

Lifelines

February/March/April 2026

President's Column

By Pastor Paul Clark

The year has barely begun, but there is no respite in the ongoing battle between good and evil, between truth and lies, between freedom and oppression.

In the Bible, Satan is often depicted as a serpent or a **dragon**. Like a dragon, he hates man and seeks our downfall.

The Dragon especially seeks to swallow up our children and our future with the cursed evil of abortion. As we observe another **Life Sunday**, an average of 2,500 to 3,000 abortions occur every single day. That's a lot of baby girls and boys whose lives are snuffed out. Many politicians still *"fight like hell"* to ensure that these little ones have no legal protection whatsoever, and that all restrictions to enable their grisly demise would be removed.

Yet thousands of pro-lifers will still gather each January in Washington D.C. for the *National March For Life*, just as we in Michigan gathered at the Capitol in Lansing last November. The people who gather, whatever their various backgrounds, are united in the defense of the sanctity and dignity of every unborn child. For shining through the darkness of the web of lies and corruption is this: ***An unborn baby, from the moment of fertilization, is a human being, created in the image of God and deserving of basic human rights, most pointedly – the right to Life.***

We are moved when we see children suffering hunger, physical and emotional abuse, or those facing childhood cancer

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or illness, as we should be, but then barely pause to consider the overwhelming horror of the grisly abortion industry, and the cold rage of those who defend it. And so, thousands of innocent babies continue to be *"terminated"* every day.

How many push such unpleasantness from their thoughts, accepting the propaganda and outright deception of those who defend the killing of unborn babies as a necessary *"procedure"* for the *"reproductive health care"* of women!

Lies, lies, and more lies! Yet, every election cycle, people believe them, and still vote for pro-abortion candidates, who turn away from the truth and ignore the *"silent screams"* of those whose deaths they enable.

So – ***as faithful Christians*** – we will continue to speak ***the truth***. We will advocate for our unborn sisters and brothers whose lives are valuable – both to God and to us. We will support the work of the pro-life movement – of ***Lutherans For Life, Right To Life***, and, of course, our local *Pregnancy Resource Centers*. We will pray. We will hold up ***adoption*** as a loving alternative for those who feel they cannot raise their child. Recently, a fellow pastor and his wife – *after waiting for two years* – finally received the blessing of a child through adoption. *God be praised!*

So, the new year has begun. *The scourge of abortion* continues to kill babies. But we have a future and a hope, because ***WE HAVE CHRIST*** and His promises.
(Continued on p. 4)

LFL's mission is to equip Lutherans and their neighbors 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.

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Website: www.lflmi.org

THANK YOU...

Bethel Lutheran Church, Howard City, MI

Jan M. Arnold, Menominee, MI

Ralph & Karen Wagner, Hawks, MI

In honor of Faith Lutheran Church in Hawks, MI

Lester & Ronda Chapman, Grand Haven, MI

In honor of our first grandchild

John Drach, Taylor Mill, KY

St. Peter Lutheran Church, St. Johns, MI

Bill & Kathy Humes, Shelby Twp. MI

In honor of Baby Issac

St. Johns Lutheran Church and Ladies Aid and LWML of Waltz, New Boston, MI

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In honor of Jean's 77th Birthday

In honor of our 52nd Wedding Anniversary

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In memory of Edwin Oesterreich

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Ruth Germeroth, Canton, MI

In memory of Connie Davis

Margaret Deradoorian, Auburn Hills, MI

Emil & Linda Hecksel, Coopersville, MI

Harry Jock, White Lake, MI

Zion Lutheran Church, Marshall, MI

Norma Sly, Battle Creek, MI

In memory of Edwin Oesterreich

Paul & Amy Oesterreich, Martinsville, IN

In memory of Edwin Oesterreich

Marlene Oesterreich, East Leroy, MI

In memory of Edwin Oesterreich

Timothy & Betty Loewe, Temperance, MI

Mary Fuhlbrigge, Monroe, MI

In memory of Pastor Karl Fuhlbrigge

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, Millington, MI

(continued on p.3)

