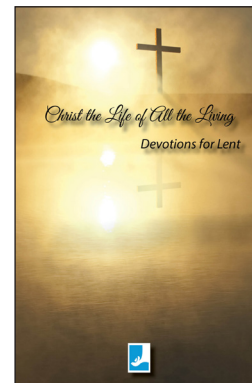


News and Notes

- **NEW RESOURCE: Christ the Life of All the Living – Devotions for Lent** – “As we approach Good Friday, the 40 days of Lent are a time of self-discipline. These devotions aim to help us discipline our minds so that when we see the struggles in our own lives, we see the life of Christ working all to good; so that when we see our neighbor, no matter his skin color or gender or level of development, we see the life of Christ, Savior of the nations; so that when we see the boasting of death, we see the life of Christ, triumphant in resurrection.” *Rev. A. Daniel Guagenti, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Shelbyville, Kentucky – Item LFL1637. \$1.99 ea.* Order link: <http://tinyurl.com/zm9nyyt>



- **Be sure to “Like” and follow LFL on social media! See links below:**

www.facebook.com/LutheransForLife

<https://twitter.com/ForLifers>

www.instagram.com/lfly4life/

www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL/

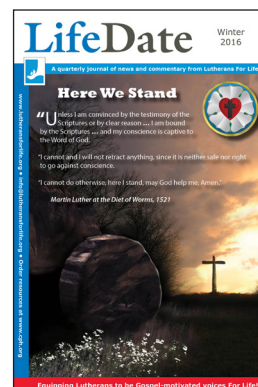
www.facebook.com/WordOfHopeHealingHearts/

Also see:

www.youtube.com/user/LutheransForLife

<https://vimeo.com/user4132928>

- **Please note that we have a Facebook group for Life Chapters, Life Teams, and LMCs.** The group includes an idea exchange and is a place to connect with other frontline volunteers. To join or contribute an idea, please email lhighby@lutheransforlife.org and indicate “Sign Me Up!” in the subject line.
- **LifeDate is another way to share the For Life message with your congregation.** Order LifeDate in bulk quantities at no charge. (Donations for shipping cost will gladly be accepted.) Call 888.364.LIFE (5433) to order. **We have a limited number of copies of the back issues of LifeDate that are free upon request.** Please call 888.364.LIFE (5433) or email info@lutheransforlife.org to order.



- **Life News is available each month to download and print.** *Life News* is a monthly bulletin insert with life-issue news and more. *Life News* is available as a free reproducible PDF at www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-news.
- **AmazonSmile** – Shop at AmazonSmile, and Amazon will make a donation to Lutherans For Life! Check it out through the link on our Store and Give pages at www.lutheransforlife.org and in our weekly *Life Notes* e-newsletter. (This is not an endorsement of all things Amazon, but it is a free opportunity for Amazon shoppers to support Lutherans For Life.)
- **Real Estate for Life** – “It takes so little to do so much to save the life of a child.” Real Estate for Life makes it easy for you to help Lutherans For Life by using funds a real estate company has already earmarked for commission fees at no extra cost to you. Under real estate law, Real Estate for Life will receive a referral fee. Pro-life organizations will receive 100% of the profits of that fee as a donation. Find out how it works at www.lutheransforlife.org/real-estate-for-life; 877.543.3871; proliferealestate@yahoo.com.
- **Lutherans For Life Frontlines:** LFL has 11 State Federations, 93 local Life Chapters, 110 Life Ministry Coordinators, and 103 Life Teams in the US.



Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make a donation to:

Lutherans For Life

Get started

amazon smile



Even Blobs Belong to God: A Bible Study

Unborn children are often described as nothing more than clumps of cells. They've even been labeled blobs of tissue. In reality, aren't we all?

Every human being consists of cells and tissues. Within the womb or outside it, gestating or grown, tissues and minerals make up all our bodies. Whatever our ages, whatever our appearances, whatever our abilities, cells and fluids constitute our physical substance. Secular science defines us as essentially animals anyway, whether embryos or adults. (Medicine callously diagnoses some as “persistent vegetative state,” and media cavalierly describes others as “monsters.”) I'm a clump of cells, and so are you. We're all blobs of tissue.

Our Christian Scriptures actually agree with this assessment. In fact, the Word of God goes even further.

