



A Sacred Trust

God's Gift Of Life

WELS Lutherans for Life

June 2016

Is abortion “Logical?”

As I was writing this article I overheard one of our client advocates speaking with a caller on the helpline. The conversation made my heart go out to the caller. The advocate listened while acknowledging the caller's feelings. As I listened, I was so moved by the advocate's words and tone. She was so empathetic and compassionate I could almost taste it. She offered the sympathy she could and invited the caller to come in and see her. I could tell that it was a very difficult situation. The caller was certainly distressed and convinced that an abortion was her only choice. Who should pay the price? The pregnancy could easily be terminated and everyone could move on. Well not everyone... we know the baby loses its life and the parents pay a price.

We also know that Jesus paid the ultimate and complete price for abortion and all sins. This is why we continue working to help women and men. We want to share the good news of the sweet forgiveness of the gospel.

Almost daily women and men contact or visit our WELS Lutherans for Life (WLFL) pregnancy center with the intent of aborting their unborn children. In many cases they are young and frightened and no one in their lives encourages them to consider Life for their unborn children.

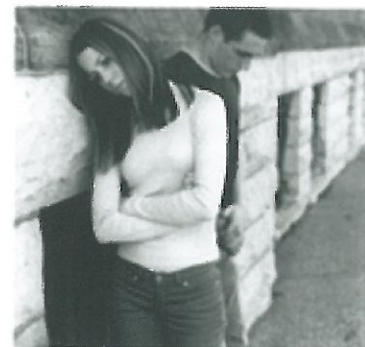
Most of their stories echo the thousands of other women who have walked through the doors of our life-affirming pregnancy center over the years. Strained relationships with parents, trouble with a boyfriend, feeling incapable of caring for a baby, timing related to school or work...and the list of “justifiable” reasons goes on and on.

Abortion often seems to be the only “logical” solution to the unplanned pregnancy.

But then the mother meets one of our understanding, compassionate client advocates. First of all, our advocate listens. We need to really hear and understand where each client is and what she is personally dealing with. Then our advocate can calmly explain all of the options available to her, including parenting and adoption. We also provide information about the long-lasting physical and emotional scars that abortion can leave.

Our next step is to introduce our client to her baby through a professionally administered ultrasound. We have begun the medical conversion at WELS Lutherans for Life to perform ultrasounds on-site.

Many of our clients later report that after consulting with our advocates, they have decided to carry their babies to term.



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WELS Lutherans for Life
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“To share the gospel of Jesus Christ through compassionate care, information, education, and support services while empowering women and men to make informed, life-affirming decisions about lifestyle and pregnancy issues.”

Is abortion "Logical?" - continued from page 1

Sadly, there are others who proceed with their plans to abort. Yet, even if a client chooses abortion, they know that they always have a safe space at WLFL. And there are the countless others we are unable to contact and will never know on this side of heaven how our words and actions affected their hearts. We ask you to pray for all of the women and men who face pregnancy decisions.

Thank you for helping rescue babies from abortion. Your financial and prayerful support prove that compassionate care can and does save lives. Soon we will combine that with the advanced technology of ultrasound and save more babies!

Message from the Executive Director

When you hear the stories and you look into the eyes of the women and men dealing with unexpected and unwanted pregnancy, you can't help but feel compassion for them. They're struggling. Of course we want to help them in whatever way we can.

As our cover story shares, the "justifiable" reasons... strained relationships, lack of support from the baby's father, financial concerns, feeling incapable of caring for a baby, school or work conflicts, et cetera...are challenging.

Abortion seems to be the "logical" solution.

But can you buy that argument?

There is a resounding "**No**" from you and everyone who financially supports this ministry—the *Friend of Life* monthly EFT donors, the contributors who send checks every month or regularly, the folks who name WLFL as beneficiaries in their wills, the people who attend our events, host a table, and invite their friends. With your financial support you shout a collective "**No more abortion**".

You make sure that we are empowered to help in whatever way we can, and that is why WELS Lutherans for Life exists; *saving the life of a baby and transforming the family.*

Thanks to God, we see these women and men as Jesus sees us. Because of you, we can look into the eyes and hear the stories with love, compassion, and forgiveness. We serve them as Jesus serves us. Because of this we can help them in the best way possible to avoid abortion and to understand that abortion is never the logical solution.

You partner in such an important and significant way. You intervene to make the "logical" solution argument disappear in place of the "loving" option.

