

LIFELINE

November - December 2024

Trump Victory!

By RTL - LC Board of Directors

Our prayers have been answered. Our work has been successful and our fretting is over with as we saw another historic election victory in President Donald Trump. Although, it is of the utmost importance to remain diligent and in the game, it is a relief to note that we have a White House on the side of life once again.

There are certainly a few things to point out in regards to President Trump's pro-life positioning.

First of all, it does appear that he does not support a federal abortion ban. President Trump has also been highly critical of Florida's 6 week abortion ban. He referenced the 6-week time as "too restrictive" and he opposed it as he sought a longer time frame before abortions would be forbidden.

The President is also quite adamant about exceptions for the rare instances of incest and rape. It is this positioning and these exceptions that manages to get President Trump sideways of Right to Life, as this organization does NOT support those exceptions.

It is important to look at the policies from the first Trump Administration when it comes to protecting life. One of the first pro-life initiatives of Trump's first term in office was the global gag rule. The implementation of this rule forbid foreign organizations that provide abortions, referrals for abortions, or counseling for abortions, etc. from receiving federal taxpayer dollars. He worked and implemented rules to halt the flow of federal taxpayer dollars to abortion providers.

It is also necessary to remind Pro-Lifers that President Trump managed to appoint and get confirmed three outstanding Justices to the

United States Supreme Court. This magnificent opportunity and duty obviously paved the way for the overturning of Roe vs Wade. Roe vs Wade - the panacea for the abortion industry. His administration also appointed Federal Judges up and down the bench that had a respect for life.

He has expressed opposition to increasing the size of the Supreme Court. The liberal push to "pack the court" aims to install justices who don't just interpret the Constitution, but make law under the guise of "active liberty." This risks judicial overreach, undermines stability, and turns the courts into political tools with judges reimagining the Constitution and deciding what the framers would think today - essentially making law, which is the legislature's job.

The first Trump Presidency was a success for life and we pray for this second Presidency

There is an upbeat presence as we move forward, but our pro-life work is not complete. Much work in public education and informing citizens about the effects of current and proposed legislation remains to be done.

Now would be a good time for us to take the momentum from the presidential election results and press forward with our moral advantage. **We must redouble our efforts to save unborn infants** and to also provide both emotional and material sustenance to all of the women with unplanned pregnancies. We must work to **stop the assisted suicide** bill awaiting action in the MI Senate. We must work until all human beings are treated with equal dignity and rights.

32nd Annual Focus on Life Dinner

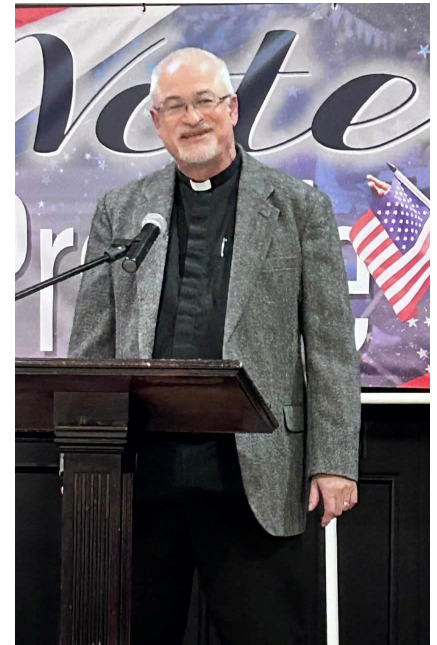
By: Kathy Ogorek, Co-Chair RTL - LC
Photo Credit Susan Lowy McDonald

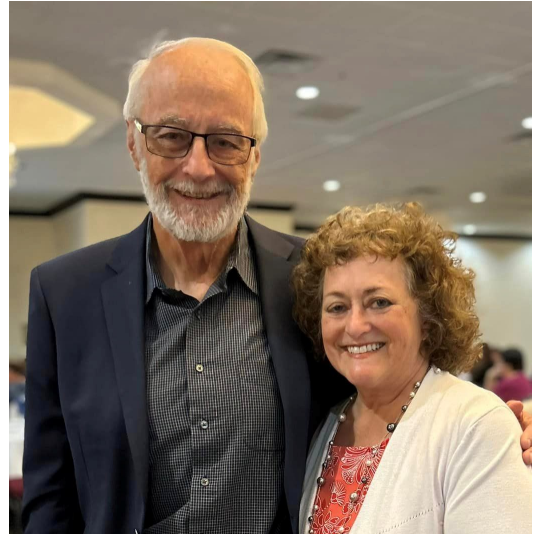
Almost 350 guests joined us at Crystal Gardens on Oct. 8th for the 32nd Annual Focus on Life Dinner. The President of Michigan Lutherans for Life, **Pastor Paul Clark** from Fowler, MI was our guest speaker. His message - "The Beat Goes On: Marching Onward in the Battle for Life" - was an encouragement as we approached the all-important, challenging November 5 election. He reminded the clergy in attendance that this is a spiritual, moral and ethical issue, and it is their duty to address these life and death issues from the pulpit.

