

Volunteer Corner

We need a couple of more volunteers to make sure all of our clothing center slots are filled. If you could assist with one 4-hour shift per month, please contact Cassy at the office, 498-1812.

Mark your calendar

- Candlelight Vigil: Sunday, January 23.
- Deadline for submissions to the January newsletter: December 23.
- Board meetings: December 7, January 4, 7 pm.

Clothing center report

We served 120 people during the month of October, of whom 80 received free items, 12 took literature, and 3 were referred to the Women's Center.

Remember RTL

Please remember the pro-life cause when planning your estate or making funeral arrangements for a loved one. Remittance envelopes for memorial donations to Right to Life are available at the office.

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

Pro-Life Lawmakers Make Gains

Abortion advocates will no longer control the House of Representatives as pro-life candidates won nationwide and Republicans gained far more than the 40 seats needed to win.

They will take over the House of Representatives in January with their largest majority since the 1940s. When they ran the House from 1995 to 2007, GOP lawmakers never had more than 231 seats and, after Tuesday, they will have at least 240 seats — most of them pro-life.

In leadership elections expected down the road, most political observers believe pro-life Republican Leader John Boehner will become the next Speaker of the House and pro-life lawmakers will also likely win other top leadership positions to be able to set the agenda on abortion and bioethics issues.

House Republicans are expected to make an attempt to repeal the abortion-funding ObamaCare law and to consider measures to weaken or defund it, knowing President Barack Obama won't sign repeal legislation.

They are also expected to approve a new bill that would stop taxpayer funding of abortion at all levels of the federal government — forcing Democrats in the Senate and Obama to decide whether they want to contravene the will of the American people further, as every poll shows most Americans oppose tax-funded abortions.

Kristan Hawkins of Students for Life of America said the results were a clear reaction to the pro-abortion health care bill. "The American people have overwhelmingly voted for Life and against the taxpayer-funded abortion agenda in Washington," she said. "Voters sent a clear message to the Obama Administration to not only listen to the pro-life will of the people, but to stop the corruption and arrogance in our nation's capital."

Father Frank Pavone, director of Priests for Life, told LifeNews.com the election results provided a huge boost for the pro-life movement.

"Last night was a great night for the pro-life movement. New pro-life Governors, Representatives, Senators, and state legislators across the nation have won victories," he said. He said now is the time to begin contacting elected officials and urging them to move pro-life legislation forward.

"Now let's communicate with and encourage our newly-elected officials, and work with them on the specific initiatives that will need our help," he said.

By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, November 3, 2010. Edited for space and used with permission.

ACTION ITEM

Sign Up Now for March for Life Bus

The March for Life in Washington, D.C. will take place on Monday, January 24, 2011. (Traditionally it is on the 22nd, the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, but organizers avoid weekends.)

The buses will depart immediately following the Candlelight Vigil on Sunday evening, January 23, and will return in the early morning on Tuesday, January 25. Upon arriving in Washington, travelers will attend a Youth Mass and Rally at the Armory. This is the same event that is usually held at the Verizon Center; this year it is being held at two different locations to accommodate more attendees. Following the Mass, the group will take the Metro to the Mall/Ellipse area for the National March for Life.

The cost of the trip is \$75 per person, which covers busing expenses and Metro fare. Riders are responsible for their own meals.

Please contact Bonnie York as soon as possible to reserve your spot on the bus: 937-526-4388.

Thank you, Fort Loramie!

A big thank you to all those who organized and participated in the St. Michael's RTL drive. The clothing, formula, diapers, and other items are much needed and will help us to continue to serve our many thrift shop visitors.

Junior High/High School Essay Contests Approach

Two national pro-life organizations sponsor annual student contests. These represent an excellent opportunity for local junior high and high school students to research and articulate pro-life arguments, and possibly win some money as well.

- The March for Life Committee sponsors a set of six contests: an essay contest, a poetry contest, and a poster contest for two groups: 6th-8th graders and 9th-12th graders. Students may send one entry for each separate contest (one essay, one poem, and one poster). A winner and runner-up for each of the six categories will receive \$100. The winners will also win a paid trip to the March for Life and the Rose Dinner. The winners may also designate a \$100 grant to a pro-life charitable organization of their choice.

Entries may be handwritten or typed by the student, and must be postmarked first-class no later than Friday, January 3, 2011 (no fax or e-mail entries). See www.marchforlife.org for essay topic, rules and entry form.

- There are two contests sponsored by the National Right to Life Committee: a Senior Essay Contest for Grades 10-12 and a Junior Essay Contest for Grades 7-9. Essays should be submitted between December 20th, 2010 and January 22, 2011. They must be postmarked by January 22, 2011.

