

**PB'S
SUNDAY
CLASS**



CHURCH & SOCIETY

**HOW SHOULD THE
CHURCH INTERACT
WITH CULTURE,
SOCIETY, &
GOVERNMENT?**



**WHERE WE HAVE BEEN AND
WHERE WE ARE ...**

Session 1: Introduction & Quotes

Session 2: ELCA Social Statement

Session 3: 5 Views on Church and Politics

Session 4: What is your Vision?

Session 5: Silence means...

**Session 6 (Today): Feb 22: What More is
Needed?**

REVIEW

CHURCH ST

STATE AVE

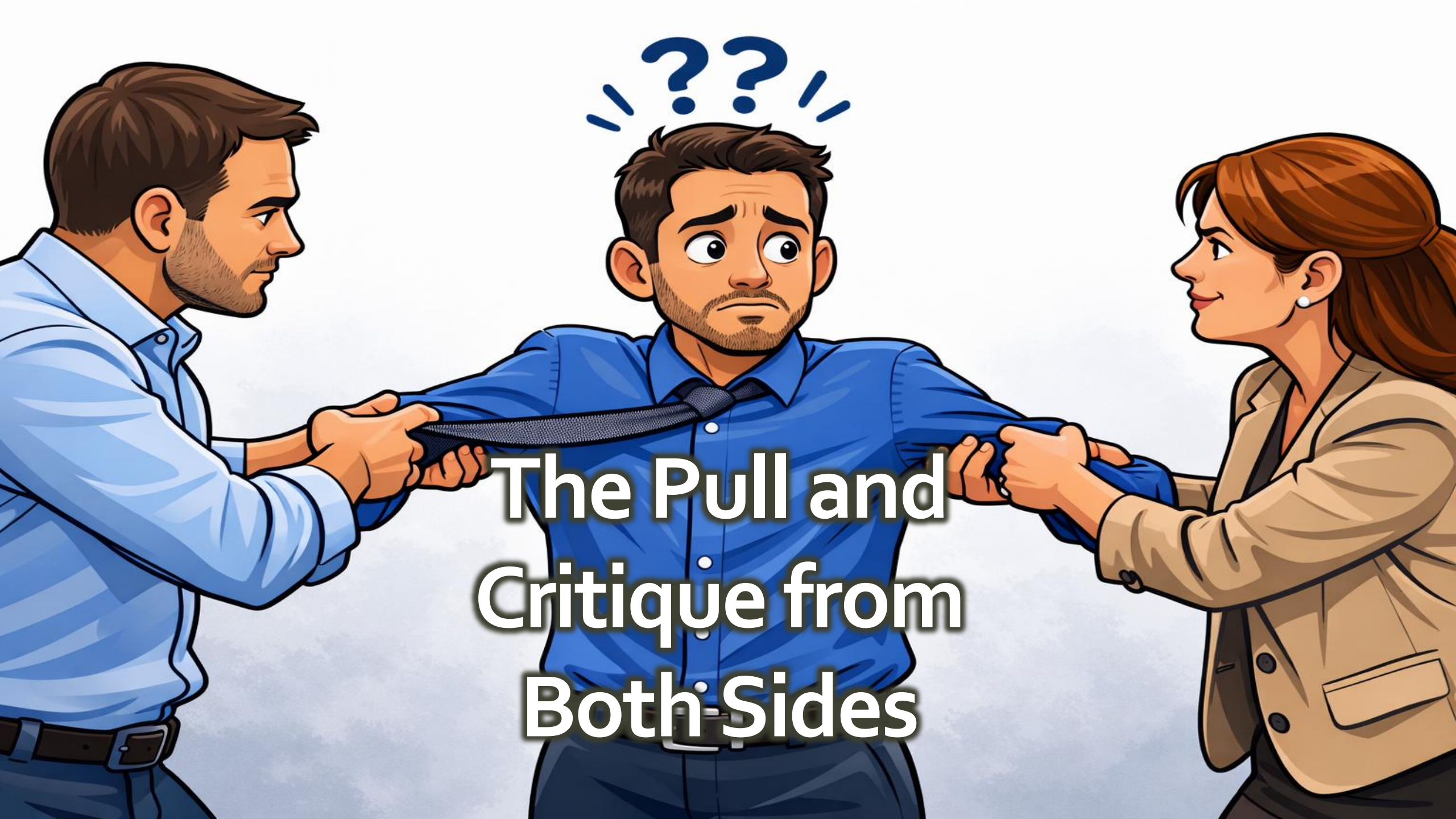


Voluntary
Associations



Is Silence Tacit Approval?





