



35
Celebrating
YEARS

March 2017



A Sacred Trust

God's Gift Of Life
WELS Lutheran for Life

35 years of pro-life ministry. This is a big deal. Not only are we continuing the life-saving ministry we have always done, but we are stepping it up tremendously this year by becoming a medical pregnancy center. We are in the third trimester of our medical conversion process.

So while we're busy continuing our caring service to mothers while also pricing ultrasound machines, comparing medical insurance, and preparing for building renovations, we hope you enjoy some anniversary reflections and congratulations from past board members and our national affiliate leaders.

35 years! It's an anniversary for Lutherans for Life! It's also the age of a mother; or in some cases, even a grandmother. Definitely young, yes. But a grandmother by age 35, because a choice was made. A choice for life! God's Word works! Our volunteers and staff have used it faithfully for 35 years to help people who are feeling scared, alone, and pressured by a society that says killing is "health care," "convenient" and "the only sensible option." It has changed hearts and it has saved lives! And so, as a former board member I can say Happy Anniversary Lutherans for Life and Happy Birthday to all you 35 year old mothers and grandmothers who are out there because God blessed our efforts! May He continue to bring people through our doors and into His arms where they can find out about all the blessings of life and having it to the full in Jesus! Jim Price, former board member

Congratulations to WELS Lutheran for Life on its 35th anniversary. You have been fighting for the sanctity of life and to build a culture of life for nearly four decades. Because of your work thousands of children have been born and mothers have been spared the trauma of abortion. Your work has eternal implications and will be addressed by our Lord one day simply with the words "Well done."
 Thomas A. Glessner, J.D.
 President of National Institute of Family and Life Advocates (NIFLA)

"Words cannot express how much my affiliation with WELS Lutheran for Life has meant to me in the past few years. Your contributions to the pro-life cause have encouraged me to step out of my comfort zone and grow in my faith and walk with the Lord. God's richest blessings to you in the next 35 years and beyond!"
 Dr. Jeff Guse,
 current board member

Read the new Mission Statement explanation at ALife2.com/blog/from-the-board-january-2017. We'd love to hear your reactions.

WELS Lutheran for Life
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"Protecting a child's right to live and be loved."

Facing Challenges & Meeting the Future

The beginning of the year is a great time! We look back with thanks to God, and we look ahead with anticipation of the blessings to come.

Looking back:

- EH Say and her new husband, married by Pastor Kassulke, their baby baptized into God's family, and Grandma Lucy sharing their joy
- The Muslim couple who did want a baby, just "not right now"
- The sea of young faces at the International Youth Rally and classrooms of young teens hearing how to honor God with their bodies and lives with *Healthy Choices*
- Skilled volunteers reaching out to our city's young people, teaching them how to parent and live productive lives
- Sharing, caring leaders creating a healing environment for hearts crying from actions of the past
- Ending the year with a monetary surplus!

Looking ahead:

- Celebrating 35 years in a big way by
- Taking a huge step forward to provide ultrasound, abortion pill reversal, and other medical services

You, this group of friends that is LFL, are reaching out with the love and hope of Jesus.

You, this group of friends that is LFL, are accomplishing way more than we could ever have imagined when we began 35 years ago.

Our medical conversion is progressing every day. Our top tier medical staff is secured: medical director, obstetric consultant, nurse manager, and clinic coordinator (a registered diagnostic medical sonographer). We are recruiting volunteer nurses, establishing policies to meet medical requirements, remodeling our center, and launching a comprehensive marketing plan. We are hoping to launch ultrasound services in May, 2017. (You can find more details on our website, www.ALife2.com).

We are asking you, friends, to invest in this project. Overall, this expansion of outreach is a \$178,000 project. Whether your investment is \$30,000, \$1,000, \$250, or \$50 – or any other amount – each gift to WELS LFL takes us one step closer to reaching our goal, your goal.

You can invest with us simply by filling out and returning the enclosed envelope or online at ALife2.com/get-invested.html.



For Life in Christ,

Executive Director

P.S. We look forward to hearing from you. We appreciate your friendship and your desire to join others in creating a culture of life in your community.