Pastor Clark's words of courage helped us as we fought to "Make America Prolife Again". While we do not have a recording of the evening, Pastor Clark was kind enough to send us the transcript of his talk. Please let us know if you would like a copy of "The Beat Goes On" to share with friends (and especially pastors) not at the dinner.

THANK YOU to our sponsors and guests who helped us raise over \$63,000 to help Right to Life of Michigan keep up the good fight. An additional \$4500 was raised for RTL - Livingston County.

You made the evening a success!





THANK YOU PRO-Life Supporters!



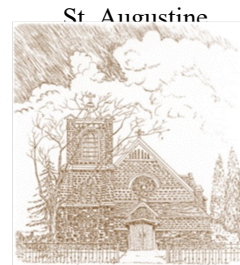
WEINGARTZ
EVERYTHING FROM LAWN TO SNOW



LKN TREE SERVICE
We do the small stuff...



St. Paul Lutheran
Fowler, MI



St. Augustine



**HOLY SPIRIT
CATHOLIC CHURCH**



St. John Catholic Church

2024 Focus on Life Sponsors - Thank You!

Denise & Michael Balon

Karla & Tom Boylan

CHESTNUT HOME BUILDERS

Denise & Ben DeRocher

Mary Ann & Robert Gardella

Jeanette & Winston Gee

Doctors Kristine & Kurt Gerster
TOWNE & COUNTRY ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Gobright

Kellie Hicks

Holly & Al Houtman

Betsy & Bruce Hundley

Jill & Gerry Jenkins

In Memory of Wayne Jewell

Jean & Dennis King

LAIER FARMS INC

Karen & Steve Mahan

Sheriff Mike Murphy

PRO BROS. WINDOW & SUNROOM

Chris & Jerry Rans

Sue & Harry Reed

TRIJICON, INC.

Mission Cry - Jason Woolford

McMillan & Associates, CPA

St. Augustine Knights of Columbus Council #13450

Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus Council #7891

St. John Knights of Columbus Council #8169

St. Mary Knights of Columbus Council #11761

St. Mary Magdalen Knights of Columbus Council # 12295

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, 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 Other

Make check to "RTL-Livingston"

Mail to: PO Box 934 Brighton, MI 48116

Made in memory of: _____

Made in honor of: _____

Occasion _____

Please notify: _____

Name _____

Address-City-State-Zip _____

My (our) name is _____

I would like a notice of this gift in the next newsletter: yes no



In Loving Memory of Maxine Bowyer

It is with heavy hearts that we remember Maxine, a true powerhouse in the pro-life movement and a beloved servant of God. Maxine didn't just talk the talk. She worked tirelessly to protect the sanctity of life and serve those in need. Her unwavering faith, kindness, and strength were evident in everything she did.

A soldier for Christ, Maxine was known for her intelligence, organization, and her readiness to help anyone in need. She was a rare gem - whose presence was felt deeply by all who knew her. Heaven has gained a cherished daughter. While she will be missed here on Earth, we take comfort in knowing she is with our loving Lord!

GREENHOUSE GIFT CARDS

BORDINE'S Gift Cards #___ @ \$20 \$ _____
#___ @ \$50 \$ _____

CHRISTIANS Gift Cards #___ \$20 \$ _____

MEIER FLOWERLAND
-Gift Cards #___ @ \$30 \$ _____
-Flower of the Month (Every month!) #___ @ \$40 \$ _____

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Mail to: RTL-Livingston PO Box 934, Brighton, MI 48116
Or use the enclosed envelope.

Send gift cards to: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____



A Gift was Given In Loving Memory of Zoe Arhangelos
On the occasion of her birthday.

By: Betty Needham

Grateful to Our Office Volunteers!

