

Let's

LIFE CHAIN

Our Nation



Please Let Me Live

"The LIFE CHAIN People"

3209 Colusa Highway

Yuba City, CA 95993

Phone: 530-671-5500 — LIFE CHAIN.org



Dear Fellow Pro-Life Leader:

Please Let Me Live is privileged to provide the enclosed manual and video for use in planning your own successful LIFE CHAIN. Build your Chain truly for God's glory and in honor of His Little Ones, and it will strengthen your pro-life ministry, as it has strengthened hundreds of other ministries across America and beyond.

For that blessing, we thank our Lord and Savior, and we salute His Church and the unity of His people. The LIFE CHAIN is a Church event, and it's powerful because God's Church is powerful. "The gates of hell," remember, "shall not prevail against it."

We therefore urge you not to secularize the LIFE CHAIN and destroy its power. The pro-abortion forces have no such source of strength as the LIFE CHAIN reflects through the living Church, and we must be true to this God-given source.

If questions or problems arise during your preparation period, call Please Let Me Live as often as you have need. Our telephone number is **530-671-5500**.

May God bless your hard work, and may your LIFE CHAIN be a true prayer chain that turns many hearts from death to Life!

In His service,

Royce Dunn, President
Please Let Me Live
National Director of Life Chain

Bill Newsom (deceased)
To Bill we dedicate this
revised *Life Chain Manual*

NOTE: The original *Life Chain Manual* was begun in 1989, and its most recent revision was in December, 1999.

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Preface

A call to the Church

The LIFE CHAIN is a call to the Christian Church to mobilize against an abortion holocaust that will claim over 1.2 million American lives (through surgical abortions) in 2000 and over 60 million lives worldwide. Abortifacient deaths will far exceed those numbers.

PLML believes the abortion battle is first and foremost a spiritual one and that the solution rests chiefly with the Church that Christ founded. We who comprise the Church have the power necessary to end the killing, but up to this point we have not had the will.

While regarding the abortion battle as primarily spiritual, PLML believes America's pastors are our nation's most vital leaders and that victory over abortion rests substantially with their leadership. For that reason, we must partner with them.

PLML does not minimize the importance of politics. We in prolife must be politically involved. Yet we must not combine our politics with the LIFE CHAIN. To do so would weaken our emphasis on prayer, it would lead readily to disunity in our ranks, and it would sharpen media attacks against us. It is, therefore, urgent that all LIFE CHAINS refrain from political activity.

A foundational goal of the LIFE CHAIN is to unite all Christian clergy and Christian laity. To succeed, the various pro-life groups (national, state, and local) must unite as true coalition builders; and in that spirit, PLML invites all pro-life organizations to join in the promotion of **National Life Chain Sunday**, which is held annually on the first Sunday in October.

In so doing, each local LIFE CHAIN should be sponsored by the "Life Chain Committee of ____" each local city or town and not by a single organization. The Coordinator should urge each local pro-life (and every other Christian) group to provide a LIFE CHAIN Committee member, and in the spirit of servanthood that is so dear to God's heart, the members should strive to bless each other, with unselfish concern for who gets the credit. The Bible says we are to regard others as better than ourselves, and when that principle is applied, it produces wondrous results.

As for PLML, we ask for no recognition by any local LIFE CHAIN Committee, and we have never solicited contributions from our fellow Coordinators.

Life Chain Manual and Video Duplication Rights

PLML authorizes Coordinators to duplicate the *Life Chain Manual* and video for the express purpose of promoting a LIFE CHAIN in their city.

Copies of the manual will be of considerable benefit to LIFE CHAIN Committee members, and the video copies will benefit pastors and church congregations. Some Coordinators will opt for a shortened version of the video, and that is acceptable to PLML.

If you share PLML materials with friends in other locations, please remind them to call or write PLML. We at PLML want to assist them with their Chain as best we can, and we want to log their Chain. Then we can communicate with them and better appreciate their efforts.

If you prefer not to duplicate the LIFE CHAIN materials, you may obtain the "LIFE CHAIN Packet" by writing to PLML with your request. The cost of the packet is \$25. Otherwise, you may obtain the manual only for \$12 and the video only for \$15. If you desire additional videos, they are \$10 each (4-9 units), \$9 each (10-49 units) and \$8 each (50 units or more). Please make your check payable to Please Let Me Live, at the following address.

**PLEASE LET ME LIVE
3209 Colusa Highway
Yuba City, CA 95993
Phone: 530-671-5500**

A Bold New Weapon

“But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in depth, so also grace might reign through righteousness.”
—Romans 5:20-21

(NOTE: Pages 6-8 are an overview adapted from an article in American Life League's *All About Issues*, in 1990. The subsequent dates and changes have been made to provide more timely information.)

As our battle against abortion intensifies across America, we Christian soldiers have within our arsenal a bold new weapon that bears the likely name of LIFE CHAIN.

From its first battlefield encounter in Yuba City-Marysville, California, in 1987, to the present, the LIFE CHAIN has proven to be an effective strategy against the pro-death forces now ravaging our land. Instead of the faithful few hundred attending traditional pro-life events, the LIFE CHAIN has often drawn thousands—and has strengthened pro-life ministries in cities and towns throughout our nation.

As were so many of the God-given Old Testament strategies of war, the LIFE CHAIN is disarmingly simple. It first assumes that victory against abortion is to be won in the hearts of Christians, led by their local pastors. Thereafter, it turns to the invincible Church God ordained and asks each of us who are called by His name to put action to our rhetoric by lining the sidewalks of our city and bearing witness with one of six mass-produced 17" x 22" signs that read *Abortion Kills Children*, *Jesus Forgives and Heals*, *Adoption: The Loving Option*, *Lord Forgive Us and Our Nation*, *Abortion Hurts Women*, and *Life: The First Inalienable Right*. Of these six signs, *Abortion Kills Children* is the foremost life saver, by a wide margin, and in each Chain, at least half of all signs should convey that message.

The eloquence of the total LIFE CHAIN, produced by hundreds or thousands of Christians holding signs 10-50 feet apart (as the local Committee purposes) is a profound public witness. The typical response of motorists driving through the Chain is “Wow! That message of abortion killing children just keeps coming at you!”

And it does. The LIFE CHAIN is effective because it bears God's anointing. It was His idea from the start, and it gains its strength by unifying His people from all churches and denominations: Protestant and Catholic, Baptist and Pentecostal, Greek Orthodox and Jew. We, His children, each know in our heart that abortion is an abomination against God and is the ultimate affliction against His most noble creation. We know God commanded us to respond when justice is abandoned, and the LIFE CHAIN invites all of God's children to unite for one hour, 2:30-3:30 PM on the first Sunday afternoon in October, and stand in solidarity against the gravest evil our nation has known.

Wherever community churches have joined in this manner, God has abundantly blessed their witness. America's first LIFE CHAIN of 2,500 Life defenders transformed the



pro-life outreach in the small, rural Northern California twin cities of Yuba City-Marysville into an influential ministry that the local newspaper no longer termed "a handful of fundamentalists." In September, 1989, the second LIFE CHAIN drew 7,500 participants in Bakersfield (Southern California), followed by 6,000 in Riverside, 10,000 in Fresno, 17,000 in Anaheim, and 20,000 in San Diego (five weeks later San Diego had 28,000). Approximately 30 additional cities in California built LIFE CHAINS in 1991, and they were joined by 130 other cities and towns across America, in more than 40 states. By 1994, attendance had reached over one million participants across America and Canada combined, and in 1999 approximately 900 Chains were built on the North American continent.

Organizing a LIFE CHAIN

The first requirement for a successful LIFE CHAIN is a mature Christian leader who is committed to prayer and is active in a local church. He or she need not be a prominent local personality but, ideally, should possess the Scriptural gift of administration and know the value of humility and true servanthood.

This able warrior, the LIFE CHAIN Coordinator, should invite the leaders of all local pro-life and other Christian groups to join the LIFE CHAIN Committee and, thereby, forge a strong coalition bent on bridge-building with area churches, public officials, law enforcement, and the public at large. Success depends on true, unselfish teamwork, with the LIFE CHAIN Committee sponsoring the Chain, rather than any single organization. God honors teamwork, and those who practice it are certain to be on God's list of sons and daughters who will receive timely assistance and wondrous blessings.

Assisting the Committee is a Contact Person from each local church. This individual relieves the pastor of all duties save for feeding the sheep the pro-life message and being their leader to the LIFE CHAIN. These are the pastor's explicit duties, and success of the local Chain relies heavily on leadership the pastor provides in each local church. In brief, if a Committee is to build a strong LIFE CHAIN, it must mobilize the local pastors effectively.

Also assisting the Committee in urban areas are District Directors who work with Contact Persons in their respective districts and stay in close touch with the LIFE CHAIN Coordinator. In large cities, the District Director appoints his or her own committee to assist, and each committee member is assigned a block of churches, as discussed on p. 12.

The LIFE CHAIN commonly occupies both sides of a downtown street, where the traffic is slow and heavy. Use of a major intersection can provide for an impressive LIFE CHAIN Cross. The Chain's length is determined by the number of participants and the local Committee's spacing strategy. Whereas normal spacing is about 10 feet, if the Committee wants to extend its Chain and the traffic speed is 25-45 miles per hour, Life partners standing 25-50 or even 100 feet apart will still deliver their cogent sign messages effectively and, to passing motorists, will appear rather close together. Still another option open to the Committee is to divide their participants into several Chains, in order to reach as many sectors of their

city or county as possible. This strategy can be used very purposefully and should be used more frequently than it is.

Media Winner

In addition to delivering vital messages to thousands of motorists—and adding many new recruits to the local pro-life ministry, the LIFE CHAIN has consistently been a stronger media event than traditional rallies, pickets, and prayer vigils. The body and spirit of the Chain advertise it so effectively that local media can hardly afford to ignore it. If they under-report it, the Chain has its own ready defenders, as when the *Fresno Bee* gave as much coverage to 450 pro-deathers as it gave to 10,000 Chain members, and a sufficient number of Chain participants wrote or called the *Bee* to prompt a serious editorial apology.

Church Energizer

The LIFE CHAIN also offers special benefits to participating churches by encouraging congregations to stand publicly for righteousness and thereby know God's blessing to all who risk persecution for His sake. Chain members are heartened and emboldened by the power they see in the corporate Church witness. They appreciate their pastor's direct participation, and when inspired Life Chainers leave the event, many are eager to serve in their home church ministries.

Strength through Unity

As noted earlier, the LIFE CHAIN promotes and relies on teamwork and strives to unite all local Christian groups. During the past fifteen years, the number of surgical abortions performed annually in America has declined reluctantly, but dramatic results will occur if pro-life groups in our nation ever unite as God intends. Indeed, the LIFE CHAIN encourages that development.

A Powerful Yet Inexpensive Weapon

As the Bible confirms, a simple and economical strategy can be richly productive, and the LIFE CHAIN exemplifies that fact. The estimated cost per participant is about twenty-five cents, with most of that cost allotted to the LIFE CHAIN sign. Coordinators are advised to suggest a one-dollar donation per person, and if one-fourth of the participants donate a dollar, cost of the Chain should be covered. Fund raising beyond the free-will donations is discouraged, else the true goal of the Chain will almost assuredly suffer. Wherever our emphasis is on **National Life Chain Sunday**, there our hearts will be, also. Who can doubt that prolife's greatest need is God's divine favor, rather than additional funds.

Please Let Me Live (PLML)

"Church Oriented and Pastor Focused"

PLML is an interdenominational pro-life Christian ministry founded in 1985 to serve Yuba and Sutter counties in Northern California. We are non-profit and an all-volunteer group. We have an office in town, but most of our work is done in private homes. And while our ministry is well known in America and Canada, we remain a small group from two rural counties about 50 miles north of Sacramento. Our primary outreaches outside our local area are the LIFE CHAIN and publication of pro-life pamphlets, including *America Must Decide*, *What The Facts Reveal About Planned Parenthood*, and *Contraception: The Tragic Deception*.

Believing abortion to be a spiritual battle, PLML has, from our inception, looked to local churches for support. Any good fruit we have produced has come primarily through networking with local congregations. America's abortion holocaust will end when we Christians resolve to end it, and for that to occur we must have the full benefit of pastoral leadership. As emphasized elsewhere in the *Life Chain Manual*, PLML considers pastors our nation's most essential leaders and believes that victory over abortion rests largely with their determination to unify the laity and lead us to victory. Fortunately, pro-life is blessed with an inherent power to unify—if only we will that power.

Like other pro-life ministries, PLML sponsors rallies and prayer vigils, marches and pickets, petition and letter drives, billboards, full-page ads, pastors' breakfasts and youth campaigns. Beyond these traditional efforts, we pray for creative ideas, and in 1987 God revealed the LIFE CHAIN and the *Abortion Kills Children* sign to us in a profound faith-building manner.

And if prayer is the most effective life-saver, PLML believes the next most effective one, under current conditions, is comprehensive distribution of quality, affordable literature. Millions of our fellow citizens will turn pro-life when some good literature is dropped on their doorsteps. Within nine months of PLML's door-to-door distribution in Yuba and Sutter counties, surgical abortions declined by half. And through literature distribution and other strategies mentioned above, we saw the last abortion office close in our area in 1988. Yet this does not mean we are free of surgical abortions. Mothers seeking them today drive 50 miles to Chico or Sacramento.

