

Lifelines

May June July 2022

President's Column

By: Pastor Paul Clark, President of Lutherans For Life of Michigan

One of the many heroic stories that came out of World War 2 was that of Pastor Andre Trocme and his wife, Magda. They encouraged the residents of their little town in Le Chambon, France, to defy the Gestapo's orders to turn in any Jews who could be found in the town or the surrounding area.

Instead, under the leadership of Pastor Trocme, the residents of those villages were responsible for saving up to 5,000 Jews from being taken to the death camps. They formed an underground network to help the Jews safely travel across the Swiss border and out of harm's way.

Pastor Trocme told the members of his congregation, *"We shall resist whenever our adversaries demand of us obedience contrary to the word of the Gospel."* When the Germans could not find any Jews in the town, they confronted Pastor Trocme, telling him to immediately cease his activities and turn in the names of the townspeople who had helped hide the Jews. Pastor Trocme answered, *"I am their shepherd. A shepherd does not forsake his flock. I do not know what a Jew is. I only know human beings."*

The powers that back the death-dealing abortion culture try to find ways to make us keep silent. They try to censure us, cancel us, and ridicule us. They attack pro-life people verbally, and sadly, in some instances even physically. They paint us as far-right radical lunatics who care only about the so-called *"fetus,"* and not about those who are already

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2-3 – Board Members, Thank You

4 – How to Donate

5–**Urgent** Legislative Report

6-7 – Spotlight on Pregnancy Centers

8-9 – What's Happening?

10 – Y4Life

11-12 – Upcoming Events

13 – How to Give to LFL

14 – In the Next Issue, Quotes

born.

Of course, nothing could be further from the truth.

The truth is that abortion hurts women. In one way or another. **Every time.** And abortion kills a baby – a little girl, a little boy. **Every time.** And abortion continues to poison the culture in so many ways. **Every time.**

The science is conclusive: Human life starts at conception. The Bible is conclusive: Life is from God, begins at conception, and God's commandment of *"You shall not murder,"* certainly applies to the slaying of an innocent child in the womb. Because that little baby in the womb *IS* a human being.

Whether Jew or Gentile, boy or girl, black or white, healthy or infirm....They are human, with human rights, most especially the right to Life. Lile Pastor Trocme asserted, ***we only know human beings!***

As Lutherans who treasure God's Word as holy and without error, we have so much to offer. God sent His own Son into the world to unravel the twisted fabric of death. When Jesus said, *"It is finished"* on the cross, it was true. It *IS* finished. The stain and guilt of your sins, and mine, and the person struggling with the guilt of an abortion – all of this has been blotted out by the cleansing blood of Christ. *(continued on p.5)*

The mission of LFL is to equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

LFL Vision Statement:

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

LFL-MI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Legislative Reporter, & Spiritual Counselor:

Pastor Paul Clark (517) 420-4826

Vice President:

Lauren Schaidt (586) 214-3116

Secretary:

Jennifer Connelly (734) 731-1609

Treasurer:

Earl Iseler (616) 485-9589

Lutheran Schools Outreach:

Chris Schultz (734) 770-7699

Urban Outreach:

Susan Hill (586) 468-7871

Technology Coordinator:

Nathan Beuschel (269) 945-7863

***Lifelines* Newsletter Editor and Life Issues**

Contest Coordinator:

Lauren Schaidt (586) 214-3116

Medical Consultant:

Dr Donna Harrison (202) 230-0997

Life Issues Contest Consultants:

Lauren Schaidt (586) 214-3116
(Elementary Essays)

Susan Hill (High School Essays) (586) 468-7871

Member at Large:

Shirley Sturkin

Lifelines of Michigan LFL is mailed free of charge to Michigan LFL supporters. Articles may be reprinted with attribution to source.

Email address: lflmi.president@gmail.com

Website: www.lflmi.org

THANK YOU...

