



Jan. 6, 2025

Students and Parents,

We're so excited you're participating in LIFE Conference 2025 with us in Indianapolis. This looks to be a significant event where students can engage with each other and in Jesus' work, and we're grateful you're a part of it.

Although we're continuing to finalize some details, we expect the Conference to cost between \$1000 and \$1200 per student, so you and your family need to be involved with the fundraising auction on Saturday, March 22. Additionally, it is beneficial to develop a gospel-focused relational community to work toward a common goal as they prepare for the conference together. With that in mind, you'll find some details and additional information below concerning your expected involvement in the auction.

Students are asked to be available in the lobby on January 12, and February 9 to hand out save-the-date cards and stand/sit at a table promoting the auction and taking items.

Jake Smith will connect with students as he works on promotional material, asking students why they are excited about LIFE and taking photographs.

Families participating in the LIFE Conference are expected to provide three auction items for the auction no later than Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

1. **A themed gift basket.** An example might be a "Baking Gift Basket" with baking items. Our experience tells us that a gift basket with \$25-50 items will bring over \$100. This makes your contribution to the conference cost minimal in return for your donation.
2. **A service opportunity.** We're asking that students offer their services as an auction item. Our experience tells us that a service opportunity such as washing a car, babysitting, or yard work will bring a significant donation in that older individuals are looking for opportunities to contribute to students' participation in the LIFE Conference and build a meaningful connection.
3. **A gift card.** We're asking each student to provide a gift card for a restaurant or retail. Our experience shows that when gift cards are combined with items, they add to projected income. For example, if a student service opportunity (babysitting) is combined with a gift card for a restaurant, we're then auctioning off a date night and bringing additional income.
4. **Willingness to make an ask.** Maybe you're connected with someone in the community who owns a restaurant or store or works for an organization that provides donations for these opportunities. We're asking you to ask those people and organizations for a donation. In the past, local businesses have been willing to make donations when asked. We need your help in asking.

Students must arrive by 11 am on March 22 to assist in setting up for the auction event. The auction will start at 5:30, and doors will open around 5.

On our end,

- 1) In December, we'll provide a "Save the Date" flyer that will be passed out church-wide with information regarding the auction information and individuals participating.
- 2) In January, we will begin to call our list of organizations that have made donations in the past and request donations.
- 3) Our team will assist in putting together gift baskets, requesting contributions, and picking items up.
- 4) Our team will be...
  - a. organizing donated items,
  - b. preparing auction items
  - c. creating promotional material and
  - d. planning for the event.

I realize this is a lot of information. Still, we believe it's essential to be clear with expectations and involvement so that the auction and subsequent opportunity with LIFE Conference will be successful and all that Jesus has. If you have additional questions or would like to help in additional ways, please don't hesitate to reach out.

We're grateful for you and the opportunity to partner in the work of the gospel as we lead people to Jesus and His life-transforming work!

Blessings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Rosati". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small flourish at the end.

Rev. Rick Rosati