The LIFE CHAIN reflects PLML's emphasis on being "Church oriented and pastor focused," and a successful Chain prepares the way for both literature distribution and a vital sidewalk counseling ministry. Following a LIFE CHAIN, both veteran pro-lifers and new recruits are ready to join another offensive against abortion. If you would like to distribute literature door to door in your community, PLML will help you, and we can also put you in contact with other experienced distribution ministries. Just call us at **530-671-5500**. Each month, many Americans change their view on abortion, and the change is virtually 100% from death to life. That should encourage all of us in prolife work.

PLML has always been a friend to crisis pregnancy centers, and in the early 1990s we began emphasizing and promoting sidewalk counseling. Today, we continue to believe that prolife's greatest need is for pastors to lead their congregations—legally, peacefully, and compassionately—to where their local children are killed. Indeed that is essential, if legalized abortion is to end in America.

PREPARING FOR THE LIFE CHAIN

Leadership

1. Valued Coordinator Qualities. The LIFE CHAIN needs a leader who has a heart for service, instead of recognition, and who relates well to pastors of every denomination. As stated previously, the Coordinator need not be a prominent Christian but must be a committed one, and one who faithfully serves in a local church, whether large or small.

A Coordinator needs to appreciate the importance of genuine *servanthood*, as revealed in Scripture. That means a capacity for prayerful decision making. For sacrificial labor. For humility and self-control. For peacemaking, for forgiveness, and long-suffering. For patient endurance amidst disappointment. For encouragement and appreciation of fellow workers. For finishing a job begun without growing weary in well doing. For recognizing and rebuking Satan's firm opposition. And for welcoming spiritual growth into his or her own life, through the demanding job of serious pro-life leadership. You may have heard the expression "Everything hangs on leadership," and to a very large degree that is true of the LIFE CHAIN.

Your LIFE CHAIN, to be sure, will rely heavily on the Coordinator's ability to inspire and mobilize local pastors because Pastors determine victory! Their support will be won not by pressure or criticism but by wise and patient persuasion. In 1985, soon after our founding, PLML sent a three-page letter to 82 local pro-life pastors asking them to join the battle to end abortion in our bi-county area. We asked them to respond by phone or letter, but no one did. Within a year, however, half of the Christian pastors in our area had signed a letter in support of PLML, and within eighteen months over 130 pastors had signed a support letter.

It should be noted that some LIFE CHAINS have had two or more leaders serve as Co-Coordiators, and their efforts have been successful. Other Chains, including large cities, have had marvelous success with a single Coordinator.

2. Build Your LIFE CHAIN Committee. With your Coordinator serving as Chairman, build a Committee of 7 to 40 members, depending on the size and population of your area. Membership should include representatives from all local pro-life and other Christian organizations, as previously stressed. This is the first coalition you build, and it will remain a powerful leadership force after your LIFE CHAIN ends.

We say much in pro-life about the importance of coalition building, but we often fail to build them. Let us set the example we expect from pastors. Let's unite the Christian groups in our

city and then give more credit to their respective organizations than to our own.

3. Appoint District Directors. If you live in an urban area, divide your city into manageable districts and appoint a District Director over each district, as indicated earlier. Each Director is responsible for the pastors and churches in his or her district. In a truly large city, each Director will need to appoint a committee to assist. If a given Director falls behind, the Coordinator should appoint a compatible Co-Director. Some of the Directors will grow into prominent Christian leaders in your area.

In a large city, District Directors should assign no more than 15-25 churches to a single committee member, and it is usually wise to make assignments with "homogeneity" in mind—Protestants reach Protestant churches, Catholics reach Catholic churches, Hispanics reach Hispanic churches, Blacks reach Black churches, etc. Yes, we wish this was unnecessary, but often times it is necessary. Beyond that, District Directors should assign churches geographically close to each committee member's home, to the extent possible.

4. Request Pastoral Counsel. Include on your primary LIFE CHAIN Committee some influential pro-life pastors, who will give timely counsel on how to win fellow clergy to your LIFE CHAIN. They may be unable to attend each meeting, but they will still bless your effort with "a pastor's point of view."

5. Value Minority Members. Also include strong representation from racial minorities. Nonwhites endure disproportionately high abortion rates, and they are vitally needed in every pro-life ministry. Your LIFE CHAIN can help improve race relations throughout your community. Unfortunately, most of us in leadership are still trying to learn how to bridge the pro-life racial gap, and our efforts have been consistently frustrated by minority political leaders who far too often are proabortion.

6. Recruit Contact Persons. In addition to your LIFE CHAIN Committee and District Directors, if you live in an urban area, expand your leadership team to include a Contact Person from each local church, as alluded to previously. This individual should carefully prepare his or her congregation for the LIFE CHAIN, while working closely with the pastor. Some pastors will prefer to serve as their own Contact Person, while others will be more supportive of your Chain if they are relieved of organizational duties.

The District Director and his or her committee are best able to select Contact Persons, and after doing so they should call a meeting, prepare a roster of names, addresses, and phone numbers, and give the Contact Persons a copy of the *Life Chain Manual* pages that apply to them. They should also have the Contact Persons view the LIFE CHAIN video and then ask them to encourage their pastor and congregation to view it. Additional District Director duties follow on p. 12 under Duties of the District Director.

Duties of the District Director

1. Read the entire *Life Chain Manual* carefully.
2. Know the boundaries of your district, and prepare a roster of churches in your district by name, address, phone number, and pastor's name.
3. If your city is large enough to require it, appoint a committee to assist you by selecting strong Christians who appreciate and relate well to pastors.
4. Locate a Contact Person for each church in your district. If you appoint a committee, they will help select Contact Persons and will likely fill that duty in their respective churches. Pastors who serve as their own Contact Person usually support the LIFE CHAIN strongly.
5. In a large city, assign 15-25 churches to each committee member, and have your members deliver the LIFE CHAIN Committee mailings to each pastor (or Contact Person). Try to ensure that pastors understand each mailing. Stress to your committee the importance of follow-up calls, especially if deliveries are not made in person.
6. With your district committee assisting, become a friend to each pastor in your district. Help each pastor grasp the LIFE CHAIN vision. Encourage each to see the LIFE CHAIN video, and point out what the LIFE CHAIN will contribute to your city. In some instances you may have to work entirely through the Contact Person.
7. Supply your pastors with pro-life literature, unless they are willing to purchase their own. Their parishioners must learn about abortion before your LIFE CHAIN.
8. Work hard to win minority churches. Be sure to appoint an appropriate number of minority committee members, because they may be pivotal to your winning minority pastors.
9. Confer with other District Directors to learn what strategies work best for them.
10. Do not "assume" pastors will respond to mailings. They receive lots of correspondence and numerous demands on their time. Your followup is essential.
11. The week preceding your Chain, deliver LIFE CHAIN signs to the churches in your district, and be sure that pastors understand their location in your Chain.
12. Think of your District as a small LIFE CHAIN and of yourself as the Coordinator. Brainstorm. Stay in close touch with the primary Coordinator. Pray and fast. Grow spiritually in your job, and God will greatly reward your efforts.

Some Leadership Notes

A. The LIFE CHAIN is a grass-roots ministry, and it prefers a leader who is "grass roots," rather than a public relations specialist. The degree to which the leader loves the Lord and wants to serve Him will not be missed by pastors and their congregations.

B. Many of the most successful LIFE CHAINS have been led by novices who had skills waiting to be used. They realized that the abortion battle will be won "not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty [Zech. 4:6]." They brought their servant heart to the job, and God exalted them to a position of honor in their community.

C. In areas where the pro-life leaders do not have compatible working relationships, none of the leaders should serve as the LIFE CHAIN Coordinator. Instead, they should agree on a leader who is not affiliated with any of their organizations. During the LIFE CHAIN preparation period, they should welcome every opportunity for the spirit of reconciliation to minister to them. Their meetings should begin with a time of praise and worship.

D. A local LIFE CHAIN should not come across publicly as either a Protestant or Catholic event. Let's make each of our Chains a "Christian event" and an extension of Sunday morning worship. In many instances, a LIFE CHAIN will benefit from Co-Coordinator, one Protestant and one Catholic. Catholics should realize that Protestants will not follow Catholic leadership as readily as Catholics will follow Protestant leadership, and Protestant should realize that Catholics kept the pro-life fires burning across North America long before most Protestants discovered abortion.

E. Please help America learn how to build LIFE CHAINS and Crisis Pregnancy Centers in our nation's inner cities. To accomplish this goal, we must recruit inner-city pro-life leaders. Please do all you can to encourage at least one inner-city LIFE CHAIN; and if at all possible, help ensure that a CPC is promoted along with the Chain. Many minority pastors would join a pro-life outreach that was centered in their own community and ministered to the immediate needs of their inner-city neighborhood. The key is local leadership.

Early Committee Duties

1. Give yourself ample time to do a good job. Three months are needed in a moderate size town, and six months or longer is needed in a large city. This does not mean, of course, that you work full time.

Some Chains have succeeded with shorter preparation periods. In the early years of the LIFE CHAIN, Orange County, California, followed Nehemiah's 52-day "wall building" timetable and, with strong leadership and a strong pro-life base, turned out 17,000 participants. The Southwest Florida LIFE CHAIN drew 20,000 participants after a similar preparation period. These successes, however, are exceptions. Please start early, and you won't have to rush. Also, notify your pastors early to get your Chain on their busy church calendar.

2. Identify your churches. As noted previously, prepare a master list of the churches in your area, along with their addresses, phone numbers, and pastors' names. Use the Yellow Pages, the Church Page in your local newspaper, mailing lists from local pro-life and other Christian organizations, the Chamber of Commerce, ministerial associations, and any other sources.

As stressed previously, reach minority churches. Attend one of their worship services, and meet the pastors, for sure. In some instances, you may want to translate your correspondence into their language. (Spanish LIFE CHAIN signs are available if you need a sign in that particular language).

3. Select your LIFE CHAIN route. Use a city map to select your route where traffic is slow and heavy and where sidewalks or wide road shoulders will ensure the safety of your Chainers. Safety comes first! Compute the distance of your route in linear feet (less intersections and driveways), and estimate the number of participants you will need when spaced about 10, 25, 50 feet or farther apart (according to your LIFE CHAIN plan). Many Chains have formed a cross at a busy intersection, and some large Chains have formed several crosses. To the extent reasonably possible, route your Chain past local killing centers, but also keep in mind the importance of reaching motorists with the LIFE CHAIN messages and especially the message that *Abortion Kills Children*.

4. Confer with your local police department. Meet with a ranking Christian official early on, to allow time to work out any difficulty. Give the officer copies of the LIFE CHAIN video, your LIFE CHAIN route (map), and a sign with the LIFE CHAIN Code of Conduct (on back of sign). If needed, your local officer may benefit from calling officials who have had LIFE CHAINS in their cities.



Your purpose in meeting with a police officer is not to ask permission, for Life Chaining is your constitutional (First Amendment) right. Instead, we notify our police department as a courtesy and to familiarize the department with the LIFE CHAIN ministry. Doing so shows respect for their responsibilities and affords us an opportunity to thank them for any support they choose to give us.

5. City permits should not be required. It is purposeful for officials to know that the LIFE CHAIN is not a parade *that blocks intersections and occupies territory*. This is a critical point. Life Chainers are pedestrians who share the sidewalk with other pedestrians (who may or may not be prolife). You should not, therefore, be required to obtain a permit. A few Coordinators have done so to expedite planning, but very few have paid fees, and any fees paid were unjustified. What about liability insurance? Any Coordinator who chooses to purchase liability insurance may do so; but PLML does not believe that local officials can justifiably require the insurance. Will the city have liability during the LIFE CHAIN? Yes, it will, but a city has liability 24 hours of every day. As Americans, we do not have to purchase insurance to exercise our First Amendment rights.

6. What if local officials say no to your LIFE CHAIN? Some officials (relatively few) have challenged the LIFE CHAIN, but in each instance thus far patience and persistence by Christian leaders (sometimes aided by Christian attorneys) have won out. We must be courteous and respectful while preserving the liberty God Himself graced to us, as our Founding Fathers acknowledged. Please preserve this liberty in your city, but do not finalize your Chain over the official objection of your police department or city council. Solve the problem first, and call PLML if you need our help.

6. Create a phone tree. Appoint a Phone Tree Chairman, who will work to establish Phone Tree Captains (that will likely include Contact Persons). Encourage a phone tree in each congregation, especially for use in the final push. Encourage a call to every family in each church directory. Emphasize courtesy and kindness, and avoid criticism of persons who are unresponsive.

7. Schedule your meetings. By doing so, you will encourage fellow workers to respond in a timely manner. Begin and end your meetings on time. Effective preparation leads to shorter meetings than you would have otherwise.

Reaching Pastors

1. Your key to success is winning pastors—who in turn will lead their congregations to your LIFE CHAIN. This you accomplish with prayer, a good spirit, and hard work. Please do not assume certain denominations or certain pastors will not respond favorably, for many will surprise you.

In a true missionary spirit and with the help of your co-workers, contact each pastor in your area. Some pastors will respond more readily to a congregational member (such as a Contact Person). When working with Contact Persons, do not cause church division but keep your heart and motives pure at all times. Rather than cause division, submit the problem to God and leave it with Him.