1. To what does the Bible compare human beings (Genesis 3:19, Isaiah 40:6-7, 2 Corinthians 4:7)?
2. What does this say about us?
3. What additional (and even more insulting) assessment does Scripture deliver (Ephesians 2:1-3, Romans 5:6-10, 1 Peter 2:10, 1 Corinthians 1:28)?
4. How big does “a blob of tissue” have to be before it gets classified like this (Psalm 51:5, Psalm 58:3, Ecclesiastes 7:20)?
5. What then gives human beings any value (Titus 2:13-14, Jeremiah 31:34, Romans 14:8)?
6. How does God identify human flesh as precious and even righteous (2 Corinthians 5:19-21, Colossians 1:22, Revelation 5:9-10)?
7. What title and dignity does this bestow upon us (Galatians 4:4-7, Hebrews 2:14-16)?
8. How complicated does a “clump of cells” have to be before it gets included in this category (Luke 1:41-44)?
9. How does this affect the way we interact with each other?



Lutherans For Life: More Than an Anti-Abortion Group

(Source: <https://concordiastcatharines.wordpress.com/2016/11/16/lutherans-for-life-more-than-anti-abortion-group/>)

Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary (St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada) was privileged to host, together with the Niagara Circuit of LCC, Rev. Michael Salemink, the executive director of Lutherans For Life since January 2016. During his visit in the Niagara area, Rev. Salemink preached in Trinity Lutheran Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake; gave a convocation to the pastors and laity of the circuit (hosted by Resurrection Lutheran Church); spoke at the Brock University's Lutheran Student Fellowship; and finally gave a presentation to the students, staff, and faculty of CLTS.

Rev. Salemink began by pointing out the common misconception of Lutherans For Life being merely an anti-abortion group of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. His organization is not limited to just the LCMS, Rev. Salemink reminded us, nor are they focusing just on abortion: “Life issues” include much more than just that one question. Finally, Lutherans For Life is not a mere “anti” group, focusing on simply opposing things.

“Whenever God says no, He says so because He has something better to give to us,” Pastor Salemink stressed. Lutherans for Life wants to present the Gospel of Christ, the value of God's creation, and God's continual care as its main message. Its ultimate goal is not a change in legislation but preaching of Christ to the world that needs to hear the good news of God's love.

Rev. Salemink encouraged future pastors to introduce practices in their congregations that celebrate the gift of life, such as returning thanks when God provides healing to the sick or keeping the old and infirm connected to the life of the church through regular visitations not only by the pastor but other members of the congregation. He reminded the students of the task pastors have as messengers of Gospel. “You cannot be the saviour to your people. Your task is not to solve their life issues.” What the pastors need to do is to listen, comfort, pray, and preach Christ's love, Rev. Salemink stressed.

Video recordings of Rev. Michael Salemink's presentations are available on the seminary's YouTube channel. Go to the link above for additional links.



New Approach to Raising Money

by Art Scherer

(Source: <https://lcef.org/new-approach-raising-money-church/>)

A member of the congregation to which I belong asked how they might raise funds for our food bank outreach ministry. Among my responses was “Have you tried crowdfunding?” It’s an approach I see being used more frequently by churches and individuals.

Crowdfunding is the process of raising money for a particular cause from a large group of people, and today it is usually associated with the use of the internet and social media as the platform for such fundraising. It is often used by entrepreneurs for raising venture capital for a new product or service, but today it is increasingly used by both individuals and organizations such as the church to fund personal or ministry projects.

Some general observations about crowdfunding:

- They are not capital campaigns—probably best for projects of \$5,000 or less.
- They take work if they are to be successful. You can’t just post a campaign and expect the money to pour in.
- They are particularly effective with young people who give to causes rather than budgets and who are connected to social media and the internet. Your project may be coupled with a mail campaign (the old version of crowdfunding) to reach some of your generous older donors who may be less computer literate.

More specifically:

- You need to choose a specific project. Our food bank, for example, would do better to set a goal of a new freezer for \$2,000 than simply to ask for support for the food bank ministry. What seems to work are things like mission trips, new choir robes, a pastoral sabbatical project, repair of a building after a fire, etc. What does not seem to work is support for the budget. Remember, this is fundraising. It is not stewardship education that leads to regular giving. It is asking people to give “over and above” for a specific cause.
- Do your homework. Set forth a clear and convincing case statement. Appeal to the head and the heart. Invite people to get involved in addition to their donation. (Younger people give to causes, especially ones in which they may become participants.) Appeal not just to your members, but to the whole world—a possibility through the internet. Get the broadest possible exposure—email, social media—and keep your current and potential donors updated on the progress of your campaign and your ongoing need.
- Unless you are very experienced at this, you will probably need an agent—some company that will help you create a platform, notify the group you seek to reach, post



Directions • Lutherans For Life • Fundraising

your updates, collect funds, distribute those funds to you, send out tax receipts in the case of non-profits, etc. You can expect to pay a service fee of anywhere from 5% to 10% depending on the company and the services provided or needed. A number of such organizations exist. Some specialize in entrepreneurs seeking venture capital. Others—the ones you want—offer broader resources, including platforms for non-profit or faith-based organizations. Among those are www.gofundme.com, <https://myevent.com>, and www.indiegogo.com. Check out the FAQs and the entire fee structure before signing up. Look at some sample postings. See how many actually reach their goal.