Lutherans For Life, Nevada, IA

John & Jean Drach, Taylor Mill, KY

Carla Niemeier, Byron Center, MI

Carlyn Roth, Sterling Heights, MI

Terry & Pauline Boyd, Vassar, MI

*Kevin & Dianne Stresman, Vassar, MI
In Honor of Joelle Hope O'Brien*

St. Michael Lutheran Church, Reese, MI

Keith & Linda Lewis, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, MI

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Battle Creek, MI

Roger & Janet Guetzkow, Rochester Hills, MI

Jack Thompson, Monroe, MI

Martha Potter, Ann Arbor, MI

*Mari Crandell, Ypsilanti, MI
In Memory of Doris Delventhal*

Marguerite DeWitt, Harrison, MI

Kenneth & Barbara Stire, Shelby Twp., MI

Albert Casper, Bay City, MI

Dean & Katherine Reuschel, Plymouth, MI

Norm & Diane Long, Grand Rapids, MI

*Karen Turgeon, Dearborn Heights, MI
In Memory of Her Youngest Daughter, Andrea*

Rev. Glenn & Lorraine Sattelmeier, Rochester Hills, MI

*Rev. Larry & Geri Loree, Pigeon, MI
In Memory of Anna Ramig*

David & Lori Stolzenfeld, Macomb, MI

Shelly Long, Lansing, MI

Rev. Frank & Jeanette Pies, Hartland, MI

Patrick & Elizabeth Winter, Fowler, MI

Rev. Paul & Elizabeth Clark, Fowler, MI

Messiah Lutheran Service Guild, Grand Rapids, MI

(continued on p.3)

THANK YOU... (continued from p.2)

James Eastman, Montague, MI

Joanne Bierwirth, Berkley, MI

*Earl & Jo Anne Iseler, Byron Center, MI
In Memory of Darlene Rentz*

Gary & Jean Peters, Interlochen, MI

*Rev. Timothy & Betty Loewe, Temperance, MI
In Honor of Their Anniversary*

*Deborah Kamm, Holt, MI
In Memory of Delphine Mallinson*

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Washington, MI

Ken & Chris Gremel, Saginaw, MI

Thomas & Linda DeVoogd, Washington, MI

Allen & Janet Dunker, Auburn Hills, MI

*Paul & Sandy Reile, Oxford, MI
In Memory of Delphine Mallinson*

*Dr. Marna, Meredith & Allison Beard, Harrison Twp., MI
In Memory of Delphine Mallinson*

*Mary Becker, Rochester Hills, MI
In Memory of Delphine Mallinson*

David & Marline Leinberger, Washington, MI

St. Luke Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor, MI

*Dick & Cindy Holm, Holt, MI
In Memory of Delphine Mallinson*

Terry & Pauline Boyd, Vassar, MI

*Kathryn Were, Hartland, MI
In Honor of Granddaughters, Clare & Grace Knox*

Mark & Doris Puls, Alpena, MI

Lutherans For Life – Check out their three new websites!



lutheransforlife.org



word-of-hope.org



y4life.org

(Taken from the Lutherans For Life Facebook page -
<https://www.facebook.com/LutheransForLife/>)

Please let us know how you would prefer to receive Lifelines!

It is available by email, mail, or on our website www.lflmi.org. If you would like to change how you receive it, please contact us at schaidtl@gmail.com or (586)214-3116.

Donations to National Lutherans For Life

The "I WANT TO SPEAK FOR LIFE" form provided is used to give a donation to National Lutherans For Life in Nevada, IA. When using that form you need to provide your own envelope and mail it to the address shown on the bottom of the form. Lutherans For Life of Michigan is part of Lutherans For Life but we have separate budgets and bank accounts. The National office has paid staff members but Lutherans For Life of Michigan has no paid staff. National sponsors conferences and develops resources to be used throughout the United States and other countries. LFL of MI provides educational information and sponsors events and conferences in Michigan churches, schools, and communities.

Secure On-line Giving Through Kindrid

Donations may be made to **Lutherans For Life of Michigan** through a secure giving portal at our website, www.lflmi.org. On the Home page click on DONATE. Please wait a few seconds and the Giving Portal will be displayed. Click on "Choose a Fund." Select "Donate" to make a general gift, "Honorarium" to give a gift in honor of someone, or "Memorial" to give a gift in memory of someone. If you choose Honorarium or Memorial, please enter the name or names of the person or persons being honored or memorialized in the 2nd box. Enter the amount you are giving, your credit card or bank account information and submit your donation. If you would like to have notification of a memorial or honorarium sent to someone, please email the name(s) and address to: lflmi.treasurer@gmail.com.

