

Join Us at the Life Chain

On Sunday, October 6, tens of thousands of citizens across the country will stand up for life, spending time in prayer for our nation and in witness to the injustice of abortion. Here in Shelby County, we will come together at 2:30 pm on the court square for a brief program followed by a period of witness as we hold signs around the court square to remind our community of the millions who have suffered pain and death through abortion.

Please join us for this important event. We request that you park across the street from the court square so that the view is not blocked. Signs will be provided. The Life Chain ends at 3:30. Find out more about the Life Chain and see the national scope of the observance at www.LifeChain.net.

Parade Season Comes to a Close

Thanks again to all those who assisted with our float this year. We had a float full of children for our final parade of the season, Applefest in Sidney, where we were able to deliver our message, "Protect the Preborn," to a massive crowd on Sunday, September 8.



There is one more parade in 2013, the Winter Wonderland in Sidney in November. We have something very special planned for that one and all of you are invited to be a part of it. Watch your e-mail and next month's newsletter for more details!

Mark your calendar

- Deadline for submissions to the November newsletter: Oct. 24.
- Board meetings: October 1 and November 5, at 7 p.m.
- National Life Chain: Sunday, October 6 (local: 2:30pm on the court square).
- Women's Center Luncheon and Banquet: October 9 and October 10.
- 40 Days for Life, September 25—November 3.

Clothing center report

In August, 127 clients purchased items, 10 used certificates from classes, 36 received free items, and one was referred to the Women's Center.

Right to Life of Shelby County is a 501(c)(3) educational and service organization. All donations are fully tax-deductible.

Abortion Activists Alarmed by Surge in Abortion Clinic Closings

The growing number of abortion clinic closures in recent years has apparently reached critical mass. Liberals and the mainstream media are taking notice with alarm.

On September 3, Bloomberg reported, "At least 58 U.S. abortion clinics — almost 1 in 10 — have shut or stopped providing the procedure since 2011." This appears to be the most reliable figure at the moment, because the Bloomberg journalist did a fair amount of research, giving props to a website run by Operation Rescue.

It's one of the most comprehensive tallies, referenced by supporters and opponents of abortion rights alike. Using it as a starting point, Bloomberg verified at least 58 clinics that closed or ceased providing abortions in 24 states through phone calls to current and former area providers, information from state health officials and local news reports.

Says Elizabeth Nash, state issues manager at Guttmacher Institute: "This kind of change is incredibly dramatic. What we've been seeing since 1982 was a slow decline, but this kind of change ... [is] so different from what's happened in the past."

The other side blames (again quoting Bloomberg), "A wave of regulations that makes it too expensive or logistically impossible for facilities to remain in business drove at least a third of the closings. Demographic changes, declining demand, industry consolidation, doctor retirements and crackdowns on unfit providers were also behind the drop."

I'll add that a few of the so-called "retirements" are by abortionists who saw what happened to Kermit Gosnell and want to creep off into the sunset without one last clinic inspection, hoping along the way former employees will forget what they know. continued on page 2

Good News: Some “Clean” Cancer-Fighting Organizations

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As has been reported in this newsletter in the past, unfortunately many cancer research organizations have funding links to Planned Parenthood or are involved in stem cell research. We have discovered a cancer center in Ohio with several funds that appear to be “clean,” according to unofficial correspondence with Life Decisions International, the organization that maintains a boycott list of companies and non-profits with connections to Planned Parenthood.

The James at Ohio State University is a Comprehensive Cancer Center, as designated by the National Cancer Institute. In response to an email inquiry from Shelby County RTL in August, an LDI representative stated that at the current time both the National Cancer Institute and The James appear to be clean, meaning that they have no affiliation with Planned Parenthood and no known involvement with stem cell research.

Two of the specific funds operating in connection with The James are the Urban and Shelley Meyer Fund for Cancer Research and The Stephanie Spielman Fund for Breast Cancer Research. For more information about The James and

Preparing for the Upcoming Election

The general election date for 2013 is coming up on Tuesday, November 5. All candidates on the Shelby County ballot are local: school boards, township trustees, village and city councils. These are very important positions in which to place pro-life officials. We will not be doing a candidate survey because we don't have the volunteers to do so many questionnaires. However, we do ask that you find out about the candidates yourselves. Even if they are unopposed, let them know that you want someone pro-life representing you.

You can request the complete list of candidates and issues by e-mailing the Board of Elections (shelby@ohiosecretaryofstate.gov), or you can call at 498-7207 or stop by at 129 E. Court Street to pick up the list. Please take advantage of this opportunity to be an informed voter. And pray for all the candidates, too!

Abortion Clinics Closing continued from page 1

And from an email from 40 Days for Life, September 9:

We were all set to announce the list of cities taking part in the upcoming 40 Days for Life campaign ... when something happened. Planned Parenthood shut down another abortion center! Faithful volunteers in Midland, Texas were ready to start their FIFTH 40 Days for Life vigil outside that facility... but their prayers have been answered.

Plans were also in the works for a SEVENTH campaign in Toledo, Ohio. But there, too, God responded to the prayers of His faithful. The abortion center CLOSED!

