

## Upcoming Events In September and Respect Life Month

### “40 Hours for Life” Prayer Vigil

At Immaculate Conception (Botkins) and St. Joseph (Wapak) churches (hosted by the Respect Life Committee at Petersburg Parishes): **Wednesday September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 am** and ending at 10:00 pm on Thursday September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The vigil ties in with the national [40 Days for Life prayer activities](#). Anyone is welcome to stop in and pray during those “40 Hours.” No sign ups are necessary.

**Winston’s Ride for Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness: Poker Run, Raffle, Dinner Saturday, October 9. Registration: 10am-11am** at Cruisers Bar in Russia. Event ends at River’s Edge Bar in Sidney (with stops in Newport, Minster, Botkins). \$25/bike or car; \$10/rider includes dinner and entertainment. Prizes for top 3 hands, plus raffle prizes. Proceeds go to Morgan’s Place Cemetery for early infant loss. [Flyer](#) can be found at [Morgan’s Place Facebook page](#).

### Life Chain

**Sunday, October 10, 2:30-3:30pm** at the courthouse in Sidney. (This is one weekend later than usual.) Life Chain is a national event for prayer and public witness. One of the winners from the 2021 Pro-Life Oratory Contest will also present her speech during the event.

## Back to School With Pro-Life Tools

Shelby County Right to Life, with other local organizations, participated in the Back To School Bash sponsored by the Salvation Army, providing back-to-school supplies with a pro-life message.

We also have **speakers available** for school and church gatherings to address prenatal development, and abortion issues in schools and church meetings (email [director@shelbycountyrtrl.org](mailto:director@shelbycountyrtrl.org), if interested in scheduling.) Equipping students to speak knowledgeably about respect life issues is imperative. While we are passing on tools and ideals meant to protect human life and dignity, unfortunately many schools, around the country and Ohio, push ideologies of sexual decadence and radical pro-abortion stances. Family Policy Alliance reports: “Many schools overtly push gender transition as a good and viable option for kids to consider...fanning the flames of the “transgender contagion” especially among middle- and high-

school girls. Radical sex-ed programs—starting as early as kindergarten—are in full swing throughout the country. It’s not just in liberal states; even in conservative Idaho, for example, some sex-ed programs teach boys and girls sex acts—to engage in alone or with another—complete with graphic illustrations.” Some schools distribute flyers to students “informing them of their ‘rights’ to have sex or to get abortions without their parents’ consent.”

Even if students in Shelby County schools are relatively protected from this, they are a minority when it comes time for college. Deborah Bunting, of the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) reports on universities that distribute abortion pills to students.

*Continued on page 4.*

## Thrift Shop Report

### *Month of July*

271 Customers  
3 Work-to-Earn Shifts  
121 Units, Assistance Program

### *Month of August*

318 Customers  
7 Work-to-Earn Shifts  
153 Units, Assistance Program

## September-October Prayer Intentions

For college professors and administrators to respect religious freedom and human dignity of those born and unborn. For college students to remain firm in their pro-life, pro-family beliefs, to find like-minded peers to stand uninfected by a sickly culture.



The new Pro-Life Flag chosen by pro-lifers around the world. For more information see: [www.prolifeflag.com](http://www.prolifeflag.com)

Right to Life booth at the 2021 Back to School Bash



Visitors to the Right to Life booth at the Shelby County Fair

## Abortion Statistics 1, 2, & 3

### #1—Teen abortion rates drop significantly, along with reduced teen sexual activity

Drawing on data from the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute and other sources, Life Issues Institute reports: “Between 1980 and 2017 the data shows a long-term, ***jaw-dropping decline of over 82% in the abortion rate among females 15-19.*** At the same time, the abortion rate for women 35-39 dropped by only 8.5%. Adding to that impact were over 10% more pregnant females 15-19 who chose life for their babies. But more importantly, teenagers are now much less likely to become pregnant. After peaking in 1990, the *pregnancy rate for girls 15-19 dropped by 73%*. Dr. New credits the ‘substantial long-term decline in teen pregnancy’ to the fact that between 1988 and 2015, more teens avoided sexual activity – 22% more boys and 9% more girls.”

Excerpt from [www.lifeissues.org](http://www.lifeissues.org), [“The Secret of Our Success,” January 3, 2021](#)

### #2—More than two-thirds of the world does more to limit abortion than the US

“America is one of only a handful of nations that allows legal abortion throughout pregnancy. We are in the company of China and North Korea.”

Excerpt from [www.lifeissues.org](http://www.lifeissues.org), [“Dobbs Late-term Abortion Case,” August 30, 2021](#)

### #3—57% of Millennials Oppose Roe v. Wade Says Recent Poll by Students for Life

“More Millennials and Gen Z supported reversing *Roe* and sending abortion policy to the voters than opposed it, by a margin of 44% in favor to 36% opposed and 18% unsure. When they learn about what *Roe v. Wade* actually does, Millennial and Gen Z oppose it. Looking at the big picture, 57% to 30% oppose *Roe* when they learn it allows for abortion through all 9 months. This is an increase of 6 percent, as a 2019 SFLA poll found that 51% supported reversing *Roe* when they learned about its extremism.