2. If possible, hand deliver five separate packets. Personal deliveries are several times more effective than postal mailings, for obvious reasons. On making the delivery, you (or a co-worker) will often be able to meet with the pastor or with an associate pastor or secretary—who has the pastor's ear. In some or perhaps many instances, the Contact Person may make the delivery to the pastor.

Delivery #1: Goes to Lead Churches only. It introduces your LIFE CHAIN and includes a letter (p. 28) that requests the Lead Pastors' signatures on a *Pastoral Letter* (p. 32) that you will later deliver to all other pastors. Through this approach, pastors are inviting pastors—and the results are good! Recruit 7 to 24 Lead Pastors (or more, if you choose, in a large city) from different denominations, of both large and small churches. Include a balance of Protestant and Catholic clergy, according to their percentages in your local church population, and be sure to include minority pastors. Each pastor who signs your Pastoral Letter pledges his "wholehearted support" to help reach your goal (a goal of 5,000 participants, for example, as seen on p. 32).

This delivery provides the date and time of your Chain and is accompanied by a map of your route, a quality pro-life pamphlet (*America Must Decide* or equivalent), a Statement of Purpose (p.29), and A Brief History of the LIFE CHAIN, regarding its success in other towns (p. 30). It is also good to provide each Lead Pastor (and later, every other pastor) with a LIFE CHAIN video (to show to their congregation). [You might also want to give pastors the *Citizen Magazine* LIFE CHAIN article (June, 1990) and the *All About Issues* article (Autust-September, 1990).]

In large cities, District Directors are responsible for the delivery of each Mailing. If the postal service is used, follow-up calls and/or personal visits are absolutely essential. Please believe that statement, and you will not be disappointed with your results.



Delivery #2: Goes to all non-Lead pastors and features your Pastoral Letter, (with your Lead Pastors' signatures and their church names and addresses). Accompanying it are the enclosures used in Delivery #1 (map of your LIFE CHAIN route, pro-life pamphlet, Statement of Purpose, A Brief History of the LIFE CHAIN and the LIFE CHAIN video). Note that Lead Pastors—and not your Committee—announce your LIFE CHAIN to their fellow pastors. [Review your 5 Deliveries on page 27]

Delivery #3: Update Report that focuses on the Response Sheet and Church Bulletin Insert.

Delivery #4: Gives an encouraging progress report and emphasizes important dates, the Code of Conduct, and Senior Citizen needs. Deliver a minimum of two to three weeks before your Chain.

Delivery #5: Provides final instructions and clarifies where each church will be located in your Chain. Deliver this letter 3-5 days before your Chain and at the same time you deliver the *Abortion Kills Children*, *Jesus Forgives and Heals*, *Adoption: the Loving Option*, *Lord Forgive Us and Our Nation*, *Abortion Hurts Women*, and *LIFE: The First Inalienable Right* signs, together with your pro-life pamphlets (if you have not previously delivered literature to your churches).

3. Encourage your Lead Pastors to write or call other pastors, especially those within their own denomination. Once all of the other pastors have learned of your Chain, some pastors from non-lead churches will also be willing to call or write fellow clergy, if you ask them to do so.

4. Obtain other letters of support. Especially helpful are letters from district superintendents of each Protestant denomination and from Catholic bishops and archbishops. It is best for the church officials to mail their letters directly to the pastors under their jurisdiction, but if that is not likely, duplicate their letters and distribute them yourself. These letters will be read in a timely manner, for evident reasons.

5. Respect pastors, always. Remind your entire team of co-workers not to condemn pastors who fail to respond. Criticism is counterproductive and often blinds us to strategies that would succeed, if only we had maintained our focus. If one-fourth to one-third of your pastors respond in the urban areas, you will have a very successful Chain. [See *How to Win Pastors to Pro-Life Activ-ism*, on p. 52]

Suggestions and Reminders

1. Your LIFE CHAIN magnifies the Church. Emphasize to pastors that the LIFE CHAIN is the Church and that pro-abortionists have no such support base—not even in the large liberal cities of our nation. During the Chain, participants rejoice over the power of the Church and realize the immeasurable potential it has when God's people endeavor to be the light and salt He called us to be. Let us hope that the LIFE CHAIN will help bring revival to our land, as denominational barriers fall and Christians pray and join forces against our arch enemy Satan.

2. Your Chain should be at least one hour long. Begin at 2:30 PM and maintain your Chain for either one hour or longer (as your Committee prefers). The Chain PLML attends in Yuba City-Marysville is one hour and fifteen minutes. In large cities, a one-hour Chain is best because of the added time required for participants to park and organize (they will need to arrive up to 30 minutes early). In promoting hour-long Chains, the challenge Christ presented to His disciples—*Could you not watch with me one hour?*—is effective, as is the catch-phrase *Give an Hour and Save a Lifetime*. Chainers should be in line, on the sidewalk, several minutes early to allow time for improved spacing and for accommodating walk-ons.

3. PLML discourages rallies after LIFE CHAINS. Where rallies have been held, attendance has been weak, and the rallies have sometimes conflicted with Sunday evening worship services (to the disappointment of pastors). Rallies also drain the energy and resources of the LIFE CHAIN Committee. If you desire a rally, hold it a week or more after your Chain, as a follow-up, and publicize it with your Chain.

4. Promote your Chain as a “family event” for members old and young. Small children require careful supervision. The elderly and handicapped persons should use folding chairs, while holding their signs. Pastors and church Contact Persons should provide chairs as needed for their congregation, and your Committee should have extra chairs available.

5. Your Chain is an extension of Sunday morning worship on the Lord's Day. Designate a day for prayer and fasting during the week preceding your Chain. Use back-printed signs with prayer and worship information and the Code of Conduct printed on the back. Urge participants to maintain a prayerful spirit throughout the Chain, free of idle talk and frivolity. The message *Abortion Kills Children* demands a serious countenance. Urge pastors to prepare their congregations for an hour of prayer, and do all you can to build a genuine prayer chain.

6. Do not permit poor weather to cancel your LIFE CHAIN. Children die daily

and God honors sacrificial service. If we LIFE CHAIN in the rain or snow, our witness will be all the more powerful and enduring. If God gives us warm sunshine, we thank Him for it. If clouds threaten, ask pastors (at Sunday morning worship) to recommend rain apparel. Do not worry about soaked signs; simply replace them the next year.

7. Welcome creative placement of signs—on baby carriages, in windows, on cycles, on the backs of pets, etc. Discourage signs other than the six approved signs listed in this manual. Likewise, ask your Chainers to please not alter their signs.

8. At least half the signs in each Chain should be *Abortion Kills Children*. God graced that factual sign message to PLML in the same moments he graced the LIFE CHAIN idea to us; and if some pastors consider the message “too negative,” please continue to use the sign and defend its life-saving record. Abortion itself is incomparably more negative than the sign. The fact that it is a strong message has encouraged many Christians to enter prolife's battle because LIFE CHAIN leaders are serious about ending abortion. Indeed, abortion does kill children, and no other sign message has saved nearly as many lives.

9. LIFE CHAIN signs are readily available. A local Christian printer may be willing to print your signs for the cost of paper only. If not, you can obtain affordable signs from Precision Printing, a devout Christian firm in San Diego that has provided most of the LIFE CHAIN signs since 1990. Their phone number is **619-569-6644**. PLML receives no income from the signs. Used and surplus signs are sometimes available from Chains in neighboring towns, and you are encouraged to buy the used signs rather than borrow them.

10. How many signs do you order? Combine the estimates from your churches and add 10 to 20 percent. If some Chainers want to retain their signs, please permit them. They frequently use them for other good purposes, simply because they are handy, at home.

11. Have on hand an adequate supply of quality pro-life literature. Educate your Chainers and passersby with quality pamphlets on **National Life Chain Sunday**. Order your literature early and get it into your churches as early as soon as you can. A city-wide distribution drive before your Chain is ideal. Otherwise, provide each Life Chainer with a pamphlet, and deliver the pamphlets to each church at the same time you deliver your signs.

PLML Pamphlets Are Comprehensive and Affordable

Distribute the literature you prefer, but PLML wants you to know that our pamphlets are both comprehensive and affordable. Especially effective is our recently edited 5,000-word *America Must Decide* pamphlet (8 million copies are in print). The cost is \$60 per thousand, including shipping. This is a superb value for a compelling “mini-seminar” on abortion (see sample enclosed). We have written the pamphlet for door-to-door distribution throughout a city or county, and we also provide the *Literature Distribution Manual*. To order, contact PLML at 3209 Colusa Highway, Yuba City, CA 95993 (Phone: 530-671-5500).

12. Open a bank account under “The LIFE CHAIN Committee of [your city or county].” Contributions to your Committee will not be tax deductible (without exempt status), but most contributors will not worry about your tax status. Those who are concerned can make their check payable to a church that is supporting your Chain.

Encourage some of your supporters to provide “seed money” to launch your Chain. Later you can repay a portion of the seed money, if necessary. Others will contribute when they hear about your Chain. Most of your revenue will come from your suggested \$1 donation for each sign you pass out. As stated earlier, if one-fourth of your Chainers contribute a dollar, you should cover all expenses (@ 25 cents per participant). Some churches will write a check to cover the signs they receive, while others will make special donations.

13. Protect your Chain against the love of money. Please do not commercialize your Chain and weaken it through fund raising strategies. Do not work to “make a profit” on your Chain but merely to cover your expenses. Also, do not lose participants because they do not have \$1 to contribute. As emphasized earlier, the LIFE CHAIN is a church event, and God will provide the necessary funds for Committees that keep their priorities in order. Otherwise, the funds earned may face poor yields from dry ground.

14. Regarding the sale of clothing items, PLML discourages "Life Chain apparel" but has always encouraged "pro-life apparel," with the emphasis on the child rather than on the LIFE CHAIN itself. Many superb pro-life designs are available. Some Coordinators have simply given apparel to local youth at LIFE CHAINS in order to get the pro-life message into their local schools and onto their local streets. If you sell apparel at your LIFE CHAIN, please do so to save lives and not to make a profit. The results will repay you liberally in the months and years ahead.

15. Please avoid politics. We welcome politicians to our Chain, either to stand with a church and hold a sign or merely to drive through the Chain, but we do not permit them to campaign, under any conditions. The LIFE CHAIN is not a political event and must be shielded from all who would exploit it. In like manner, do not distribute political literature or “voter guides” at your Chain. One of your goals is to win pastors to pro-life activism, and you do not want them to feel betrayed or manipulated. Do not risk long-term gain for short-term profit. You will have ample time for politics, and your LIFE CHAIN, which automatically makes a political statement, will have produced a new army of precinct workers. PLML strongly supports political involvement, but please keep it separate from the LIFE CHAIN.

16. Notify your news media. The week preceding your Chain, contact your area TV and radio stations and newspapers to urge coverage of your Chain.



Contact Christian radio and TV stations and local publications at least two months before your Chain and ask them for promotional assistance. Give them a neatly typed and double-spaced press release (see pp. 44 and 52) that announces your Chain and stresses participation from area churches. Precede and follow-up each press release with a phone call. You may also want to schedule a press conference (led by pastors who figure prominently in your LIFE CHAIN) several days before your event. Hopefully, local Christian radio/TV will be good partners with you and will invite you to join them on the air to discuss your Chain and to inspire your local church community.

If your media is negative and difficult, do not despair. We do not rely on the media. We do, of course, continue to provide press releases and to serve the media as best we can, but we can succeed without the media if we must. The early church did not rely on the media, and it succeeded quite well.

17. Emphasize safety for all participants. To date, few injuries have been reported to PLML. Of those reported, on two occasions individuals were struck by vehicles while crossing the street (the second such incident occurred in 1999). Their injuries, apparently, were not serious. On another occasion, an emotional onlooker accidentally put his hand through a friend's car window, which he assumed was rolled down. In 1993, an angry pro-abortionist stopped her car and proceeded to shake a Life Chainer sufficiently hard to cause neck injury, and another incident similar to that one occurred in 1994. PLML has received no reports of any Life Chainer ever resorting to violence in either the U.S., Canada, or elsewhere.

On **National Life Chain Sunday**, the pastor and/or Contact Person for each congregation should have access to a telephone. Patrol Teams (Marshals) should use cellular phones and walkie-talkies, as should others who may be supervising the Chain.

18. Avoid litigation. Approximately 6,000 LIFE CHAINS have been built, and the first Chain to face litigation occurred in Oklahoma in 1998, when, according to PLML's information, a 16-year-old boy made an illegal turn along the Chain route, had an accident that claimed the life of his passenger, and he later claimed that the LIFE CHAIN detracted him. A local church association is providing defense for that Chain, and it continued its ministry (with another Chain) in 1999.

PLML firmly believes that Life Chaining is a First Amendment Right, as stated previously, and that we are on safe ground so long as we build our Chains with the right spirit and supervise our ranks with an adequate number of trained Marshals. In each instance, we must curb frivolity and cooperate with police officials. Using backprinted signs will help enormously (the LIFE CHAIN Code of Conduct is on the back of each sign). Beyond that, we must commit to building prayer chains, which will afford us more protection against litigation than anything else.



