

## Lifewatch

## Taskforce of United Methodists on Abortion and Sexuality

December 1, 2011

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

Dear Friends of Lifewatch:

Advent grace and peace to you and yours.

In a few weeks, final preparations will get underway for the 2012 General Conference held April 24 through May 4 in Tampa. Lifewatch supporters have submitted many petitions for consideration by General Conference.

For decades, each General Conference has moved The United Methodist Church in the direction of protecting the unborn child and mother from abortion. Yes, the pace has been slow, but it has been sure.

The 2008 General Conference named "the unborn child," favored "responsible adult notification and consent," and urged "the Church to assist the ministry of crisis pregnancy centers" (Paragraph 161J, <u>The Book of Discipline</u> [2008]). And several bishops have spoken against the moral, spiritual, and physical violence of abortion. It could be said that a few are servants of the Gospel of Life.

Year after year, since 1987, Lifewatch has kept the Gospel of Life in front of The United Methodist Church—not merely as a political issue or a church polity issue, but as a matter involving the Gospel, human dignity, and justice.

In The United Methodist Church and in the greater society, the Gospel of Life will prevail over the culture of death.

But your prayers for spiritual strength, and your financial support for educational resources, are required.

Your support is especially critical right now, at this time of preparation.

If you are a regular contributor, please consider an extraordinarily generous gift.

If you have never contributed, please give a gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000, or more—each month, if possible.

Thank you, in advance, for your prayers and your support. You are helping to advance the one witness, dedicated to ministry for life, in The United Methodist Church today. Much progress remains to made for the Gospel of Life. But with God's grace and your support, progress can be made.

Continue faithful, in Christ and His Church, for the sake of the world.

In Christ.

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

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