From YOU - Our Friends:

Thank you for all you do to not only recognize life from its true start, but also to support those who need it in the days after that life has entered the world. Please accept our enclosed gift for the Loving Moms parenting group. J&L G

This donation is for whatever your need may be. May God continue to bless your work of saving the unborn and spreading the love of our Savior. A.N.

SPECIAL EVENTS

**Life-A-Thon
Walk/Run
Saturday, May 13**

North Side:

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary
8:00 am - Registration
8:45 am-Walk/Run (competitive 5K)

South Side:

McCarty Park Pavilion
10:15 am-Registration
11 am-Walk/Run

Go virtual! Register and walk/run on your own!
Cost: \$25 individual, \$60 family (parents and kids)
\$85 school group (2 adult chaperones and all the kids)

Registration: www.Life-A-Thon.org or 414-727-8176

People We Meet & Serve:

Sidney didn't believe she was pregnant. She was more than shocked, she was in denial. Her father called our helpline. He tried to persuade us to believe that abortion was the best course of action for *Sidney*. He became quite upset when he realized he was not going to get the abortion referral information from our center. He badgered the helpline. It was no use. The helpline remained non-confrontational and continued to share facts. She stayed strong, following our policy and reminding the caller that we do not refer for or perform abortion. After about an hour on the phone the caller hung up.

We prayed for the young girl, her baby, and the caller.

Angel was young, just 18 years old, and came with a friend who knows us. Her mom says it certainly isn't ideal, but they will make it through. She is going to parent her child.

She was given information about *Loving Moms* parenting classes and plans to attend. She felt understood and that we cared about her and her situation. She was grateful she came to us.

The work we do is challenging, sometimes disappointing, yet always rewarding. And we trust God with the results. Thanks for your support, for giving us the opportunity to witness about the sanctity of life and salvation in Jesus.

THRIVENT Choice Dollars

THRIVENT funding is returning to WLFL!! WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee has been cleared to be included in the Thrivent Choice catalog. This will result in our eligibility to receive funds from the Choice Dollars part of the Thrivent Choice Program.

But don't look quite yet. We expect final approval by mid-to-late April, but wanted to announce this good news in this Newsletter. As soon as we hear we're in the catalog we'll announce it to our email list. Then all Thrivent members can choose WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee to receive their Choice Dollars.

If you have an email address but don't receive our e-newsletter sign up at ALife2.com/subscribe.html.

We are pleased to have this funding opportunity returning.

Sustaining Donors Needed

Monthly Sustaining Donors can help us ensure that our doors are open to serve the community. Even a small monthly contribution of \$5, \$10 or \$20 can really go a long way.

Join *Friends of Life* and contribute every month to support and protect a baby's right to live and be loved. It's simple! You determine the amount you'd like to contribute each month, and you don't have to worry about writing a check or mailing an envelope.

Currently 50 *Friends of Life* contribute \$1,865 collectively per month. This covers more than 17 days of operations. You can help us cover more days. Sign up to be a monthly electronic *Friend of Life* donor today.

For more information, contact Peter at Peter@ALife2.com or 414-727-8176.

Evening for Life, Fundraising Banquet Friday, October 13

Watch for details at Life-A-Thon.org and EveningforLife.org and Plan to join us.

Creative Support: Blessings abound! Generous unexpected gifts.

Carolyn is a long-time friend. One day she misplaced her hearing aids. They were missing for quite a while. Since she couldn't find them, she was planning to replace them. Then they miraculously appeared. She decided to donate the replacement value to WLFL, since she had already intended that money would be spent. We consider her dedication as a miracle and are very thankful she thought of WLFL.

A friend, whom we'll call Bob, had a serious medical test pending. He prayed about it and decided on action depending on the outcome. If the test result was clear, he would donate a set amount (he pre-determined) to the first ministry envelope he opened after receiving the good news. We're thankful our appeal letter showed up in time to receive the designated thank-offering. Thanks Bob!

We wish we had....

As a non-profit organization, we regret we always seem to be "asking" for something. Scripture reminds us, though, that there is a great blessing in giving. We are looking for...

- Event volunteers – help us organize activities and fundraisers.
- Social media ambassadors – Like our Facebook page, follow us on Twitter, then like, comment, and share so people in your network see the valuable work you represent.
- Church Liaison – transfers information between LFL and their church and encourages fellow members to become involved and attend events.