To accomplish that goal, urge pastors to prepare their congregations for an orderly and solemn hour of intercession and meditation. Urge youth pastors to fully familiarize their youth groups with the purpose of your LIFE CHAIN and to urge their exemplary behavior on **National Life Chain Sunday**. An effective strategy is to continually drive a sign (in the back of a pickup or mounted on top of a vehicle) through your Chain that says "Please Continue To Pray" on one side and "Thank You For Praying" on the other side.

19. Pastors will appreciate Delivery #5. It includes their signs, pro-life literature (unless you have delivered the literature previously), a map of their location in your Chain, and other information you may choose to provide. If you cannot make this delivery, be sure to notify pastors of Information Centers (or other locations) where churches can pick up their materials on **National Life Chain Sunday**.

20. Plant one new LIFE CHAIN next year. Invite pro-life leaders from neighboring towns to your LIFE CHAIN. Once there, some will return home and plan their own Chain. Through such invitations, you will swell the ranks of pro-life activists in your area. When contacting leaders in neighboring towns, include some potential Lead Pastors, who will favorably influence their fellow local clergy.

You may also want to invite neighboring leaders to some of your Committee meetings, to introduce them to the LIFE CHAIN and to help them begin their own program. Some of them may surprise you with the number of participants they bring to your Chain.

On LIFE CHAIN Sunday

1. Parking. Utilize the parking lots of office buildings, banks, state agencies, churches, and other locations that are normally vacant on Sunday afternoon. Encourage parking as close to each church's Chain site as you can. To suggest a parking site for each church would be helpful, but it is difficult to accomplish in large cities.

Remember the Code of Conduct. Remind Chainers not to block passageways and not to litter. Avoid criticism from the police, city officials, the media, and the public at large. Our Christian witness is closely watched in each LIFE CHAIN.

2. Making your LIFE CHAIN video. Have one or more videographers record your Chain and conduct interviews with pastors and laity. Use 3/4" or 1" (or equivalent) broadcast format when shooting, and please believe that professional help is necessary if you want a quality product. PLML has learned that fact the hard way. Participating churches will appreciate a copy of your home-town LIFE CHAIN video, and it will encourage them to continue their pro-life activism by supporting other projects you sponsor. In addition to videographers, have able photographers on hand for candid (still) shots, and ask them to be selective (avoid broad smiles behind an *Abortion Kills Children* sign). Black and white 8 x 10 photos are usually preferred by newspapers, when accompanying your press releases. Avoid high video production costs because sales may disappoint you.

Please remember PLML's need for quality photos to fill requests we receive from publications and news networks. When you send PLML photos, enter your name, address, and phone number on the back.

3. Managing infiltrating literature. Organizations unrelated to your LIFE CHAIN may try to infiltrate with their literature. Politely urge them not to do so. If they insist, your Chainers will understand. Do not create a disruptive scene trying to curb the activity.

4. Managing counter-protesters. If pro-abortionists move into your Chain as counter-protesters with their own signs and slogans, treat them kindly and pray their hostility will serve only to strengthen your message in the public eye. That is what occurs. When they bring darkness into the light, what the enemy intends for ill, God uses for good. Encourage your Chainers to accommodate them, with kindness, but to refrain from conversation with hostile members who may want to embarrass your Committee and/or create a disturbance. The media has been known to use scenes of aroused tempers and impassioned debates for their own purposes.

If the infiltrators have an organized presence at your Chain and attempt to control the media, have one of your spokespersons nearby to present the truth.

5. Patrol Teams. For large Chains, use Patrol Teams of two Marshals in a vehicle equipped with phone and radio. Each team should patrol about two miles of your Chain. Also provide Marshals on foot, with some stationed at key inter-sections. Arm bands help to identify them. Marshals on bicycles can cover lots of territory fast, while remaining close to your Chainers at all times.

6. Information Centers. Set up LIFE CHAIN Information Centers along your route, no later than 1:45 PM. If possible, maintain radio contact among the centers. Provide each center with extra signs, Life literature, an official spokesperson with copies of your press release (media packet), a First-Aid kit, and sufficient personnel to meet needs that could arise. For donations, have your buckets (or equivalent) nearby, with "Donations" conspicuously written on the sides of the containers.

7. The Media. Tell your leadership team where to direct the media, and remind them to be kind to media personnel. Provide quality information that includes your press release, A Brief History of the LIFE CHAIN, The Purpose of [your city's] LIFE CHAIN [See Appendix A, p. 27], and quality Life literature. Thank the media for coming, and do not assume their reporting will be unfair.

8. Business Complaints. LIFE CHAINS receive few complaints from local businesses because smart management views every Chainer as a potential customer. If you do receive complaints, politely communicate that point and share your literature. Remember that Life Chainers have a legal right to assemble and to express their convictions peaceably on public property.

9. Spacing of Chainers. The recommended spacing, as we have seen, varies with the speed of traffic and may be influenced by the length of your Chain. Communicate the spacing you desire to all Contact Persons prior to your Chain, and especially to your Marshals. Remember that consistent spacing makes a small Chain look more impressive than a larger one with noticeable gaps. Consistent spacing also makes it easier to count your participants. If you desire a long CHAIN, simply space your participants farther apart. If you want to more evenly space your Chainers, do so in the early minutes of your Chain, or you will find it impossible to do later. Do not strive for a "work of art," and avoid over-managing your friends in Christ. Every LIFE CHAIN is automatically beautiful.

10. Keeping Chainers away from Curb. Urge fellow Chainers to stand back

and not to extend their signs over the curb. Doing so makes the police understandably nervous. Do not block the sidewalk or interfere with other pedestrians. The **Code of Conduct** on the back of each LIFE CHAIN sign will help considerably.

11. Managing ridicule. You will be blessed by the number of motorists who honk and wave their support. A few may unleash their sodom tongue and earn your prayers on their behalf. The best answer to ridicule is silence. Pray for self-control on each Chainer, and ask your Marshals to observe and respond promptly to any participant who lacks proper control. Paul's words in I Corinthians 1:12-13 apply well, as follows:

“When we are cursed, we bless. When we are persecuted, we endure it.
When we are slandered, we answer kindly.”

12. Survey (Response) Form. Clip a copy of your Survey Form to each LIFE CHAIN sign, and make it very easy for your Chainers to become pro-life volunteers. Observe the Survey Form on p. 48 and then prepare your own form to reflect local pro-life needs and upcoming events. Your Marshals should have extra pencils for individuals who want to fill out the Survey Form and become volunteers. The forms can be collected in the line or turned in with the signs.

13. Attendance taking. National LIFE CHAIN attendance is no longer taken, but knowing your local attendance is helpful in several ways. To obtain an accurate count, divide your Chain into one-mile units and ask someone to count each person, individually. You may be surprised by the ease of this effort. Do not base your count on the number of signs you delivered to the churches earlier because some signs may not get to your LIFE CHAIN. Small children who holds signs should, indeed, be counted. The LIFE CHAIN loves children. When counting your Chainers, do not betray God's word by exaggerating your attendance.

14. Sign collecting. Have each church collect their signs and deliver them (with the suggested \$1 donations, if they haven't already provided a check) to the nearest LIFE CHAIN Information Center. Store the signs for future use. Some participants will want to keep their signs, and Coordinators are encouraged to approve their request. In a sense, people who donate have purchased their sign.

A few Coordinators with adequate financial resources have asked all of their Chainers to retain their signs and use them as frequently as possible, either in other pro-life events or as window displays. That said, most Coordinators “elect to collect.” [If you use the signs for picketing or other events, please do not publicize the events as a LIFE CHAIN, or you may discourage some pastors from attending your next Chain.]

After Your LIFE CHAIN

1. Press coverage. Have media spokespersons available Sunday evening and Monday morning to take media calls. Use every opportunity to leverage your LIFE CHAIN victory, but do so discreetly because God was your source. Try for favorable press coverage but don't struggle for it. Our battle, remember, will not be won by "power nor by might." We also want to be a good witness to the media under all circumstances.

If your media coverage is unfair, consider organizing a "call-the-media" and "letter-to-the-editor" campaign. Such efforts have, in the past, produced retractions, corrections, and editorial apologies. Be courteous, but defend your ground confidently.

2. Thank your pastors and churches. Send a letter of thanks to supporting pastors. Emphasize the importance of their contribution in helping build the local Chain with their congregations. They stood "in the gap" with you.

3. Plan your follow-up wisely. One of your most important duties is to transfer the enthusiasm your Chain generates into ongoing pro-life ministry. Some duties and projects to consider are the following:

—Forward the names of volunteers, as recorded on your Survey (Response) Forms, to the appropriate ministries in your area. Put your volunteers to work!

—Respond to all inquiries and to all who requested pro-life literature.

—Edit your LIFE CHAIN video footage and process your photos.

—Evaluate your local media coverage and respond appropriately. To those who provide satisfactory coverage, send a thank you. To the others, thank them for coming to your Chain and express your disappointment warmly.

—Consider a city or county-wide pro-life literature distribution drive and the development of a sidewalk counseling ministry at the nearest abortuary. Both projects are vitally important.

—Consider a Cemetery of the Innocents, a prayer assembly, rally, picket, a candle-light march, or a seminar to help local churches plug in to pro-life projects.

—Consider the creation of a pro-life club on each of your junior and senior high campuses. Few needs in prolife equal this one.

Appendix A (5 Deliveries to Pastors)

Delivery #1: To Potential Lead Pastors

Letter to Potential Lead Pastor.....	28
Purpose of LIFE CHAIN.....	29
A Brief LIFE CHAIN History.....	30
LIFE CHAIN Route Map.....	31
Plus LIFE CHAIN Video and Pro-life Pamphlet	
[You may want to include the <i>Citizen Magazine</i> and <i>All About Issues</i> LIFE CHAIN articles, as well as a copy of <i>America Must Decide</i>]	

Delivery #2: To All Other Pastors

Pastoral Letter (Signed by Lead Pastors).....	32
(Purpose of LIFE CHAIN) ...above	
(A Brief LIFE CHAIN History) ...above	
(LIFE CHAIN Route Map) ...above	
Plus LIFE CHAIN Video and Pro-Life Pamphlet	
[You may want to include the <i>Citizen Magazine</i> and <i>All About Issues</i> LIFE CHAIN articles, as well as a copy of <i>America Must Decide</i>]	

Delivery #3: To All Pastors

Progress Report Letter.....	33
Church Bulletin Insert.....	35
Church Response Sheet.....	36

Delivery #4: To All Pastors

Progress Report - Announcements.....	37
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Delivery # 5: To All Pastors

Final Update Report.....	39
Code of Conduct (is printed on the back of each sign).	41
Map of Church's Location in LIFE CHAIN	42
(Plus LIFE CHAIN Signs and Pro-Life Literature)	

Letter to Potential Lead Pastors

NOTE: Your Lead Pastors invite their fellow pastors to your LIFE CHAIN, and this letter serves to recruit your Lead Pastors.

Pastor David Simms
EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
4141 Jefferson Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Dear Pastor Simms:

We invite you and your congregation to be one of the lead churches to support the Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN, which is now being planned by local pro-life and other Christian groups. The accompanying video will introduce you to the LIFE CHAIN, and its success in Bakersfield will rely on God's anointing and on strong support from pastors and the congregations they serve.

We very much need commitments from our Lead Churches by July 1, 1995. If you are willing to serve as a Lead Pastor, we would like you to be one of twenty-four Bakersfield ministers to sign a pastoral letter that we will provide in the near future. The letter will indicate your whole-hearted support for our upcoming LIFE CHAIN and will encourage other pastors to lead their church families to this profound, life-saving event.

Additional specifics on the LIFE CHAIN and a copy of our proposed LIFE CHAIN route through Bakersfield are attached. Please call the Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN Committee at 397-4247 with any questions and comments you may have.

Please know that we deeply appreciate your prayerful consideration of our request.

Grateful for His grace,

Bill Newsom
LIFE CHAIN Committee

[Statement of Purpose]

Purpose of Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN

The Bakersfield [Name of Your Town] Life Chain will provide a visual statement of solidarity by our local Christian community that abortion is grievously wrong and that the church Christ founded is opposed to the unmerciful killing of preborn children.

Please visualize 5,000 or more Bakersfield area Christians (representing 80+ churches in 15 communities) standing 10 feet apart on both sides of Stockdale Highway and California Avenue for a distance of 4-5 miles, while holding 17" x 22" signs that read *Abortion Kills Children, Jesus Forgives and Heals, Adoption: the Loving Option, Lord Forgive Us and Our Nation, Abortion Hurts Women*, and *Life: The First Inalienable Right*.

Our prayerful witness is scheduled for one hour, 2:30-3:30 PM, on Sunday, October 1, 1996, and we regard it as an extension of our regular worship on the Lord's Day.

An estimated 4,000 babies are killed annually by Bakersfield abortionists, and a powerful LIFE CHAIN on October 1 will offer strong encouragement and hope for reducing that number.

With your firm support, we are confident of reaching our goal of 5,000 Life defenders. We have a comprehensive LIFE CHAIN manual to lead us step by step. Beyond that, we in the local Life ministry are grateful for the peace we are experiencing with this project. Go is surely with us.

Please join with us. Let us invest one hour to save a lifetime.

