

Lifelines

August/September/October 2019

Congratulations to **Benjamin VanVechten**, High School Essay Winner of the 2019 Life Issues Contest!

During World War I, the Ottoman Empire exterminated 1.5 million of its own citizens.¹ During World War II, over six million Jews were systematically murdered by the German Nazi regime.² In the last forty-five years, over 50 million of our own citizens have been slaughtered with our government’s approval - through abortion.³ The world shouts its sinful convictions on abortion from all sides, hoping to wear Christians down. Surrounded, we turn to God’s Word for strength in our defense against this senseless crime. John 6:68 tells us, “Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” In a time when attacks rage against the value of life, God’s Word is the only incorruptible source of truth.

In the beginning, God created human life: “Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.” (Genesis 2:7 ESV) Unlike the animals, which were spoken into existence, the first man was individually crafted by God. This personal creation shows the value God instilled in human life. He crafted us from the dirt on the ground, and then transferred His breath to us. What an amazing testimony to God’s consecration of life! God still forms each baby in the womb. With loving care, He places infinite value on each new life. Conversely, the world attempts to cheapen life’s value. In addition to denying God’s creation of life, society denies any value in unborn life. Instead, the world places merit in the woman’s choice regarding that life. A woman may feel that the life is precious to her, or she may decide the new life is an inconvenience. Regardless of opinions or convenience, God’s Word shows us the truth. The psalmist declares, “Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His....” (Psalm 100:3 ESV)

Another manifestation of life’s inherent value is our Savior’s conception and birth. God sent *(continued on p.3)*

¹<https://www.armenian-genocide.org>

²<https://www.britannica.com/event/Holocaust>

³<https://www.politifact.com/new-jersey/statements/2012/mar/18/chris-smith/chris-smith-says-more-54-million-abortions-have-be/>

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Meet the Winners!

Benjamin VanVechten – 1st Place High School Essay (photo below with Karen Hoerauf, President of Loving Arms Lutherans For Life Macomb, at St. John Lutheran Church in Fraser, photo submitted by Karen)



Emily Halfman – 2nd Place Elementary Essay (photo below with Pastor Paul Clark at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fowler, photo submitted by Pastor Clark)



Alyssa Heins – 1st Place Elementary Essay
McKenna R. Hardies – 1st Place Artistic Project

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.

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In memory of Owen Hohnstadt and Ellery Kpenga

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In memory of Albert & Dorothy Weber

Richard and Lina Strausbaugh, *Ann Arbor*

Our Savior Lutheran Church, *Grand Rapids*

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, *Walled Lake*

Mount Hope Lutheran Church, *Grayling*

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Please send any new address, phone number, or email to:

schaidtl@gmail.com or (586)214-3116

Thank you!

(continued from p.1) Jesus Christ to be born of a woman. Conceived by the Holy Spirit, Jesus developed from a zygote into an embryo, and through all the natural processes of pregnancy. He remained the Holy Son of God and fully man throughout conception. Jesus' presence in the womb sanctifies it and testifies to the value of unborn life. Jeremiah 1:5 says, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." The world assigns value to unborn life according to the situation surrounding the pregnancy, insisting value comes from the desire of others for that life. The world denies any value that God has placed upon each unborn child. This wavering opinion of value is dangerous, and we must again turn to God's Word for truth. In Isaiah 49:16, God declares, "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of My hands..." Jesus sanctified the womb when he entered it, and every child who enters it is cherished by God.

God has clearly pronounced the blessings for protecting life, and the punishments for taking innocent life. Life is always a gift, even in inconvenient times. "Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him." (Psalm 127:3 ESV) Granting us this wonderful gift, God holds us responsible to uphold and revere that gift. "...I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying His voice and holding fast to Him, for He is your life and length of days..." (Deuteronomy 30:19-20 ESV) God also threatens punishment on those who do not value life. He instituted the Fifth Commandment, "You shall not murder." (Exodus 20:14 ESV) In Deuteronomy 27:25, God says, "Cursed be anyone who takes a bribe to shed innocent blood..." God shows His unwavering commitment to defend innocent life, and His harsh judgment for those who break His law and shed innocent blood.

God's unique creation of human life, Christ's sanctification of the womb, and the Bible's myriad decrees for life - all provide authoritative affirmation from God for the defense of unborn life. Instead of relying on sinful human reason, we turn to God's Word for unyielding support for life.

