



FARGO-MOORHEAD LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

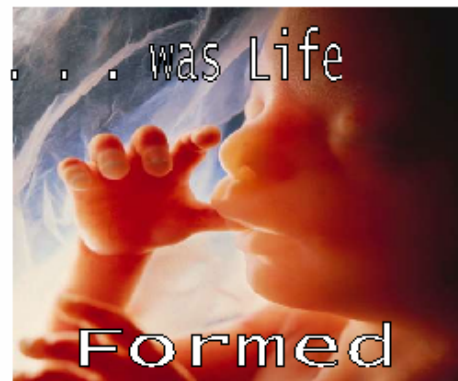
F-M Area LFL Newsletter

Fall 2007

## **Dessert Banquet**

Sunday, November 4th 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church  
1258 N. Broadway, Fargo, ND**



Lutherans for Life  
Presents



"Challenges of being Pro-Life  
in a Pro-Death Culture"

Betty McQuire

You can register for this free presentation by calling  
**ReNae Simmons @ 701-293-4058**

**Free childcare will be provided on location**

**You will be given an opportunity to make a donation to support the mission projects of the F-M Lutherans for Life chapter during the banquet program.**

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## Attitude and Trust

Some time ago I received an e-mail forward with a message that was credited to Jay Leno. This well-known late night television host seemed to be stepping out of his usual humorous mode to take Americans to task about our attitudes. He quoted a survey that showed the high number of Americans who are dissatisfied with the direction the country is headed and unhappy with the performance of the president. He summed it up by stating that 2/3 of the citizenry just isn't happy and want a change. He went on to challenge us to really think a bit about what we are so unhappy about. He described how well off most of us are in this country, our comfortable homes, the abundance of food, emergency and protective services, religious, social and political freedoms we enjoy. He called us "the largest group of ungrateful, spoiled brats the world has ever seen" and thought it no wonder that there is a great disdain for our people around the world. "We are the most blessed people in the world who do nothing but complain about what we don't have, and what we hate about the country instead of thanking the good Lord we live here".

I agree with him that our bad attitudes are often related to our lack of gratitude and I would add one more thing. That is our lack of trust in God. In a recent devotion I read based on Numbers 11:1, I was reminded how seriously God takes our attitude problems. This verse states, "His anger was kindled and the fire of the Lord burned among them and consumed some of the outskirts of the camp." Preceding that verse was the story of one of many times that God's people, the Israelites, had the same problem. They were in the wilderness somewhere between the slavery they had endured in Egypt and the Promised Land of rest and prosperity that God had assured them was theirs if they would trust Him and obey his commands. They had witnessed God's great deliverance and provision on a daily basis. But they could not stop complaining about their present adversity. Fear, anxiety and distrust led to resentment and complaining.

This devotion caught my attention as I know I am often guilty of not trusting the Lord as I should. I have had to search my heart when I find myself discouraged in life, when things are not going "my way". I eventually realize that the Lord is trying to teach me that things are not supposed to go "my way", that I need to realize my total dependence on Him. His grace is sufficient for all my needs. And it helps to remember also that God's Word has the right answers for me. Often it is not using our ears to hear His Word that is at the root of our lack of trust. Just like the people of Israel, if we can learn to have an attitude of gratitude and trust rather than murmuring and complaining, He will lead us faithfully through our life journey.

I have found this so applicable in my work with LFL. Sometimes I become frustrated and don't understand why things don't go smoothly. It is hard to find enough volunteers to do the work I think needs to be done. People say no when I have prayed they would say yes. I am tempted to complain and even to give up at times. But I am comforted in knowing that God loves me so much and will never give up on us, even though we might be tempted to give up on each other. And I realize that complaining reflects a lack of trust in God to work things out according to His plan. People who complain much do not trust God much. And those of us who call ourselves pro-life Christians, need to know that our attitudes are being observed. We need to ask ourselves whether our lives are lacking in joy and peace and the fullness of God's provision. Or do we show that joy and peace because we trust in God for the right outcome. Let us always remember when we are tempted to complain or become discouraged, to turn in prayer to God, ask Him to renew our hearts and attitudes and help us to trust Him. We will find that He is faithful every time.