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

James & Elizabeth Eggert, Holt, MI

Betty MacArthur, Oviedo, FL

Roger Guetzkow, Rochester Hills, MI

Joanne Bierwirth, Berkley, MI

Roger & Rita Johr, Caledonia, MI

Hope Lutheran Church Ladies of Hope, St. Helen, MI

Our Savior Lutheran Ladies Aid, Gladwin, MI

Larry Henn, Okemos, MI

Hope Lutheran Church, Dewitt, MI

Ruth Aufdemberge, Chelsea, MI

Loyd & Sharon Aton, New Baltimore, MI
In memory of Rev. David M. Ulm

John & Ronda Brandt, Mt. Clemens, MI
In honor of Mia Brandt's 3rd Birthday
In honor of the Birth and Baptism of Mateo Isaiah Brandt

Breck Crandell, Ypsilanti, MI

Larry & Diane Thursam, Clinton Twp., MI
In memory of Eric Hurtgam

Edward & Shirley Mantay, Clinton Twp., MI

Rev. Tim & Betty Loewe, Temperance, MI

Mr. & Mrs. Erwin Aufdemberge, Macomb, MI
In memory of Nathanael Schumpe

Dennis & Judith Williams, Lansing, MI
In honor of Daniel Williams

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Washington, MI

Dick Williams Gun Shop, Saginaw, MI

Lucille Schilling, Fraser, MI
In memory of Mrs. Carlene Gaiser

Our Savior Lutheran Church of Grand Rapids

William Cate

Brian & Tania Rentz, Kentwood, MI
In memory of Warren "Bud" Rentz

Douglas & Sheila Green, Shelby Twp., MI
In memory of Chris and Connie Davis

Frank & Diane Hart, St. Johns, MI

Chris Oberly, Washington, MI

Dennis & Judith Williams, Lansing, MI
In memory of our parents

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Whitmore Lake, MI

Alma Weimer, Battle Creek, MI
In memory of Edwin Oesterreich

Ralph & Barbara Krueger, Delton, MI
In memory of Edwin Oesterreich

Debra & Kenneth Weimer, Ceresco, MI
In memory of Edwin Oesterreich

Janet May, Cudahy, WI
In memory of Edwin Oesterreich

Norman & Shirley Schneider, Richland, MI
In memory of Edwin Oesterreich

Holy Ghost Lutheran Church and School, Monroe, MI

James Tafel
In memory of Mae Baker

Janet Keinath, Frankenmuth, MI

Eric Forss, Howell, MI

James & Mary Johnson, Hudsonville, MI

John Boldt, Monroe, MI
In memory of Robert & Clara Boldt

Kaye Wolff, Southfield, MI

Bronners CHRISTmas Wonderland

Geri & Larry Loree, Pigeon, MI
In memory of Anna Ramig

Lester & Ronda Chapman, Grand Haven, MI
In honor of our first grandchild

Aaron & Cara Keuo, Reed City, MI
In memory of Aurora Joy

St. Paul Lutheran Church Ladies Guild, Milan, MI

Robert Dittenber, McMillan, MI

Valley Lutheran Highschool Student Organization, Saginaw, MI

Pamela Lueke, Bad Axe, MI

Eugene Morabito, Ann Arbor, MI

Cheryl Talsma, Scottville, MI

Julie & Donald Friend, Eastpointe, MI

(continued on p.4)

(THANK YOU... continued from p.3)

Frank & Vicky List, Frankenmuth, MI

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, Battle Creek, MI

*William & Christine Chauvin, Fenton, MI
In honor of our grandchildren*

Norm & Diane Long, Grand Rapids, MI

Barbara Aubuchon, Brownstown, MI

*Kevin Stresman, Vassar, MI
In memory of Shirley Stresman*

*Janet & Don Maynard, St. Johns, MI
In honor of Alexander Stroh*

*Barbara Schramm, Armada, MI
In memory of Pastor Chris Davis*

Linda Devoogd, Washington, MI

Rev. Frank & Jeanette Pies, Hartland, MI

St. Michael Lutheran Church, Reese, MI

*Jeff & Elizabeth Davis, Fraser, MI
In memory of Connie and Chris Davis*

Marion Meilaender, Marshall, MI

Terry M. Davis, Macomb, MI

United Way of Midland County

Dale & Bonnie Kregel

St John Lutheran School, Amelith, MI

(President's Column, continued from p.1)

He is with us, *always*, to the end of the age. So, *fellow soldiers of Christ, let's remain resolute in our defense of the unborn! March onward in this battle for Life!*

"Be strong and courageous, do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed,

for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

(Joshua 1:9)

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

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.