Grateful for His grace,

Bill Newsom
LIFE CHAIN Committee

A Brief LIFE CHAIN History

The first LIFE CHAIN, born through prayer, was built in 1987 by Please Let Me Live, a small pro-life ministry based in Yuba City, CA. Half the churches of Yuba and Sutter Counties occupied assigned sections of a three-mile route through sister cities Yuba City-Marysville, with 2,500 Christians holding *Abortion Kills Children* signs on both sides of the street. "It was good to stand for righteousness," was a typical response from participants. "I felt God's presence," remarked others.

The LIFE CHAIN elevated the Life ministry to high respectability in Yuba-Sutter by helping to unite churches and to inform the local press, law enforcement, public officials, and the area citizenry about the unconscionable killing of preborn boys and girls. Today, after additional LIFE CHAINS, timely picketing, and the comprehensive distribution of pro-life literature, surgical abortions are no longer performed in Yuba-Sutter.

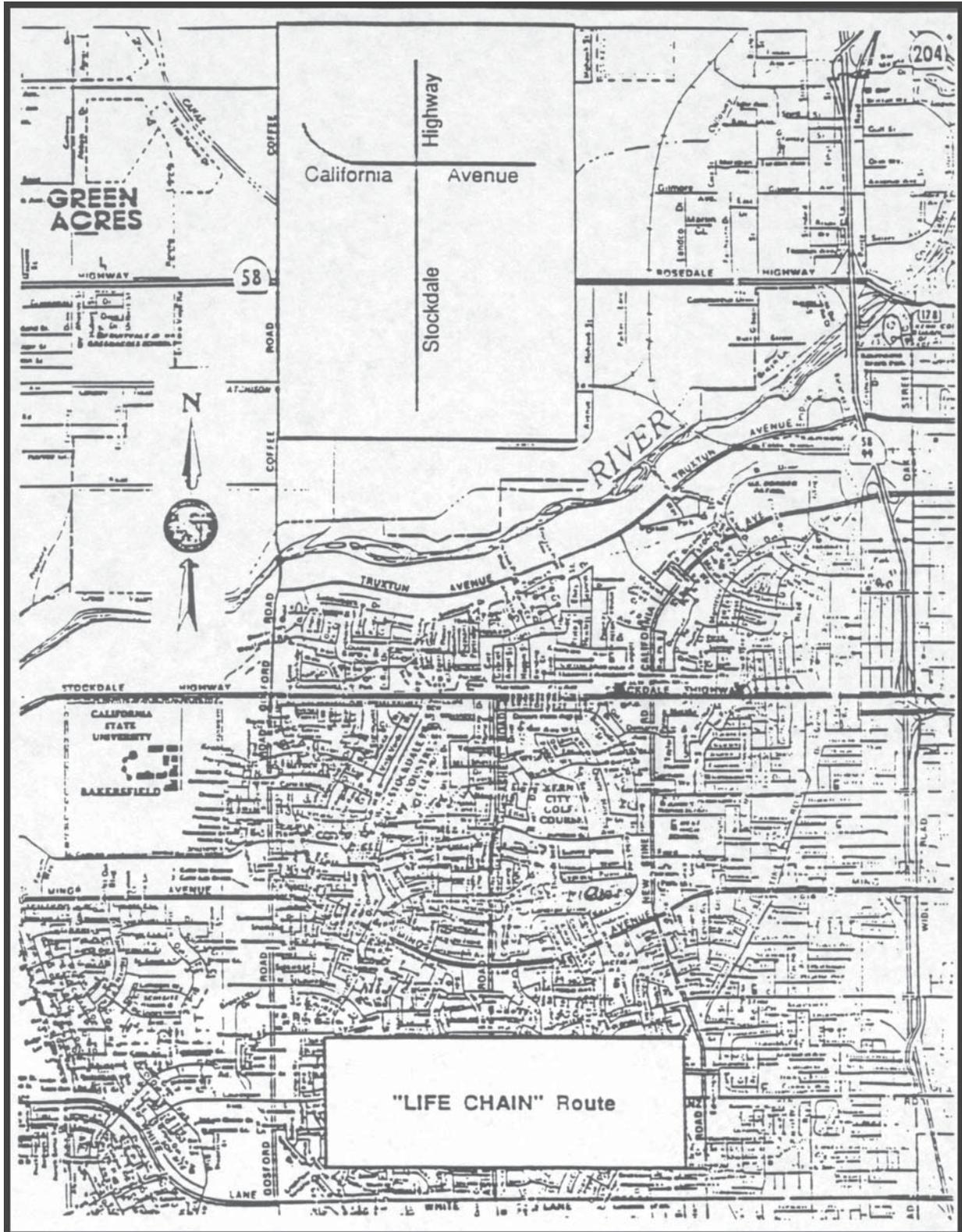
In 1989, Bakersfield, CA, built the second LIFE CHAIN with 7,500 participants from 101 churches. Soon other California cities followed, including Riverside (95 churches and 6,000 Life defenders); Orange County (205 churches and 17,000 defenders); Fresno (140 churches and 10,000 defenders); San Diego (320 churches and 28,000 defenders); and Sacramento (200 churches and 16,500 defenders).

National Life Chain Sunday '91 saw 373 Chains built in the U.S., with 771,000 participants. On **National Life Chain Sunday '92**, more than 800 U.S. cities and towns held Chains, with participation of 975,000, and Canada had 80,000 participants at 97 Chains. **National Life Chain Sundays '93 and '94** saw over 900 Chains built in America and Canada combined each year, but attendance taking was discontinued due to excessive preoccupation with numbers and inadequate emphasis on the rightful purpose of the LIFE CHAIN.

From 1995 through 1999 approximately 900 LIFE CHAINS have been built annually in America and Canada combined, and while total attendance has declined significantly, emphasis on prayer and serious reflection on the current abortion holocaust has increased substantially.

For that development, the LIFE CHAIN ministry is grateful, and we thank our Savior for His all-powerful Church and for its contribution to **National Life Chain Sunday**, held annually on the first Sunday in October.

Life Chain Route Map



[The Pastoral Letter]

Announcing the Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN

Pastor Edward Owens
ELM STREET LUTHERAN CHURCH
800 Trinity Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93306

NOTE: This LIFE CHAIN was held in 1989.
The correspondence has been rewritten and updated
to year 2000 for informational purposes only.

Dear Pastor Owens:

Would you and your congregation like to be among 5,000 or more inspired Christians who will be making a visual solidarity statement to the Bakersfield community that abortion is grievously wrong and that the Church Christ founded is opposed to the unmerciful killing of preborn boys and girls?

As local pastors who desire to be a part of this life-saving public witness, we invite you and your congregation to join us in whole-hearted support of the forthcoming Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN, scheduled for Sunday afternoon, 2:30-3:30 PM, October 1, 2000. This event will be a memorable and blessed success if we pastors in the greater Bakersfield area actively encourage our congregations to participate.

The attached materials present the LIFE CHAIN in greater detail, and a LIFE CHAIN video is available for your review. Please call 397-0245 or 327-5921 to obtain further information from a LIFE CHAIN Committee member and to commit your early pastoral support.

Thank you for prayerfully considering this matter, and may God richly bless you and your Church family.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Jack Peacock
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
4850 Manor
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Monsignor Ronald J. Swett
ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE
7100 Stockdale Highway
Bakersfield, CA 93307

[Add signature pages as needed in order to print your 7 to 24 pastors' signatures and addresses. Cut and paste the signatures you collect; then duplicate your final layout.]

Progress Report Letter

Dr. Timothy Davis
SOUTHSIDE NAZARENE CHURCH
1933 Franklin Way
Bakersfield, CA 93307

As noted on p. 32, the Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN was first held in 1989, and this series of letters is updated to 2000 for informational reasons.

Dear Dr. Davis:

We send this letter with thanksgiving and enthusiasm. Our Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN scheduled for October 1 is growing daily, and we are deeply grateful.

Since our initial letter of July 7, thirty-one pastors and congregations have committed firm support for the Bakersfield area LIFE CHAIN. Other pastors have spoken favorably of our mission, and our faith remains strong that LIFE CHAIN Sunday will be a day of success. Praise our Lord and Savior!

Enclosed for your information and usage are the following:

LIFE CHAIN RESPONSE SHEET [p. 36]: Please complete this form and return it at your earliest convenience to the Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN Committee, 1801 Simpson Way, Bakersfield, CA 93307. Your designated contact person will gladly assist you.

Your estimated church commitment will greatly assist our planning. The total LIFE CHAIN goal is 5,000 Life defenders, and "best estimate" church commitments will be verified September 19. We will then know approximately how many signs to provide, and we can more wisely allocate sections of the LIFE CHAIN to participating churches. Sufficient signs will be available and delivered to each congregation no later than September 29.

CHURCH BULLETIN INSERT: A master copy of the LIFE CHAIN church bulletin insert (which you may mail, if you desire) is enclosed for your convenience. We suggest the use of pink copy paper (for the babies).

The LIFE CHAIN will be of special interest to youth of all ages, and we will appreciate help from youth pastors in putting posters on their respective church bulletin boards, in distributing signs as needed, and in helping elderly citizens with chairs and other needs. As you realize, the LIFE CHAIN does not involve walking but does

require standing (or sitting, in the case of the elderly) on the sidewalk.

We encourage all ages to participate, including small children under the watchful eyes of their parents.

We hope for sunny skies October 1, but the LIFE CHAIN will go forward regardless of weather conditions. Any sacrifice on our part will be minor compared to that of boys and girls facing the cruel hands of an abortionist.

Weekly planning sessions are scheduled each Tuesday evening, 7:00 PM, at 1801 Simpson Way, in Bakersfield. All pastors and church contact persons are cordially invited to join with us.

Please continue to pray for uncommitted pastors and churches and for our Lord's guidance through each phase of the LIFE CHAIN. May it truly be for His glory.

Grateful for His mercy,

Bill Newsom
LIFE CHAIN Committee
Phone: 397-0245

Church Bulletin Insert



We are His hands, we are His voice

LIFE CHAIN

On Sunday, September 17, 1989,
from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.,

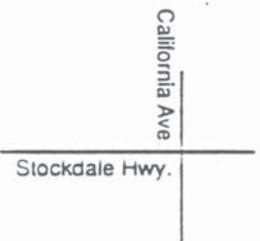
thousands of Christians and their clergy will line the sidewalks of two major streets in Bakersfield, all silently holding uniform, pro-life signs which state "Abortion Kills Children."

This event will provide a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community in the Bakersfield area—that "Abortion is wrong and that the Church is opposed to the killing of unborn children!" Our community needs to know that the Church supports the sanctity of human life. With 8 to 10 miles of sidewalks covered by Christian soldiers, no one can possibly miss our message.

Come help us make this

Kern County's Largest Pro-Life Event

I'll be there and I pray that you will join me.



Please take a moment to fill out the form below and drop it in the offering so that we may know how many are committed from our church.

I understand that this is a peaceful and prayerful activity, and I am committed to stand with you against the killing of unborn children.

Name _____

Number of participants in your family/group _____



We are His hands, we are His voice

LIFE CHAIN

On Sunday, September 17, 1989,
from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.,

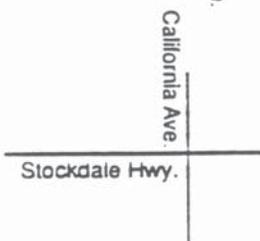
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I understand that this is a peaceful and prayerful activity, and I am committed to stand with you against the killing of unborn children.

Name _____

Number of participants in your family/group _____

Church Response Sheet

for LIFE CHAIN

Name of Church _____

Pastor _____

Youth Pastor _____

Contact Person _____

Average Sunday Attendance _____

LIFE CHAIN Attendance (Estimated)
(Minimum goal: Average Sunday x 1/3) _____

Estimated LIFE CHAIN Commitment
(If different to Minimum goal above) _____

Comments/Questions/Suggestions: _____

Please make a copy for your records and return to:

Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN Committee
1801 Simpson Way
Bakersfield, CA 93307

Life Chain Committee Contacts:

Bill & Cheryl Baugher	366-7821
Bill & Diane Penderel	832-4176
Molly Hanson	322-4980
Bill & Carol Newsom	397-0245
Daymon & Merieen Johnson	322-9582



FINAL UPDATE on Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN

To Pastors and Church Contact Persons [Progress Report and Announcements]

**Committed Pastors/Churches to date: 95.
Committed Communities: 15. We are blessed!**

Important Dates

September 19 (Tuesday): Estimate of Life Chainers from each congregation. Church contact person (or pastor) to report to 397-0245 (LIFE CHAIN Committee).

September 25 (Monday): Final estimate of Chainers from each congregation. Church contact person to report to 397-0245 (LIFE CHAIN Committee).

By September 29: *Abortion Kills Children, Jesus Forgives and Heals, Adoption: the Loving Option, Lord Forgive Us and Our Nation, Abortion Hurts Women, and Life: The First Inalienable Right* signs to be delivered to each church for the contact person and youth group to distribute October 1.

A Map, to be delivered with the signs, will show your congregation's location in the LIFE CHAIN.

October 1 (National LIFE CHAIN Sunday): Plan to be at your church's designated sidewalk area by 2:15 PM so that your section of the LIFE CHAIN will be well organized by 2:30 PM sharp. Park legally and "buddy up" when possible to minimize parking.