And, as you probably know, volunteers in Bryan/College Station, Texas – the place where 40 Days for Life started – were getting ready for an unprecedented FOURTEENTH 40 Days for Life vigil outside the local Planned Parenthood facility. But God answered years of consistent prayer. The abortion center CLOSED!

This has now happened 40 TIMES. These latest closures bring the number of closed abortion facilities – where 40 Days for Life prayer vigils have been held – to 40!

Troy Newman, President of Operation Rescue, says pro-lifers are simply overturning Roe v. Wade in a different way. “For 40 years we focused on overturning Roe v. Wade in Washington, D.C.,” Newman told me in a phone interview. “But the baby saved by a sidewalk counselor today has overturned Roe. When we run abortionists out of clinics, we overturn Roe. When we close a clinic, we save babies, and Roe is overturned. All of this makes Roe irrelevant and outdated.”

By Jill Stanek, LifeNews.com, September 12, 2013. Edited for space. Photo from Elizabeth's New Life Center e-mail, September 5, 2013.



September Prayer Intention

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Please pray for the success of 40 Days for Life which began Sept. 25 and will continue until Nov. 3. Upcoming opportunities to join in prayer are the RTL Life Chain, 2:30pm Sunday, Oct. 6 (Respect Life Sunday); and, earlier that day, the Radio Rosary at 9:30AM on WMVR (105.5AM or 1080AM), as the Rosary will be prayed for the intentions of Right to Life of Shelby County.



Please forward or share this newsletter with at least one other person during this month of October. Thank you.

Lifetime Membership Established

Beginning in 2014, members will have the option of obtaining a Lifetime Membership in Shelby County Right to Life. Lifetime Membership is granted for a onetime contribution of \$250. As a Lifetime Member, you will continue to receive our regular newsletters, as well as membership mailings once per year, but you will no longer need to send in dues every year to remain an RTL member in good standing. If you're interested in this option, please look for it in the membership letter that will be coming in January.

Pro-Life People Don't Really Care About Women and Children? Ridiculous!

Recently, the Christian Science Monitor published an op-ed by Elizabeth Jahr, in which she asserts "pro-life groups funnel tremendous resources into a legal war against abortion in the US without providing adequate practical support for women to maintain pregnancies. Yet not being able to afford a child is one of the main reasons women have abortions."

In fact, the legal victories Ms. Jahr criticizes have saved many lives, and pro-life events, like March for Life, serve to establish new and continuing support for Pregnancy Resource Centers and other organizations that care for women and children.

Dr. Michael New, assistant professor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and Jeanneane Maxon, vice president for external affairs and corporate counsel at Americans United for Life, both presented well-reasoned responses to the misguided assertion that resources spent on legal battles and pro-life rallies are a disservice to the unborn.

New, using a resource published by the Family Research Council, pointed out that Jahr:

... seems oblivious to the fact that pro-lifers fund a vast network of pregnancy resource centers that provide medical, emotional, and financial support to thousands of women facing unplanned pregnancies every year. A 2010 study by the Family Research Council identified nearly 2,000 US pregnancy care centers that annually assist more than 2.3 million women with pregnancy support, abstinence counseling, and public health access. A conservative estimate of community cost savings for these services, which are predominantly privately funded, during 2010 is more than \$100 million annually." The number of pregnancy resource centers continues to grow exponentially while the number of abortion facilities reaches historic lows, many closing due to safety concerns.

Jeanneane Maxon responded eloquently by highlighting her experience working with Pregnancy Resource Centers. She recounted that at the time Jahr's op-ed was published Maxon was attending a CareNet conference, an organization that supports over 1,000 pregnancy resource centers around the country:

I was surrounded by more than a thousand staff members and volunteers who have given countless hours of time, and countless dollars, to compassionately care for women facing an abortion decision. From age seven, I've witnessed and shared in the loving responsibility of providing whatever assistance a pregnant mother might need, as my own mother worked tirelessly as an executive director of a pregnancy care center. Pro-life Americans understand this kind of daily dedication — responding with money, time and treasure to nurture the potential of every unborn life with tangible resources.

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In memory of Robert Meyer, in whose name memorial donations were made.

Mr. Meyer was the father of longtime RTL president, Ron Meyer.

+May he rest in peace.+

Prayer to End Abortion

Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life, and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters.

I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion. Yet I rejoice that you have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son.

I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today I commit myself never to be silent, never to be passive, never to be forgetful of the unborn.

I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement, and never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected,

And our nation once again becomes a nation with liberty and justice, not just for some, but for all, born and unborn.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Do Pro-Lifers Care about Women, Children? continued from p. 3.

Women in crisis pregnancies and their unborn children are also protected by the very laws groups like the Family Research Council and Americans United for Life advocate. Maxon notes that legislation pushing for stronger clinic regulations and more informed consent for women serves to create effective and much-needed protections. Far from being a disservice to women or the unborn, pro-life legal efforts and pro-life events serve to create stronger protections for women and unborn children and also serve to educate the public — generating more supporters, funds, and loving care.

By Anna Higgins, LifeNews.com, September 20, 2013. Higgins writes for the Family Research Council blog and she is director of the Center for Human Dignity at the Family Research Council. Edited for space.