News from Loving Arms, Macomb County Chapter 94 of LFL

By Karen Hoerauf, President 586-247-5177 51hills@sbcglobal.net

Thoughts on the hymn *It is Well With My Soul* by Horatio G. Spafford

When peace like a river, attendeth my way. When sorrows like sea billows roll

Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, It is well with my soul."

Mr. Spafford wrote this hymn following the drowning deaths of his four daughters.

Where can we find comfort when loved ones die? Where can we find hope when an unborn child dies in stillbirth or miscarriage?

Rev. Kincaid on page 45-46 of Living With Grief says, " 'All is well' does not mean that we are strong and life is easy. 'All is well' acknowledges deep pain and anguish, and how frail and feeble we are. Above all, 'All is well' acknowledges the strong love of Christ, our risen Savior."

These helpful books are all available from Concordia Publishing House

My Peace I Leave You: Christ's Comfort in the Storms of life By Rev. Kristian Kincaid

Living with Grief: Bound by Sorrow, Wrapped in Comfort by Rev. Kristian Kincaid

The Resurrection Changes Everything: Essays in Honor of Rev. Dr. Herbert C. Mueller, Jr.

At our next Loving Arms meeting, Angela Hillenbrand will give a presentation about remembering the lives of the unborn children who died due to miscarriage and still birth. This will occur on February 21 at 10-11:30 AM at St. John Lutheran 16639 Fourteen Mile Fraser, MI 48026. Enter the west door of the church and proceed through the double doors to the church library.

The National March for Life

The 53rd Annual March for Life took place in Washington D.C. on Friday, January 23rd. Tens of thousands of participants marched, sang, prayed, listened to speakers, and held signs speaking up For Life.



Pictured above left are the Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske (Executive Director of national Lutherans For Life) and his wife Marie, photo from the Lutherans For Life of Michigan Facebook page



Photos above center and right are from The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod Facebook page