**ITS BANQUET TIME AGAIN!** Banquet committee members are busy planning this year's event. Co-Coordinator Scott McAllen and Faith Luebke and committee members Jolene Richardson, Michelle Mindeman, Dean Sonnenberg, David Mork, Kim Wagner, ReNae Simmons, Kelly Fougner, Dan Borsheim, Diane Berggren, Gail Waagen, Kay Johnson & ReNae Schaefer are working behind the scenes to promote and prepare this evening of inspiration, great desserts, fun and fellowship. We also would like to recruit more helpers to assist us on banquet day with set up, serving and clean up. If you can help in this way, please let Scott (218-849-1005) or Faith (701-241-9540) know as soon as possible. And be sure to make plans to attend by registering with a table host in your congregation or by calling ReNae Simmons at the number listed on the front page.

**Betty McGuire** is our featured speaker at this year's Dessert Banquet and will speak on the "Challenges of Being Pro-Life in a Pro-Death Culture". Continue reading for more information about Betty and her presentation.

Serving as the Executive Director of a pro-life ministry located in the heart of the poverty and crime-stricken inner city of Minneapolis, Betty McGuire shares powerful, compelling stories of desperate women seeking hope. Her stories testify to the living power of God whose presence, protection, and provision are manifested through her ministry at City Life Center.

Betty has a background rich in Christian and community service holding many leadership roles. Throughout her 13 years at City Life Center, Betty has spoken to thousands in a variety of settings including churches, banquets, youth gatherings, pro-life events, civic groups, women's groups, and faith based organizations. In recognition of Betty's leadership role and years of faithful service, she was presented the President's Award by the National Institute of Family & Life Advocates at its annual conference in 2006.

Betty's experiences along her journey for life include God's protection from protesters and other opposition, provision of a donated mansion and carriage house, and witnessing hearts and minds changed through the power of God's word. Audiences are moved to tears and laughter as they hear her real-life stories about the challenges of being pro-life in a pro-death culture.

Betty McGuire lives in Minnesota and is married to John, and mother to Bill, Kari, and Katie. One of her greatest joys in life is being grandmother to Megan, Joey, Emma, Jeremiah, Elliot, and Benjamin.

## Calling for Nominations

At the November 4th dessert banquet, the F-M chapter of LFL will present the Dr. Jean Garton Life Award for 2007-2008. If you would like to nominate someone for this award, please send your nominations to F-M LFL, P.O. Box 1202, Fargo, ND 58107 or contact Gail Waagen at 701-281-3977 (e-mail [gl\\_wgn@msn.com](mailto:gl_wgn@msn.com)) Please provide information about your nominee to support how they meet the listed criteria for the award. Nominations must be submitted by October 24th..

### Criteria for the Dr. Jean Garton Life Award

#### THE RECIPIENT OF THE DR. JEAN GARTON LIFE AWARD

- Will be a person who proudly professes Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
- Will be a lover of life and will actively celebrate this precious God given gift
- Will be a strong advocate for the rights of unborn children. The recipient will boldly speak for those who cannot speak for themselves
- Will show loving concern for women facing a crisis pregnancy and/or the experience of abortion. The recipient will, through word and deed, encourage and support these women
- Will affirm the right of fathers to be parents to their children
- Believes that human beings have rights because they are a unique creation of God and totally rejects any attempt to define life through qualitative standards. The recipient affirms the worth of the weak, the poor, the handicapped, and the aged.