Announcements

1. Distribution of Pro-Life Pamphlets: Life Chainers who have not previously received a pro-life pamphlet should receive one between 2:15 and 2:30 PM (if junior high school age and older or with parent's permission).

2. Sign Control: Each sign is to be hand held (please do not mount sign on a stake), and no other signs, banners, etc. should appear. Please thank your congregation for their wonderful support.

3. Pastors customarily hold a *Jesus Forgives and Heals* sign, as do women who have experienced abortion. One-half of your signs will read *Abortion Kills Children*, and the other signs will be divided among the five remaining sign messages. Printed on the back of each sign will be the LIFE CHAIN Code of Conduct, prayer topics, song lyrics, and other meaningful information.

4. Collection of LIFE CHAIN signs: Each church will collect their own signs, following the LIFE CHAIN, and turn them in at the nearest LIFE CHAIN Information Center. The LIFE CHAIN Committee will store the signs for future use.

5. \$1.00 Donations and CPC Gifts: The LIFE CHAIN Committee will deeply appreciate a \$1.00 donation for each sign passed out October 1, but we hasten to say that no one will be denied a sign due to lack of funds. We do not want to lose one Life Chainer—and we do not want anyone to feel bad because of limited finances. The donations will cover all expenses related to our event. Those who can are encouraged to bring a good, used, unwrapped gift (maternity or baby clothing and furniture, toy, can of food, other) to benefit the local Crisis Pregnancy Center. No one should be asked to buy a new gift.

6. Police Department Approval: We have cleared our LIFE CHAIN with the local police department, and we appreciate their cooperation.

7. Code of Conduct: The LIFE CHAIN Code of Conduct appears on the back of each LIFE CHAIN sign. A copy will be provided to you the week preceding **National Life Chain Sunday**, and we respectfully ask you to review it briefly with your congregation and to impress upon your parishioners the vital importance of their public witness. The LIFE CHAIN is a prayer vigil, not a celebration. Communication of any kind with passing motorists is discouraged. The primary LIFE CHAIN message is *Abortion Kills Children*, and each Chainer should be moved to solemnity and prayer by the impact of that sign. So please do all you can to prepare your congregation for an hour of intercessory prayer and solemn reflection.

8. Elderly Citizens' and Children's Needs: We want to keep a watchful lookout for all who need chairs or help walking. Each church should bring a few extra chairs, and the elderly are encouraged to prearrange their chair needs, to the extent possible. We must also watchout for small children and help single-parent moms and dads, especially.

9. Please continue to pray for other pastors and churches to join us and for God's continued leadership in all we do to make the LIFE CHAIN a blessing to Him and a source of hope for the preborn children and their mothers in Bakersfield and surrounding communities. Please do all you reasonably can to prepare your membership for an hour of prayer.

In Christ's service, with Joy and Thanksgiving,

Bill Newsom
LIFE CHAIN Committee
Phone: 397-0245

Pastor Morris Rich
 CALVARY TEMPLE ASSEMBLY
 789 Jasper Avenue
 Bakersfield, CA 93308

Dear Pastor Rich:

In this our final letter before October 1, the Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN Committee extends to you our heartfelt thanks for all you have done and are doing to make **National Life Chain Sunday** a special and memorable day. Our Chain will officially begin at 2:30 PM, and we want to be in our designated location by 2:15.

Firm Commitments to Date:

100 Pastors/Churches - 15 Communities - 5,500 Life Defenders

Final Announcements:

LIFE CHAIN Signs: We are delivering your signs with this letter. Extra signs will be available by 2:00 at the various LIFE CHAIN Information Centers along the route. Contact persons will provide extra signs for their respective congregations, as needed.

During Sunday Morning worship, please read to your congregation the information printed on the back of each sign. Kindly inspire your parishoners to pray, and help them realize their readiness to spend a full hour in prayer. In addition to prayer topics, you will find printed on the back of each sign the LIFE CHAIN Code of Conduct, Prayer Topics, Songs for Meditation, the Lord's Prayer, one of David's confessions, and a statement on the purpose of the Life Chain.

LIFE CHAIN patrols (marshals) will move along the route to help with special needs. They will wear bright armbands, and some will be in vehicles, some on bicycles, and some on foot. The marshals will be in radio contact with the LIFE CHAIN Information Centers at the following locations:

First Methodist Parking Lot (Stockdale and Maple)
 State Federal Parking Lot (Stockdale and McGriff)
 Albany Insurance Parking Lot (Stockdale and Mohawk)
 TMC Building (California and Mangrove)
 Travel Center USA (California and Van Ness)

In case of emergency, the pastor or contact person should call 911 (hospital or police). When alerted, the patrol and marshal teams will assist. Either the pastor or contact person for each congregation should wear a bright-colored arm band.

The enclosed map shows the “designated area” for your church to occupy. You may want to make leaflet copies for your congregation.

If you have not previously done so, please give each parishoner a pro-life pamphlet. A good time to distribute pamphlets is at your morning service, before you promote the LIFE CHAIN and its prayer emphasis. Encourage each member to read the pamphlet before coming to the LIFE CHAIN. You may also want to suggest the reading of Daniel 9 and other Bible passages of your choosing.

Signs are best distributed between 1:45 and 2:15 PM at each church's designated LIFE CHAIN area. This will insure maximum use and protection of the signs.

It is most important that we maintain a prayerful spirit, while standing about 10 feet apart. The original LIFE CHAIN sign reads *Abortion Kills Children*, and we must take this message to heart. Please help your young people understand the abortion holocaust and the enormous contribution they can make through prayer and through responsible action following the LIFE CHAIN.

A professional videographer will assist us in making a video of our CHAIN, and affordable copies will be available within a few weeks.

You may want to scan our previous letters for information worthy of mention at your Sunday morning service. Most of all, please do all you reasonably can to prepare your congregation for a full hour of intercessory prayer.

We welcome your questions and comments at 397-0245, and we again thank you for your continuing assistance and encouragement. May Jesus Christ be glorified through our obedience to Him.

Rejoicing in His grace,

Bill Newsom
LIFE CHAIN Committee
Phone: 397-0245

LIFE CHAIN Code of Conduct

[The Code of Conduct is printed on the back of each LIFE CHAIN sign, along with an introductory statement on Why We Are Here (at the LIFE CHAIN). Together, they emphasize the critical importance of Christian behavior in a public setting. With the Code of Conduct on the back of each sign, it is less needful that it be passed out separately, but Chainers still must know what is expected of them before coming to the LIFE CHAIN. To this end, pastors can play an important role in preparing their congregations. Please urge them to do so.]

1— Be humble but be bold as you stand today against the greatest injustice our nation has ever faced.

2— In the spirit of Christian love, commit to being peaceful, prayerful, and polite, in word and deed. Any misconduct from passersby should be met with silence, which will convey your inner peace.

3— Do not respond to motorists. Please stay silent and prayerful and your response to any situation will be proper. Do not wave or gesture. Do not frown or smile in response to motorists. Our mission is to pray and stand against abortion—with the solemnity our mission deserves.

4— Help others. Watch for mothers (and dads) who need help with children, and assist the elderly with chairs and other needs.

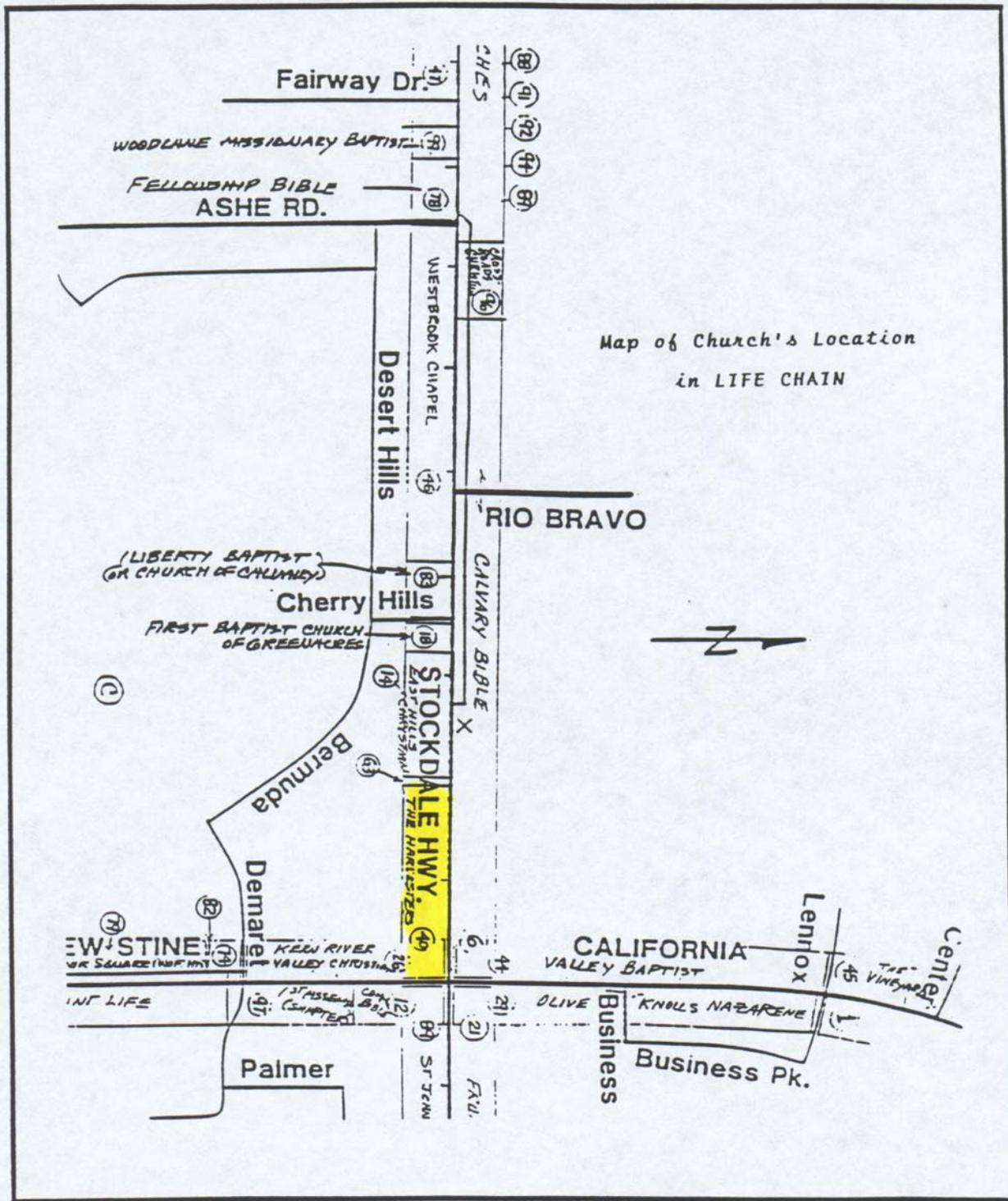
5— Pick up any trash near you before leaving your area.

6— Drive carefully, and park legally. Buddy-up, if possible, to minimize traffic woes. Use crosswalks, and do not hold up traffic. Watch your small children at all times. During the Chain, stand back from the street and do not extend your sign over the curb. Give immediate passage to other pedestrians. Only small children should eat during the LIFE CHAIN.

7— Thank you for being a strong public witness for Christ and for being an exemplary citizen in our local area.

The preceding Code of Conduct is an edited and improved version.

Map of Church's Location in LIFE CHAIN



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[Press Release before the LIFE CHAIN]

(This release should be double spaced)

Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN Committee

1801 Simpson Way, Bakersfield, CA 93307

Phone: (805) 397-0245

[For a review of your Media Packet, see p. 24]

Announcing the Bakersfield LIFE CHAIN: Sunday afternoon, October 1, from 2:30 to 3:30 PM, thousands of local Christians and their clergy will line the sidewalks of Stockdale Highway and California Avenue, in Bakersfield, to form a "LIFE CHAIN" approximately 4.5 miles in length.

This stand of solidarity by Bakersfield area Christians will vividly proclaim abortion to be gravely wrong and will confirm, publicly, that local churches steadfastly oppose the killing of preborn boys and girls, as well as the exploitation of their mothers by the abortion industry.

Uniform signs which state *Abortion Kills Children, Jesus Forgives and Heals, Adoption: the Loving Option, Lord Forgive Us and Our Nation, Abortion Hurts Women, and Life: The First Inalienable Right* will be passed out to all who join the LIFE CHAIN. Many pastors from the greater Bakersfield area churches (representing Kern County communities) are committed to participate.

Individuals whose churches are not planning to attend as a group should call 805-397-0245 for assignment to a host church area, or else they should stop by a LIFE CHAIN Information Center at 2:15 PM. Elderly and disabled pro-lifers should, if possible, arrange for chairs and umbrellas (as needed); otherwise, extra chairs will be available at the site. Small children under close parental supervision are welcome.

Our local LIFE CHAIN will be the largest pro-life event in the history of Kern County and **National Life Chain Sunday** is, annually, one of the largest events in our nation. Everyone who believes in the protection of preborn children and their mothers is urged to attend.