Prizes are awarded in each contest: First Place - \$200, Second Place - \$150, Third Place - \$100. Essays should address the question: What does abortion mean to you and your peers?

For more information please e-mail Michelle Fischbach at michellefischbach@yahoo.com, or visit the NRLC website at www.nrlc.org, under the "Special Events" tab. (See second page for essay guidelines.)

- Please watch our newsletter next month for information about our annual, local oratory contest for juniors and seniors, with generous cash prizes.

Hundreds of Babies Saved During 40 Days

The number is a conservative estimate based on first-hand accounts of women the campaign has helped across the country, but organizers say they know of at least 541 babies spared from abortion thanks to the 40 Days for Life campaign.

The Fall campaign may have saved more lives, but organizer Shawn Carney is always ready to disclaim his total because he knows unshared stories may result in lives saved that participants may never know.

“It’s Day 40 — and I have great news to share! As of right now, we know of 541 babies — and their mothers — that God has spared from abortion,” he emailed LifeNews.com on Sunday evening at the conclusion of the event.

“That’s at least 3,352 since the first coordinated 40 Days for Life campaign a mere three years ago. And who knows how many more that we’ll never hear about.” he said.

The stories from across the nation clearly show the impact the 40 Days for Life campaign has had.

“The Everett Planned Parenthood is closed again,” wrote Ed, one of the local 40 Days for Life leaders in Everett, Washington. “It’s the third Friday closed this campaign.”

Carney says there have also been at least four abortion facility employees who have left their jobs during this 40 Days for Life campaign — possibly more.

In Montana, Amy Seymour, president of Yellowstone Valley Christians for Life, said the campaign of prayer and practical help for women is a winning one.

“We’ve been praying for an end to abortion and for wisdom and guidance for the women who come in here who need help, who are in a crisis pregnancy,” she said. “They don’t know what to do. They’re scared. We pray for them. We pray for the staff, and we pray for all of us who are touched by this culture of death.”

By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, November 1, 2010. Excerpted and used with permission.

Your Support is Appreciated

The economy remains difficult, but the support of RTL’s members remains constant. Thanks to your extraordinary generosity, we have been able to maintain all of our programs and continue to explore new ways to promote respect for all human life.

Your help was expressed by two checks we received recently.

One was \$760, our local organization’s share of the income from Ohio Right to Life’s sweepstakes. Shelby County is consistently one of the most productive chapters for this fundraiser, and we thank all those who participated this year.

The other was for \$136, from GoodSearch. The amount may not seem like a lot, but the great thing about this check is that it didn’t cost any of our members a dime. When you go to GoodSearch.com and select “Right to Life -- Shelby County” as the group you search for, every one of your web searches, as well as any shopping you do, generates income for Right to Life. We set GoodSearch as our home page at the RTL office so that we are supporting RTL even while we work. We are grateful to those of you who use GoodSearch to help RTL; if you haven’t yet, please give it a try!

In memory of Albert Schulze, in whose name memorial donations were made.

+May he rest in peace.+



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Planned Parenthood Urging Abortifacient Coverage in Health Care

The Obama Administration is taking advice from Planned Parenthood again.

This time, the nation's largest abortion provider was invited to advise the Institute of Medicine on what should be included in the "preventive care for women" mandate in the health care reform law.

Without disclosing her organization's huge conflict of interest – Planned Parenthood stands to gain financially if abortion or abortion-inducing drugs are included in the definition of "preventive care" – Dr. Carolyn Westohoff of Planned Parenthood began her remarks by saying, "I'm just going to jump ahead, pregnancy is dangerous." She proceeded to advise the panel to include "all FDA approved" contraceptives. However, in the FDA's lexicon, this includes abortion-inducing drugs and devices, such as IUDs and so-called "emergency contraception."

Last year, when Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) added the amendment to health care reform requiring all health insurance plans to cover "preventive care for women," pro-life groups like Americans United for Life (AUL) warned that this provision could be used as a back-door abortion mandate.

In August, when the FDA approved as "contraception" the drug ella, which has the same chemical make-up as the abortion drug RU-486 and can kill an implanted embryo by blocking nutrients necessary for its survival, a new avenue for realizing an abortion-mandate was created. If "contraception" is included in the definition of "preventive care for women," Americans will not be able to choose a health insurance plan that does not provide full coverage for this abortion-inducing drug.

AUL attended the Institute of Medicine meeting to deliver a statement during the open comments period at the end of the meeting, advising the panel not to include abortion and abortion-inducing drugs in the definition of "preventive care for women." Contrary to Planned Parenthood, AUL only has the interest of women, not its pocketbook, involved in this battle.

By Bill Saunders, Senior Counsel, Americans United for Life. Reprinted from LifeNews.com, November 17, 2010. Edited for space and used with permission.