Donations to Lutherans For Life of Michigan

The printed remittance envelope provided in the newsletter is to be used to give a donation to Lutherans For Life of Michigan. In the interest of reducing our cost, remittance envelopes only have the treasurer's address printed on the outside. When making a general donation, you may just put a check in the envelope and write your return address on it. If the name or names and address on the check are correct, no other information is required. If not, please provide the name or names that are to be acknowledged as the donor(s) on a separate sheet of paper. Also, if your address has changed, please provide your new address.

If your donation is an honorarium or memorial, please provide the information identified in the form below. You may cut out the form and fill in the information or provide it on a separate sheet of paper.

Thank you for your support!

Memorials or Honorary Gifts

The enclosed gift is in memory of _____

OR

The enclosed gift is in honor of _____

Please send notification of this gift to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

President's Column (continued from p.1)

EVERY SIN. EVERY TIME. Repent and believe the Gospel! Christ, who died for us, is also risen, and in Him we have new life, abundant life, and a glorious future.

Here – *in Jesus and His Gospel* – is healing for the hurting, peace for the troubled, reconciliation for the estranged, rescue for the fallen, and comfort for the grief-stricken. Here – *in Jesus and His Gospel* – is forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. **LIFE** that overcomes death. **LIFE** that overcomes our brokenness. **LIFE** that pushes forward toward the Promised Land, where in God's presence *"there is fullness of joy,"* and at His right hand *"are pleasures forevermore."* (Psalm 16:11)

Urgent Legislative Report: PLEASE READ!

By: Pastor Paul Clark, President of Lutherans For Life of Michigan

Pro-Abortion Petition Drive Underway in Michigan

This initiative is sponsored by a group called *"Reproductive Freedom For All."* They must gather at least 425,059 valid signatures by July 11th in order to get this on the ballot for November. If passed, this would amend the Michigan Constitution and allow unfettered access to abortion, *even if* the Supreme Court reverses *Roe v. Wade*, removing any and all protection for the unborn baby. This petition is worded in such a way that it would virtually wipe out every restriction on abortion for which we have fought over the years. Here are some of the devastating effects of this state constitutional amendment (list provided by Right to Life of Michigan):

- Ban parental consent laws so minors could get an abortion without their parents' knowledge
- Repeal the current ban on tax-funded abortions
- Repeal gestational age limits on abortions
- Allow gender transition without parental consent because sterilization would be part of reproductive rights
- Right to contraception without parental consent
- Ban prosecution of anyone involved in an abortion
- Ban prosecution of anyone who "alleges" that a spontaneous abortion or stillbirth occurred (someone could commit infanticide and claim it was a stillbirth and the matter would not be allowed to be investigated)
- Ban the informed consent requirement for women seeking an abortion
- A much more! Please see the website listed below for more effects of this amendment and more information!

this petition comes to you, **PLEASE DO NOT SIGN IT.** Spread the word to your friends and acquaintances. ***This is a matter of the utmost importance!***

A coalition of pro-life groups has been formed to battle this petition and make sure that the citizens of Michigan know exactly what this amendment would do. For more information, please go to our website: www.supportMIwomenandchildren.org

Spotlight on...

Selah's Center of Hope serves women and men by using Christ-centered holistic programs. We hope to end generational poverty and to preserve life. We offer mentorship while teaching life skills and family education to women and men at our center. Our maternity home is for unwed pregnant mothers who are choosing life for their child but are in need of a housing program that can help them with their unique needs. These women also participate in educational programs. We are reaching out to our community and making a positive difference through our center and our residential program. Recently, one of our residents suffered a stroke and needed to be air-lifted to a major medical center. Sabrina's baby was only three weeks old when this occurred. Sabrina asked that the staff at Selah's care for her baby, Josephina, while she recovered. Selah's has happily and lovingly provided for Josephina. Please keep Sabrina in your prayers as she continues to heal and learn. Please pray for the staff and volunteers at Selah's as we provide compassionate care and teach biblical principles to all of our clients and residents. You can visit <https://www.selahs.org/> for more information. Thank you!



(article and photo left submitted by Jennifer Connelly)

High School Service Project

By: Anastasia Brown, Lutheran North Senior

In Macomb, Michigan, Lutheran North High School celebrated Lutheran Schools Week in March. A tradition at the school is to spend one day doing service projects for local charities. This year, one of the charities they helped was Compassion Pregnancy Center. The challenge: repackage as many diapers as possible!

