

Livingston County RTL - Lifeline 2023 Summary Edition

From the Director: Kathy Ogorek

It has been a full year since we sent out a newsletter. The hours and hours of time, talent and money invested to the defeat of Proposal 3 in November 2022 instead delivered a hefty loss. Perhaps you, too, felt the sting and disappointment of defeat?

While our laws may change, our resolve must not. Precious human lives need our prayers, our actions, our investment and protection more than ever.

Bolstered by our Faith and the Holy Spirit, and encouraged by the continued support of our members, we have had a remarkable year. This "2023 Summary" newsletter is a testimony to the Goodness of God and the strength of our organization.

In May we welcomed Rick Snurka & Denise Thorton to our Board of Directors. Both Rick & Denise have served long term as office volunteers; we're delighted to have them on our Board.

We also welcomed Eliisa Seigel to our Board. Eliisa is an instructor for our "Making Life Disciples" program, that has reached representatives from 15 churches in Livingston County. Some have started new pro-life groups within their church. See the enclosed article about "Making Life Disciples." Be encouraged by what Eliisa and others are doing folks who may have "retired" from the workforce, but not from the work of His Kingdom!

Some RTL members have started attending our board meetings! What an encouragement to hear from membership! We WELCOME input from all of our members. Our Board meetings are generally the 3rd Tuesday of the month at our office. If you'd like to attend, please call or send an email to RTLLC@SBCglobal.net. Office space is limited - we'll make accommodations if we have an abundance! We'd also want to be able to inform those planning to come if there are any changes due to weather, etc.

Our Annual Focus On Life Dinner was a delightful success! Attendance was down slightly from the previous year, but with nearly 400 in attendance, \$69,000 was raised for the Right to Life of Michigan Education Fund. Praise the Lord!

March For Life, commemorating one year since the passage of Proposal 3, was held in Lansing on November 8th. It was good to be a part of that gathering with many of our members. (Please see enclosed article.)

Our last Precious Baby Contest was in 2022 - and the results are finally published in this edition!

There are many opportunities to be involved in this vital work of promoting a culture of life in Livingston County. So many have left the workforce with skills that could greatly benefit this organization, without requiring a lot of time. Meaningful work could be provided for student interns and those needing community service hours. Please prayerfully consider the following openings for **Committee Chairs** and members:

Newsletter
Membership
Political Action Committee
March For Life
Precious Baby Contest
Flower Sale
Mothers/Fathers Day Carnation /Coin Sale

We are called to great work on behalf of the voiceless! Prayerfully Consider and CALL to get started!

On behalf of our Board, our office team and myself, I wish you and your families a joyous Christmas as you remember the coming of our Savior, born as a precious, fragile child.





Great Gifts!

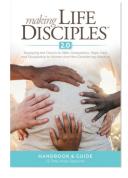
- *Birthdays *Anniversary
- *Welcome
 *Thinking of
 You!

Available at our office all year!

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Making Life Disciples

Under the current leadership in Michigan, our beautiful state has become the "go-to" state for abortions. Abortion and contraceptive use is now part of our Constitution. So, what can we do to fight and be the voice for the voiceless unborn child?

Did you know that nearly 4 out of 10 women who have abortions were regularly attending church at least once a month at the time of their first abortion? Some may find their way to a pregnancy help center. But why did they not feel safe in bringing this to their Pastor or to someone in their church to help them?

There are three key questions for your church community to consider that will help change the narrative and culture surrounding abortion and the Gospel. How you answer these questions could create a safe space, foster healing, and help people experience abundant life in Christ.

- 1. Is your church prepared to have a life-giving response to the next unplanned pregnancy in your church?
- 2. Do post-abortive individuals find your church to be a safe place to heal?
- 3. How is your church training the next generation to embrace biblical sexuality?

How can we make our church a place that anyone (woman, man, parent of a pregnant teen, or boyfriend) facing an unplanned pregnancy can come to?

Consider taking the "Making Life Disciples" class. It equips participants to become life-affirming first-responders who offer compassion, hope, and help to those facing unplanned pregnancies.

When the church does its part to serve the "4 out of 10," pregnancy centers are freed to serve the other 6 out of 10 women who do not regularly attend church and seek abortions to resolve their untimely pregnancy.

Remember, the courts can make abortion legal, but only God, through His church, can make abortion unthinkable.

Classes are currently offered in the spring and fall at the Brighton Pregnancy Help Clinic. Also, if you have a life group at your church (or want to start one) arrangements can be made to do the class for your group at your church. Questions? Contact Eliisa Seigle eliisaseigle@gmail.com

RTL Livingston Church Rep Coordinator

Let me introduce myself. My name is Eliisa Seigle, I attend the Place of Refuge Church in Fowlerville. I am truly blessed to have a very pro-life leader in Pastor Bob Storey. Recently retired, I decided to get more involved in RTL, my growing passion since about 2015. The RTL Livingston Board needed a new RTL Church Rep Coordinator - so here I am!