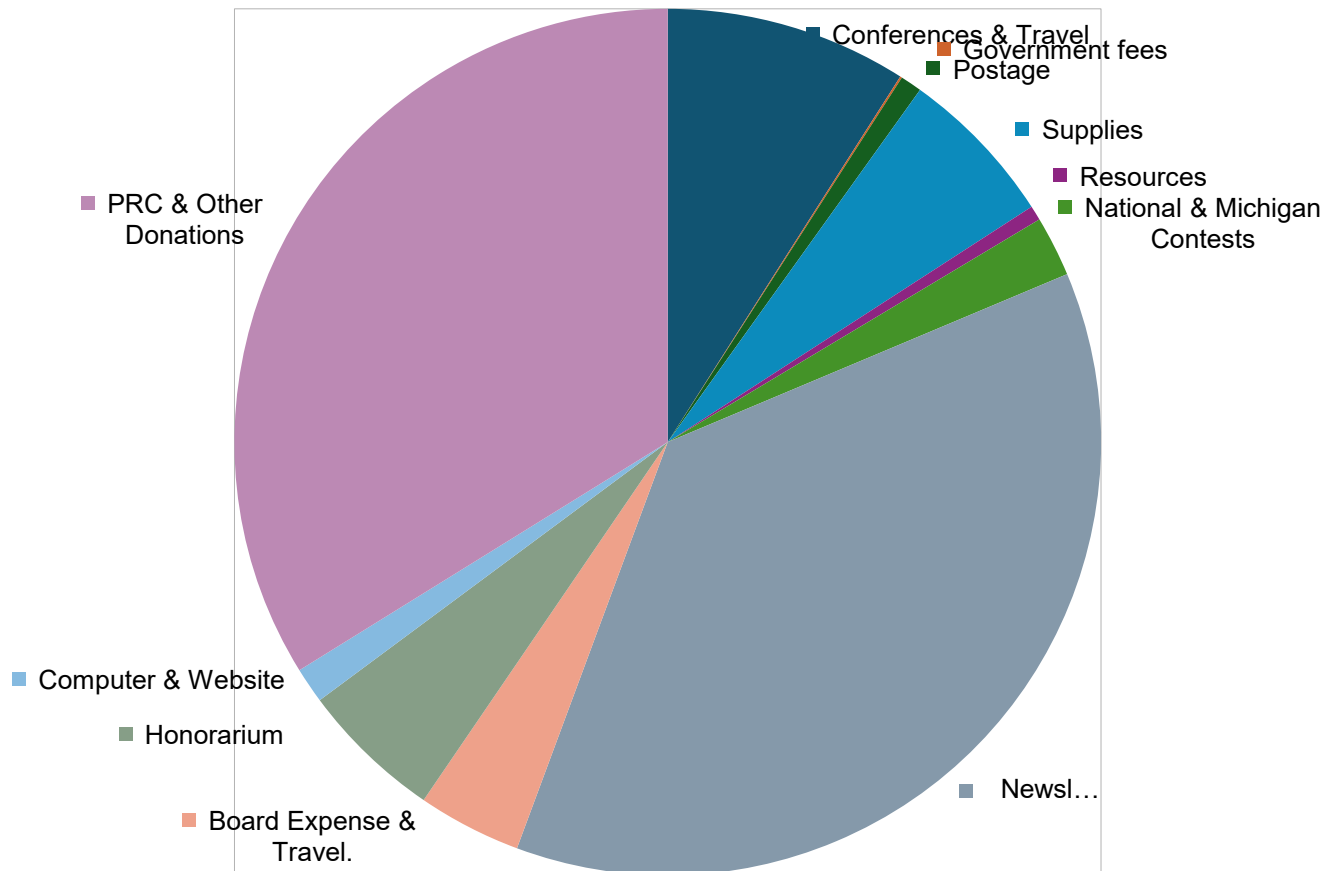
2025 Financial Report

By Brendan McMahon, Treasurer of Lutherans For Life of Michigan

2025 Financial Report

Balance on January 1, 2025,	\$76,119.20
Total 2025 Income	\$27,882.89
Total 2025 Expenses	\$28,213.59
Balance on December 31, 2025,	\$75,788.50

All the books are balanced with the Bank statements as of December 31, 2025.
The following chart shows the distribution of expenditures during 2025.



We praise and thank the Lord of life for your generous donations. Your gifts enable us to carry out our mission in Michigan churches, schools, and communities, to give witness to the sanctity of all human life, from fertilization until forever, based upon the Word of God. And they allow us to provide most resources free of charge.

We are pleased that we have been able to provide financial support to fourteen pregnancy resource centers around the state. We would be pleased to discuss aiding and providing seed money to help start a Life Team at your congregation, or to help your Life Team progress to the next step. We would also like to discuss assisting your congregation in hosting a Life Issues event.

What's Happening...



The Life Team at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Macomb held a baby bottle drive to collect money for their local pregnancy resource center. They used the occasion to share a resource table with the congregation and students as well. *(Submitted by Carol Poterek)*



On November 6, God created a beautiful day to help Lutheran North High School students celebrate the beauty of life at the March for Life at the State Capitol building in Lansing. Students heard excellent speakers, messages of love, forgiveness, and mercy. It was encouraging and inspiring to see so many high school students participate in the rally and march.

Peyton Carper, a junior at Lutheran North stated, "I enjoyed seeing so many people my age coming together for the march. It brings hope for the future of defending life to stay strong and well-grounded in Christ."