Compassion hands out packages of 30 diapers of the same size to their clients, so repackaging donations is a constant task. Students at North welcomed the opportunity to help! After picking up the diapers from Compassion, teachers and students began the task. In the end, 24,000 diapers were repackaged and ready to be given out to those in need! For this blessing, to God be the glory!



...Pregnancy Resource Centers



Pictured top left: Sue Nellis, Executive Director of Compassion Pregnancy Center

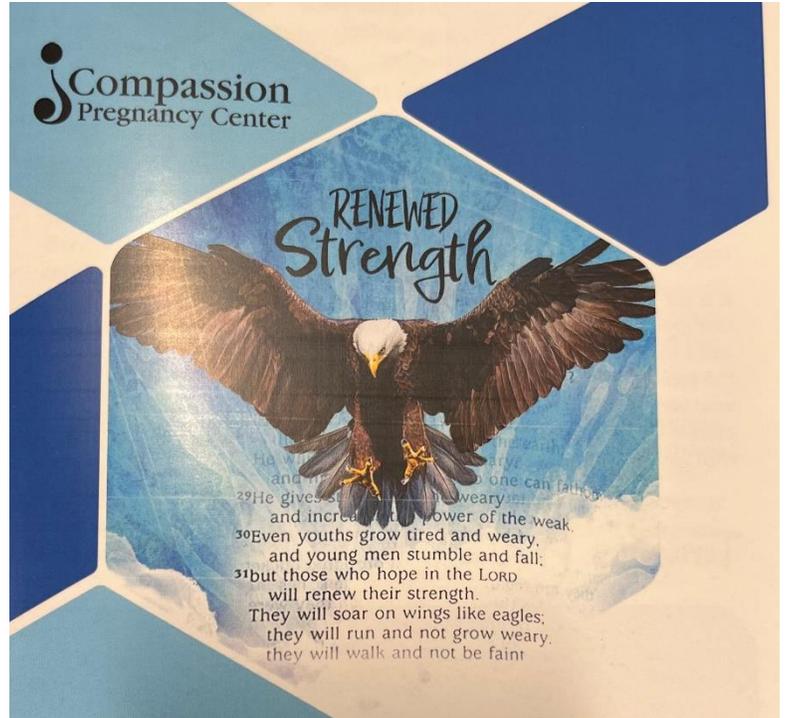


Pictured middle top: Faculty and friends of Lutheran North High School in Macomb



Pictured middle bottom: Members and friends of the Life Team at St. Luke in Clinton Twp.

Compassion Pregnancy Center's annual banquet was held in April in Clinton Twp. with the theme Renewed Strength based on Isaiah 40:31 – "but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Sue Nellis reported to the over 300 attendees the amazing work Compassion did in 2021, including that 172 clients who were considering abortion made a decision For Life. Clients shared their stories and appreciation for all the love and support they received there. We also got to hear from Keynote Speaker G. Spencer Schirs Jr. about his involvement in an abortion, journey to faith, and work to speak out for the value of every child whether the pregnancy is planned or unplanned. You can watch the recorded event free at compassionpregnancyfriends.org/banquet now through April 30! (photo right from the evening's program)



What's Happening...



On February 12th, the Life Team at Our Savior Lutheran Church and School in Hartland hosted a Mental Health and Children Seminar. Chris McKenna (pictured left), Founder of Protect Young Eyes, spoke about how we can protect children from the dangers of social media and other technology.

Rev. Michael Salemink (pictured second from right), Executive Director of Mission and Ministry for Lutherans For Life, discussed God's good design for human relationships and how we can walk alongside people who struggle with sexuality and gender and help them find real hope.

Eric Hipple (pictured right), former Detroit Lions Quarterback, spoke from personal experience about depression and suicide and how we can help those who are struggling with hopelessness.

Each speaker also answered audience questions (pictured second from left).

(All photos taken by Jennifer Thoma and submitted by Shirley Sturkin)



On February 13th, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fowler hosted Rev. Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Mission and Ministry for Lutherans For Life. (photo left submitted by Pastor Paul Clark)

On February 27th, members of Our Savior Lutheran Church and School in Hartland participated in the 1st Lap of the 40-day Jericho March around Planned Parenthood in Ann Arbor with approximately 100 other prolife people. The event began with a very inspirational speech by Dr. Monica Miller. (photos right submitted by Shirley Sturkin)



...in Michigan?