God bless you and thank you for your awesome partnership in this life-saving, life-changing work.



For Life in Christ!

Peter Georgson
Peter Georgson

Life-A-Thon Success!

Thank YOU! Not only does it take a team to put together an event like the Life-A-Thon. . . it takes runners and walkers.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who participated!

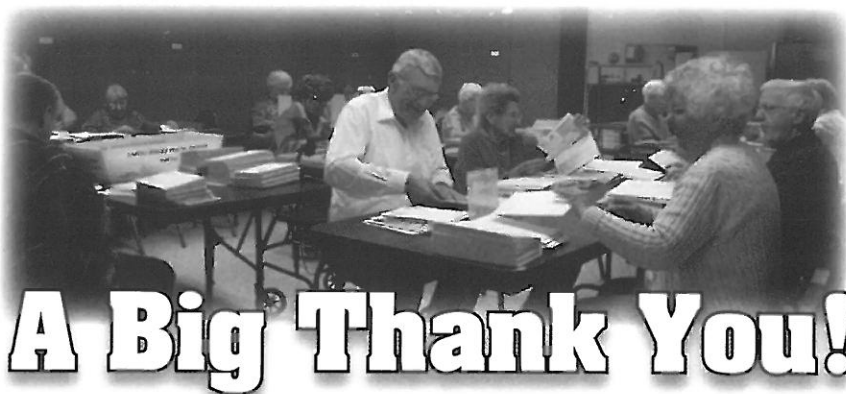
150 people actively participated, and many of them raised funds from their friends. 111 people accepted the challenge and sponsored one of the participants. So far more than \$13,280 has been raised through the Life-A-Thon. Thank you!

Publicly supporting WELS Lutherans for Life isn't always easy, due to the charged nature of what the organization does. We commend all those who stand with us in support of life-affirming options for unplanned pregnancy situations.

We appreciate our corporate sponsors. When you patronize the businesses that support us, please take a moment to thank them. It takes courage to take a stand, and in this economy it takes courage to give away something.

Thank you to all these supporting businesses:

Heritage Funeral Homes
Schoeneck Containers
Spiegelberg Financial Services
Oldenburg Financial Professionals
Shady Acres Perennial Nursery
Tempo Travel Service
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary
Milwaukee County Parks
Sebring Garage
See www.Life-A-Thon.com for details



We want to publicly thank the residents at Luther Haven for their super assistance assembling our mailings. Sometimes there are more than 5,000 envelopes to stuff with newsletters or appeal letters and related materials. Volunteers also attach the mailing labels and sort the envelopes by zip codes. They enjoy helping in this manner while laughing, visiting, and listening to Christian music. We are very grateful to them for this significant time saving service.

WELS LUTHERANS FOR LIFE
OPEN HOUSE
WED. JULY 20 & TUE. AUGUST 9 | 5:30-7PM

You're Invited - Open House Series

Come tour our space, meet our team, and learn about this vital ministry. Bring a friend. Light refreshments will be served. Two dates are set for this summer.

You are invited to visit on:

Dates: Wednesday, July 20 or Tuesday, August 9

Time: 5:30-7 PM

Place: 8501 W. Lincoln Avenue.
West Allis, WI 53227

St. Marcus Blessing

WELS Lutherans for Life received the wonderful blessing of an unexpected grant from St. Marcus Church. St. Marcus chose 12 ministries to share an estate gift they received. WLFL is honored to receive \$25,000 for our ultrasound program.

St. Marcus was able to share with us because of the generosity of Mr. Richard and Mrs. Lydia Gamm.

Richard and Lydia Gamm were heirs of a family active in the establishment and growth of St. Marcus Lutheran Church and School. Richard and some friends founded the Milport Chemical Company. He worked for many decades, and in the 1990s, he sold his interests and from the proceeds established the Richard and Lydia Gamm Living Trust. Richard passed away in 2012 at the age of 94 and Lydia in 2015 at the age of 91. St. Marcus Church received a bequeathed estate gift from the Gamm's in the summer of 2015.

St. Marcus is honored to be a beneficiary of the Gamm trust. This gift serves as a catalyst to advance the values and vision of St. Marcus Church and allows for transformational growth and ministry outreach. St. Marcus' ministry outreach moved the congregation to share a portion of the Gamm estate gift. WELS Lutherans for Life is honored and thankful to receive a generous portion of St. Marcus' sharing.

SOUL Ride

Motorcycle ride supporting the Sanctity Of Unborn Life! Hit the open road with other pro-life riders, have fun, and save lives!



