



A Sacred Trust

February 2008

God's Gift Of Life

The Newsletter of WELS Lutherans For Life, Metro-Milwaukee Chapter

From the Executive Director

25 FIVE YEARS - A LEGACY OF LIFE!



by Peter Georgson

WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee (LFLM) was formed and legally incorporated on November 11, 1982. The organization opened the doors to its first pregnancy resource center on January 3, 1983. Pastor James Aderman served as the first chairman and Mrs. Patricia Johnson was the first center director. We are celebrating our 25th anniversary this year.

Many people confuse us with Christian Life Resources (CLR). The two are totally separate organizations that both began 25 years ago. LFLM operates pregnancy resource centers in Milwaukee, and CLR is a national support/resource for centers like ours. We have our own board of directors, raise our own funds, and conduct our ministry locally in Milwaukee through our main pregnancy resource center and 3 satellite centers.

Since those first days we have served nearly 21,000 clients with pregnancy related issues. Over the years we have grown in volunteers, staff, center locations, and grown our services offered.

We currently have over 60 active volunteers who serve our clients and our community in a number of ways.

The three main volunteer positions are lay counselor, receptionist, and helpline. The lay counselor works directly with the clients, assessing the situation and offering the appropriate help, referrals, and resources. The receptionist welcomes the clients and gathers initial information. The helpline answers the phone from home during the hours the centers are not open. She (or he) offers the caller comfort and encourages them to come in to speak with a lay counselor.

These volunteers are the heart and soul of the work we do. Without their dedication and hard work we would not have this ministry. Some of our current volunteers have been with us since our doors first opened in 1983. They continue as effective witnesses to the truths of God's Word.

We truly are on the frontlines of a battle with Satan and a culture which thinks nothing of sacrificing the lives of pre-born babies. Every day we speak with young women who believe that abortion is the only way out of their situations. Some call our center for abortion information and then listen as we explain that we don't do abortions, but we can tell them about the procedures and discuss options that will preserve the lives of their unborn babies. We tell them that although it seems that abortion will solve their problems, they may deeply regret their decisions later as they painfully suffer the loss of the child they thought they didn't want.

We are grateful for the opportunity to reach out to women and their families with God's Word. Special events are being planned to celebrate the 25 years of God's guidance and blessing on this vital, rewarding ministry of shining his light, saving precious babies from abortion for their time of grace, and making a difference in countless lives.

Celebrate with us as we look forward to carrying this Legacy of Life into the future!

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You are important

MISSION STATEMENT of WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee:

To proclaim the good news of eternal life through Jesus Christ;
To promote the sanctity of human life via Christ-centered counseling;
To provide information and programs on life related issues.



Contact Us:

WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milw
8501 West Lincoln Avenue
West Allis WI 53227

Office: 414-727-8176

Fax: 414-727-8178

E-mail: Office@welsflmilw.com

Website: www.welsflmilw.com

Board of Directors:

Pastor Benjamin Wessel - President

Harold Theesfeld - Treasurer

Mark Groth - Secretary

Ken McGhee - Director

Center Leaders:

Pat Johnson - Client Services Director

Margo Ulrich - Risen Savior Center Dir.

Linda Carter - St. Peter Center Dir.

Melissa Kehoe - Point of Grace Center Dir.

Laura Sherwood - Training & Retention

Sharon Rosenau - Counselor Coordinator

Diane Williams - Helpline Coordinator

Jean MacKain - Reception Coordinator

Gloria Marcouiller - Loving Moms Coordinator

Staff:

Peter Georgson - Executive Director

Sandy Baker - Administrative Assistant

Center Locations:

Associated Pregnancy Services

- 8501 W. Lincoln Ave. -

Risen Savior Lutheran Church

- 96th and Brown Deer -

St. Peter Lutheran Church

- 8th and Scott -

The Point of Grace - Campus Ministry

- 2223 E. Kenwood Blvd. -

Client Helpline and Website:

414-727-8177

www.pregnancy-counseling.com

Thanks!

If you appreciate the work we do and enjoy this newsletter, please use the enclosed envelope to send a donation. Because of your generosity all of our services are offered at no charge to clients!

Watch for...

- A *Forward in Christ* magazine article about our ministry in the upcoming April 2008 issue. One of our clients was interviewed along with our Client Services Director, Pat Johnson.
- Gianna Jessen as our special guest speaker at our Fundraising Banquet on Thursday, May 8th, 2008. Gianna's biological mother was 17 when she had a saline abortion in her third trimester. After being burned alive for approximately 18 hours in the womb from the saline solution, Gianna was delivered alive in a Los Angeles County abortion clinic.
- Our new fundraising event. A motorcycle ride through the Northern Kettle Moraine area. We are seeking a fitting name for it right now. If you have a suggestion, please send it in or give us a call.
- The Life-A-Thon logo to be revealed. Wisco's Graphics 2 class was invited to submit designs. Emily Sebald is the winner! Her design will be on all the event promotional materials. Congratulations Emily, and thank you!!