Senior, Sabrina Deaner was also encouraged by the event and the comfort of true hope found in the love of Christ. "During the March for Life it was very inspiring to see so many people my age marching with me! I am proud to be a part of the younger generation that stands up for what is right and it's amazing to see that so many people my age care about life!" stated Deaner. *(Submitted by John Brandt, teacher at Lutheran North)*

Life Sunday: January 18, 2026!



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Washington Twp. celebrated Life Sunday with activities for the children to remind them that God creates and values every human life, from womb to tomb. They spent the morning learning Biblical truths about life and making some special projects (pictured above) to show and celebrate their uniqueness! *(submitted by Mandi Wesley)*

The blankets on the pews this weekend (pictured right) were made by our Women's Ministry with some help from some 1st graders and will bless the families at the pregnancy centers in greater Macomb County. Remember, you are fearfully and wonderfully made! *(Submitted by St. Peter Macomb Life Team)*



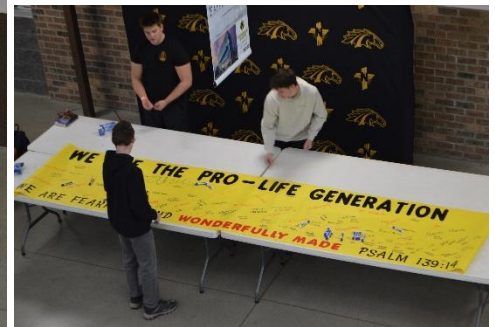
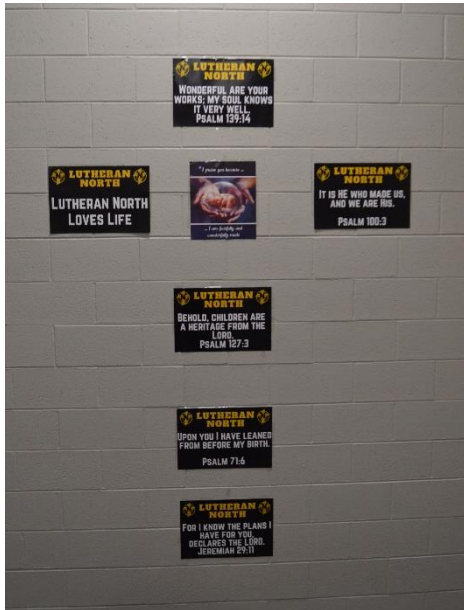
St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fowler hosted their annual Life Sunday Breakfast and Essay Contest. The winner of the contest will be submitted to the Lutherans For Life of Michigan Essay Contest. Pictured left are this year's Life Essayists with Pastor Paul Clark. *(Submitted by Pastor Paul Clark)*

Pictured right is the Life Sunday resource table at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Clinton Twp. *(Submitted by Lauren Schaidt)*



Life Week at Lutheran North

Students and staff at Lutheran North High School in Macomb celebrated Life Week by using their gospel-motivated voices to share an important For Life message with their school and community. Each day began with a student sharing facts about abortion and the value of human life and then leading the school in prayer during the morning announcements. Signs throughout the school proclaimed God's handiwork in lovingly creating each human life, His redemption won for all through Jesus' death on the cross, and our adoption as His children through the Word and Holy Baptism. Students and staff had the opportunity to sign a banner joyfully declaring, "We are the pro-life generation" and "We are fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14). That verse was also constructed into the school's fence using Styrofoam cups to share the message with the broader community. What a blessing it was for students and staff to join together in proclaiming such a wonderful message!





LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

2026 Michigan Essay Contest

Sponsored by the LFL Council of Federation Presidents

For Students in Grades 6 – 8 and 9 – 12

Any student in a Lutheran school or Lutheran congregation (e.g., confirmation class, youth group, Lutheran home school) is eligible when validated by their teacher or pastor, along with parental consent. Each school or congregation may send in **ONE** entry. We recommend holding a contest at the school/congregation to choose the winning essay to send on to the Lutherans For Life of Michigan contest.