Memorial Cross Display – The Our Savior Life Team in Hartland, Life Team spouses, Youth Group and parents braved the winter elements on Saturday March 26th to install 571 crosses in memory of the number of abortions performed on babies each week in Michigan. The crosses were up for one month. (photos submitted by Shirley Sturkin)



Pastor Paul Clark, President of Lutherans For Life of Michigan, spoke at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids on April 24th. (photo left submitted by Pastor Paul Clark)

Y4Life

Why are Youth For Life?

Everyone high school or college age is invited to find out and learn how to support the value of all human life in words and actions.

Find us here:

Youth4Life Podcast: www.y4life.org/youth4life-podcast/ or your favorite podcast platform

Snapchat and Instagram: Search for “LifeFacts” and “LifeSnaps” OR “LFL4LIFE” (but all lowercase)

YouTube Videos of Past Live Zoom Sessions: www.youtube.com/user/LutheransForLife/videos

Chats4Life: Join us two nights a month to learn about various life topics, exchange ideas with Y4Life teams, engage with guest speakers, and meet life leaders from across the nation. Contact Michelle Bauman for the Zoom login and password at mbauman@lutheransforlife.org or send her a message through Y4Life’s social media platforms on Instagram or Snapchat.

What About...Mondays? Do you have a burning question or real-life situation that involves a life issue? Do you need advice as to how to speak from a Gospel-motivated perspective in an angry, anti-life world? If so, then What about . . . Mondays? is for you! Every second Monday of the month, students gather together on Zoom to talk about life issues they’d like to address. Based on youth questions and interests, Michelle Bauman and other members from LFL’s national staff help youth find a 4 Life answer to the problems the world tries to solve with death. Through practice and conversation, youth learn to address life issues from a Gospel-motivated perspective and share that perspective and hope with others.

Contact mbauman@lutheransforlife.org for more information!

Website: www.y4life.org



Y4LIFE seeks to equip high-school- and college-aged youth to be Gospel-motivated voices 4 Life, publicly and privately answering the question: Why should I be 4 Life? Through service, education, worship, and celebration, youth are encouraged to engage in life-affirming activities and become Leaders 4 Life in their schools, communities, nation, and world!

(www.y4life.org/about/)

Groups and individuals welcome to all events

Learn, ask, discuss, serve, love – For Life

Join us!

Contact Michelle Bauman (Director of Y4Life) for more information: mbauman@lutheransforlife.org
(information from www.y4life.org)

Upcoming Events

Showing of the Movie *Unplanned*

Sunday, May 1, 2022

On Sunday, May 1st at 3:00pm, the Life Team at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Clinton Twp. will be hosting a showing of the movie *Unplanned*. It tells the true story of Abby Johnson, former director of a Planned Parenthood clinic, her journey to become For Life, and how she left the organization and now works as a For Life advocate. For more information on the movie, go to: <https://www.unplannedfilm.com/> To RSVP for this free event, email schaidtl@gmail.com

Annual Diaper Drive

When: Mother's Day – Father's Day (May 8th – June 19th)

What: Collect diapers to donate to local pregnancy centers

Where: Your congregation

Let us know how many you collect and where you donate them (contact Lauren at schaidtl@gmail.com or 586-214-3116). We love to print it to bring awareness of our many pregnancy centers in Michigan and encourage others to support them throughout the year!

2022 LUTHERANS FOR LIFE NATIONAL CONFERENCE – BLESSED FOR LIFE

Blessed with the gift of life. Blessed by God for one's entire life. Blessed to be a blessing to others.

Lutherans For Life national and regional conferences allow our team to come directly to you with the For Life Gospel message. These gatherings are wonderful times spent together where we can provide valuable information and encouragement to you, your community, and the life-affirming work you are engaged in.

SAVE THE DATE!

2022 Lutherans For Life National Conference

October 21-22 | All day Friday until Saturday at noon.
Rock Island, Illinois (Quad Cities)

Watch for more 2022 national conference info!

(taken from www.lutheransforlife.org/conference)



Blessed For Life

"... the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; you do not give him up to the will of his enemies." Psalm 41:2

NATIONAL LFL STEP UP 4 LIFE 2022

Our 2022 theme is **“God Chose YOU!”** and it is surely worth singing about! Ephesians 3:10 reminds us that God chose us out of all the world to be His people:

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

Or run in them, rock in them, or stroll in them, as the case may be!