Wish List

Before we purchase anything we let you know. We find that God often provides through people like you. Below is a list of things we need. Can you or do you know a business who can fill one of our needs? Or you may make a donation toward a specific item. If not, pray that God will connect us to someone who can fill these needs.

- 2 flat panel computer monitors
- Volunteers - lay counselors, receptionists, helpline, Loving Moms mentors, and events committee members - (complete training provided for all)
- New color laser printer and toner
- Items for Baby Boutique and layettes (0-24 months - onsies, newborn sleepers, outfits, socks, outerwear, gift bags)
- Postage for mailings
- "When Your Baby Dies" books - (available on Amazon.com)
- Sponsors for this newsletter

Wishes Recently Fulfilled

Special thanks to the following for the needed items, services, or costs.

- Newsletter sponsor for this issue - Cornerstone Websites (see info on page 3)
- Concordia Study Bible - Audrey Gaertig
- Postcards for client contact - Jean MacKain
- New digital camera - Anonymous

Ten for 2 Campaign

Thanks to everyone who already sent in their gifts from the "10 for 2" - *Sanctity of Human Life* campaign. There still is time to ask 10 of your friends to donate \$2 for this campaign. Please ask them if they would like to be added to our mailing list. If they agree, just let us know their name and address. At this writing we have received \$3,845.

Pro-Life checklist

- ✓ Pray like everything depends on God.
- ✓ Work like everything depends on you.
- ✓ Support WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee.
- ✓ Remember what the stakes are - babies' lives saved.
- ✓ Commit to victory in the Lord.

In Your Will

You may want to place the statement below in your will, thus helping to assure the long term work of WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee. Bequests are free of estate tax and can substantially reduce the amount claimed by the government. You can give needed support by simply including the following words in your will: ***I give, devise, and bequeath to the pro-life ministry of WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee, 8501 W. Lincoln Ave. West Allis, WI 53227 (AMOUNT TO BE GIVEN) to be used to support the community based programs of WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee.*** For more information contact Peter at 414-727-8176.



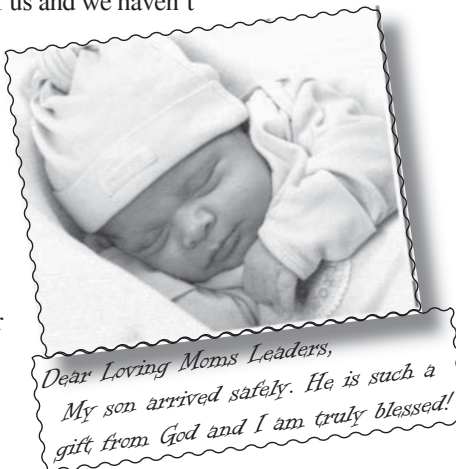
Some of our Loving Moms and our two group leaders Gloria (r) and Sue.

Loving Moms

The "Loving Moms" incentive program is a popular facet of our ministry reaching young moms on a regular basis with God's Word.

There are five young mothers attending sessions on a regular basis. More clients show interest every week. A few participants have told others about the program and have even brought friends to sessions. It is a growing opportunity for us and we haven't even publicized it yet.

A brochure has been developed to promote this new program, but it hasn't been printed or distributed yet. The potential for Loving Moms is great once we advertise.



*Dear Loving Moms Leaders,
My son arrived safely. He is such a gift from God and I am truly blessed!*

Can you help us? We are looking for individuals who would like to help as group leaders for Loving Moms sessions. You will use a prepared curriculum with lesson sheets and videos. Complete training is provided.

Encourage a friend to pair up with you as a team. Call the office 414-727-8176 to learn more.

Newsletter Sponsor

Special thanks to Cornerstone Websites, the first sponsor of our newsletter. We appreciate their generous support in covering the printing and postage of this issue of *The Sacred Trust*. If you would like to discuss sponsoring an issue, please contact Peter at 414-727-8176.



Cornerstone Websites

Cornerstone Websites is a newly founded, WELS Christian business specializing in church, school, wedding, and individual artist or musician websites. Through their association with the Kremer Publication's graphic arts department, they are able to provide classy web design, custom logos, and hosting solutions for all of your outreach needs. Contact them through www.cornerstonewebsites.com if you need website help!