*\*Since our organization is Lutheran, it would be preferable if the recipient of the award is also Lutheran. This concern, however, should be secondary to assuring that the high standards set by this award are also maintained.*

# Chapter News

## Women's Showcase

On Saturday, October 13th, our chapter will once again team up with ND State LFL to sponsor a PRO-LIFE booth at this year's Women's Showcase event. This has been an annual event for our chapter and a great opportunity to provide a pro-life witness to the community. Volunteers from our chapter will staff the display which includes a number of pamphlets and brochures on a variety of life issues as well as our "Touch Babies" display which always generates a lot of interest. In addition to the pamphlets, we also give away many of the "Truth Unmasked" CD's which are a wonderful tool for teaching youth about life issues.

## Annual Meeting

The Fargo - Moorhead Area Chapter of LFL held its annual meeting on Sunday, April 15th at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in south Fargo. There were 18 people in attendance who enjoyed a presentation by Vicki Larson of the "Make a Sound Choice" program of First Choice Clinic on "Sexual Integrity for Life". This excellent presentation provided us with helpful and encouraging information about ongoing abstinence education in our area. In the business meeting, discussion was held on upcoming events for our chapter for this year, including choosing a banquet speaker for the fall dessert banquet. Election of officers for the 2007 - 08 year was held with results following.

### 2007 - 08 Chapter Officers and Coordinators

President - Gail Waagen  
Vice President - Ginny Leon  
Secretary - Linda Froslic  
Treasurer - Scott McAllen  
Pastoral Advisor - vacant  
Education and Resources - Carolyn Worrall  
Banquet Co-Coordinators - Scott McAllen  
and Faith Luebke  
Prayer Warriors - Dorothy Swenson

### Speakers Bureau

Beth Schaible  
Jerry Kensok  
Linda Froslic  
Dr. Michelle Von Ruden

**How about you?** Keeping our local chapter of LFL going each year requires willing volunteers to help in many ways. We will be looking for people willing to serve on the chapter board for the 2008 - 09 year which begins in March of 2008. It's not too early to start considering how you would like to be involved. Please check the back of this newsletter for more opportunities.

### Membership: Do you know the process of becoming a member of our local LFL chapter? Do you know whether or not you are currently a member of our local chapter?

I was surprised when I asked for a list of our current members from our National LFL office to find out that only 24 people are actually listed as members. There may be many of you who have inadvertently let your membership lapse, but it is easy to get back on the roster. The only requirements for membership are that you accept the philosophy and mission of Lutherans for Life and have made a contribution of any amount to National LFL. A portion of that contribution is returned to the local chapter and a portion to the state LFL federation. Within the last year or two, the National office has changed their membership renewal drive so that it is done annually in May. All memberships expire on June 30th, so a renewed commitment is needed before July 1st. It is helpful if you indicate on your new membership or renewal form the name and/or number of your local chapter (Fargo-Moorhead Chapter #037). You also are given the opportunity to be on the National LFL mailing list which includes receiving *LifeDate*, published quarterly, with many excellent articles on pro-life issues.

### LIFE SUNDAY RESOURCES FOR 2008!

The official date designated as "Life Sunday" is January 20, 2008. However, the resources available can be used at any time during the year. The theme chosen for 2008 is "**In the Hand of God**" and focus upon those hands of our Triune God in our lives. God created us with His hands. He redeemed us with His hands nailed to a cross. He calls us in the waters of baptism and holds us in his hands. The value of life comes from our "hands on" God. It is what God's hands have done that give us value, not the work of our hands.

If you are a church contact, you will be receiving further information and a form on which you can order any of the Life Sunday Resources for 2008. Please be thinking about how you might like to observe Life Sunday in your congregation in January or any other Sunday during the year. *Not a church contact*, but interested in ordering materials? Not a problem. Please contact Gail Waagen (701-281-3977) or Carolyn Worrall (701-293-0905) and we will be glad to get the information to you.