Social Media's Influence on Abortion

by Alyssa Hein, St. John Lutheran Church and School in Rogers City, 1st Place Elementary Essay

While scrolling through Instagram I came across a post about an article entitled "I Wish I'd Had A 'Late-Term Abortion' Instead of Having My Daughter." Confused, I read the caption of the post. "READ THE ARTICLE!!! Send article to an anti-choice who needs to read this. TELL THEM THEY NEED TO LISTEN TO US. THEY DO NOT KNOW BETTER THAN US!" Skimming through the post I discovered why the mother wanted to abort her baby.

The mother, sadly, was a victim of rape. She had been told that her baby had hydranencephaly, a condition at birth where the brain's cerebral hemispheres are absent and the empty cavities are filled with fluid. The doctor told the mother that her baby girl would be born blind, deaf, prone to seizures and hypothermia, and much more. She asked what her options were but she was already eight months along, meaning it was illegal to have an abortion.

When born, the baby lacked the instinct to suck and the basic functions of her body were only being controlled by her brainstem. The doctor told the mother "to make her comfortable and let her go in peace." (Zirlott, 2019) Regardless of his words, she still took her baby home. Feedings took two hours. There were many sleepless nights and hospital visits. One time, the infant was having seizures all night, which was common, but this time the grandparents decided to take her to the hospital while the mother stayed home. Sadly, in the hospital the baby passed away.

"These are our bodies and our lives.... We should not have to beg for permission to decide what is best for ourselves and our children, even the ones who may never be born - and maybe never should be born." (Zirlott, 2019) In this quote, the mother says "our bodies and our lives" implying the "mothers' bodies and the mothers' lives." The mother is forgetting about the baby's body and life. She also says that women should not have to beg for permission to decide what is best for the babies that "maybe never should be born." I read this and I was heartbroken. There is no such thing as a baby that should not be born. It doesn't matter if the baby has problems or is perfectly normal, it should still be born.

Writing this essay, I noticed how much social media affects these decisions. Imagine being a pregnant mother who is considering abortion and you read this article. Wouldn't you lean towards abortion? After I finished looking at the post, I clicked the "See Fewer Posts Like This" button. I don't want social media to control my life anymore than it already does. Instead of turning to online for answers, we should always turn to the Bible. God has given us the Bible to turn to again and again. "Children are a gift from the Lord, they are a reward from Him." (Psalm 127:3)

Abortion

by Emily Halfman, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fowler, 2nd Place Elementary Essay

“Know that the LORD Himself is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture” (Psalm 100:3).

This quote from the Bible tells me that it is not us who have the power of killing people. God made us and he decides when it is our time to die and go to heaven. I believe that it is not a doctor’s job to do the killing of an unborn baby, or in the case of euthanasia, killing a person who is in a lot of pain.

The Bible is far from silent on the topic of the sanctity of human life, especially preborn life in the womb. Doctors and other people saying that abortion is God’s plan, is just wrong. God’s plan is for us to believe in Jesus Christ and live through Him and protect those who can’t yet speak for themselves. The best gift that God has given us is life. Many people with thoughts of getting an abortion or to commit assisted suicide take their life for granted. They believe that their life has no meaning so they should murder their unborn baby.

When a person thinks about getting an abortion it’s usually very early in the pregnancy and they think that the baby isn’t anything yet. They think nothing of the baby; they just know that right now they don’t want it. After they have the abortion, they feel guilt. God says to not murder and abortion is the murdering of an unborn baby.

Many say that having a child at such a young age causes financial problems. Whether it’s a single mother or married couple, they don’t have enough to support both the baby and them. Thinking of a baby as a problem is selfish. Being able to be blessed by God with a baby is probably the greatest feeling in the world, and not wanting the baby enough to kill a human, is just hurtful.

Life and family is the greatest gift from God. Lots of selfish people take people for granted, thinking that every person is mean or horrible, when everyone has the same problem and is hurting inside. Hurting enough that when they get pregnant, right away their thought it so get an abortion.

As many people, I believe that people take their life, a great gift from God, for granted and in the moment they only care about their life, when they are also holding another life and just take it for granted and kill the unborn baby. For every abortion, that baby is someone who you do not get to meet. Life is the greatest thing ever.



1st Place Artistic Project

by McKenna R.
Hardies,

St. John Lutheran
Church and School
in Rogers City

Life Issues Contest

Sponsored by: Lutherans For Life of Michigan

As part of the mission of Lutherans For Life of Michigan to educate and equip our young people to be Gospel-motivated voices on Life issues, we are sponsoring a **Life Issues Contest!**

All Lutheran congregations are encouraged to participate in this contest by presenting this information and opportunity to their 7th and 8th grade students. Projects should be created under the guidance of the pastor or teacher, and submitted by the deadline of March 15th, 2020.

