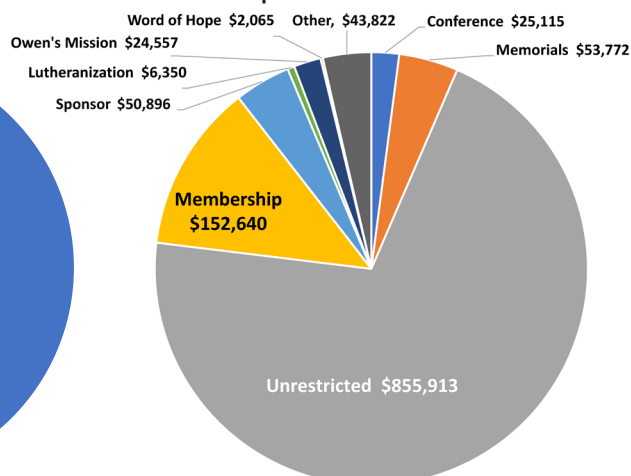
2013 Expenses	\$950,735
2014 Expenses	\$940,766
2015 Expenses	\$1,039,804

Beginning with the annual report for 2015, we show income and expenses by both operational and restricted amounts. In previous reports, we grouped operational and restricted income and expenses together. Please contact us if you have any questions.

### 2016 Operational Expenses



### 2016 Operational and Restricted Income



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



**Lutherans For Life**

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## 2016 Annual Report

Find out how your much-appreciated gifts and support helped LFL equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

Your prayers and financial support are important to us!

[www.lutheransforlife.org/give](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/give)

Lutherans For Life is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and does not receive funds from a specific church body. LFL strives to network pastors and lay people to make a positive difference in people's lives. By the power of the Holy Spirit, LFL seeks to change hearts and minds through the Word of God.

### National Lutherans For Life

#### LFL Council of State Federation Presidents

Deb Lakamp, Illinois – East Peoria  
Keith Alabach, Indiana – Marion  
Rev. Richard Salcido, Iowa – Ida Grove  
Jeanne Mackay, Kansas – Lenexa  
Connie Davis, Michigan – Macomb  
Diane Albers, Missouri – St. Louis  
Helen Lewis, Montana – Great Falls  
Bob Saeger, Nebraska – Waco  
Rev. Chris Brademeyer, North Dakota – Tower City  
Jill Johnsen, South Dakota – Wessington  
Paula Oldenburg, Wisconsin – Rhinelander

#### National LFL Board of Directors

Lynette Auch, *President*, Lesterville, South Dakota  
Rev. Everett Greene, *Vice President*, Cincinnati, Ohio  
Henry Gallmeyer, *Secretary*, Decatur, Indiana  
Ron Soule, *Treasurer*, Mason, Michigan  
Keith Alabach, *State Representative*, Marion, Indiana

Diane Albers, *State Representative*, St. Louis, Missouri  
Jamilyn Clausing, Garden Prairie, Illinois  
John Eidsmoe, Pike Road, Alabama  
Renee Gibbs, St. Louis, Missouri  
Stephenie Hovland, Portage, Wisconsin  
Dcs. Tiffany Manor, New Hartford, Connecticut  
Paula Oldenburg, *State Representative*, Rhinelander, Wisconsin  
Dr. Sheila Page, Aledo, Texas  
Rev. Charles St-Onge, Deux-Montagnes, Quebec, Canada

#### National LFL Office Staff

Rev. Michael W. Salemink – *Executive Director*  
Rev. Scott Licht – *National Director*  
John Hawkins – *Director of Development*  
Lowell J. Highby – *Director of Communications*  
Hilary Haak – *Mission and Ministry Director*  
Laura Davis – *Director of Y4Life*  
Jerilyn Richard – *Data Analyst*  
Kim Nessa – *Accountant*

Debra Freese – *Office Clerk*  
Katie Friedrich – *Office Assistant*  
Virginia Flo – *Regional Director (Minnesota) & National Conference Director*  
Dr. Barbara Geistfeld – *Regional Director (Texas)*

#### Lutherans For Life Outreach Team

Grace Kern, Word of Hope, Oak Brook, Illinois  
Dennis Di Mauro, National Pro-Life Religious Council Representative, Herndon, Virginia  
Rev. Don Richman, International Representative, Bloomington, Minnesota

**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 witness, from a biblical perspective, to the Church and society on these and other related issues such as chastity, post-abortion healing, and family living.