Crowdfunding is just one of the newer approaches to fundraising.

Art Scherer is president emeritus of the Southeastern District, LCMS, and a consultant in stewardship and capital funding for LCEF. Dr. Scherer is developer of LCEF's popular Consecrated Stewards series and author of the Living as Children of a Generous God Bible studies.



The Tip of the Iceberg

by Dr. Barbara Lane Geistfeld, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Texas

For many people, Christians (and me) included, the only life issue we ever really thought about was abortion. As we became more informed about life issues, we discovered that these issues, and the decisions we must make regarding them, really affect humans at all ages and stages of life. If you look carefully at the image below, you will see that abortion is only the tip of the iceberg. Life issues are many, complex, and varied. All of us will face some of these issues in our lifetimes, and as Christians we want to make decisions that are pleasing to God. How can we do that? Let me suggest one way that really does work.

Lutherans For Life has a new set of video-based Life Team Training Tools designed to help Lutheran congregations develop Life Teams made up of Gospel-motivated people who are trained and certified. A Life Team is the vehicle that helps guide a congregation to become Gospel-motivated voices for Life. Our pastors cannot do it alone. A congregation cannot do it alone. A Life Team cannot do it alone. If we allow God to teach us and expand our view of life issues, He will change our hearts and minds, He will open our eyes to the whole truth, and He will help us begin to minister to others in a whole new way. For those of you already leading the way in proclaiming the Gospel in these issues, may God bless you mightily!

Find out more by going to: www.lutheransforlife.org/about/life-chapters-and-life-teams.





Lutherans For Life • Life Team Tools Order Form 2016-2017

NOTE: LIFE TEAM TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE ONLY FROM THE LFL NATIONAL OFFICE.

Lutherans For Life • 1101 5th Street • Nevada, IA 50201-1816 • 888.364.LIFE (5433)

Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

E-mail _____

Ship to (if different):

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

ITEM #	QTY.	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
LTT1DVD		Life Team Tool 1 DVD	\$10	
LTT2DVD		Life Team Tool 2 DVD	\$10	
LTT3DVD		Life Team Tool 3 DVD	\$10	
LTT4DVD		Life Team Tool 4 DVD	\$10	
LTT1FM		Life Team Tool 1 Field Manual	\$10	
LTT2FM		Life Team Tool 2 Field Manual	\$10	
LTT3FM		Life Team Tool 3 Field Manual	\$10	
LTTBN		LIFE TEAM TOOL BUNDLE (Includes tools 1-4 and field manuals)	\$30	

TOTAL

SHIPPING

\$15

GRAND TOTAL

LFL Business Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST/CDT.
Hours subject to change without notice.



What is a LifeTeam?



TOOL 1
Life Team
Introduction
and Roadmap



TOOL 2
Life Team
Leader
Training



TOOL 3
Life Team
101



TOOL 4
Resource
Disc

IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD:

Amount \$ _____

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Phone _____
Month / Year

Signature _____

You may also purchase Life Team Tools by credit card by calling 888.364.LIFE (5433).



Life Sunday • January 15, 2017

Here We Stand

“Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason ... I am bound by the Scriptures ... and my conscience is captive to the Word of God.

“I cannot and I will not retract anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience.

“I cannot do otherwise, here I stand, may God help me, Amen.”

Martin Luther at the Diet of Worms, 1521



**Check out new
resources from
Lutherans For Life!**

Bulletin Inserts

Bible Study

Children's Message

Worship Service

Sermons





Owen's Mission

**"A PERSON'S
A PERSON,
NO MATTER
HOW SMALL"
-DR. SEUSS**

Horton the elephant was right! The Bible agrees! In fact, the Bible says more: A person's a person created by God (Psalm 139:13-14), a person redeemed by Jesus (Galatians 3:13), and a person the Holy Spirit wants to call to be His child (1 Timothy 2:4), **no matter how small!**

Owen's Mission is a very special project of Lutherans For Life. The goal of this project is to honor Jesus by presenting a set of *Touch of Life* fetal models to every Lutheran elementary and high school in the country. (That's 1,078 schools affecting 139,000 students!) We want students to understand the God-given value of each life from the moment of conception. We want students to be motivated by what God has done as our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier that gives value to life. We want students to value themselves and to value others as persons because of this God-given value.



