

Right to Life Newsletter

of Shelby County

March 2011

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www.shelbycountyrctl.org

Volume 38 Issue 3

Building a Culture of Life in Shelby County, Ohio, since 1974

Volunteer Corner

All members should have received a membership letter and form. Please return your dues and volunteer form as soon as possible. And please consider assisting RTL in one or more of our outreaches.

We remember in prayer, clothing center volunteer Velma Holdheide and her husband, Jerome, who was in a serious automobile accident.

Mark your calendar

- The first Scramble for Life Golf Tournament, sponsored by Shelby County RTL, will be held Saturday, May 14. For additional information or sponsorship opportunities contact Julia, 937-489-9129 or scramble4life@gmail.com.
- Deadline for submissions to the April newsletter: March 31.
- Board meeting: April 5, 7 pm.

Clothing center report

We served 136 people during the month of January, of whom 67 received free items, 3 took literature, and 4 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.

Garage Sale: March 24-26

Right to Life's largest fundraiser is its annual garage sale. The sale will be held Thursday-Saturday, March 24-26, at St. Remy Hall in Russia. Hours are 9 am-7 pm on Thursday & Friday, and 9 am-12 pm on Saturday.



To donate good, clean, salable clothing and/or small items please contact the RTL office at 498-1812, or see your church bulletin for your local drop off site. You may also drop items off Wednesday, March 23, at St. Remy Hall from 9 am-6 pm.

Please donate only clean and salable items. Our volunteers take a lot of time organizing the sale items and it adds a great deal of work when they must sort and dispose of damaged or stained items that will not sell. It is also extremely helpful when clothes are sorted by size and bagged/boxed accordingly.

If you would like to donate large items, such as furniture, and are not able to store them until the sale, please contact Maria Hoehne at 937-295-2627.

There is a bake sale and raffle held in conjunction with the garage sale. Baked items may be brought to the garage sale on Wednesday, March 23, from 9 am-6 pm. Additional baked goods will be accepted throughout Thursday of the sale.

Volunteers are needed to help work at the sale, Wednesday-Saturday. A phone call to Karen Rosenbeck, 937-526-5814, would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all our volunteers, donors, and attendees who help to make this event such a success.

Membership Meeting: April 8

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 8, 7-9pm for Shelby County RTL's annual membership meeting. Open to all Right to Life members, the meeting will be held at the American Legion, Sidney (located on 4th Avenue, near the drive-in theater). We are excited to announce our speakers: Bryan Kemper of Stand True (www.standtrue.com) and Dr. Courtney Slonkosky.

Dr. Slonkosky is an ob-gyn at Wilson Memorial Hospital in Sidney, where she practices consistently pro-life medicine through her use of Na-Pro Technology.

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Door to Door for Life



In early April, as part of the spring 40 Days for Life campaign, we are planning a community outreach to ask people to pray for an end to abortion. This is inspired by the group that influenced the conversion of former Planned Parenthood director, Abby Johnson. We need many volunteers to go door to door with flyers. Please contact Anne Schmiesing at 937-492-5584 if you have any interest in participating within your community. Watch for more information in our April newsletter.

We need to reach those who aren't reached by other methods. Please consider helping with this outreach.

Update on Abby Johnson, Unplanned, and the Pill

In our review of former Planned Parenthood director Abby Johnson's book, *Unplanned* (February RTL newsletter), we noted that, although the book is extremely valuable in many ways, Johnson evidently had yet to understand the full implications of promotion of contraception (the birth control pill, in particular). It appears that she now appreciates this connection. Below are excerpts from Abby's blog post (1/10/2011) at www.abbyjohnson.org:

When I worked for Planned Parenthood, I said this ALL of the time. "The only way to reduce the number of abortions is to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies. The only way to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies is to increase the supply of contraceptive methods." ... It kind of seems to make sense when you look at it. But, in reality, it makes no sense at all. It was just another justification I told myself over and over again to help me feel better about the abortions I was party to.

Studies show that contraception DOESN'T actually reduce the number of abortions. A recent study actually showed the opposite. The higher the contraception rate, the higher the abortion rate. ... And here's the truth from my experience. I rarely counseled a woman who was having an abortion that wasn't using a method when she got pregnant.

My husband and I have chosen to use Natural Family Planning, the Creighton Model. It is a very advanced form of fertility management that allows both partners to be involved...the way it was intended. That model may not be for you. You may choose something else. But, I think if women actually knew the dangers of hormonal birth control, they would not likely take it.

One more thing. When do you think life begins? I believe life begins at conception...when the egg and sperm meet.... If you also believe life begins at conception, then you should have a hard time getting behind hormonal methods. Hormonal methods work three ways. One way is to prevent ovulation. But if that fails and "breakthrough ovulation" occurs, then conception can occur. Another way hormonal methods work is by irritating the uterine lining to the point that a fertilized egg (a human person) would not be able to implant on the uterine wall and begin to grow. So, the woman passes the fertilized egg (human person) with her cycle and miscarries without even knowing it. It is sad, but that happens MANY times while women are on hormonal methods. That is why people will say that hormonal methods have an abortifacient property in them...because they can actually cause an abortion.

