



Lutherans For Life Canada

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From the President's Laptop

Spring, 2022

"But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." Jeremiah 29:7

On May 12, some of our members joined people from across Canada for the National March For Life in Ottawa. Two years ago, the March was cancelled and held entirely online because of the restrictions in Ontario due to COVID. Last year, the March was much smaller than usual and most of the activities associated with it were still online. This year, with a few minor adjustments, things were pretty much as they were pre-COVID.

Unable to attend, I was reminded of what Jeremiah said to the children of Israel in exile in Babylon. As the author of the Hebrews reminds us, the true descendants of Israel have always been in exile both in the Old and New Covenants, for our real home in the New Jerusalem in the New Heaven and the New Earth. With the quickly changing morals of Canada over these past decades, Christians have never felt more like exiles, foreigners, in this land. Yet, what are we to do? Are we to cut ourselves off from the rest of society? No. We are to seek the good of the cities and the land in which God has placed us. That involves not only being good citizens by earning a living and paying taxes, but also exercising our civic responsibility in a democracy. We vote, seeking the good for our municipality or county, our province and our country. This means seeking what is in keeping with Holy Scripture, since only from God does

true good come. We sign petitions, talk with politicians, and join in peaceful protests, all the while seeking to love our neighbour as ourselves.

As important as all this can be, Jeremiah specifically highlights the good that we do when we pray to the Lord for our country. Not every Christian can make it to a march or feels comfortable with taking part in a march. But all of us, whether on Parliament Hill or in our homes can pray for our leaders, our fellow citizens and for the lives of those who are endangered and harmed by abortion and euthanasia.

And we pray for what is most important for the welfare of every person in this country. We pray that the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts and minds of every resident of Canada to receive God's good gift of salvation from their sins in Jesus Christ crucified and risen again. Jesus is ready to forgive those who have sought to abort babies. Jesus died for those who seek so-called dying with dignity instead of living by faith. Our Lord suffered to save every person of whatever party, ethnicity, age or sex from the fires of hell. Thanks be to God that He prefers to destroy His enemies by turning them into His friends and children through the blood of Christ.

Being part of Lutherans For Life Canada involves teaching and learning about life issues. However, being pro-life is first and foremost about loving people. May we faithfully pray for people, as God continues to shape and teach us to speak to them in love.

Yours in Christ, Rev. Richard Juritsch

Life then Life then Life, Not Life then just Death!

What would you say is God's desire for us, for all of humanity?! Is it not Life, true Life? In thinking and praying about that question the following verse came to mind. Our brother Isaiah at the beginning of Chapter 43, wrote: "**But now**, thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." (Isa 43:1)

From this verse we know that God's desire **is now** that we have Life then Life and then Life, **Not** just Life and then simply Death!

He who created you,...who formed you, harkens back to creation where God gave us Life, creating and forming humanity on the sixth day. Yes God chose Jacob/Israel, through Abraham, and made a group of peoples through whom His Messiah would come. But why?! Why did God need to bring in a Messiah? Why the need to redeem us? As, you and I know, **because we as humanity** chose to trash God's gift to us of perfect eternal Life. Even before the Creation of the world God knew that He would have to buy us back! Redeem us from our choice of death rather than true Life!

Actually God's earliest plan and therefore gift and desire was to give us Life that would be ours forever! He created Adam and made Eve with eternal souls that could live forever in His Perfect presence, with full physical and spiritual Life. God truly had set us up for Life eternal with Him! What a blessing!

But God knowing all things, knew we would carelessly toss his gift of true Life by choosing death. And along with that choice came the entire portfolio of pain from our terrible choices to come, like greed and selfishness, abortion and euthanasia, lust and a cacophony of other things that kill us! **Yet**, in love God went through with His creating of us and worked in a plan for every single human being to see His benevolent love and thus be able to yet again have His Perfect gift of true Life! So from His desire to give all peoples the gift of Life Eternal, comes the Life he gives each of us at birth, **yet** because of our choice of death and the gift of death we each receive from mom and dad at conception, the death that clings to each of us in this life, God granted a plan for each human to receive new life through faith in Jesus, Life forever!

So from Life Eternal at the beginning, which we forfeited, comes physical Life, and then Life through Baptism and then Life forever! Rather than life then death, and then that's it!

Are you tracking???

But when the world, us human types, call for children to be sacrificed in the womb or seniors to be executed by the hand of another, we are in fact saying Death is Good! Death be praised! Death is Natural! Death should rule the day! We are in fact saying we don't want God to call those people by name and to be His! And in all of this we are siding with Satan and his lying propaganda! All such thoughts about death are the forked tongue hissings of the conniving one who sold the same bill of goods to our first mother, encouraging her to be selfish rather than selfless! Satan's temptations never change! He daily does the same sales job with each of us and every single human being all day long.