Pastors or teachers should judge their own students' projects first and then send their **one** winning entry in the **artistic project** category and **one** winning entry in the **essay** category to the state contest. **\$100** for the top **essay** and for the top **artistic project** and **\$75** for the runner-up in each category will be awarded at the state level, according to the criteria below.

Step 1: Pick a LIFE ISSUE

- ❖ *Abortion*
- ❖ *Sexual Purity*
- ❖ *People with Disabilities*
- ❖ *Assisted Suicide*
- ❖ *Embryonic Stem Cell Research*

Step 2: Pick a Project

- ❖ *Essay*
- OR
- Artistic Project*
- ❖ *T-shirt or jewelry design*
- ❖ *Video*
- ❖ *Poster*
- ❖ *Work of art*
- ❖ *Technology (i.e. Prezi, Vine, PowerPoint, Flipagram)*

It is our hope and prayer that this contest will be a valuable exercise in teaching our young people the value of human life, the need to protect that life, as well as the need for sexual purity and marital faithfulness.

**Please submit
the essay as a Word
document to:**
Lauren Schaidt
schaidtl@gmail.com

**Please submit
the artistic project
to:**
Jeff Davis
jdavis@lhsmi.org

Essay Guidelines

- ✓ Write 400-500 words
- ✓ Research your subject well
- ✓ Develop your theme clearly
- ✓ Show how this issue relates to you
- ✓ Use clear Biblical references and teachings
- ✓ Use proper spelling and grammar
- ✓ Be convincing and personal
- ✓ Include a title page with the following information: title of essay, student's name, name of congregation/school with address, telephone number and email address

Artistic Project Guidelines

- ✓ Research your subject well
- ✓ Develop your theme clearly
- ✓ Show how this issue relates to you
- ✓ Use clear Biblical references and teachings
- ✓ Be convincing and personal
- ✓ Exhibits excellent craftsmanship
- ✓ Creativity
- ✓ Send a few pictures (photographs or JPEG) and a paragraph OR a short video (in the .mov format) in which you display your project and explain its meaning
- ✓ Include the permission slip (can be found at www.lfmi.org)

High School Essay Contest Information Coming in the Fall!

Go to www.lfmi.org for instructions and permission slips for the elementary and high school contests.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The year was 1963. Dionne Warwick, one of the most popular singers of the decade, recorded the song, "Walk on By." The opening lines go like this:

"If you see me walking down the street
And I start to cry each time we meet,
Walk on by, walk on by."

There, the tune is probably going through your head now, isn't it? You can just hear Dionne Warwick singing it!

But you could also say that this song title aptly describes what is happening in the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Because that is exactly what both the priest and the Levite do when they see the beaten and injured man lying there along the roadside. Walk on by.

Sadly, that is all too often what many people do when the topic of abortion comes up. They would rather not get involved. They use an excuse such as, "It's a political issue," (which it's not! – it is a moral issue at the heart of what it means to be human!). Or maybe they just would rather not think about a distasteful subject like abortion. It is much easier to ponder the latest results of one's favorite sports team or the rise and fall of the Stock Market than to face the barbaric reality of babies being torn apart in the womb. The end result is the same. Many just walk on by.

Thanks be to God that the Good Samaritan – our Lord Jesus – did not just walk on by when He saw all of us mired in the filth and slime of our sin. Rather, He was filled with compassion, as we were like sheep without a shepherd. For Jesus, to see us in our dire state, doomed to eternal death, this was gut-wrenching. He had compassion.

So Jesus comes to us, who are beaten down by our sins and the devil and this fallen world. He binds us up and carries us, and provides for us, and will one day return for us. Jesus does not walk on by. He gives Himself unto death on the cross, so that our sins may be cancelled out by His blood, and so that we might have Life – eternal life in His name.

He who died and rose for you and me does not walk on by now either. He is here with us, always, in His Word which He speaks into our ears and our hearts, and in His body and blood given to us in the Holy Sacrament. He is present; He is with us. He cares for us. He loves us. He never has and never will just walk on by.