Contest Guidelines

Students will write a life-affirming essay based on the theme **“That They May Have Life”** using John 10:10 - *“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”* Examples of topics the essay could deal with are – but are not limited to – abortion, disabilities, adoption, foster care, infanticide, physician-assisted suicide, hospice care, sexual purity, etc. For more information on life topics, see lutheransforlife.org.

1. The first page of the essay must include the student’s name, grade, school or church, a personal mailing address, email address, and phone number (of the student or parent).
2. All entries must be submitted by a teacher or pastor and include their contact information.
3. Grades 6 – 8 should submit essays up to 400 words. The word count does not include the title, footnotes, or bibliography.
4. Grades 9 – 12 should submit essays up to 750 words. The word count does not include the title, footnotes, or bibliography.
5. Entries must be submitted digitally using Microsoft Word or Google Docs (*PDF files or other formats will not be accepted*). Email your entry to Lauren Schaidt at schaidtl@gmail.com by February 28, 2026.
6. Missing any of the following items will cause disqualification:
 - a. The essay must include the entire theme and entire theme Bible verse as part of the written text.
 - b. Each essay must include a title. Using the required theme as a title is acceptable but does not replace using the theme and verse within the essay.
 - c. The essay must be in complete agreement with the Lutherans For Life mission to “Equip Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life”.
 - d. A Bibliography listing sources used is required.
 - e. Exceeding the appropriate word count is not acceptable.

7. Essays should make good use of standard essay writing components, including introduction and conclusion, main points, organization, style, mechanics, sources, and bibliography (*See page 2 for directions on using these elements*).
8. There will be a \$150 first-place award and a \$100 second-place award for each of the two categories. The two first place category winners will advance to the national contest.
9. The national award for the winning entry in each category is \$500 for first place, plus free conference registration to the 2026 Lutherans For Life national conference for the student and his/her parents, one-night stay at the conference hotel for the student and his/her parents, \$200 travel expense reserved for conference travel only, and a framed certificate. The second-place award is \$250 and a framed certificate.
10. All entries, including exclusive copyrights, become the property of Lutherans For Life.
11. For support or resources on the sanctity of life, see lutheransforlife.org.

Helpful Information about Good Essay Structural Elements

- **Introduction and Conclusion** – The reader is engaged by a well-developed introduction that creates interest. The conclusion effectively wraps up the essay by clearly drawing a conclusion to support the essay position.
- **Main Points** – The main idea and statements are clear and may come from a variety of sources, including personal experience, observations, feelings, or prior knowledge. Supporting details are accurate and helpful to the main point. Statistics and other research, if used, are used effectively.
- **Organization** – The essay shows a logical progression of ideas that enhance the essay. Transitions are graceful, with a smooth flow.
- **Style** – The paper is honest and enthusiastic. The language is natural and shares a message from the heart of the writer. Writing is smooth, skillful, and makes sense.
- **Mechanics** – Punctuation, spelling, and capitalizations are correct with no run-on sentences.
- **Sources** – All sources for references, statistics, and quotes are referenced within the essay by listing the author or source in parentheses after the quote.
- **Bibliography** – A simple bibliography/works-cited page gives references for the sources used including the author, source title, page number or website.

Legislative Report

By Pastor Paul Clark

In Michigan, on December 10th the House Health Policy Committee voted to advance the abortion reporting and complication reporting bill package, HB 5201-5203. The bills were passed along partisan lines, with all present Republican members voting in favor of, and all present Democrat members voting against the package. The bills now are awaiting a floor vote by the entire House of Representatives. Hopefully the bill will be passed so that people are informed about the very real risks of abortion to the woman. Neglecting to report such abortion statistics and complications, in addition to being utterly deceitful, is certainly dangerous to the lives of many women who need to be aware of the risk of such complications.

Federally, on January 8th Congress passed a bill to maintain COVID-era Obamacare subsidy expansions that did not include Hyde Amendment protections. 17 Republicans crossed the aisle to vote with the Democrat caucus to pass the bill. Only Representative Chris Smith (R-NJ) denounced the bill during the House's allotted time for debate over the lack of a Hyde Amendment provision. The vote followed a statement from President Trump urging pro-life Republicans to be "flexible" on the Hyde Amendment. Senate Majority Leader John Thune later told members of the press that any subsidy bill without Hyde Amendment provisions will not receive the 60 votes needed in the Senate. It is very important that the Hyde Amendment continues to stand! Taxpayers should not in any way be forced to fund abortions!