The Pull and
Critique from
Both Sides

Finishing Thoughts

- Jesus' Mission? One's answer is determinative of one's position on how the Church engages in Society, i.e. indirect or direct corporate involvement.
- Silence doesn't mean approval
- Testing it out ... Civil rights movement? South Africa Apartheid? Communist Poland? Ethiopia?
- Strengths and Weaknesses

A Test
Case

Civil Rights Era:

Where Did the Church Fail?

No Question:

- First and foremost – pastors didn't challenge prejudice in their congregations
- Speak out against racist and restrictive laws

Question:

- Corporate advocacy for government policy and laws to Help – mandate outcomes?

- If so, what would that look like? Who gets to be in charge of the specifics?
- A Bishop/Pope, National Assembly, Synod/District, or Congregation? Or at the Pastor's discretion?
- Synod Assembly
Example ...



IS THERE
SUCH A THING
AS NON-
PARTISAN
ADVOCACY?

Augsburg Conf. Art. VII. Concerning the Church] [1] It is also taught that at all times there must be and remain one holy, Christian church. It is the assembly of all believers among whom the gospel is purely preached and the holy sacraments are administered according to the gospel.

ROBERT KOLB; TIMOTHY J. WENGERT



[2] For this is enough for the true unity of the Christian church that there the gospel is preached harmoniously according to a pure understanding and the sacraments are administered in conformity with the divine Word. [3] It is not necessary for the true unity of the Christian church that uniform ceremonies, instituted by human beings, be observed everywhere.

ROBERT KOLB; TIMOTHY J. WENGERT



Art. 28 ...Many and various things have been written in former times concerning the power of bishops. Some have improperly mixed the power of bishops with the secular sword, [2] and such careless mixture has caused many extensive wars, uprisings, and rebellions. For the bishops, under the guise of power given to them by Christ, have ..., but they also took it upon themselves to set up and depose emperors and kings according to their pleasure.

ROBERT KOLB; TIMOTHY J. WENGERT



QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

**YOUR
TURN**

**TIME FOR YOUR
INPUT: CRITIQUE,
AFFIRMATION,
CONCERNS,
PERSPECTIVE, &
QUESTIONS**





**THANK YOU
FOR
ENTERING
INTO THIS
TOPIC!**

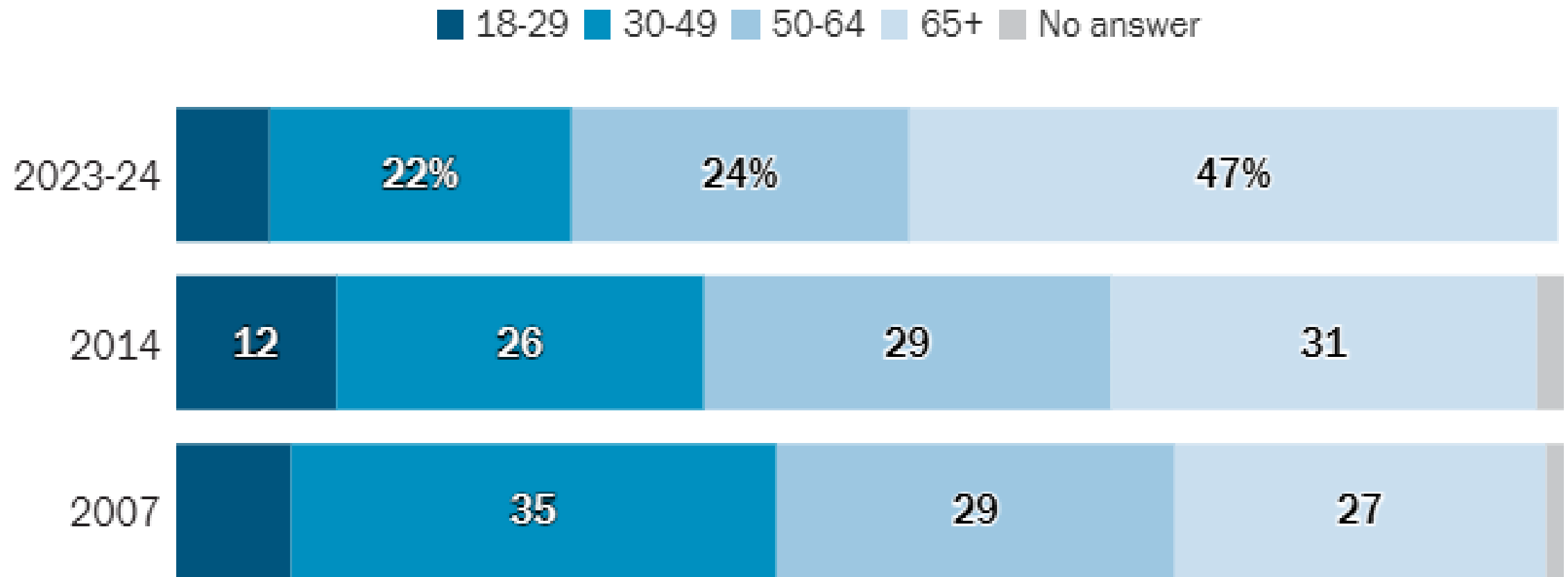
I just have to wonder how protecting nascent human life is political? Isn't that just morality? How is protecting the unborn political? Isn't the defense of life at the core of our Christian convictions and the 10 commandments? I think on matters like this, the church as a community must speak.