2007 Statistics

Pregnancy client visits - 360
Helpline calls - 1,005
Phone counseling - 120
Material assistance - 150

Church Support '07

Congregations that partner with us through volunteer involvement and/or financial support. We are indeed an outreach ministry of the local congregations and appreciate all their support to continue this vital work.

Atonement
Calvary - Thiensville
Centennial
Christ - Milwaukee
Christ The Lord - Brookfield
Divine Peace
Fairview
Gethsemane
Gloria Dei-Bethesda
Good Shepherd's - West Allis
Grace - Downtown
Jordan
Loving Shepherd
Morning Star - Jackson
Mount Lebanon
Nain
North Trinity
Our Savior - Grafton
Peace - Belvedere, IL
Risen Savior
Salem - East
Siloah
St. Jacobi
St. James
St. John - Mequon
St. John - Milwaukee
St. John - Oak Creek
St. John - Montello
St. John - Wauwatosa
St. Lucas
St. Paul - Cudahy
St. Paul - Franklin
St. Paul - Muskego
St. Peter
The Point of Grace
Trinity - West Mequon
Woodlawn
Zebaoth

Life Tribute Gifts

Tell someone how special they are and how their life has touched yours through a gift to WELS Lutherans for Life. Send a gift in memory of someone who has entered eternal life or honor someone for a milestone during life's journey (birthday, baptism, adoption, anniversary, confirmation, graduation, etc.). Each gift is acknowledged.

Received in honor of:

Vicki Raddant - 55th Birthday
Pastor Stephen Weiss
John and Laurie Quint - Christmas
Marion Schweitzer - 86th Birthday
Layna Huth - Born June 2007
Hope Olivares - Birthday
Allan Georgson - 80th Birthday
Don & Emily Zimmerman - 3 new great grandchildren in 2007
Lord's care for Rachel during difficult birth
Brooklyn Christine Young, a new grandchild born on January 10, 2008

Received in memory of:

Rachel Engelbracht
Keith Engelbracht
Mrs. Charlotte E Bock
Mr. & Mrs. John Witte
Lillian Sebald
Harriette Truckey
Roy Kveen
Jan Baudo
Meta Larson
Marion Obermeyer
June Diehl
Maureen Ruffert
Earl Tellock's Birthday
Herman & Etta Kohler
Howard Fluegel
Emma Abramowski
Barbara Betlej
Margaret Bollhagen

"Friends of Life" Program

We have adopted an electronic monthly stewardship plan called "Friends of Life" to help strengthen the funding for our centers. When you participate in "Friends of Life", you are providing a faithful and reliable monthly pledge that allows us to better plan and grow this ministry. Checking or savings accounts are cheaper to process, so they are preferred, but credit cards are acceptable as well. You can mail, fax, or call in your information and we will set you up as a "Friend of Life". You may also sign up on our website www.welsflmilw.com.

Return Service Requested



Our newest arrival...see inside!

Note - Some have asked us not to send so much mail and to save the money for the babies. Be assured that great care is taken when preparing these mailings to avoid waste and make them as cost-effective as possible. Please continue to accept our communications so you can lift up the ministry in your prayers.

Help us by updating your address and then pass this on to a friend!

Do You Have Any Idea How Important You Are?

It's a fact! WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee can't do anything without you. Everything we are doing today and every project waiting to be launched are dependent on your generosity. These vital life-saving efforts don't just happen; someone has to make them happen. That someone is you! Please donate to WELS Lutherans for Life online, by mail, by phone, or through our Friends of Life Program that automatically makes a monthly gift through your bank account or credit card. WELS Lutherans for Life is a 501(c) 3 corporation, and your contribution is tax deductible.

Remember...They live when you give!

WELS Lutherans for Life,
Metro-Milwaukee


25 Years - A Legacy of Life

2008 Activities Calendar

We're planning these special events to celebrate 25 years of God's guidance and blessing in this vital, rewarding work and ministry of sharing his Word, saving babies from abortion, and making a difference in lives. Watch for more information on these events to celebrate this special milestone!

- **March 8 - "Get Acquainted" Open House**
at Associated Pregnancy Services
8501 W. Lincoln Ave., West Allis
- **April 25 - Volunteer Banquet**
new event
at Risen Savior Lutheran Church
- **May 8 - 25th Anniversary Celebration**
at Grace Center - downtown Milw.
Special guest - Gianna Jessen
(Gianna survived a saline abortion)
- **June 21 - Motorcycle ride**
new event - fundraiser
Start & finish at Salem on 107th
- **September 27 - Life-A-Thon**
Possible *new location* - watch for info

We invite you to join us for these events.
For complete information call 414-727-8176
or watch for more info at www.welsfmlw.com

 Detach and save