We are once again partnering with Charity Footsteps for our Step Up 4 Life campaign, and we’ll be adding new features to help you more easily monitor your progress as you walk, run, or play toward fitness and a donation to our ministry!

What else is new? You can sign up to be a sponsor! We’re looking for individuals, groups, or businesses to donate \$250, \$500, or \$1,000 toward our \$60,000 fundraising goal. Whatever level of sponsorship you choose, you’ll not only receive thanks and special recognition from LFL, but you’ll also help us reach our goal! Watch for more details on how to become a sponsor soon!

It’s time to start getting warmed up and psyched up for the next competition! Watch for more details in the weeks to follow.

Thank you to all who participated last year. We are so excited to offer you another chance to Step Up 4 Life, and we encourage you to bring more friends!

(taken from <https://lutheransforlife.org/step-up-4-life-2022>, see link for more information!)

NEW: Lutherans For Life App!

Find motivation. Get education. Take action.

Engage with a nationwide network of voices proclaiming the sanctity of life and putting it into practice. Discover upcoming events in your community and across the country. Explore life issues like surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis with a constantly-updated archive of articles, podcasts, videos, and other resources.

Reflect on the how God’s grace in the Holy Scriptures and Lutheran doctrine brings hope and gives joy to difficult situations. Share comfort and encouragement with your social networks. Connect with [Life Teams](#), [Life Chapters](#), and [State Federations](#) making a difference in your area.

Locate and communicate with other life-minded individuals. Participate in the [Y4Life](#) program for students and youth. Access [Word of Hope](#), the 24-7 confidential crisis care and post-abortion healing ministry.

Celebrate how God creates, redeems, and calls every human life as His own precious treasure from fertilization to forever.

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

(<https://lutheransforlife.org/lfl-app>)

How? Just go to any app store and search for Lutherans For Life.

I WANT TO SPEAK OUT FOR LIFE!

I want to become a member of LFL (Please select a membership category.)

___ Annual: \$35 \$50 \$75 Other \$___ (A donation of any amount will enroll you as an annual member of LFL.)

___ Sponsor: I commit to a monthly gift of \$___ (Annual & Sponsor contributions to LFL are tax-deductible.)

I'm not interested in membership, but am enclosing a contribution of \$___ to support the national efforts of LFL.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone # _____

Chapter Name/# (if applicable) _____ Occupation _____

Congregation _____

Church Body (Synod) AALC ___ AFLC ___ CLBA ___ ELCA ___ LCMS ___ Other _____

Clip and send to: Lutherans For Life, 1101 - 5th Street, Nevada, IA 50201-1816
1-888-364-LIFE * (515) 382-3020 * E-mail: info@lutheransforlife.org *
WebSite: www.lutheransforlife.org

Check Out These Easy Ways to Give!

Lutherans For Life of Michigan receives a percentage of your purchase when you shop!

Amazon Smile and choose us as your charity! For details, go to

<http://smile.amazon.com/about>.

Kroger and sign up to have us connected to your Kroger Plus Card as your charity! For details, go to <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/>

Word of Hope

LFL's Post Abortion Healing Ministry

We can help, contact us at:

1-888-217-8679

www.word-of-hope.org

help@word-of-hope.org

Lutherans For Life of Michigan
331 North Sorrell Street Box 317
Fowler, MI 48835

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
GRAND RAPIDS, MI
PERMIT NO. 321



In the Next Issue...

2022 Essay Contest Winners!

Diaper Drive Report

Legislative Report

What's Happening...in Michigan

Upcoming Events

And More!

Quotes

"Christians are called to proclaim the truth, and that truth is clear: All life is valuable. Each member of the human race is vital. All lives are indispensable because of Christ." *Michelle Bauman, director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

"Every child is created by God, in His image, on purpose—for His purpose! This is the wonderful thing about human babies: ALL of us share this exact same thing in common—each of us is planned!" *Barbara A. Geistfeld, D.V.M. Lutherans For Life regional director of Texas – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

"The Lord God loves your neighbors—even the ones that annoy you. He cares so much for them that He sent His Son to die and rise again for them—for all of them. For the thief, the bigot, the liberal, the conservative, the one with the manicured lawn who judges your overgrown lawn, and the one who has let their property become overgrown and run down. He cares for all of them. He cares so much that He called you and He placed you in that neighborhood to seek its welfare." *Rev. Dr. Jason Broge, guest speaker on The Lutheran Hour – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*