A BIG THANK YOU
goes out to:

- Sandy Bennett
- Charlene Dibble
- Sarah Jones
- John Kerr
- Denise Thornton

We win. We WIN!!! By: Jerry Weyand

At least that is the feeling at the national level and with our state house of representatives and our local county commissioners!

However... we must not linger in the state of euphoria too long. It is definitely legitimate to feel that pro-lifers have been given the proverbial "shot in the arm". Unlike some states with positive life affirming movements, however, we are in Michigan where we must – like the salmon – continue to swim upstream to accomplish our goals.

The Right to Life of Michigan Political Action Committee (RLM-PAC) went into election day with endorsements in 262 races for public office including, but not limited to, Congress, the Michigan State House, State Supreme Court, County Commissions, Sheriff, School Boards and Drain Commissioner.

Kamala Harris is defeated. 91% of our state House endorsed candidates have won, leading to a new pro-life majority in the state House. RLM-PAC endorsed candidates also won 87.4% of the 262 races in which there were endorsements.

The RLM-PAC makes more endorsements, and continues to achieve more wins than any other organization in the state. The endorsement process begins in February with local PAC volunteer trainings followed by candidate interviews. All final PAC endorsements are made by the RLM-PAC State Board which deliberates on recommended endorsements and votes on candidates.

A special thank you to those volunteers from our local affiliate who took part in the PAC interviews of many of our candidates in local races.

Congratulations to the RLM-PAC endorsed candidates in Livingston County! 25 of our 28 locally endorsed candidates won, plus our new 7th District US Congressman Tom Barrett.

The Michigan House of Representatives – Ann Bollin (49th District) and Jason Woolford (50th District)

Livingston County Commissioners – Roger Deaton, Dave Domas, Jay Drick, Nick Fiani, Jay Gross, Douglas Helzerman, Wes Nakagiri and Frank Sample.

Livingston County officials: Elizabeth Hundley (County Clerk), Carolyn Henry (Prosecutor), Mike Murphy (Sheriff), Jennifer Gehringer Nash (Treasurer), Brian Jonckheere (Drain Commissioner).

Brighton Township – Patrick Michel (Supervisor), Rose Drouillard (Treasurer), Sam Theis (Trustee).

Genoa Twp. – Janene Deaton (Clerk), Candie Hovarter, Bill Reiber, Richard P. Saucy (Trustees).

School Boards – Jeff Scott (Hartland), Steve Dault (Howell).

Despite the challenges we face in the pro-life movement, we must "Never Give Up, Never Surrender". The value of human life, created in the very image of God, compels us to protect what matters to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords!



Improving Our FUTURE!



Your Donations to RTL - LC funded these billboards during the final stretch of the election season. The design, production and placement of these billboards on US-23 & on I-96 were a strong reminder of what (who) is at stake in our elections. Voting Matters!

Precious Baby Contest Winners!

All of our participants are winners - precious in His Being! Thank you Moms, Dads and Grandparents for sharing your precious babies with us!



1st Place - Asher Trapp Pictured with Mom & Grandma!



2nd Place -

Liam Bielous, pictured here with his family at an award ceremony at Place of Refuge Church.



National Day of Remembrance took place Sept. 14 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Hamburg, remembering all children lost to abortion. Picture from previous year when Michael-Gabrielle was buried here. Precious baby aborted by Dr. Michael Roth. Remains were found in Roth's trunk with 13 others. Let us not forget.

3rd Place: Thorsten Seigle pictured here with Dad & Mom, also at Place of Refuge!



All participants received a gift, thanks to the generosity of sponsors. See Eliisa's "Church Representative" article on Page 9 for more information, and consider participating next year with your church. It's a great way to promote respect for life in our community!



Right to Life-Livingston County was well represented at RLM Annual Conference. Pictured here (L to R): Liv County Board Members Jerry Weyand, Kathy Ogorek, Rick Snurka, Eliisa Seigle, with Sharon & Jay Gross. Honoring recently retired RLM President - Barb Listing.



Shari Boley, Executive Director of Pregnancy Help Clinic, presents to Church Representatives at our Sept. 14th Meeting.