# Church Contact Corner

I know that this is a busy time for our church contacts as you recruit table hosts and promote our upcoming dessert banquet. The banquet is a great opportunity to generate interest in your congregation regarding the life issues and focusing on the sanctity of human life. Those attending the banquet will be reminded of all the great resources our chapter has to offer and this may offer you the opportunity to utilize those resources. Perhaps you have wanted to plan an event for your congregation, but don't have the information you need or maybe you just don't know where to start. We are here to help you! I have provided a form below with some suggestions to get you started.

Our Education and Resource Coordinator, Carolyn Worrall, has many of these resources on hand, or can obtain them for you. Please look over the information provided below and use the form to check off any areas of interest for your congregation. We will contact you with further information if needed. The DVD's or Video's may be checked out to use individually or with your Bible study or other group, or you may request one of our chapter speakers to make a presentation or lead a Bible study using any of the audio-visual aids that are available.

## BIBLE STUDIES:

- For Life** . . . a 14 minute DVD which shares the positive Gospel-centered message of Lutherans for Life. A study guide is included which turns this DVD into a great Bible study. **For Life** features interviews with those involved with LFL and those whose lives have been positively affected through LFL.
- Choosing Life** . . . a touching, life-affirming, award-winning DVD that deals with the subject of abortion with great sensitivity, focusing on the biblical foundation for the sanctity of life. A Bible study guide from LFL is included.
- Life Studies** - Volume One - classic LFL Bible Studies on a variety of topics, updated, and in reproducible format.
- The Gift of Children** . . . an excellent Bible study by Dr. Jean Garton, former president of LFL, that examines the role and place of children in our culture from a Biblical point of view.
- Cherish the Children** Bible Study - *Jesus Backwards Understanding of Who is the Greatest* - (Based on Matthew 18: 1-10) by Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs (reproducible)

## OTHER DVD'S AND PRESENTATIONS

- You Are a Masterpiece** . . . a live-action DVD, revealing the amazing world of life before birth. Delightful children interact with state-of-the-art computer animation and captivating in-utero photography. Recommended for ages 5-10, but grownups will enjoy too! (25min)
- Holly's Story** . . . a teen-produced movie that makes a definite impact on those who see it. Tells the story of a young teen faced with the dilemma of an unplanned pregnancy and the choice she makes. Deals with post-abortion syndrome. **A vital resource for parents and youth leaders.** (55 min)
- God's Knitting Room** . . . a power-point presentation for children with the message that every life is important and valuable to God.
- Biotechnology 101 A Primer** . . . a power point presentation explaining assisted reproductive technologies, stem cell research, cloning and genetic engineering.
- Previous Banquet Presentations on DVD** . . . including "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made" with Dr. David Menton, "Cloning and Stem Cell Research" with Ed Szeto, "Only One Question" with Greg Koukl, and many others.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- LFL Traveling Display** . . . a brochure rack filled with a variety of pamphlets, booklets and other resources on a variety of life issues. You can sign up to have this display to set up in your church for up to a month at a time. May also check out the "**Touch Babies**" to add to your display.
- Cherish the Children** bulletin inserts, Children's Message and Worship Service Format.
- Just Imagine CD** . . . featuring song lyrics and accompaniment tracks for "Just Imagine", *God Loves Life* and "God Knew Your Name".

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_  
Please complete form and return to F-M LFL at PO Box 1202, Fargo, ND 58107



**40 Days For Life:**  
***A Groundbreaking  
Pro-Life Campaign  
that Gets RESULTS!***

This fall, 89 cities in 33 states across the nation will unite for a unique pro-life campaign called 40 Days for Life -- an intensive effort designed to raise awareness, save lives, bring healing, and prepare America for the beginning of the end of abortion. The campaign will be conducted simultaneously in all locations from September 26 - November 4. Pro-life organizations and many people in the Fargo-Moorhead and surrounding communities have already joined this effort. Please read on for more information taken from [www.40DaysForLife.com](http://www.40DaysForLife.com), and find out how you can be a part.

There are three components to 40 Days for Life...