Following in the footsteps of Joy Applin will be quite a challenge, and I do not intend to reinvent the wheel. She has paved the way and I intend to follow her lead as best as I can. With that said, I look forward to resuming our Church Rep. meetings. You can help me by reaching out and letting me know that you are still interested in being the RTL Rep. for your church, or perhaps you know someone who would accept this ministry. Also, we will need churches to host our meetings, so let me know if that is something your church can do. I look forward to serving the Lord with you as we work together to be the voice for the voiceless precious little unborn babies.

"Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Contact Eliisa Seigle <u>eliisaseigle@gmail.com</u>



Thank You to Our Patrons and Sponsors for the Right to Life of Michigan Conference Book Ads, our **Focus on Life Dinner Sponsors** And the Churches that Have Supported Us Throughout 2023!

County Commissioner Jay Drick



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What a GIFT you are in this Battle for Life!

Right to Life-Livingston County, Inc.

Mission Statement

Right to Life-Livingston County, Inc. is a nonpartisan, nonsectarian, nonprofit organization of diverse and caring people united to protect the precious gift of human life from fertilization to natural death.

We strive to achieve the passage and ratification of a Human Life Amendment, to educate people on identified Right to Life issues, to motivate them to action, to encourage community support for and participation in programs and legislation that foster respect and protection for human life.

We work on behalf of defenseless and vulnerable human beings, born and unborn, within our identified issues of abortion, infanticide, euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Precious Baby Contest 2022



Unfortunately, we did not have a Precious Baby Contest in 2023. These winners from 2022 are just too precious not to display here!

In first place was Micah Trapp, 2nd place Emma Lambdin, 3rd place Penelope Hoffman, tied for 4th place Olivia Conely and Ruth Reedy, 5th place Weston Potter, 6th place Thorston Seigle, 7th place Michael Jones and 8th place Ceceilia Frailing. Honorable Mention (alphabetically) Catherine Halberstadt, Charlotte Lachney, Margaret Lachney, Amelia Mills, Mason Mills, Kate Ryan O'Connor and Brinley Thomas (Pictures below show their official entry photos.) If you would like to chair the 2024 Precious Baby Contest, please email RTLLC@sbcglobal.net.



















Our Precious Honorable Mention Winners

















The First Annual **Michigan** March for Life took place on November 8, 2023. The March marked the first anniversary of the passage of Proposal 3. Advocates for life of all ages and political persuasions from across the state of Michigan joined together with one voice on behalf of the defenseless. With an estimated 5,000 in attendance, it was strong showing of support for the protection of all human life. Together we peacefully advocated for the protection of all human life from conception to natural death. A powerful message was sent to our elected officials, the citizens of our state, and the nation at large.

Right to Life - Livingston County was there! Over 50 pro-lifers joined us on chartered busses, while others traveled by caravans. In spite of the cool, wet weather, new friendships were formed, memories made and convictions were strengthened.

Two important announcements were made at the rally. The first was announced by RLM President Barb Listing. The American Freesom Law Center and Great Lakes Justice Center joined together to file suit against the State of Michigan, Governor Whitmer, Secretatry of State Jocelyn Benson and Attorney General Dana Nessel. The law suit, filed Nov.8th in Federal Court, challenges the constitutionality of Proposal 3! You can read all about it at https://rtl.org/rlm-legal-challenge-prop3/

The other good news revealed at the rally was the formation of Michigan's first Pro-Life Caucus. Founded by our own State Representative Ann Bollin (District 49) during the height of the Covid Pandemic, now co-chaired by Senator John Damoose (Northern Michigan), the Caucus stands side-by-side in the Michigan Legislature for protection of all life, from conception until natural death. The Caucus works together on messaging points, communicating clearly our pro-life values. Together they educate other legislators on the importance of legislation that protects life! Please consider sending a message of support to our State Legislator at AnnBollin@house.mi.gov.

Photos from the rally, shared by Mary Walden, St. Matthews Lutheran Church - Walled Lake.







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In Loving Memory and Honor of

In Memory of—You may honor a deceased loved one by making a memorial contribution to Right to Life-Livingston County. This memorial gift is a fitting way to remember a lifetime of love for the unborn.

In Honor of—Your contribution can also be made to commemorate birthdays, new arrivals, graduations, Mother's Day, Father's Day or any other special occasion. An acknowledgment card will be sent to the family or person you designate. The contribution amount will be kept confidential.