Saved by this wonderful grace in Christ, how can we just walk on by, when we know the truth of the countless lives of babies that are being taken every day, every week, every year. God help us to reflect His love by standing firm in supporting the pro-life cause, and being advocates for those little babies who cannot speak for themselves. Rise up, dear people! God grant us the courage to NOT walk on by.

Pastor Paul Clark, President, Lutherans For Life of Michigan

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

The Lord be with you.

It's been a difficult day for Gospel-motivated voices For Life. The governor of Illinois signed into a law a very permissive relaxing of regulations on abortions, including the repeal of the state's previous prohibition on "late-term" abortion. In addition, the governor of Maine signed legislation redefining suicide to exclude doctors prescribing lethal doses of pharmaceuticals to desiring patients.

This further endangers the lives of the least of these among our neighbors. The culture is telling individuals with terminal illnesses, chronic conditions, depression, and despair that death solves their difficulties - and at the very moments when their deep suffering calls for our greatest compassion and assistance. The culture is teaching that human worth and purpose depends upon attaining certain ages, appearances, or abilities. The culture is tempting individuals experiencing surprise pregnancies that violence and trauma offer their only salvation from their anxiety, isolation, and obligation.

Jesus wept. Almighty God loves nothing more than the human lives He creates, redeems, and calls as His very own treasures forever. He graciously lends them to us from fertilization to final breath that we might receive them as precious privileges and share life with them in His image. The sinful world's spineless acquiescence to the devil's deceptions and selfish disregard for the Lord's joy and His gifts moves the Heavenly Father even more than us. He cares enough to enter as the divine Son born of Mary into the mess we've made.

Yes, Jesus suffers, that He may withhold no mercy or love from humankind. Jesus dies, with and for the victims and the advocates and the practitioners of abortion and assisted suicide. And Jesus rose. Christ is risen. His forgiveness prevails. His grace reigns. His Word and His ways work. His good and gracious will comes to pass. If wretches like me and you can be saved, if helplessly dependent creatures such as us are worth having, then any and every genetic member of our race has sacred significance.

We have now new opportunities to declare this truth with courage and demonstrate it with compassion to the nation as well as to the neighbors right in front of us. The Lord our God takes no pleasure in the death of anyone but desires that all should be saved and come to know His name, His love, and His kingdom. Even as we grieve, let us not respond with hostility but with steadfast gentleness and respect. Let us rejoice to resolve ourselves toward finding motivation, getting education, taking action, and sharing it in our every moment and every movement. And let us not doubt that the Father Almighty will change hearts and save lives; only let us watch and pray that He would invite us to witness and participate in this miraculous work.

In truth and love,

Pastor Michael Salemink
Executive Director, Lutherans For Life
(765) 418-2342
www.lutheransforlife.org

We have all grieved the loss of someone at some point in our lives. However, those who have lost a child to abortion often do not allow themselves to grieve. There is a Word of Hope for the broken spirit and grieving heart.

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

What's Happening...



Students and teachers from Lutheran High North attended the annual Compassion Pregnancy Center Banquet. It was a wonderful event of hope, faith, and love!

Chris Schultz (pictured right) presented the Owen's Mission fetal models at St. John Lutheran Church and School in Rochester.

(photo submitted by Chris Schultz)



Chris Schultz (pictured left) shared Lutherans For Life resources at the display table at the North and East Pastors Conference.

(photo submitted by Chris Schultz)

Rev. Joel Eden from Christ Our Savior in Livonia picking up youth-oriented materials at the Southeast Pastors Conference in Frankenmuth (shown below), submitted by Susan Hill