- **Prayer and Fasting** Want to end abortion? First you pray. Prayer is at the center of 40 Days for Life. During the September 26 - November 4 campaign, we are calling on people of faith across the nation to fall on their knees before the Lord, asking Him to hear our plea and heal our land. Pray at church. Pray outside an abortion facility. Pray at work. Pray in the car. Pray at home with your family. Pray!

People of faith are also invited to fast throughout 40 Days for Life. Christ said there are some demons that can only be driven out by prayer and fasting. A fast is not a Christian diet; it is a powerful means of drawing closer to God by blocking out distractions. Fast from food. Fast from television. Fast from e-mail. Fast from apathy and indifference. Fast from whatever it is that separates you from God.

We believe that when God's people pray and fast with a broken, repentant, and contrite spirit, our heavenly Father will hear from heaven and heal our lives, our churches, our communities, our nation, and our world.

- **Peaceful Vigil** The visible, public centerpiece of 40 Days for Life is a 40-day-long prayer vigil outside a Planned Parenthood center or other abortion facility in each community. In Fargo, this involves standing for life through this 40-day peaceful public witness outside the local Red River Women's Clinic, 512 1st Avenue North. The vigil will be conducted 24 hours a day for each of the 40 days.

The prayer vigil is a peaceful and educational presence that sends a powerful message to the community about the tragic reality of abortion. It also serves as a call to repentance for those who work at the abortion center and those who patronize the facility.

- **Community Outreach** In our community, this involves taking a positive, upbeat pro-life message to every corner of our city through media efforts, church presentations, petition drives, and public visibility. For more information on progress of this campaign locally and to see how to become involved, visit [www.prolifend.com](http://www.prolifend.com). Or contact Pregnancy Help Center at 701-284-8601 or e-mail at [phc@polarcomm.com](mailto:phc@polarcomm.com).

By participating in a 40 Days for Life campaign you could help:

- \* Reduce abortion rates -- by 15%... 20%... 25%... Or more!
- \* Recruit and mobilize hundreds -- even thousands -- of new people into effective, life-saving efforts
- \* Lead post-abortive women -- and men -- into proven and effective healing programs
- \* Develop dynamic new leaders to increase the future impact of pro-life efforts
- \* Build church coalitions in an historic display of Christian unity and action
- \* Generate enormous buzz by getting prominent news coverage
- \* Increase local financial support for pro-life efforts
- \* Spotlight the sanctity of human life as a crucial issue in upcoming elections

All of these results have actually been realized in other communities, and -- with God's help -- could happen in participating cities this fall.

**Fargo - Moorhead Area Lutherans for Life**  
*Witnessing to the Sanctity of Human Life Based on the Word of God*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Please make checks payable to "FM-Lutherans For Life")

\_\_\_\_\_ Currently receive F-M LFL free newsletter: Prefer \_\_\_\_\_ Mail or \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_ Add me to your mailing list: Prefer \_\_\_\_\_ Mail or \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please contact me regarding a presentation for my church, school, or other group

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like more information about being a Life Ministry Coordinator or church contact.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the "Truth Unmasked" CD. (No charge)

\_\_\_\_\_ I can help LFL in the following ways:

- |                                  |  |                         |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| _____ Being a prayer warrior     | _____ Making phone calls                             | _____ Banquet Cmte 2008 |
| _____ Serving on the exec board  | _____ Nominations committee for exec board           |                         |
| _____ Auditing financial records | _____ Staffing Pro-life displays at marketing events |                         |

\_\_\_\_\_ Notify me about the next "Stand to Reason" training class: "Making Abortion Unthinkable:

*The Art of Pro-Life Persuasion.*" Circle method: Take 5-hour class / Borrow 2-hour video

Comments and/or information requests: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please complete form and return to Fargo-Moorhead LFL, PO Box 1202, Fargo, ND 58107)*



**FARGO-MOORHEAD LUTHERANS FOR LIFE**  
**P.O. BOX 1202**