RTL Church Representatives

The first year with our new format for our **Precious Baby fundraiser** was great. We asked all the churches in Livingston County to enter at least one baby. A **HUGE THANK YOU** to those that participated. Together you raised almost \$2000 to help in the fight for LIFE here at RTL-Livingston. It is so fun to see all the precious baby pictures and to get your family and friends to vote for your baby with their dollars to help in this fight. Start thinking about whose baby **your church** will enter for 2025! Remember, if a single church can raise \$100, just think what the 106 churches in the county can do!!

Another **HUGE THANK YOU** to the businesses and individuals who donated towards our prizes. We were able to give great gifts to the top three winners; and a small gift to all the rest who participated.

BUSINESSES:

Gobright

SMART WORKPLACE SOLUTIONS: Transforming and innovating your office into a smart environment and making office life a better experience. gobright.com

Kathy Rosselot -Independent Beauty Consultant for Mary Kay Cosmetics

krosselot@marykay.com www.marykay.com/krosselot

Wendy Taylor - Financial Advisor with Edward Jones

248-437-3011 edwardjones.com

Eliisa Seigle - Doterra Essential Oils

eliisaseigle@gmail.com

Jane Mills - Doterra Essential Oils AND Calm & Crazy Creations

God-inspired creations including acrylic abstract paintings and vases, wood burning, resin trays & coasters, misc. arts & crafts and DIY's. calmandcrazy21@gmail.com

Sarah Wylie - Licensed Massage Therapist AND doTERRA Wellness Advocate

sarahwylie76@gmail.com

Rev. Pastor Christopher Thoma - Author and Pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church Hartland, MI

A Lutheran pastor, author, public speaker, and cultural critic. christopherthoma.com

INDIVIDUALS:

Diane Brown, LC Commissioner Roger Deaton, LC Commissioner Jay Drick, Peggy Johncox, Wally & Kathy Ogorek, Kevin Renal, Rick & Julie Snurka.

We are in a battle to educate and spread the truth about life from conception to natural death. **WE NEED YOU!** We need you to join us and become the RTL Representative for your church. This simply means that you will keep your pastor and your church informed about upcoming events, resources and information related to saving lives. And, whenever you can, attend the Pastor and Rep. meetings which are held in January, May and September. These meetings have a speaker to educate and encourage you and are a way to connect with others who share your desire to fight for LIFE. You are not alone. **Together we ARE making a difference!** May we GROW our influence in the months ahead. **Mark your calendar now for January 11, 2025 from 10-12 at Heart of the Shepherd Lutheran Church in Howell.**

In Christ Alone,

Eliisa Seigle
Church Rep. Coordinator



Increasing Our Impact In 2025

By: Karen Jewell, Newsletter Editor

Winning back a prolife majority in the State House IS good news. The re-election of our County Commissioners and other wins (see page 7) - GREAT NEWS! But the problem most of us have is **lack of consistent focus** - myself included. And this is an area where Democrats flourish. They stay ON AGENDA when they win AND when they lose. That is how they make so many “gains” in their “progress” - where conservatives seem to just “hold on”.

Our prolife battles are not only flesh and blood - they are SPIRITUAL. And our enemy / opponents never sleep. We know this now - right? So if you're tired of one step forward two steps back year after year, will you join us in staying focused, engaged, and committed throughout these next four years?

Our opponents are planning now to win in 2028. We MUST do the same.

Church, will you work to protect innocents and work for moral standards & support loving Christian influence in our communities? Will you not only PROCLAIM Christ while teaching from His Word, but INVITE hungry souls to seek after and FOLLOW Him? (So many hungry souls...) Will you stand for life in your church and sign up to serve as a Church Representative for RTL in your church? (See page 9.)

Will you volunteer for this (or other prolife organizations) as the Lord leads you; as you prayerfully seek what the Lord would have you do to save lives, both physically and spiritually? A list of current volunteer opportunities is available at <https://righttolifelivingston.org/>

Will you pray regularly for all Christian leaders in our churches, schools, school boards, townships, cities, state and nation? If all your fellowship is amongst like-minded individuals, consider the pressure and opposition Christians face in our secular world with all the radical ideologies imposed on them on a daily basis, and PRAY!

Can you help fuel this prolife organization with your hard-earned financial resources? Renew your membership, attend events, be trained in “Making Life Disciples” (see webpage) to be an effective Influencer-for-Life in *your* circle of influence!?

How Can You Help?

