



Lifewatch

Taskforce of United Methodists on Abortion and Sexuality

December 1, 2013

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(1908-1989)

Titles and affiliations are for identification purposes only. They do not necessarily suggest Institutional involvement in the work of the Taskforce.

Dear Lifewatch Friends:

Lifewatch began in 1987, over 26 years ago. In this letter, I would like to write honestly about the present and the future -- where we are and where, with God's help and yours, we are going.

The motivating passion of Lifewatch is to be faithful to Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to save those who are threatened by the shadow of death. For us, this is not idle "god talk."

The mission of Lifewatch is "to create in church and society esteem for human life at its most vulnerable, specifically for the unborn child and woman who contemplates abortion. Therefore, [our] first goal is to win the hearts and minds of United Methodists, [and] to engage in abortion-prevention through theological, pastoral, and social emphases that support human life."

So, our quarterly newsletter, Lifewatch, aims to persuade. It is sent to nearly 5,000 United Methodists -- laity and clergy, including all bishops (active and retired), key church agency leaders and seminary professors, and U.S. Congressional members who are United Methodist.

Also, Lifewatch offers educational resources, for use at Annual Conferences, to advance the Gospel of Life. (If you want to set up a display table, please contact Mrs. Cindy Evans.)

Since 2006, the average cost of mailing a quarterly issue of Lifewatch (free to recipients) is \$2,500. Our annual revenues and expenses average around \$25,000. In General Conference years, our income and spending are higher.

We have one part-time staff member, Mrs. Evans, who works out of her home for a modest monthly stipend. Mr. Steve Wissler, Lifewatch's founder, receives a pittance for his publishing work. And I edit Lifewatch without compensation -- though Lifewatch covers my occasional travel expenses.

Who pays for all this? You do. Average United Methodists -- teachers, small-business owners, retirees, sales people, information workers, mechanics, nurses, carpenters -- pay for the ministry of Lifewatch. The overwhelming majority of donations are checks under \$50. Only one church donates on a monthly basis; a few donate quarterly. Giving to Lifewatch, you know that God turns small gifts of money into effective works of witness and mercy.

Let's look ahead to General Conference 2016 in Portland. It is a little over two years away. Lifewatch is already preparing to witness for the Gospel of Life then and there. We thank God for the pro-life progress that has been made in The United Methodist Church. But with God's grace and Lifewatch's responsiveness, this progress can be sustained, and built upon, in 2016.

To continue this work of witness and teaching and reform, Lifewatch needs continued, strong, financial support from friends like you. Please give generously. Our heartfelt thanks to you.

In Christ,

(The Rev.) Paul T. Stallsworth
Lifewatch President and Editor

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YES ... I am with you. Keep this unique witness for the Gospel of Life going in The United Methodist Church through 2014.

Here is my gift to continue to champion within The United Methodist Church the God-given dignity of every human life:

- () Monthly Pledge:
 - () Other: \$ _____
 - () \$100
 - () \$75
 - () \$50
 - () \$25
- () Single supporting gift:
 - () Other: \$ _____
 - () \$1000
 - () \$500
 - () \$250

Thank you for caring! Please mail this card as soon as possible. Make your check payable to "Lifewatch" and send to: Lifewatch/P.O. Box 306/Cottleville MO 63338.

(Although long-term support is needed, any pledge is for the period shown and is not binding. The Taskforce of United Methodists on Abortion and Sexuality, the publisher of Lifewatch, is an unofficial movement of United Methodists founded in 1987 as a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Receipts are mailed for your tax records.)

- GIVING REMINDER
- \$ _____ Dec 2013
 - \$ _____ Jan 2014
 - \$ _____ Feb 2014
 - \$ _____ Mar 2014
 - \$ _____ April 2014
 - \$ _____ May 2014
 - \$ _____ June 2014
 - \$ _____ July 2014
 - \$ _____ Aug 2014
 - \$ _____ Sept 2014
 - \$ _____ Oct 2014
 - \$ _____ Nov 2014
 - \$ _____ Dec 2014