

## Election 2016: Values to Votes

The challenge of Election Day, Nov. 8, 2016, is to translate pro-life values into votes. Whoever is elected president may have the opportunity to nominate two or three Supreme Court justices. A pro-life Congress could approve or eliminate federal support for abortion, including funding for Planned Parenthood. What can each of us do to ensure a pro-life victory?

--Pray for the election of pro-life candidates. See the prayer for our national elections included on page 4 (back) of this newsletter. Put it on your refrigerator or somewhere you will see and pray it daily.

--Make sure you are registered to vote. Deadline to register is October 11. If you won't be here on November 8, vote absentee. Make sure college students and other family members do the same. For election information, contact the Board of Elections: 937-498-7207 or see the Ohio secretary of state website: [www.sos.state.oh.us](http://www.sos.state.oh.us).

--Inform yourself and others about the positions of the candidates.

--Put a Vote Pro-Life sign in your yard to remind everyone how important it is to do that. (These are available at the thrift shop for \$8.)

--Check out [www.nrlpac.org](http://www.nrlpac.org) and click onto the comparison of the presidential candidates. Make copies and share with others. Go to [www.ohiovotesforlife.org](http://www.ohiovotesforlife.org) for the Ohio RTL PAC endorsements.

Right to Life of Shelby County does not endorse candidates. It is our mission to educate and inform members about life issues and candidate positions. To that end, we offer the following reflection:

How important is it to consider a candidate's devotion to protecting human life, above all other factors? In the context of American history, that question is well answered by considering this question: Do you know anyone who would vote for a candidate who would promote slavery?

*Continued on page 3*



### Fair Booth Thanks

Thank you to Karen and Les Berning and to the many volunteers who staffed the RTL display at the Shelby County Fair. You were a powerful pro-life witness.

### Thrift Shop Report

#### June

190 Customers  
25 Work-to-Earn certificates  
5 Free units (diapers, formula)

#### July

215 Customers  
10 Work-to-Earn certificates  
5 Free units (formula, food)

## “I Was the Person Who Ended Her Life”

*Editor's Note: And Then There Were None is an organization founded by former Planned Parenthood director Abby Johnson. It encourages abortion workers to leave the industry, and facilitates their exit. The following is a recent account from one ex-abortionist (posted June 21, 2016); it is edited for space. See more about Abby and her ministry at [AbortionWorker.com](http://AbortionWorker.com).*

People have asked me why I became a doctor who performed abortions. If I'm honest, the original draw was the money. I didn't have to take calls. I didn't have to work any emergencies. I walked into the clinic, worked a few hours and walked out with a paycheck for several thousand dollars. Over time, I convinced myself that I was part of a noble mission to help women in their time of need. After all, if it wasn't for me, these women would be self-aborting.

I never talked about what I did when asked by my colleagues or even family members. They knew I was a doctor and that was really all I disclosed. If I was really helping women, I couldn't figure out why I was ashamed of my work.

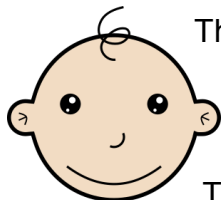
All of my immediate family knew, of course. But there were differences in opinion, so everyone stayed silent. Well, almost everyone. One of my close family members started inviting me to church. I went because I was proud of them and of the role they had taken on in ministry. I had grown up in church, but had fallen away from my faith in college. I didn't know what to expect, but surprisingly enjoyed the service. So when they asked me to come again, I agreed.

One Sunday after church, this particular family member took me to lunch and confronted me about my work. I could tell it made them very uncomfortable, but I really admired their courage. And to be perfectly honest, I felt challenged. I realized during our talk that I had brought shame and embarrassment to my family. I had taken this job because the money enticed me. I wanted to be able to provide for my family with "things." What I realized is that there were no amount of "things" I could buy that would make up for the shame I had caused them.

So then what? I was in a contract with my current employer and I didn't think there was any way I could give up my job. I figured I would just keep doing what I was doing until my contract ran out.

Life changed for me during a 16-17 week abortion. I was performing a D&E procedure and had already pulled off both legs of this small human being. Every once in a while, you begin to pull out the fetus and the majority of the body will come out intact. I began to pull on the torso and the rest of the body came out whole. The arms, head, and torso were all still attached. I was moving the body to the tray for disposal and a slight movement caught my eye. I looked at this tiny chest and saw it moving up and down. Life was outside that woman's womb, even just for a few seconds.