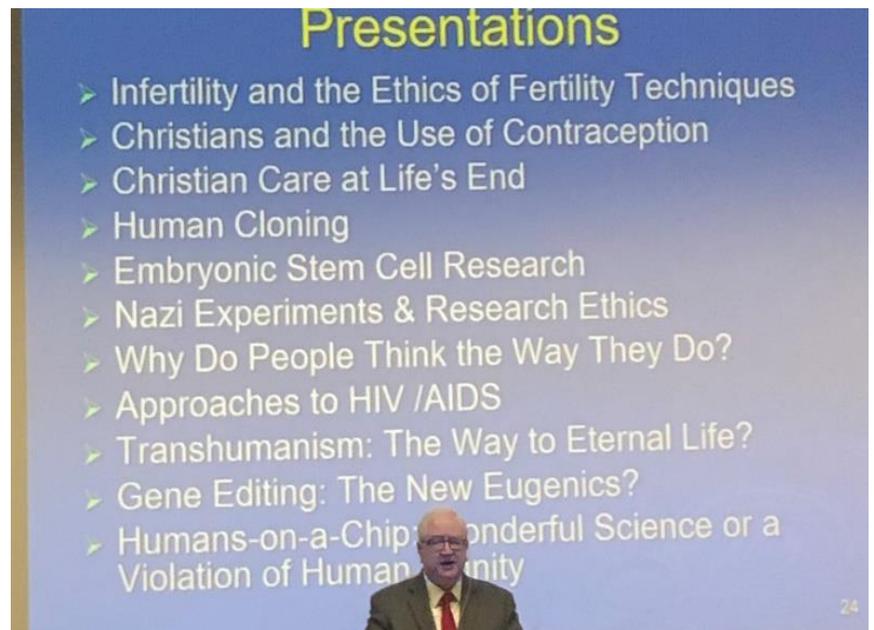
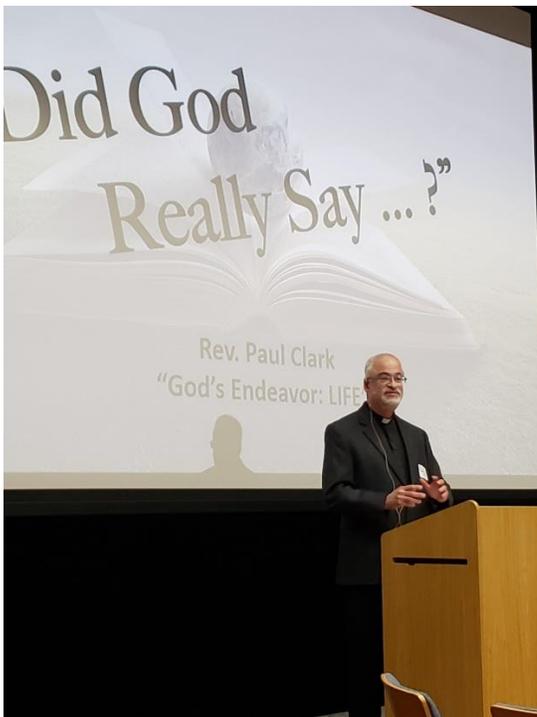
LFL Council of Presidents Meeting in June in Aimes, Iowa (shown left), photo submitted by Pastor Clark (pictured front row, third from right)



...in Michigan?

The Lutherans For Life regional conference at Concordia University in Ann Arbor took place on April 27th. The theme “Did God Really Say...?” was answered with a resounding “Yes!” God really said that He created the world, that He created each one of us and has known us even while in the womb, that marriage is a beautiful gift to be shared between a man and a woman, and that human worth comes from Him and not from any human measure or pragmatic considerations. God really did say that we will face trouble in this world and that He has overcome it for us. God really did say that we are forgiven, united in Christ, and so are already victorious and safe in His loving, nail-scarred hands throughout our life and into eternity.

So it is with repentant joy that we seek to protect His gift of life in this world. The excellent speakers educated us on how we can do this with a variety of life issues. Pastor Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life, opened the conference with a beautiful reminder of the truth of who we really are in Christ. Pastor Paul Clark (pictured below left), President of Lutherans For Life of Michigan, spoke on “God’s Endeavor: LIFE,” how it has been challenged throughout history, and how we can respond. Dr. Donna Harrison explained new research on the effectiveness and risks of various birth control methods. Dr. Kevin Voss, Director of the Concordia Center for Bioethics, introduced the mission and work of the Center and its importance in the current medical and philosophical climate. He is pictured below on the right in front of a list of topics on which the Center is available to present. They are based at Concordia University Wisconsin. Finally, Dr. Sheila Page described the ever-increasing pro-death pressures on medical professionals. Prayers and laws to protect the conscience and value life are certainly needed. Also, the 2018 winner of the Life Issues Contest, high school essay division, Payton Godbold, read her essay. It was very well received.



2019 Diaper Drive Report

The following **congregations** reported that they collected a total of **35,234** diapers!