Enclosed is my (our) gift of \$100 __\$50 __\$25 __\$10 __Other

Make check to "RTL-Livingston"
Mail to: PO Box 934 Brighton, MI 48116

Made in memory of:

| Made in honor of: |
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| Occasion Please notify: |
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I would like a notice of this gift in the next newletter:

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In loving memory of: Nancy Adams

By: Cary & Barry Davis

In loving memory of: Mary Agnes Cullen Bryan

By: RTL—Livingston County Board

In memory of: Robert Clark

By: Bread of Life Bible Study

In loving memory of: Joan Hutchison

By: RTL—LC Board of Directors

In loving memory of: **Dolores May Jacob**

By: Robert and Barbara Judge

In loving memory of: **Betty Christine Mauck**

By: Michael and Linda Mauck

Stephanie Hale

Richard and Linda Mack

In loving memory of: Charlene Ann Oliver

By: Bob and Barbara Judge and family

For up to date information on the fast-changing prolife news events go to: **LifeNews.com AND rtl.org**

Prolife movies available at our office to borrow: Unplanned; Roe v Wade; Bella; Tilly

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Right to Life - Livingston Membership Drive

A Special THANKS to all of those who continue to send in their yearly membership donations.

THE DATE ON YOUR MAILING LABEL s the EXPIRATION DATE of your last paid membership.

If there is no date, you have been receiving COMPLIMENTARY mailings of "LIFE LINE" from Right to Life Livingston County because of your interest in our prolife work. We hope you enjoy this newsletter! Due to
rising costs (paper, copies, processing, postage) we are greatly reducing our mailing list.

Please use the form below to become a member or to renew your membership.

2024 Membership Drive & Donation Form

The abortion rate in our state for teens has decreased, saving lives. Education about abortion, infanticide,

| education, the electrication and elderly frail. The late to join. With you | ction of prolife can nis is possible bec our membership y | didates has enab ause of your effor ou will receive co | led our legislaturents, prayers and fi ppies of our newsl | arts of many about life issue to pass laws protecting the nancial support. We need y etter, <i>Livingston County L</i> . Together we are making a | innocent unborn ou! It's never too ifeline as well as |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| Platinum - \$200 | Gold - \$100 | Silver-\$50 | Family-\$25 | Seniors/Students-\$12 | Other-\$ |
| Name | | | | | |
| City | State | Zip | | Phone | |
| Email address: | | | | | |
| Make checks pa Right to Life - Li | - | v. Inc. M | ail in enclosed | envelope. | Thank you! |

Heroes Through Life - Livingston County Right to Life

Joan Hutchison, a leader in the pro-life movement, passed on to be with God on May 4, 2023. She was surrounded in her last moments by her five cherished sons. Joan is legendary for her faith, her calling to serve, and her revolutionary work in the pro-life movement. She was a trailblazer for women throughout her storied career and after retirement, used the knowledge she gained in the corporate world to lead others to save babies. Joan's brilliance, wisdom, faith, love, and call to serve changed all who knew her. Her willingness to follow where God led her resulted in rescuing hundreds, perhaps thousands, of babies from a violent death. Our world is forever changed by this one noble woman. Godspeed, dear Joan. Until we meet again.



Mary Agnes Cullen Bryan, age 73, quietly slipped away in the early hours of September 6th, 2022. Mary hosted the Right to Life flower sale for many years at her home in Brighton. She was also a member of our board here in Livingston County and St. Patrick's Respect Life Ministry. Mary had a life full of wondrous experiences and she truly embodied her favorite saying, "You can live many lives within the life God gave you!"



Right to Life Livingston County, Inc. P.O. Box 934 Brighton, MI 48116-0934

Office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 10 a.m. -2 p.m.

rtllc@sbcglobal.net www.righttolifelivingston.org 810 227-5788

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Pray, Work & Invest to End Abortion

Right to Life - Livingston County, Inc. Annual Meeting was held on May 18, 2023

The following members have been elected to the Board of Directors for 2023

Ann O'Reilly - <u>Co-chair</u> Kathy Ogorek <u>- Co-chair</u> Kim Weeks - <u>Secretary</u> Michelle Carroll - <u>Treasurer</u>

Members-at-large

Joe Hune John Kerr Eliisa Seigle Rick Snurka Denise Thornton

Heroes in the Battle for Life

Beginning in the 1990's, Cary and Barry Davis have had a heart for making our Focus on Life Dinners a successful outreach. Throughout the years they have helped supporters know the importance of spreading the Pro-Life message. Through their years of being a part of the Livingston County Board of Directors, as well as serving as their Church Representatives, the Davis' have contributed to the growth of our affiliate and our ability to promote LIFE in our community.

There is no question that without heroes like Cary & Barry Davis, Right to Life Livingston could never have attained the prominence and life-saving achievements that we have enjoyed. We give our heartfelt thanks to these two Heroes in the Battle for Life. You are truly a blessing to all of us – born and unborn.