Where did Owen's Mission come from? From a very small and special baby named Owen. Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life, shares his story:



"I held my little grandson, Owen, in the palm of my hand. He died at 21 weeks during prenatal surgery to remove a large tumor. The nurse brought him to our son as we waited in the recovery room for Owen's mother. I find it difficult to describe what I felt when I was able to hold him. I had held the 20-week *Touch of Life* fetal model in my hands hundreds of times in front of students from preschoolers to seminarians. Holding Owen revived in me the reality behind those models. I will never hold them in the same way again."

As Owen's grandpa, Dr. Lamb wanted to do something special to remember Owen, honor Jesus, and help others understand the value God gives to even the smallest of lives. With the help of Owen's family, *Owen's Mission* was born. We are training facilitators to present these fetal model sets along with a DVD message from Dr. Lamb.

Our Goal: \$175,000

You can support Owen's Mission by:

- Giving a personal gift
- Encouraging your school to give
- Encouraging your congregation to give
- Encouraging groups within your congregation to give

To give a gift online to Lutherans For Life go to:

www.lutheransforlife.org/give

Please designate your gift to “Owen’s Mission.”

You can also send your check to:

Lutherans For Life
1101 5th St.
Nevada, IA 50201-1816

Please designate your gift to “Owen’s Mission.”

Lutherans For Life is a 501(c)(3) ministry and contributions are deductible as a charitable donation.

Please keep Lutherans For Life in your prayers.

You can also find out about many other ways to give, including estate-planning assistance, at our Give page.

“I came that they may have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10).

Amount Raised So Far: \$132,000 plus!

You will find many more photos from Owen’s Mission events on LFL’s Facebook page.



Lutherans For Life is a Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. We are a nonpolitical ministry whose mission is to equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life. We produce a variety of multimedia resources that connect the life issues to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We affirm life at all stages of development and in all conditions of health. We are For Life, not because we live in a society that isn’t, but because we serve a God who is.

www.lutheransforlife.org

Speakers Bureau

www.lutheransforlife.org/about/speakers-bureau-concerts-for-life

Do you need a speaker? Lutherans For Life will work with you to help meet your needs for a speaker at a rally, convention, Bible study, worship service, public or parochial school, college/university, or workshop/seminar. A variety of formats are available.

General speaker guidelines (may vary by individual):

- Airfare/Mileage: Actual airfare and/or current standard IRS mileage rate to airport or event
- Lodging: Quiet, nonsmoking hotel room
- Honorarium: Affiliated speakers for Lutherans For Life are not in a paid position. Therefore, we ask that sponsoring groups provide an honorarium for affiliated speakers. The sponsoring group determines the amount of the honorarium. Honorariums depend on number of events. Honorariums begin at \$200.
- Meals: \$25 per day unless other arrangements are made
- Other: A lectern will be needed. A TV, video projector, DVD player, and screen may be needed.

Speakers:

Jean Amundson (nationwide – based in Cleburne, Texas)
Linda D. Bartlett (nationwide – based in Iowa Falls, Iowa)
Paul M. Clark (nationwide – based in Fowler, Michigan)
Connie Davis (nationwide – based in Macomb, Michigan)
Daniel M. Domke (within five to six hours of Huron, South Dakota)
John Eidsmoe (nationwide – based in Pike Road, Alabama)
Kim Hardy (nationwide – based in Grand Haven, Michigan)
Kimberly Ketola (nationwide – based in Peachtree City, Georgia)
Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb (nationwide and Canada – based in Marshalltown, Iowa)
Sheila Luck (nationwide – based in Scandinavia, Wisconsin)
Ryan C. MacPherson (nationwide – based in Mankato, Minnesota)
Betty McGuire (nationwide – based in St. Paul, Minnesota)
Allen Quist (within Minnesota and Iowa – based in St. Peter, Minnesota)
Rev. Michael W. Salemink (nationwide and Canada – based in St. Louis, Missouri)
Andrew Schatkin (nationwide – based in the New York/Long Island area)
Rev. Caleb Schewe (nationwide – based in Corona, South Dakota)
Alvin J. Schmidt (nationwide and in Canada – based in St. Louis, Missouri)
Carl F. Schroeder (nationwide – based in Lombard, Illinois)
Diane E. Schroeder (nationwide – based in Lombard, Illinois)
Patti Smith (nationwide – based in Huntington Beach, California)
Francis W. Szarejko (nationwide – based in the Kansas City, Kansas area)
Ed Szeto (nationwide – based in Virginia)
Luke Timm (nationwide – based in Des Moines, Iowa)



