

The ELCA and Abortion: THE FACTS

- FACT!** Through its health benefits plan, the ELCA will pay for any and all surgical abortion procedures through the first five months of the unborn child's life, no questions asked.
 - FACT!** The ELCA's health benefits plan, which covers fifty thousand individuals, is self-funded. This means that instead of buying a policy created and financed by an insurance company, the ELCA has created its own policy and uses only its own financial resources to fund the plan.
 - FACT!** Self-funding gives the ELCA maximum freedom to design and administer its plan. The ELCA has used this freedom to create an extremely unrestricted health plan in its coverage of abortion.
 - FACT!** The money that the ELCA uses to fund its health benefits plan comes from the offering dollars contributed by its members.
 - FACT!** Most ELCA members have not been informed that the ELCA health benefits plan covers elective abortion and therefore do not realize that their offering dollars are being used to pay for such coverage.
 - FACT!** As long as a congregation's pastor is on the ELCA health benefits plan, its members are helping to pay for elective abortion coverage, even if they are making no other financial contributions to the ELCA.
 - FACT!** ELCA members, as well as visitors to ELCA churches who put money into the offering plate, have the right to know that some of their offering money will be used to pay for elective abortion coverage.
 - FACT!** The ELCA's Social Statement on Abortion does not clearly teach that abortion is sinful. Instead, contrary to Scripture and to the teachings of the Church throughout its history, the Social Statement wrongly claims that killing an unborn child in her mother's womb can even be a moral option. The ELCA uses this ambiguous and shrewdly written document to back up and justify its health benefits plan's permissive coverage of abortion.
 - FACT!** An ELCA-affiliated hospital—Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn, Illinois—has not only performed late-term abortions, but has also allowed babies who have survived abortion attempts to die by not providing them any care.
 - FACT!** George Tiller, one of the most notorious late-term abortion doctors in the country, was a member in good standing of Reformation Lutheran Church in Wichita, Kansas, an ELCA congregation. He gave generously to his congregation and the ELCA from the money he earned from performing these abortions.
 - FACT!** As far as can be ascertained, Dr. Tiller was never admonished by any ELCA official; apparently neither his pastor nor his bishop had any qualms about his controversial late-term abortion business.
 - FACT!** The ELCA does not acknowledge the great harm that abortion does to women. This is evident in the fact that the ELCA has no official ministry or policy to help post-abortive women.
 - FACT!** According to polls, a majority of Americans are opposed to their tax dollars being used to fund abortion and to the recent HHS mandate requiring insurance plans to provide free coverage for medications that may cause abortion (such as the so-called morning-after pill). It is therefore logical to assume that a majority of ELCA members would be outraged to know that their church uses their offering dollars to pay for abortion coverage.
 - FACT!** Every other Lutheran church body in the United States (the Missouri Synod, the Wisconsin Synod, the LCMC, the NALC, and so on) is strongly pro-life and opposed to abortion except in the extremely rare case when an abortion is an unavoidable by-product of medical procedures necessary to prevent the death of the mother.
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Now that you know these facts,

IS THE ELCA THE KIND OF CHURCH YOU WANT TO BELONG TO AND FINANCIALLY SUPPORT?

For more information, documentation, and support, contact missionariesofthevisitation@gmail.com

Please copy and distribute widely!

“It was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.” (Psalm 139:14)