Another SLC Member

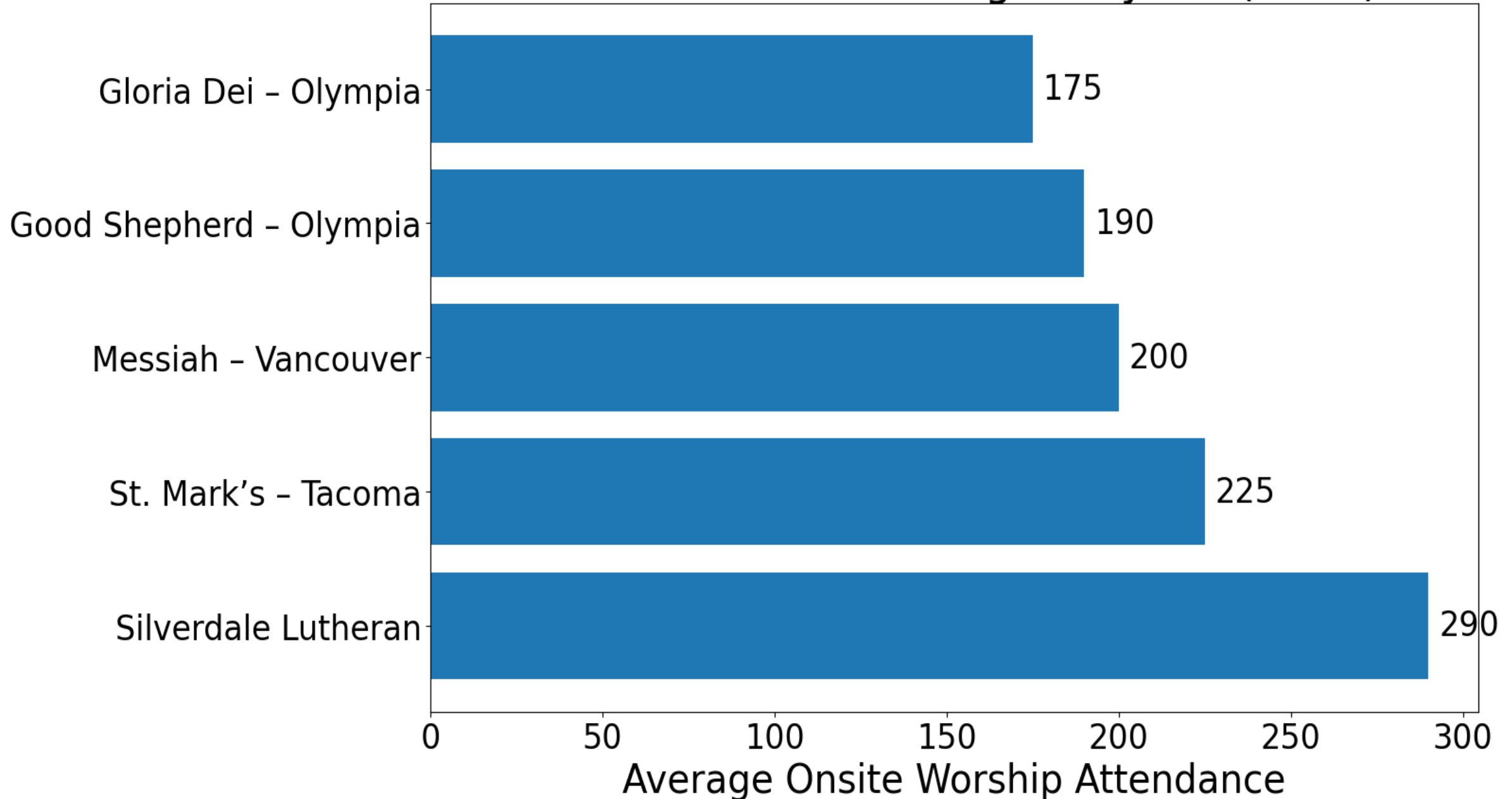


Age distribution among members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

% of members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) who are ages ...