There is a really great documentary out called "28 Days on the Pill."... It was actually created by Protestant ministers. We need churches to get on board with this and stop pushing the pill and other methods within their congregation. The pill is not healthy for women and for marriages. There are other ways that are better and don't take the lives of children. People need to know the truth.

In memory of
Clarence Meyer and Alvina Riethman,
In whose name memorial donations were received.
+May they rest in peace.+

National Pro-Life T-Shirt Week

Local pro-life group Teens for Truth is organizing an event in conjunction with American Life League's National Pro-Life T-shirt Week. Last year, 119 people from the Botkins and Russia areas purchased shirts and all wore them on the same day. Organizers are hoping to increase participation this year by doubling that number!

The 2011 shirt design can be viewed on ALL's website at www.npltw.com. The dates for this year's event are April 12-18. If you are interested in participating, please contact Kim Poeppelman at pupman@roadrunner.com.

Shelby County RTL is supporting Teens for Truth by subsidizing t-shirt purchases. If you would like to contribute to this cause, please send a check with NPTLW on the memo line to indicate that you wish the money to go toward National Pro-Life T-Shirt Week.

In Memoriam: Abortionist-Turned-Pro-Lifer, Dr. Bernard Nathanson

Dr. Bernard Nathanson died February 21 after a long battle with cancer. Nathanson wasn't always pro-life and he started out as an abortion practitioner based in New York City who presided over more than 75,000 abortions. But the doctor hoped he saved many more lives than that after witnessing an ultrasound and becoming pro-life. He then dedicated his life to ending abortions and his video, the Silent Scream, is considered a classic because it was the first to use the technology of ultrasound to make the unambiguous case that unborn children are human beings who deserve legal protection starting at their earliest days.

The video, showing an unborn baby recoiling from an abortion, and a follow-up titled Eclipse of Reason that explained in great medical detail the different kinds of abortion procedures, solidified Nathanson's standing as a pro-life hero and an authentic convert who would lead the way for others, like Norma McCorvey and Abby Johnson, to follow his footsteps.

"Today our movement mourns the passing of one of its greatest voices for life," pro-life activist Lila Rose told LifeNews.com. "Dr. Nathanson is a testament to God's grace; that any heart can be transformed into a beacon of love and truth."

Nathanson also earned praise for his candid admission that the pro-abortion movement — led by him as the head of the pro-abortion group NARAL — made up huge numbers of women killed and injured by illegal abortions in an attempt to legalize abortion. "We spoke of 5,000 – 10,000 deaths a year...I confess that I knew the figures were totally false..it was a useful figure, widely accepted, so why go out of our way to correct it with honest statistics?"

In 1996, Nathanson wrote his autobiography, *The Hand of God*, in which he shared his journey from abortion practitioner and abortion advocate to becoming pro-life. He noted, regretfully, "I am one of those who helped usher in this barbaric age."

"Once we had ultrasound in place, we could study the fetus and see it was a member of our community. If you don't do that, you're just a creature of political ideology. In 1970, there were approximately 1,100 articles on the functioning of the fetus. By 1990, there were 22,000. The data piled up swiftly and opened a window into the womb," Nathanson continued.

Stephen Vincent of the National Catholic Register, wrote, "His pro-life witness could not easily be dismissed as one-sided propaganda since Nathanson had enjoyed such a high standing among abortion supporters as a co-founder of the National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws (now called NARAL ProChoice America), and as operator of what he called the nation's busiest abortion business."

By Steven Ertelt, LifeNews.com, February 21, 2011. Edited for space and used with permission.



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Membership Meeting Continued from page 1

Bryan Kemper is the founder and president of Stand True Ministries. In 1987, Bryan started his work in the Christian music industry. In 1993, he combined his passion for music and the pro-life cause into one organization, Rock For Life. A passionate and compelling orator, he has spoken at high schools and universities around the world, including Harvard, Princeton, Notre Dame, Queens University in Northern Ireland, Cardiff University in Wales and many more. In the past, he was a regular guest on Politically Incorrect with Bill Maher and co-hosted his own call-in cable show in Portland, Oregon. Bryan has been featured on MTV, radio shows, newspapers, and magazines including the cover of the New York Times and a six-page layout in Swing Generation. Kemper continues his outreach to youth through Stand True Ministries, a Christ-centered pro-life group determined to awaken young people and share the message of life and the Gospel of Christ. Bryan also started the Pro-life Day of Silent Solidarity in 2004, which has grown to one of the largest pro-life events in the world with over 250,000 students from over 4,800 campuses in 28 countries participating last year.

The meeting will also include a financial report by RTL treasurer, Mike Monnier. Please join us for this informative and enjoyable event.

New E-Mail Service

To increase efficiency and reliability, RTL needed to employ a new e-mail service. It is a great improvement that costs us nothing. It is possible, however, that there will be glitches as we transfer our e-mail lists. If you were previously receiving e-mail event announcements and/or e-newsletters and have stopped receiving them, please let us know at director@shelbycountyrctl.org and we'll make sure that your address is on our list. Thank you for your patience.