Grace, Auburn
 Heart of the Shepherd, Howell
 St. Michael, Portage
 St. Matthew, Walled Lake
 St. Luke, Clinton Twp.
 Christ the King, Southgate
 St. John, Fraser
 Faith, Whitehall
 Our Redeemer, Muskegon
 Emmanuel, Britton
 Zion, Bay City
 Christ Our Savior, Livonia
 St. Paul, Fowler
 St. Peter, Macomb
 Our Redeemer, Washington Twp.
 St. John, Au Gres
 Trinity, Wyandotte
 Trinity, Conklin
 St. Paul, Albion
 St. John, Rochester
 St. Michael, Richville
 St. Luke, Ann Arbor
 Grace, Monroe
 St. John, Midland
 Our Savior,
 Grand Rapids

They were donated to these **pregnancy centers**:

Compassion Pregnancy Center
 CareNet Detroit
 AAA Pregnancy Center
 Wee Care
 Muskegon Pregnancy Services
 Beacon of Hope
 Pregnancy Care Center in Adrian
 Another Way Pregnancy Center
 Luke 5 2 Project
 Pregnancy Services of Greater Lansing
 Harbor Lights Pregnancy Center
 Lincoln Park Crisis Pregnancy Center
 Alternatives
 Crossroads Care Center
 Pregnancy Health Center in Brighton
 Arbor Woman
 Heartbeat of Monroe
 LifeClinic Community Resources
 Grand Rapids Pregnancy Resource Center



St. John, Rochester

Thank You!



Grace, Auburn
 (submitted by Jean Peters)



CareNet Detroit gratefully receives
 diapers from St. Luke, Clinton Twp.
 (submitted by John Rudnicki)



Iris Proctor, Executive Director of
 Arbor Woman, with donations from St. Luke,
 Ann Arbor (photo submitted by Ruth Menge)

Legislative Report

Important Call to Action!

PETITION DRIVE FOR DISMEMBERMENT ABORTION BAN: An opportunity is before Michigan citizens. By working together, we can ban the inhumane abortion procedure known as the D&E or dilation and evacuation method. This method of abortion uses surgical instruments to forcibly remove arms and legs from a living human being in the womb.

Michigan's Constitution allows the people to initiate legislation through a petition. The petition seeks legislation that would amend our partial-birth abortion ban by adding the equally horrific dismemberment abortion procedure to that ban. The advantage of this approach is that the bill's language cannot be changed by the legislature, but more importantly, it cannot be vetoed by the Governor! We need to collect 400,000 signatures, and we have 180 days to do it, starting on June 26, 2019.

Please do everything you can to participate in this petition drive on behalf of our innocent unborn babies! This is NOT a political issue; it is a moral and spiritual issue. It is a matter of life and death.

To order petitions, bulletin inserts, flyers, and other information, please visit

www.michiganvalueslife.org

Please sign the petition, and let others know about it as well, that they may have the opportunity to sign as well.

Submitted by Pastor Paul Clark, District Life Coordinator, President LFL-MI

Upcoming Events

- Aug. 5-7 Principals Conference
- Aug. 8 Hope Dementia Ministry seminar, Trinity Lutheran Church in Utica,
6:30-8:30pm
- Sept. 28 End of Life Care: Legal Documents and Hospice Decisions, St. Luke
Lutheran Church in Clinton Twp., 10:00am – 12:00
- Oct. 6 Annual Life Chain (ask your local church or see <http://www.lifechain.net/> for
places and times)
- Oct. 6-8 All Pastors Conference

Check Out These Easy Ways to Give!

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

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/>



Answering THE question of our generation ...

Y4Life is here to help youth and young adults answer what may be the most important questions of our generation:

... Why should we be For Life?

What does being For Life even mean? And how can we make a difference?

Through education and service, based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Y4Life helps equip Generation Y to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life in their own communities and beyond!

(<https://www.lutheransforlife.org/about/y4life/>)

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 *

Owen's Mission

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 1078 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 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 twenty-one weeks during pre-natal 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 twenty-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.

This is a mission opportunity for individual, congregational, and/or school offerings. For more information on how you can obtain a set of these fetal models for your school, contact Chris Schultz at ckay.schultz@gmail.com or 734-770-7699.

Lutherans For Life of Michigan

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In the Next Issue...

...a report on the Annual Life Chain

...upcoming March for Life 2020

...upcoming winter events

And More!

Quotes

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you," says God. Each life, before even coming into existence, God has cast His gaze upon, delighting in having us hear His voice and that we would be led home to Him."
Rev. Perry Hart, guest speaker on "The Lutheran Hour" – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org

"Father, You are the Author of life, and we thank You for the gift that it is. Forgive us when we devalue it in any way. Heal our land from the scourge of legalized abortion and turn our hearts back to profound respect for all life. In Jesus's name. Amen." *Duane Matz, former lay pastor with the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC) and Christian radio announcer – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*