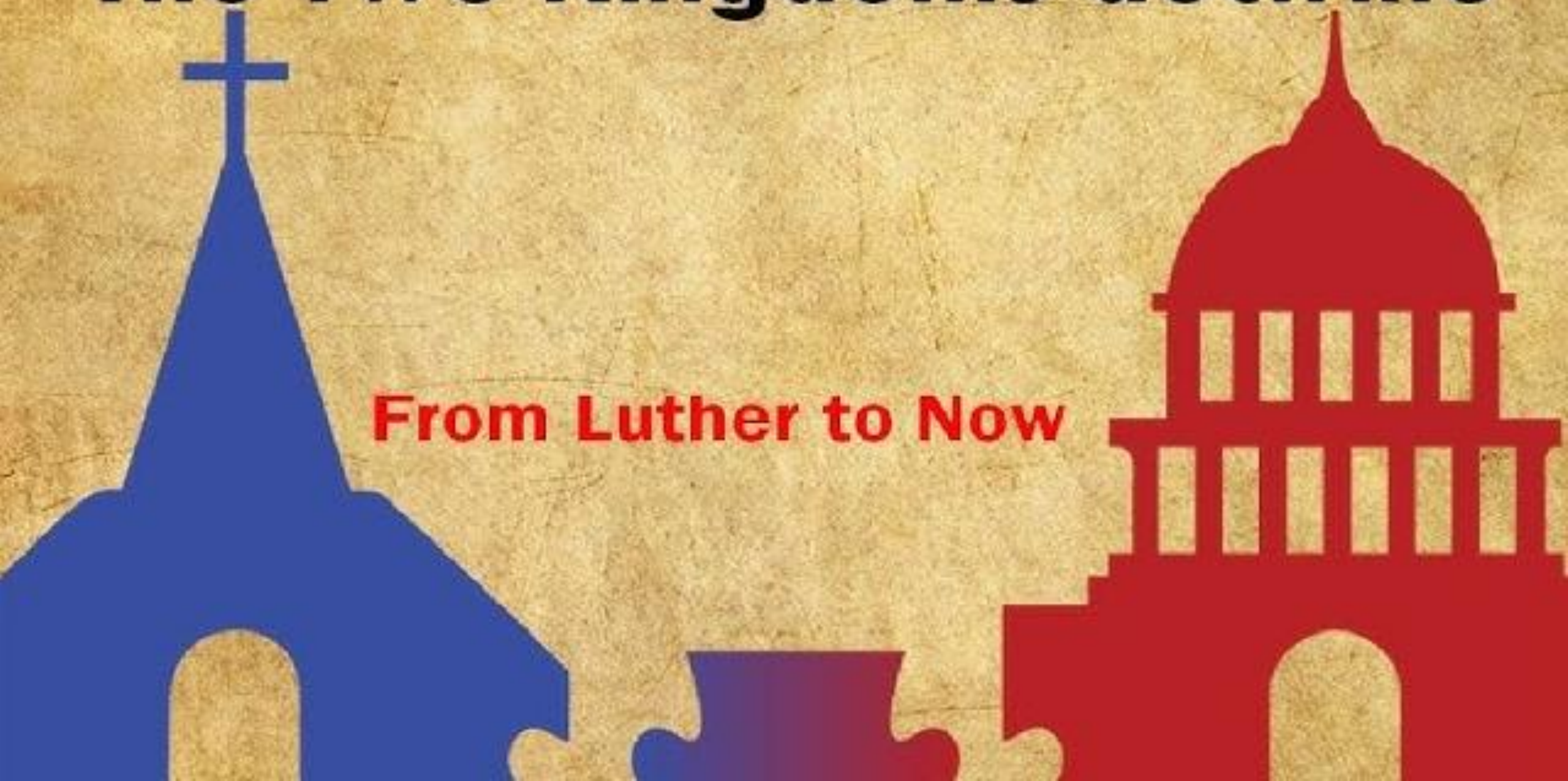


Largest Congregations by Average Onsite Worship Attendance Southwestern Washington Synod (ELCA)



The Two Kingdoms doctrine

From Luther to Now





Important Scriptures

- Romans 13



sadsdfsada



People have been persuaded through theological arguments which are deeply wrong, that we should just "preach the gospel". We'll just stick to gospel related issues. That's the voice of the devil, folks, because truth is a gospel issue. And when people are suffering, when you're dealing with unborn being killed, when you're dealing with every kind of lie being spread



Eric Metaxas



in our school systems through our media, through social media, if you do not speak up, God will not hold you guiltless. God wants His people to speak the truth. And it's because of the silence of the church in America, that we have been very dramatically speeding to the abyss.



Eric Metaxas

Letter to the American Churches





“Its what fascists do ... it is
“now is the time, we are ders
going to wake up, we better
wake up now. today we are in
a battle for our freedom.”
racism, loss of civil liberties...”

“With are throats pushed to
a fraign sye an reseavle id eto are
solismolisse d gairt bti sem pãres
stãnstãwith wãith the pœoin
tãred pãrth wof sãed d’struction,