Upcoming Events

The Annual Diaper Drive

When: Mother's Day – Father's Day (May 10th – June 21st)

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 schaidt@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!

Introducing... Congregational House of Refuge



Shine your light internally and externally, sharing how your congregation is a safe place for pregnant mothers. Your support will give them hope to raise their baby. Walk with them should they decide adoption is their choice. During this special time you and your church are there as their child develops and they prepare for this next stage in life.

How do you do this?

- 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 submits the Congregational House of Refuge agreement.
- The pastor reads a commitment statement in worship twice a year.
- The congregation gets involved through mentoring, praying, and providing a representative to handle the program details.
- The congregation is listed on a locator map of other Lutheran congregations engaged in this program.

Program Guide

- Download: [Congregational House of Refuge Program Guide](#)
- Download: [Congregational House of Refuge Statement](#)
- Download: [Congregational House of Refuge Representative Commissioning and Installation Litany](#)

Pastor, as you have reviewed the program guide, are you are ready to become a Congregational House of Refuge? If YES, click below.

Register ►

(from <https://lutheransforlife.org/congregational-house-of-refuge>

Visit this site to download and read the information shown above.)

Some of the Resources for Lil' Lutherans 4 Life

Find them at www.cph.org, search for "Lil' Lutherans 4 Life"



Lil' Lutherans 4 Life Morning and Night Prayers Series
\$1.50



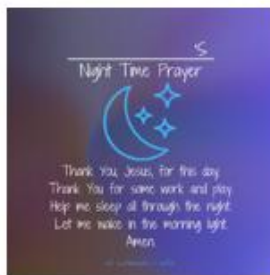
Lil' Lutherans 4 Life "I Can Come to Jesus" Series
\$1.50



Lil' Lutherans 4 Life Advent Series
\$1.50



Lil' Lutherans 4 Life Morning Prayers
\$1.50



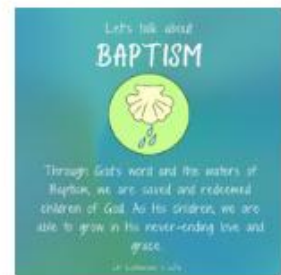
Lil' Lutherans 4 Life Night Prayers
\$1.50



Lil' Lutherans 4 Life – Let's Talk About Confession
\$1.50



Lil' Lutherans 4 Life – Let's Talk About Absolution
\$1.50



Lil' Lutherans 4 Life – Let's Talk About Baptism
\$1.50



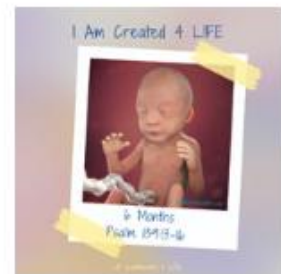
Lil' Lutherans 4 Life – Let's Talk About Grace
\$1.50



Lil' Lutherans 4 Life – Jesus Brings Joy 4 Life | Advent
\$1.50



Lil' Lutherans 4 Life – Jesus Brings Love 4 Life | Advent
\$1.50



Lil' Lutherans 4 Life – I Am Created 4 Life – 6 Months
\$1.50

Some of the Resources for Y4Life

Find them at www.cph.org, search for "Y4Life"



Human Development Y4Life
Infographic Booklet Series
\$2.00



Human Development | Part 1:
Weeks 1-8 - A Y4Life
Infographic Booklet
\$2.00



The Dangerous Effects of
Pornography - A Y4Life
Infographic Brochure
\$0.50



Human Development | Part 3:
Weeks 21-40 - A Y4Life
Infographic Booklet
\$2.00



Human Development | Part 2:
Weeks 9-20 - A Y4Life
Infographic Booklet
\$2.00



Abortion and Race (fold-out
brochure)
\$1.00



Foster Care (fold-out
brochure)
\$2.00



Abortion Fast Facts (fold-out
brochure)
\$2.00



All resources are great for adults, too!