A few of us were in Ottawa at this year's March for Life (if you've never been please consider it in 2023, or see if there's one in your own area) and in reading this article we are together saying **NO** to Satan's lies that Death is a good friend. That it's natural and that death should continue ruling the day in our country! We were there and you are here reading and together we say **NO** to the culture of Death! But you and I are also at this moment to say **YES**, a resounding **YES** to the **ONE** who alone can pronounce the true LIFE that every single human being needs. **If not**, then death is the only thing that most people ever have coming!

As we marched and we read today and as we go on tomorrow with our daily lives, lives paid for in full by Jesus, this world's One and only Saviour from sin and giver of Forgiveness to all, we do so, in the joy of the Life we have received, and the new Life we are blessed to share with each other and many, many, many more people who are still dead without their eternal Saviour living in their hearts.

So live on brothers and sisters, **but** please don't keep Life, Jesus' gift of true Life to yourself! Share the joy of physical Life and then your new Life in Baptism and Life Eternal to come, all through our Crucified and Risen Lord Jesus. Share them and be blessed!

Amen and Amen!

Rev. Keith Haberstock, Pastoral Advisor for Lutherans for Life Canada

Word of Hope

Word of Hope is a ministry of Lutherans for Life in the United States of America but also available as a service to Canadians and Lutherans for Life-Canada as the toll free is operational in Canada as well as USA.

Word of Hope is a Lutheran hotline that offers confidential services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and can be accessed by telephone, text, email, or video chat. It imparts the value of all human life as divinely created and redeemed by Jesus. It provides prevention, intervention, and healing resources for life issues. Spiritual guidance and referrals are offered for numerous life issues, including, but not limited to abortion, suicide, shame and doubt, loneliness and isolation, physical and sexual abuse, forgiveness and reconciliation, depression and anxiety, surprise pregnancies, and end of life decisions. Pastoral contacts can be made, if needed, for personal confession, absolution, and Holy Communion. "At Word of Hope, we respond to suffering with love, mercy, and confidential support, guiding each person with the Word toward reconciliation with God by the gift of faith in Christ alone," quoted from Word of Hope (LifeDate Fall 2019).

Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, PsyD, is the Director of Word of Hope. Last year, Deaconess Pamela Buhler became a part time assistant. There were well over 1200 contacts last year with 31 calls from Canada. In 2022, they are averaging almost 200 contacts per month. These many contacts served through the Word of Hope hotline were from a large range of people, male and female from children (0-5 years) through to older adults (over 65 years) and addressed a broad variety of life issues. This ministry is primarily an intervention service, providing care through spiritual guidance, particularly for life issues that pose an imminent threat to life (e.g., abortion, suicide, end of life decisions, and doubting salvation).

"He heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds." Psalm. 147:3 (ESV)

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living Hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead". 1 Peter 1:3 (ESV)

We at LFL-C are very grateful and blessed to be able to be connected and included into this vital ministry. Donations to help fund this vital ministry can be made to LFL-C and designated to Word of Hope.

Word of Hope hotline number is: 888-217-8679 or by email at info@word-of-hope.org.



For those who have had an abortion—there is a Word of Hope for broken hearts. Call 888.217.8679 or go to www.wordofhope.org. Word of Hope is confidential and caring. Word of Hope is a ministry of Lutherans For Life.



Lutheran Foundation Canada

REFLECTING GOD'S GRACE

Have you considered leaving a planned gift within your estate to support the work of Lutherans for Life - Canada? Are you passionate about the work they do? Have you considered how even a small percentage of your estate would allow this vital work to continue? Lutheran Foundation Canada, an organization of LCC, assists individuals who are considering a planned gift, but are unsure of how best to create the gift. Coupled with other gifts you might leave to your home congregation or others, these combined gifts can generate significant tax savings. Call Lutheran Foundation Canada to find out how, at 877-711-4438 or visit our web site at www.lutheranfoundation.ca. Plan. Make a difference, for your loved ones, and the ministries you value.

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Please consider supporting Lutherans for Life-Canada through your prayers and making a financial contribution, or becoming a member. You are then placed on our mailing list and will receive our newsletters.

PLEASE NOTE: In an effort to curb some of the producing and mailing expenses of the LFL-C newsletters we are happy to offer it in both formats; online in an e-mail OR a mailed hard copy via Canada Post. Please indicate your preference by providing your email address to the treasurer when you make your next donation or remit your yearly membership. We appreciate your help in this matter. PLEASE ALSO FEEL FREE TO FORWARD AND SHARE WITH OTHERS ON YOUR CONTACT LIST.

If for some reason you prefer to not receive any newsletter, please advise Alan Schmitt, (see address below) or by emailing: Newsletter@lutheransforlife-canada.ca and your name will be removed. Thanks for your assistance.

LFL-C has a Facebook page. Just type in Lutherans for Life-Canada on your Fb search bar or Google it.