- ✦ Currently we are looking to move from bulky Excel sheets to a user-friendly contact - management data base. While our research isn't complete, the cost would be roughly \$45 per month. Transfer of data could take weeks or months of volunteer time, or a payment of \$1500 to import professionally.
- ✦ Our Quickbooks software is out-of-date and no longer serviced by Quickbooks. Updating is costly (approx. \$160 per month) - yet we can't afford to lose our data due to age!
- ✦ Our rent goes up in January.
- ✦ Increase our outreach to youth
- ✦ Strengthen / train speakers for outreach
- ✦ Have billboards / social media ads regularly - not just at election time!

The IRS allows for transfers of RMD's directly to Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD). Right to Life of Michigan's Education Fund is a 501(c)3 charity. Your donations can be put in an escrow Account for Livingston County to fund educational work in our community! From the IRS website:

How to set up a QCD

Any IRA owner who wishes to make a QCD for 2024 should contact their IRA trustee soon so the trustee will have time to complete the transaction before the end of the year.

Normally, distributions from a traditional IRA are taxable when received. With a QCD, however, these distributions become tax-free as long as they're paid directly from the IRA to an eligible charitable organization.

QCDs must be made directly by the trustee of the IRA to the charity. An IRA distribution, such as an electronic payment made directly to the IRA owner, does *not* count as a QCD. Likewise, a check made payable to the IRA owner is not a QCD.

Each year, an IRA owner **age 70½ or over when the distribution is made** can exclude from gross income up to \$100,000 of these QCDs.

For more information, please see: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/qualified-charitable-distributions-allow-eligible-ira-owners-up-to-100000-in-tax-free-gifts-to-charity>

The election wins have given us an opportunity to get ahead and *strengthen* our resolve for Life - the ultimate gift from God. Let's stay in the race - until the end!
 Heb 12: 1 - 3

Right to Life - Livingston County Membership Drive

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

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

If there is no date, you have been receiving COMPLIMENTARY mailings of "LIFELINE". 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.

2025 Membership Drive & Donation Form

We need you! It's never too late to join. With your membership you will receive a subscription of *Livingston County Lifeline newsletter* as well as the *Right to Life of Michigan Newsletter*. Thank you for your support. Together we **are** making a difference!

Platinum - \$200 Gold - \$100 Silver - \$50 Family- \$25 Seniors/Students - \$12 Other-\$_____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email address: _____



Make checks payable to: Right to Life - Livingston County.
Mail in the enclosed envelope. Thank you!



Election Year Merch!

Order your "Make America ProLife Again" Hats. One size fits most.

Suggested donation:

1 Hat \$25 | 2 Hats \$45 | 3 Hats \$60

Call (810) 227-5788 to reserve yours for pick-up.

Or stop in the office during office hours, T-W-R 10AM - 2PM (QUANTITIES ARE VERY LIMITED!)

WELCOME NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS! (July—October 2024)

Platinum:

Marshal & Jody B
 Frank & Emily G
 Kamille K
 Jeannie M
 George & Doreen M
 Stephen O
 Dale & Joan P
 Rebecca S
 Richard & Kathy T

Gold:

Diane B
 Roger & Janene D
 Karen J
 Alan & Marianne K
 James & Marilyn O
 Geoff & Julie O
 Margaret R
 Lance & Susan S

Silver:

Betty C
 Gregory & Martha F
 Timothy & Jeane J
 Patricia K

Family:

Michael & Robin D
 Mary H
 Bart & Geraldine H
 Jerry & Jill J
 Gary & Linda K
 Timothy N
 Edward & Mary Ellen L
 Hilda P
 Jack & Deborah S
 Pierre & Evelyn T

Other:

James & Emily B
 Mike & Susan H
 Sandra M
 Rachel M
 Jacqueline R
 Thomas & Kathryn R
 Dennis & Mary S



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



***Pray, Work & Invest
 to End Abortion***

Office hours:
Tues - Wed - Thurs
10 - 2 p.m.

802 East Grand River, Brighton
 48116

rtlrc@sbcglobal.net

www.righttolifelivingston.org

810 227-5788

[Facebook.com/rtlLivingston](https://www.facebook.com/rtlLivingston)

Needed: Office Volunteer

Two Wednesday afternoons per month. Training and great fellowship provided! Please call or email for more details!



Designed by Freepik.com



**Christmas Cards
 & Ornaments**

Christmas cards and Ornaments are available at the office.

Pictures and Prices are available on our website. Call or stop by the office to get yours. Supplies are limited!

www.righttolifelivingston.org