When: Saturday, August 13

Where: Victory of the Lamb
11120 W Loomis Rd.
Franklin 53132

Want to help with the SOUL Ride?
Call (414) 727-8176 or e-mail contact@ALife2.com

www.SOULRide.org

WELS Lutherans for Life

Evening for Life

Join us for the **Evening for Life** fundraising banquet on **Friday, October 14**. Get the latest on the ministry of WLFL and the impact you have in the community through your financial support.

Charlie Sykes will be our speaker, and we look forward to learning his story and hearing the strong pro-life message he has to share. Charles J. Sykes is senior fellow at the Wisconsin Policy Research Institute and a talk show host at WTMJ radio in Milwaukee. He has written for The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and USA Today. He is the author of several books. For a more complete biography visit www.eveningforlife.org.

We look forward to seeing you there!!



Simply stated, planned giving refers to any major gift made during a person's lifetime or upon death as part of a donor's overall financial and/or estate planning. Please let us know if you plan a gift in your will or estate for WELS Lutherans for Life. For more information about the Legacy of Life Society contact Peter at Peter@ALife2.com or 414-727-8176. Thank you for thinking long-term and for your continued generous support of LIFE!

Sanctity of Life Campaign responses:

We're praying for great success with your efforts to raise funds.

I thought this was a great idea. Most people gave more than the suggested \$5. Praying for you!

IRA Charitable Rollover

The IRA Charitable Rollover was passed by Congress and signed into permanent law by the President on December 18, 2015. This allows taxpayers age 70½ or older to transfer up to \$100,000 annually from their IRA accounts directly to charity without first having to recognize the distribution as income.

The IRA charitable rollover has proven to be very popular with taxpayers and very beneficial to charities.

Despite its broad appeal, the provision remains limited in several respects: it is limited to taxpayers age 70½ or older; the amount of gifts is capped at \$100,000; and donors are specifically not permitted to make charitable rollovers to donor-advised funds, supporting organizations, and private foundations.

WELS Lutherans for Life is able to accept IRA rollover gifts. If you are interested in considering a gift of this nature, please contact Peter at 414-727-8176 or Peter@ALife2.com.

You Can Help Immensely

People often ask how they can help Lutherans for Life. One important way you can help further the mission is to host a table (be a table captain) for the Evening for Life fundraising banquet on Friday, October 14, 2016. Having new table hosts each year is critical to extending our reach as we introduce our mission to your friends, who may not know about WLFL's life-saving work.



Your task is simple—invite a group of 8-10 folks to attend the 2½ hour event with you. Don't be intimidated by thinking you need to ask anyone for money—it will be our job to inspire your guests with the truth about how their gifts save lives.

We will provide everything you need to help make the banquet a successful fundraiser.

Visualize the Lives

WLFL is a volunteer organization that relies solely on donations. It is critical that the Evening for Life fundraising banquet successfully raise a major portion of our annual budget. Our goal this year is to raise \$75,000 to help reach more abortion-minded clients through increased advertising and to add the ultrasound program. This is a stretch gift because there is so much more we could do if only we had the funding.

Please make a commitment to the moms we help and the babies we save. Attend this event, bring your friends, and support it with your contributions. Let's reach – and even exceed the \$75,000 needed to grow these programs and reach more moms. Lives will be saved because you did!



TRIBUTE GIFTS

Show how special people are or how their lives have touched yours. Send a gift in memory of someone who entered eternal life or honor someone for a milestone (*birthday, baptism, adoption, anniversary, confirmation, graduation, etc.*). Each gift is gratefully acknowledged and noted in future Sacred Trust issues.

From

Drexel & Charlotte Hansen
Scott & Rebecca Kiltzke
Diane Williams Emma Rose's
James & Judy Popelka

In Honor

Hazel Jidydon
Camille Marie's 1st birthday
1st birthday
Leah Nowak, 2 yr. old great-granddaughter

From

David & Lois Ebeling
Luther & Bernice Kolander
Daniel & Gail Hyland
Jeffrey & Gwen Lang
Lois Stichmann
Dorothy Lemke
Cheryl Ehke
Sue Johanning
Joan Ebert

In Memory

Barbara Weihrach
Mr & Mrs Engelbrecht and son Keith
Saige Strasburg
Saige Strasburg
Saige Strasburg
Dorothy Sutrzonka
Delbert Ehke
Gerald Johanning
Anna Fuher