We can ALWAYS use more Ambassadors! If you would like to volunteer in one of these capacities, contact us for more information.

LIFE Online

Visit www.ALife2.com to see our 2016 Annual Report. Under the HOME tab you'll find:

- 2017 Theme Scripture passage devotional thought
- Medical Conversion update
- "Ultrasound-Worth the Cost?" answering the question some folks ask.

Also, read the blog **F.U.E.L. for Life** and more online at ALife2.com.

TRIBUTE GIFTS

From 4th Q of 2016

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

Gerry Babinec
Gerry Babinec
Edward Nimmer
Edward Nimmer
Louise Saylor
Donna Rehak
Ruth Lampe
Bill and Karleen Liedtke
Dave and Jill Parbs
Donald and Rachel Egelseer
Glen and Wendy Proeber
Harley and Elizabeth Hildenbrand
Harley and Elizabeth Hildenbrand
Carol Gallepp
Jerry and Vicki Raddant
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Jerry and Vicki Raddant
Marvin and Sharon Rosenau
Richard and Pamela Manske
Russell and Nancy Schroeder
Russell and Nancy Schroeder
Russell and Nancy Schroeder
Steve and Sara Van Dam
Patrick Jessup
Kenneth & Karen Proeber
Gilbert & Lorraine Bakke
Darrell Bruggink
Corey & Debra Honl
Merlyn & Corrine Krueger
Bill & Karleen Liedtke
Elaine Follmann
Bethel Roberts
Mr. Brian Roser
Ms. Lois Stichmann
Greta Wagner
Randy & Diane Wendt
Lynette Hopp

Memory

David Babinec
Don Babinec
Evelyn Nimmer
Evelyn Nimmer
Frank Saylor
John H Rehak
Lorraine Lampe
Roger Sievert
Sarah Koehler
Martha Egelseer
Glen and Carol Proeber, parents
Jubal Dean Hildenbrand
Jubal Dean Hildenbrand
George, Alice, & George Jr. Gallepp
Barb Steinle
Winnie Reineking
Clarence "Bud" Pauly
Evelyn Nimmer
Jerome Stijenske
Evelyn Nimmer
Clara Hoffman
Frederick Boehringer
Janice Balmat
Lois Schroeder
Evelyn Nimmer
Harlow Stichmann
William Harris
Harlow Stichmann
Harlow Stichmann
Harlow Stichmann
Jerry Stellmacher, brother-in-law
Goodman, Loughrin, Tapp
Mel Schoenborn
Harlow Stichmann
Harlow Stichmann
Harlow Stichmann
Harlow Stichmann
Maynard Husfeldt

From

Joan Ebert
James Humann
Ben and Renee Carlson
Calvin and Christine Wetzel
Evan and Trudie Roloff
Evan and Trudie Roloff
Frank and Barbara Loduha
Lyle and Marilyn Krueger
Mark and Karen Mathwig
Scott and Rebecca Klitzke
Warren and Terry Groskreutz
Lois Niemann
Scott & Rebecca Klitzke
Kent & Christine Raabe

In Honor

Thanksgiving and Family
Beth Humann
Scott and Rebecca Klitzke, Godparents
Madison Wetzel's 2nd birthday
Solomon Carlson's birth & baptism
Callista & Camille Carlson's health
Ferne Ponto, 90 years of blessings
Keller Krueger (preemie), 1st birthday
Janice Mathwig's birthday
Solomon Carlson's birth & baptism
Laura Wenner, first grandchild
Children's birthdays - adopted many years ago!
Callista Marie Carlson's 4th birthday
Vicki Raddant's birthday



On behalf of Care Net and its 1100+ affiliates, let me congratulate WELS Lutherans for Life on your 35th anniversary! It is an honor to co-labor with you in this great and Godly cause. May the Lord bless you and your team daily as you serve Him faithfully.

Roland C. Warren
President & CEO
Care Net

Care Net is thrilled to send congratulatory greetings to the board, staff, volunteers, and supporters of WELS Lutheran for Life's pregnancy care ministry as you celebrate the 35 years of offering compassion, hope, and help in your community. What a grand achievement! One that honors our Lord and brings His message of life to those you serve. May your center continue to thrive and be blessed as you faithfully commit to a legacy of life!

Cynthia C. Hopkins
Vice President of Center Services & Client Care