[Press Release After the Life Chain]

(This release should be double spaced)

Press Release for Orange County LIFE CHAIN, January 21, 1990

A giant LIFE CHAIN cross was formed from 2:30 to 3:30 PM today (Sunday, January 21) along Beach Blvd. and Katella Avenue in Orange County by 17,000 pro-lifers holding signs stating that *Abortion Kills Children*. The human chain covered over seven miles of street and fourteen miles of sidewalk from Knotts Berry Farm almost to Freeway 405. Participants were from more than 200 area churches in Orange County and neighboring communities.

"This LIFE CHAIN illustrates our solidarity with the unborn," remarked Pastor Norman Lund of the Lutheran Bible Institute of Anaheim. "It is a demonstration of repentance by the Church. We are guilty of allowing this slaughter to go on while we sit comfortably in our pews.

The senior pastor of Grace Community Church of Seal Beach, Dr. Donald Shoemaker added, "I'm here to support the LIFE CHAIN because the Bible says we should use our energies to support our neighbors in their time of need. What closer neighbor is there than the child in the womb?"

Similar LIFE CHAINS were held in recent months in the twin cities of Yuba City-Marysville, CA, Bakersfield, and Riverside. Another Chain with 10,000 participants was held today in Fresno, and one will be held in San Diego on February 11.

For more information contact:

Pastor Norman Lund, Lutheran Bible Institute of Anaheim	714-827-1940
Dr. Donald Shoemaker, Grace Community Church of Seal Beach	213-596-1605
Rev. Kerry Beaulieu, St. Bonaventure Catholic Church of Huntington Beach	714-846-3359
Pastor J.E. Fluck, Calvary Orthodox Presbyterian of La Mirada	714-943-2671

drive; and finally it overflowed onto Pacific Highway, Broadway, Market, and Ash Streets.

[Thank-You Letter to Pastors after LIFE CHAIN]

THANK YOU!

Thank you Church of San Diego! Sunday's LIFE CHAIN surpassed all of our expectations. The Lord blessed us mightily. We all witnessed His hand guiding our efforts. A total of 24,000 signs were issued to participating churches and to individuals who signed up at the staging area. If as many as 10% were not used, then we still had over 20,000 "candles" shining brightly!

The original location planned for the LIFE CHAIN kept growing as more and more people arrived. It eventually stretched across seven and a half miles, crisscrossing numerous streets. The final route encompassed both sides of Harbor Drive from the Convention Center to Rosecrans. Then it formed a "T" to the east and west on Rosecrans from Talbot to Midway Drive; and finally it overflowed onto Pacific Highway, Broadway, Market, and Ash Streets. Praise God!

You were peaceful, prayerful, and a real witness of Christ's love. People were sharing and being healed along the LIFE CHAIN. One proabortionist insisted that the mother should be allowed to choose the fate of her child. Upon hearing this, an older lady confessed that she had undergone an abortion 30 years ago and had suffered ever since. She started to cry. As her pastor held her hand and prayed with her, she was healed of the guilt and set free. Eric of Glory Days Productions was crying as he filmed a mute paraplegic trying to communicate with his pointer, "Thank God my mother didn't abort me!"

The vision of activating the Church is taking place. Some church boards are now meeting to change their charters to allow them to be involved with endeavors such as the LIFE CHAIN.

The media has been exposed, and we pray they will finally return to unbiased reporting, which is what they were trained to do.

Most important of all, babies will be saved because of your involvement. This will be especially so if we can each bring three more people to the next LIFE CHAIN. The first one on February 11 was to prepare for the BIG EVENT on March 18. Bring your church!

If you saw or experienced anything during the LIFE CHAIN that you would like to share, write it down and mail to: **San Diego LIFE CHAIN, PO Box 4820, Oceanside, CA 92054.**

The enclosed packet is for reproducing and distributing to your church. Thank you, Jesus!

Serving Christ together,

LIFE CHAIN Committee of San Diego

P.S. If your church hasn't mailed in the suggested \$1.00 donation per person, please mail it to the LIFE CHAIN at our address above.

WILL WE EACH HELP SAVE THOSE WHOM WE SAY WE LOVE?

“Blessed is he who has regard for the weak; the Lord delivers him in times of trouble. The Lord will protect him and preserve his life; he will bless him in the land and not surrender him to the desire of his foes. The Lord will sustain him on his sickbed and restore him from his bed of illness.” —Psalm 41:1-3

Please help save Yuba-Sutter children, and help end America's abortion holocaust! Indicate below where your skills allow you to serve best. Then, enter your name, address, and phone number at bottom page. Your compassion may indeed save the lives of several local children—who will hug you in Heaven. Thank you for responding.

- 1) _____ I will help picket and/or sidewalk counsel (training to be provided)
- 2) _____ I am a student who will promote prolife at my school
- 3) _____ I will distribute pro-life literature (training to be provided)
- 4) _____ I will do phone work from my home (this is important)
- 5) _____ I will help financially
- 6) _____ I will fold and stuff mailings and deliver them to the local post office
- 7) _____ I will do computer work _____ I will help with a pro-life web page _____
- 8) _____ I will run errands and help with deliveries
- 9) _____ I will provide shelter for a pregnant mother
- 10) _____ To the extent of my ability, I will help where I am needed

Please Support

A Woman's Friend Pregnancy Resource Center and Medical Clinic

(A Woman's Friend is an independent ministry governed by its own local board of Christian directors.)

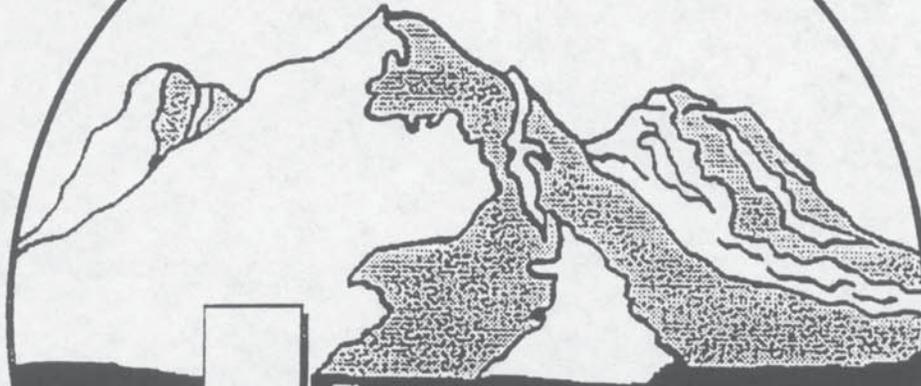
A Woman's Friend, located at 616 E Street, in Marysville, needs additional counselors and receptionists. If you are a Christian woman who is willing to minister to young mothers' personal hurts and spiritual needs, please volunteer a few hours monthly. Training is provided at no cost. Simply check the following blank _____ and enter your name, address, and phone number below.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

This form is provided by the Yuba-Sutter Life Chain Committee. Please complete the form and give it to a marshal who will come by. The marshal can provide you a writing pen, if needed. You may also turn this form in with your sign at the nearest INFORMATION CENTER. Thank you for attending this year's **National Life Chain**, which includes approximately 900 cities and towns across America and Canada. And thank you for being serious about saving babies from a dehumanizing death. May God protect and bless you and your family, as Psalm 41 promises, at top of page. And please continue to spread the pro-life message with every opportunity you have.

Announcing . . .



The Pasadena **LIFE CHAIN**

Colorado

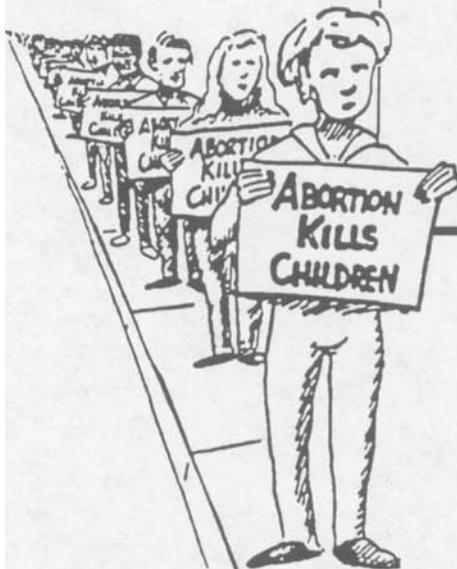
Boulevard

For details, write:

Pasadena Life Chain
2525 S. California Ave.
Duarte, CA 91010
(818) 358-5840

**Sunday, Feb. 10
2:30 p.m.**

Lake Avenue



- A Christian witness against the killing of unborn children
- Sponsored by hundreds of local churches . . . stand with thousands of Christians—prayerfully, peacefully, legally
- Life Chain is 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. (begin assembling at your church's preassigned location at 1:30)
- From the 210 Fwy., exit either Rosemead Blvd. south or Orange Grove Blvd. south; watch for directions
- Signs will be provided — suggested donation \$1 per participant

For prerecorded info, call **714/622-5002**

How To Win Pastors to Pro-Life Activism

1. Build a strong pro-life program that pastors will embrace for their congregations. Earn and deserve their support. Your reputation will precede you when you contact them.
2. Build friendship with pastors through personal visits. Go in love, knowledge, and with a servant's heart. The Life message is hard to resist, and your firm commitment will make it even harder. Keep trying. And trying. Persistence is a mighty provider.
3. Go prayed up. Satan will intervene if you give him a foothold.
4. Persuade pastors—but do so kindly, very kindly, and avoid criticising them. Many pastors are blind to abortion and need the Life ministry, but they do not need our condemnation or criticism. Their remaining blind spots may be fewer than our own and, possibly, far fewer.
5. Accept small concessions today, and pray for larger ones tomorrow.
6. Work through a Contact Person in each congregations. Maintain a right spirit and do not create division.
7. Sponsor “Pastors Breakfasts” and “Pastors Wives Luncheons.”
8. Hold your pro-life meeting at a different church each month.
9. Encourage pro-life pastors to reach other pastors within their denomination.
10. Keep pastors informed through a newsletter or equivalent.
11. Be a soul winner as well as a life saver. This is very important to pastors.
12. Rarely ask them for money. Be their servant. Crisis pregnancy centers can more readily request donations, due to the nature of their compassionate ministry.
13. Use pastoral letters bearing pastors' signatures to influence the opinion of your school trustees (on sex education), your hospital board (on abortion), your legislators (on parental consent), etc. Treat your pastors as fellow team players whom you deeply value.
14. Build a relationship with denominational leaders, who oversee the pastors in their denomination.
15. Pray for your pastors. Their duties are enormous. Encourage your fellow pro-lifers to be pro-pastor. As stressed earlier, they are our nation's preeminent leaders, and the destiny of our nation is largely in their hands.

Instructions for Marshals

1. Understand the significance of your job. At minimum, the Marshal's job is very important, and it could become vitally important if hard decisions have to be made to maintain order and prevent injury on **National Life Chain Sunday**. Only a mature, bold, and respected adult Christian should serve in this position, and it is good to identify yourself with an attention-getting armband.

2. Review the *Life Chain Manual*. Develop a grasp of the LIFE CHAIN's purpose and familiarize yourself especially with the manual pages that relate to your job. A good time to review the manual is in a scheduled training session, with the LIFE CHAIN Coordinator.

In this or a following session, discuss potential problem areas that you glean from the manual. Such concerns include participants "grouping together," excessive talking, frivolity, jay walking, extending signs over the curb, physical (and vocal) responses to motorists, unsupervised small children, needs of the elderly, and Chain opponents who may come to interrupt and join your Chain. Your goal is to build a genuine prayer chain.

3. Know your portion of the LIFE CHAIN route. Tour your assigned portion before **National Life Chain Sunday**. Note the intersections and any traffic flow concerns. If there is no sidewalk, how far back on the shoulder will you ask your Chainers to stand in order to ensure their safety?

4. Know your specific assignment. For a large Chain, some Marshals will likely work in vehicles, while others will ride bicycles, and still others will walk their section of the Chain. Some Marshals may be assigned to key intersections or to large concentrations of youth who may require timely supervision. What potential problems are you most likely to face in your job assignment? What will your response be? What equipment will you need? What back-up help? How long will it take for you to cover your portion of the route? And will you be willing and able to confront individuals politely yet firmly, if necessary?

5. Report at least one hour before the LIFE CHAIN. Under the Coordinator's guidance, share a time of prayer and worship. Thank God for the LIFE CHAIN that is to form in your city. Pray God's anointing on your Chain—pray that it will produce much good fruit and that God will shield your Chain from enemy attacks.

6. Know the worth of your Survey Forms. Assist and warmly thank each individual who fills out the Survey Form to become a new pro-life volunteer. While collecting the forms, you may have a partner who collects the free-will offering and thanks each contributor.

7. Understand your role after the LIFE CHAIN. Continue to emphasize safety. Confer with your Coordinator to make sure that all needs have been met before you leave for home, and be sure to thank God for the blessings brought through your Chain.