LFL-C WEBSITE. Please check it out at: www.lutheransforlife-canada.ca



Lutherans For Life Canada

Annual General Meeting

Grace Lutheran Church
205 Linwell St., St. Catharines, ON

Saturday, November 12, 2022

Hopefully, in person, online and via telephone

**Guest Presenter: Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, from
Word of Hope**

10:00 am - 10:30 am	Registration
10:30 am - 11:15 am	Opening Service
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Presentation with Question Period
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Business Meeting with Elections

Please pre-register with Mrs. Judith Obelnycki,
LFLC Acting Secretary: judithobelnycki@gmail.com

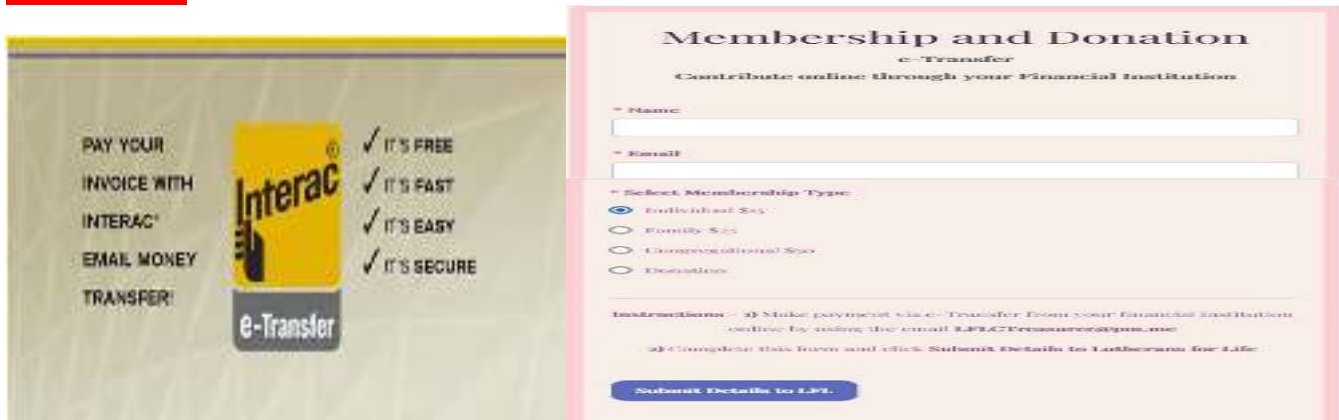
or call Rev. Richard Juritsch, LFLC President, (905)359-4109.

Instructions on how to connect via the internet or telephone
will only be sent to those who pre-register by November 4, 2022.

*Nominations for 2022 - 2023 LFLC Directors may be sent to the Acting Secretary's email
address.*

Please secure the consent of the nominee before you submit their name.

New!!!!



Donations and Membership Fees can be made by e-transfer can be made by visiting our website and following the instructions at:

<https://lutheransforlife-canada.ca/contact/>

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE-CANADA, IS A MINISTRY AND A LISTED SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH CANADA.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO KEEP THIS MINISTRY OF EQUIPPING LUTHERANS TO BE GOSPEL- MOTIVATED VOICES FOR LIFE, IN YOUR PRAYERS.

WE GIVE THANKS FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS.

Memberships, Membership Renewals and/or Donors to LFLC from February 23, 2022 to June 11, 2022

R. and I. Cantrup
Rev. Ted Derer
Arnold and Cheri Lynn Drung
Faith Lutheran Church, London, ON
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, London, ON
Ruth Haberman
Hanover Zone of LWMLC, Ontario District
Wayne and Kathy Hartwig
Jacob Kitsch
John Krim

Rachel and Tim Kuhl
Anthony Marchand
Mary Martha Society, First St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wellesley, ON
Judith Obelnycki
Joyce Poier
Donna and Martin Prusha
Ralph and Brenda Schmidt
Doris Steidl
Reg Tiegs
Robert Wilson

Lutherans For Life - Canada



Yes, I would like to make a gift offering to **Lutherans for Life - Canada** to assist with the witness to the sanctity of all human life through education based on the Word of God.

MEMBERSHIP \$

DONATION \$

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: *(Please complete)*

Please make cheque Payable to Lutherans for Life - Canada, 75 Blackthorne Cres., London, ON N6J 4B3

Membership: \$15/Person per Year _____ \$30/Family per Year _____ \$50/Group per Year _____

Please send this form with cheque to:
Lutherans for Life-Canada
C/o Mr. Alan Schmitt, Treasurer
75 Blackthorne Crescent
London ON N6J 4B3

Eight Objectives of the LFL-C are:

1. To provide an organization through which Lutheran Christians can unite to share dialogue and give common witness within the Church and society to their concern for the value and dignity of all human life;
2. To strengthen the existing common bond of concern by bringing Lutherans of like mind into contact with one another;
3. To gather and share pertinent information with its membership and develop strategies for witness and response;
4. To develop and distribute educational materials based upon the Word of God;
5. To identify resource people who can write and speak on behalf of the organization;
6. To monitor public and private action in order to enhance the right to life;
7. To respond to and co-operate with other groups in society who share similar concerns; and
8. To examine and correct popular but misleading stereotypes regarding pro-life advocacy.

To contact LFL-C please email us at:
lutheransforlife-canada.ca

To order Pro-life materials;
Concordia Publishing House – www.cph.org