Frontline Playbooks

Find the *Belonging* Playbook at <https://lutheransforlife.org/frontline-playbook-belonging> and look for the *Hopeful* Playbook soon!

Frontline Playbook Series

This is a collection of life-affirming resources in a series of programs with each having its own theme. All items are usable in group settings or one-on-one activities. Each life topic has multiple elements. Use them as a complete program or as a stand-alone resource.



BELONGING

"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God."
(Ephesians 2:19)

Welcome to the Frontline Playbook!

Within each Frontline Playbook issue will be four topical presentations and associated resources. You have available to you a video presentation, devotion, fact sheet, and activity sheet for each of the four topical resources. Use these to plan or implement an event, a Bible study, or another creative way to use the material provided.



You may use the entire Playbook as an educational opportunity for your life group during your meetings. Consider sponsoring an event at church and include the video presentations and other useful resources. Talk to your pastor about using these during a Bible study hour for either large or small group studies. Each video will run about 40 to 50 minutes, giving you time to review the fact sheets and do an activity. You may choose to engage people in an activity either pre- or post-event to spur interest in the actual event. We suggest you use the devotion provided as an opening followed by the video, which can be accessed from a video link on our LFL website.

And there will be more ... We have been asked for more ways to assist you in planning For Life activities at your churches, and we are thrilled to provide the Frontline Playbook series.

As you plan your For Life goals for this coming year, please consider including the Frontline Playbook series in your plans. We have provided detailed steps, but if you have questions or suggestions on how to make this even better, please reach out to the [Volunteer Relations Team](#).

(Article from <https://lutheransforlife.org/frontlineplaybook/>):

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Verba Vitae



A Serious Christian Journal of Life
and its Significance

Verba Vitae: A Serious Christian Journal of Life and its Significance

Everywhere we look these days we see conversations politicized. Reasoned argument is skipped in the effort to discern what an author's political opinions really are, and whether they accord with what they *should* be. The Left and Right collide, hurling slogans at each other, often baiting and belittling the other to advance their own agendas. Throughout vast regions of academia, power has seemingly replaced reason, with all thinking now being understood ideologically.

But while people on opposite ends of the political spectrum organize to persuade, they eschew the less glamorous task of *analysis*. However, for conversation to proceed rationally, presuppositions from each side must be examined calmly, and words must be understood properly. Analysis can allow disputants to become conversation partners, for common ground can often be found where none seemed possible before.

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. It is interested in what is being talked about when thinkers employ the language of rights and goods, or when thinkers speak of God. It is accordingly interested in fostering and modeling *informed* conversation. How do people talk to each other respectfully when holding differing conceptions of the good? (from www.verba-vitae.org, accessed June 29, 2024)

Lutherans For Life is collaborating with the Institute of Lutheran Theology to launch the *Verba Vitae* journal. It continues the Lutheran legacy of rigorous and responsible intellectual inquiry. This is especially relevant to current consideration of human dignity, which remains essential to Western civilization and Christian witness. (Salemink, Michael. "A Statement of Support for Verba Vitae". *Verba Vitae Journal* 1, no. 1-2 (March 29, 2024): 15. Accessed June 29, 2024. <https://verba-vitae.org/index.php/vvj/article/view/7>.)

Visit <https://verba-vitae.org> for more information, to read the journal, to subscribe, and to submit an article.

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Quotes

"The mark of barbarism is that we treat babies like inconveniences to be discarded rather than the blessings to cherish that they are."

Vice President J.D. Vance at The March for Life 2026 in Washington D.C.

"Sin and shame and guilt are taken away by one thing only—the blood of Jesus Christ—which cleanses us from all sin. Our sins have already been punished in Him, on that cross. Jesus bodily rose from the tomb so that we would know that now even death itself cannot harm those who belong to Jesus and trust in Him alone, for as He lives, so we live as well."

Rev. Paul Clark, Lutherans For Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org