PRESS RELEASE

National Life Chain Sunday '99, on October 3

Contact Person: Royce Dunn, National Life Chain Director 530-671-5500

Address: National Life Chain, 3209 Colusa Highway, Yuba City, CA 95993

[The "more than 800 cities" below grew to 900 with the final reporting of Chains)

While the killing continues daily and preborn boys and girls perish by the millions each year across a continent with 500,000 Christian churches, *Life Chain* bears witness annually to the unspeakable carnage and solemnly seeks God's divine intervention. The international Life Chain will again emerge across the U.S. and Canada on Sunday afternoon, October 3, from 2:30 to 3:30 PM in each time zone. Standing publicly, Christians in more than 800 cities and towns will pray for an end to the abortion holocaust, while holding signs that include *Abortion Kills Children; Jesus Forgives and Heals; Adoption: the Loving Option; and Lord, Forgive Us and Our Nation*. Along its path, the Chain will draw attention to local death centers, where the unwanted children in each city and county are taken for "the procedure." Said Royce Dunn, director of Life Chain, "It is urgent that we pray earnestly on October 3. God's judgment on our continent is now felt with increasing measure, and His wrath is to be greatly feared."

Since abortion was legalized in the U.S., approximately 40 million preborn U.S. citizens have been surgically dehumanized, and an even greater number have been killed (after their conception) by abortifacient contraceptives that include the Pill in over 50 varieties, Depo-Provera injections, Norplant rods, Prostaglandins, and the infamous intrauterine devices known as IUDs. Chemically speaking, the popular Pill (oral contraceptive pill, OCP), used by millions of American and Canadian women, applies its kill component whenever its pregnancy prevention components fail. The result has been millions of deaths, including many children from Christian homes.

Meanwhile, rhetoric extolling "the precious little innocent ones" flows freely from church grounds across North America, but its ring is too often hollow. Most of the children killed by surgical abortion die alone, with no compassionate Christians standing legally and peacefully near the abortuary door, as federal law permits. And as for the victims of abortive contraceptives, no current pro-life mission is more difficult than persuading clergy to reject publicly the chemicals and devices that prevent newly conceived boys and girls from safely attaching themselves to the uterine wall. Said Dunn, "Few words are as unwelcomed in the church sanctuary as the dreaded C word (contraception), and that assertion is not Catholic overspeak, for I am a Protestant."

"We in the Church today know abortion as a social and political issue," remarked Dunn, "but most of us have yet to discover the flesh and blood victims. We have yet to see them as individual human beings whom we are to defend, sacrificially." And while Dunn views abortion as an "integrity test" for the Church, his hope for an end to the legalized killing rests with the Church. He calls pastors the preeminent leaders in our nation and the divinely appointed gate keepers in each community. Only they, he believes, can fill pro-life's critical leadership void.

Life Chain participants are urged to forego casual talk and remain prayerful for a full hour. Prayer topics appear on the back of each sign, along with the Life Chain Code of Conduct, which asks participants to respect all motorists and all other pedestrians on the sidewalk, including those who oppose the Chain.

Since the founding of the Life Chain ministry in 1987, and after more than 5,000 separate Chains, no pro-life participant has been cited for an illegal act, so far as the national Life Chain office is aware.

15 Steps for Building a Strong LIFE CHAIN

A LIFE CHAIN of any size is invaluable. As we have often said, we must never put our trust in numbers, yet neither should we accept low LIFE CHAIN attendance as a normal development. To avoid that pitfall, some Coordinators may want to make some fundamental changes.

As we work to strengthen our Chains in 2000, the following recommendations may appear all too familiar, but they remain timely as ever, as follows:

1—Don't attempt a LIFE CHAIN without the well-tested *Life Chain Manual*. Please apply the basics, and use only approved Life Chain signs (in manual). A Coordinator who follows the manual will almost assuredly see strong attendance.

2—Strive for a true prayer chain—one that pastors will find purposeful and take seriously.

3—Ask God to help you maintain enthusiasm for your Chain. We must not ease up the second year and thereafter. If we do, pastors will ease up, and their congregations will do likewise. Loss of Coordinator enthusiasm is usually the chief cause of attendance decline. Pray for zeal to press on, committedly.

4—Announce your Chain early and stay in touch with your pastors via a short visit, a postcard, a brief call or a letter every two or three months. Give your Chain its rightful year-long importance, and make use of Christian radio/TV.

5—Recruit a Contact Person for each local congregation, as the manual urges. Invite your Contact Persons to a spaghetti feed or similar event and persuade them to win their pastors (and congregations) to your LIFE CHAIN.

6—In large cities Coordinators should use District Directors wisely (as outlined in your manual on page 12). This will greatly reduce the Coordinator's workload, while greatly increasing attendance.

7—Keep money requests to a minimum. Just cover your expenses. Do not use your Chain as a "fund raiser." Financial assistance will come later from the many pro-life friends you gain at your Chain.

8—Unify prolife and your local Christian community through your Chain. With a true servant's heart, invite leaders from all local Christian ministries to be on your LIFE CHAIN Committee. Do not permit any organization to sponsor your Chain. The sponsor should be the "LIFE CHAIN Committee of ___" your city or county, and you should build your Committee early in the year, with each local Christian organization represented. Each will have a different area of influence in growing your Chain, especially in a large city. So please do not promote any organization through the Life Chain ministry.

9—Know your limitations and seek help where needed. Some Catholic Coordinators desperately need to recruit a Protestant Co-Coordinator, and some Protestants desperately need the help of a Catholic Co-Coordinator. Reach out to minorities and give them strong representation on your Committee.

10—Grasp every opportunity to raise up a new pro-life leader in your area, which may include a new LIFE CHAIN Coordinator. But in raising up a new Coordinator, do not pull back yourself. Instead, receive joy in helping make the new leader successful—or in helping found a LIFE CHAIN in a neighboring town. Remember that every town, however small, should have its own Chain. Far more people will attend close to home, and more lives will be saved.

11—Build an annual pro-life program that keeps you in touch with local pastors and their congregations. Ways to do this include a Prayer Team sidewalk counseling ministry (at area abortuaries), creation of Youth for Life (or equivalent) clubs at your junior and senior high schools, a Cemetery of the Innocents, a literature distribution (or bulk mailing) program, an abstinence program for your local schools, a letter to the editor and/or a pro-life ad or billboard campaign, and a pro-life seminar tour among local churches. As opportunities arise, serve your local pastors in projects they are promoting, and those in which pastors will not forget your help. When able to do so, give your support to the National Day of Prayer, to March for Jesus, the annual Crop Walk, or other similar outreaches and be known as a team player among local Christian leaders. To be sure, you cannot do all of these, but they are missions from which to choose, as your time permits. (See "How To Win Pastors to Pro-Life Activism" on page 52 of your new manual.)

12—Temporarily assign a portion of your Chain to each local congregation, and politely challenge each pastor to fill his assigned space (before October 1, you will need to reassign unfilled spaces). In year 2000, consider spacing your Chainers 50 (or up to 100) feet apart to extend your witness to a larger segment of your community. This will also enhance prayer and make every participant (except for small children) a vital link in your Chain.

13—Support evangelism every chance you get. True prayer earns Heaven's favor, and evangelism is dear to pastors' hearts and should be dear to every pro-life leader's heart. It embraces the Great Commission Christ gave to His disciples, and God's salvation plan is the surest weapon against abortion.

14—Commit your Chain to the Lord, do your best as Coordinator and, thereafter, do not worry about the results. Do not worry about the media or about your image in the community. After all, we are mere servants, and all hope we have rests in God's blessing on our frail efforts. Amen?

15—Set aside time to pray specifically for your Chain's success. Ask your Committee to join you. At least once a month, combine fasting with your prayer.

Sacramento Union Editorial (1990)
(Attendance at Sacramento LIFE CHAIN: 16,500)

Taking a stand for life

Thousands to line streets to oppose abortion

This coming Sunday afternoon, from 2:30 to 3:30, a coalition of Sacramento-area churches and anti-abortion groups will join together in a stand for life.

Called the CAPITOL LIFE CHAIN, the demonstration involving about 15,000 people will form a huge cross, intersecting at Greenback Lane and Sunrise Boulevard.

The LIFE CHAIN will be lawful and peaceful. It will not block driveways or doorways. It will not even picket abortion clinics.

Standing quietly along miles and miles of sidewalks, participants will hold signs bearing the simple, arresting message: ABORTION KILLS CHILDREN.

Not a sentiment we'd expect to be confronted with on a leisurely Sunday afternoon drive, but a necessary one. Unpalatable as the truth may be for some, the fact is that abortion does kill children. Abortion is the willful murder of 1.6 million children every year in this country. That's one every 20 seconds.

Popular arguments in favor of abortion used to claim that the unborn were somehow not yet "human life." That assertion, implausible even on its face, has been rendered increasingly worthless with each advance of medical science. From the moment of fertilization, the unborn are unquestionably human, and unquestionably alive. In anyone's book, that should add up to human life.

Before the fetus is even three weeks old, the eyes have begun to develop. A few days later, the heart is beating regularly. Four weeks after conception, the child's trunk has developed 40 pairs of muscles.

At six weeks, the skeleton is complete, reflexes are working, brain waves can be recorded, and fingerprints — our society's most common standard of individuality — have been formed.

By the eighth week, the infant's stomach, liver, and kidneys are operating, and he or she is able to move away from painful stimuli. And by the tenth week, all the basic requirements for a healthy life are in place. From this point, the most significant changes are simply changes in size.

Unless, of course, this natural process is interrupted by killing the child — "terminating the pregnancy," as it is put so antiseptically by those who seek to mask this horror, this obscenity, by clinical-sounding verbiage.

The womb, which should be the safest shelter in the world, a sanctuary of life, has become — in one out of every three pregnancies — a chamber of death.

Our land is awash in the blood of slaughtered innocents. Northern California is no exception. Every single year, 18,000 abortions are performed in the Sacramento area.

That is why the LIFE CHAIN is being formed this Sunday. It is not so much a finger-pointing exercise as it is a demonstration of grief and repentance by people who recognize that this awful carnage must stop.

Suzie Prough, one of the event's organizers, says "Our purpose is to provide an opportunity for people to stand against abortion in a peaceful, prayerful, repentive way.

If the battle against abortion is to be won, it has to be won in the hearts of the churches and their pastors. That's why we've gone to the grass roots.

The Sacramento Union fully supports the LIFE CHAIN. We urge our readers to support it as well, by both participation and financial contributions. Organizers can be reached at (916) 962-1663. Take a stand for life.

Thank you, dear Friend

PLML commends the leadership you are providing prolife in your area, and we deeply appreciate your support of the LIFE CHAIN ministry.

Your local Chain will focus thousands of local residents on the unspeakable horror of abortion and will ultimately save many lives and prevent much anguish in mothers' hearts. Please help your Christian friends in neighboring cities to share the same benefits. Plant the seed by asking them to read this manual and by offering a helping hand.

Special thanks are due everyone who has written or called PLML during the past year. We appreciate your words of encouragement and your prayers. Through you and our fellow Coordinators, tens of millions of motorists across North America have been profoundly reminded that *Abortion Kills Children*.

Following your Chain, prayerfully consider a comprehensive literature distribution drive in your city. It will save many lives and will hasten an end to abortion in your area. Please review a copy of our pamphlet *America Must Decide*. It has proven to be effective, and it is inexpensive. If you need a copy to evaluate, kindly call 530-671-5500 or write us at Please Let Me Live, 3209 Colusa Highway, Yuba City, CA 95993.

If you are able to provide PLML with still photos that qualify for publication, we will be grateful. In addition, if you have prepared an excellent LIFE CHAIN packet for your pastors, kindly send us a sample packet. You may help us improve the materials we provide new Coordinators.

Again, we thank you, dear Friend, for the privilege of working with you, and do let us know how we can be a blessing to you.

Grateful for His mercies,

The PLML Staff

Order Form for PLML Pamphlets

Please Let Me Live believes that a vital strategy for reducing abortions in any city or county and for hastening an end to the current abortion holocaust is the door-to-door distribution of quality literature. We encourage each pro-life leader to develop a distribution ministry in his or her local community. To assist PLML has written a 34-page manual on how to reach each home in a city or county, and we provide affordable pamphlets that are turning many hearts from death to Life. May God reward your every effort on behalf of His Little Ones and their mothers in your area.}

Please Check the Pamphlet You Desire

- 1.) *America Must Decide* _____ (English ___ Spanish ___)
- 2.) *What The Facts Reveal About Planned Parenthood* _____
- 3.) *Contraception: The Tragic Deception* _____

100 Copies for \$10
500 Copies for \$35
1,000 - 5,000: \$60 Per Thousand
6,000 - 100,000: \$55 Per Thousand

(PLML pays all shipping charges. If pamphlets are picked up in Sacramento, CA, the price is reduced \$5 per thousand. To save on shipping costs, several Coordinators may elect to order jointly and have a pro-life trucker pick up their combined pamphlet order.) "*America Must Decide*" is available in both English and Spanish. If you desire Spanish, please specify above.)

Number of pamphlets desired: _____ Amount of Check: \$ _____

Life Literature Distribution Manual @ \$7.00 (PLML pays postage). \$ _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Mail Your Order to:

PLEASE LET ME LIVE
3209 Colusa Highway
Yuba City, CA 95993
(Phone: 916-671-5500)

NOTICE: If you would like the "Distributed by" box at the bottom of page 4 (of each pamphlet) to be printed, please call PLML with your request. The printer does charge a small fee for this service.

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- ... Want to reduce abortions substantially in your city?
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- ... Want to "plead the case of the fatherless to win it?"

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(The Distribution Manual is free with orders of 5,000 or more copies of *America Must Decide*, *Planned Parenthood: What the Facts Reveal*, or *Contraception: The Tragic Deception* (or a combination purchase).