Speaking Engagement Report Form

We appreciate the many hours our faithful frontline workers contribute to sharing the For Life message. If you or your State Federation/Life Chapter have the opportunity to speak on life issues in your community, please let us know! This information will help us as we look at our strategic plan and determine the resources that are most needed to help you carry forth your mission For Life! Please return to the Life Center or email jrichard@lutheransforlife.org.

Speaking Engagement Report Form	
Speaker's Name:	
Location:	
Date:	
Topic of Presentation:	
Audience presented to (teens, adults, children, etc.):	
Number of people in attendance:	
Resources used at presentation (DVD, brochures, articles, etc):	



Directions • Lutherans For Life • Facts and Stats

National Lutherans For Life Staff

Rev. Michael W. Salemink – Executive Director
Rev. Scott Licht – National Director
John Hawkins – Director of Development
Lowell J. Highby – Director of Communications
Hilary (Murray) Haak – Mission and Ministry Director
Laura Davis – Director of Y4Life
Jerilyn Richard – Data Analyst
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Debra Freese – Office Clerk
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Lutherans For Life

1101 5th Street

Nevada, IA 50201-1816

info@lutheransforlife.org

www.lutheransforlife.org

888.364.LIFE (5433) or 515.382.2077

LFL has 11 State Federations, 93 Life Chapters, 110 Life Ministry Coordinators, and 103 Life Teams in the US.

Since Roe v. Wade in 1973: 57,762,169 abortions in America

Source: www.lifenews.com/2015/01/21/57762169-abortions-in-america-since-roe-vs-wade-in-1973

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January-February 2017

The Basics of Lutherans For Life

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

Our Vision: Every Lutheran congregation upholding the God-given value of human life and influencing society to do the same.

Structure and Relationships

A local Life Chapter is a local organization that has been chartered by National Lutherans For Life. The Life Chapter is formally associated with and subject to, but not a part of, the corporation known as Lutherans For Life, Inc.

A State Federation is an organization that has been chartered by Lutherans For Life, Inc. in a state where there are at least five chartered Life Chapters. In a state where a State Federation exists, the Life Chapters also become affiliated with the State Federation. This occurs automatically at the same time a Life Chapter becomes chartered by Lutherans For Life, Inc. These relationships are basically the same whether or not the Life Chapter is incorporated. Thus, Lutherans For Life consists of a network of individual entities formally associated with each other.

Membership Information

All officers of State Federations and Life Chapters and Life Ministry Coordinators must be members in good standing of Lutheran congregations and members of National Lutherans For Life.

Membership contributions are divided among the national organization, State Federation, and local Life Chapter if it is chartered.

Life Chapters that wish to include a membership form in newsletters or correspondence are asked to maintain the form and information provided by the national office.

The local Life Chapter may not establish its own membership program since LFL has a “unified membership” program. When sending a membership form to the national office, make sure the Life Chapter name and number, if chartered, is written on the form in the space provided. This will ensure that the State Federation and local Life Chapter receive the proper remittance payment.

Membership Classifications

Annual Membership

- Annual members join by making a membership donation accompanied by a completed copy of the membership form (or by joining online).
- Annual memberships run from July 1 through June 30. New memberships will expire on June 30 of the year following the initial membership donation.
- An annual membership drive will begin in May of each year. Current members will receive renewal information at that time. The membership drive will also encourage new memberships, although they will be accepted at any time of the year.

Sponsor Membership

- Sponsor members pledge to contribute a certain amount each month and to pray regularly for Lutherans For Life.
- Sponsor members receive a monthly letter from the executive director.
- Sponsor members are asked to renew their monthly pledge each year as part of the annual membership drive.

The Remittance Program of LFL

All MEMBERSHIP donations are shared with the chartered State Federation and/or local Life Chapter to which the particular members may belong. The membership donations are divided as follows:

Annual Memberships:

- 20% goes to the local Life Chapter (If there is no local Life Chapter, this 20% goes to the State Federation.)
- 20% goes to the State Federation
- 60% remains at national

Sponsor Memberships:

- 1/12 goes to the local Life Chapter (If there is no local Life Chapter, this 1/12 goes to the State Federation.)
- 1/12 goes to the State Federation
- 10/12 remains at national