And there I was. I was holding this tiny body. An overwhelming remorse flooded my body. I had violently removed this child's legs while she was still alive. I did that. She felt it. I was the last person to hold her alive, yet I was the person who ended her life. In that moment, I was thankful that she didn't have the ability to open her eyes. I wouldn't have wanted my face to be the first one she would have seen. Now I have hope that the first face she saw was the face of Jesus.



That was when I knew I had to leave, no matter the consequences. I would be breaking my contract and I knew that would be financially devastating. I didn't know if I would be able to work as a doctor again. I honestly didn't know if I would ever be able to recover from what I had done.

Then I talked to Abby and I knew there was hope. There was more than hope. I knew this change in my life would soon be a reality. I have since left my job and am soon starting a new position at a facility that upholds the sacredness of human life. I have a long way to go. I still have a lot of things to work through, a lot of beliefs that are being challenged. I have a lifetime of healing to do, but knowing that I'm not doing it alone, that I have the support of Abby and her ministry is helping me put one foot in front of the other.

## September/October Prayer Intentions

For the success of the Fall 2016, 40 Days for Life campaign, in particular for our local Life Chain.



## Pro-Life Conference: September 24

Every year the LifeTech Conference in Dayton brings together outstanding speakers from around the state to address timely issues related to the pro-life cause. The keynote speaker this year is Dr. Dennis Sullivan of Cedarville University, who will discuss “Gene Editing and Designer Babies.” The conference will be held at the University of Dayton on Saturday, September 24. For more information and to register, see [www.lifetechconference.org](http://www.lifetechconference.org).

## Election Reflection *continued from page 1*

Even if he claimed to be “personally against slavery”? Even if she seemed to have good economic policies? No one would support such a candidate today. It should also be the case that no one would support a candidate who accepts laws that permit or fund the killing of pre-born children and disabled or aged adults. Abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, embryonic stem cell research, and human cloning entail the intentional killing of innocent human beings at particular stages of life. Anyone who considers these practices wrong has an obligation to evaluate the following critical questions.

First and foremost, is the candidate truly dedicated to protecting all human beings from the moment of conception onward? If no, then it would be detrimental to the defense of innocent life to vote for this candidate and to do so would be cooperating in his pro-death efforts. This candidate may be supported only if there is no alternative pro-life candidate, and he is judged to be the one who would be least harmful to the cause of life.

If yes, the candidate is pro-life, then he may be supported. If both (or all) candidates are pro-life, the following questions may be helpful in distinguishing among them: Has the candidate ever publicly supported another candidate who does not support protection for human life? Does the platform of her political party reflect a pro-life point of view?

The most recent Democratic Party platform reads:

Democrats are committed to protecting and advancing reproductive health, rights, and justice. We believe unequivocally, like the majority of Americans, that every woman should have access to quality reproductive health care services, including safe and legal abortion ... We will continue to stand up to Republican efforts to defund Planned Parenthood health centers, which provide critical health services to millions of people.

The most recent Republican Party platform reads:

We assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed ... We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood, so long as they provide or refer for elective abortions or sell fetal body parts rather than provide healthcare.

If we are to change the political culture in our country to one that is pro-life, voters of all parties need to make this set of questions the primary concern in election decisions. We need to translate pro-life values into pro-life votes.

*In memory of Ronald F. Bergman,*

*In whose name a memorial donation was made to Right to Life.*

*+ May he rest in peace +*

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## A Prayer for National Elections

O God, we acknowledge you today as Lord, not only of individuals, but of nations and governments.

We thank you for the privilege of being able to organize ourselves politically, and of knowing that political loyalty does not have to mean disloyalty to you.

We thank you for your law, which our Founding Fathers acknowledged and recognized as higher than any human law. We thank you for the opportunity that this election year puts before us, to exercise our solemn duty not only to vote, but to influence countless others to vote, and to vote correctly.

Lord, we pray that your people may be awakened. Let them realize that while politics is not their salvation, Their response to you requires that they be politically active.

Awaken your people to know that they are not called to be a sect fleeing the world, but rather a community of faith renewing the world.

Awaken them that the same hands lifted up to you in prayer are the hands that pull the lever in the voting booth; that the same eyes that read your Word are the eyes that read the names on the ballot, And that they do not cease to be Christians when they enter the voting booth.

Awaken your people to a commitment to justice; to the sanctity of marriage and the family, To the dignity of each individual human life, and to the truth that human rights begin when human lives begin, And not one moment later.

Lord, we rejoice today that we are citizens of your kingdom. May that make us all the more committed To being faithful citizens on earth. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Join us for the Life Chain: Sunday, October 2, 2:30pm on the court square.**