“Millennials and Gen Z were also supportive of the free speech rights of their pro-life fellow students and of requiring examinations before and after the sale and use of dangerous Chemical Abortion Pills. They opposed the ‘No Test’ protocol for Chemical Abortion allowing on-line sales of the life-ending drugs to stop abusers from getting the pills anonymously to slip to women without their knowledge and consent. Issue by issue, the perspectives of young American voters targeted for abortion are very different from the talking points of the powerful abortion lobby, and there is common ground for those who want to find it.”

Excerpt from <https://www.lifenews.com>, [“New Poll Shows 80% of Millennials oppose Abortions up to Birth, 57% Oppose Roe v. Wade”](#), *By Students for Life, January 27, 2021*



In memory of Joyce Lambert and longtime member Carole Carruthers in whose names memorials were made to Right to Life. May they rest in peace. Thank you for the many donations made in honor of Ann Cordonnier last month.

## FDA Waives Safety Precautions for Chemical Abortions

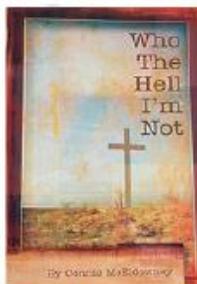
Greater Toledo Right to Life provided details of this news. Meg DeBlase, Chair, RTLACO Legislative Review Analysis Task Force, stated: "The Biden administration's action to allow the abortion pill to be mailed to pregnant, vulnerable women is reckless and inhumane. In Ohio, the number of medication abortions has increased by over 30% percent the past five years. Planned Parenthood and the rest of the abortion industry are pushing the abortion pill because it's less costly and skirts around many of the regulations put in place on surgical abortions. However, statistics show that there are many more complications with the abortion pill than surgical abortions. As such, it's critical that doctors examine a woman before prescribing abortion pills. It is painfully obvious that Biden and his party have no regard for women's health and well-being." The American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AAPLOG) have taken a stance opposing the FDA's decision to reverse the REMS regarding Mifepristone.

*Excerpted from a press release by Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio April 2021*

### Stories of Rustic Hope

Rustic Hope, in Russia, Ohio, is well known in Shelby County and beyond for its gritty and thorough assistance of families who face serious obstacles in raising their children. Many people may be unaware, however, of just how extensive and life-changing that assistance can be, how the story began or how dire the needs of many who turn to Rustic Hope for help. Founder, Connie McEldowney, reveals the continuous inspiration for this ministry, in her recently published book already in its second printing. It's a community of generous people who, inspiring steps of faith, have a vehicle giving.

Reading this book may challenge help others? Should I have greater Those are questions that should does not call everyone to the same front of us opportunities to be the leaven in others' lives.



story of faith, loving outreach and a by Craig and Connie McEldowney's for touching many souls with their prolific

you to think, "Should I be doing more to faith that God's path for me will bear fruit?" motivate all of us, keeping in mind that God tasks, but as Connie notes, God puts in

Books can be purchased at Revive in Sidney, Cornerstone Bookstore in New Bremen, and the Maria Stein Shrine Gift Shop. Books sell for \$15 each with all profits benefitting Rustic Hope.

### High Courts Uphold Texas Pro-Life Laws With Forceful Language

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals [Aug. 2021] handed the pro-life movement a significant victory by upholding a Texas law protecting the state's unborn babies and their mothers. The legislation referred to as SB8 stops live-dismemberment abortion, a particularly brutal and gruesome act.

While this victory is of enormous importance, there was an added gift tucked within the pages of the majority opinion authored by Judges Jennifer Walker Elrod and Don R Willet. The authors begin their majority opinion sharing the Texas Legislature's definition of live-dismemberment abortion.

*[The abortion] dismembers the living unborn child and extracts the unborn child one piece at a time from the uterus through the use of clamps, grasping forceps, tongs, scissors, or a similar instrument that, through the convergence of two rigid levers, slices, crushes, or grasps, or performs any combination of those actions on, a piece of the unborn child's body to cut or rip the piece from the body.*

The judges went on to write: *Dismemberment D&Es (Dilation and Evacuation) are self-evidently gruesome. It has long been illegal to kill capital prisoners by dismemberment...It is also illegal to dismember living animals...The State urges that SB8 would simply extend the same protection to fetuses.*

Excerpted from [www.lifeissues.org](http://www.lifeissues.org), "[Its How They Say It.](#)" by Brad Mattes, Aug 27, 2021

As of September, Texas is also the first state to have an enforceable "Heartbeat Law" in effect after SCOTUS declined to hear appeals against the law which protects pre-born children after a heartbeat is detectable. [Personhood.org](http://Personhood.org) has a good article about the pros and cons of the law.

## Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is the modern day practice of slavery. Victims of human trafficking are often forced or coerced into labor or sexual exploitation for the financial gain of another person. It comprises the fastest growing criminal industry in the world and it is the third most profitable criminal industry, behind drug and weapon trafficking. Sex trafficking victims, on average, are first exploited by their trafficker at the age of 13.

Much like abortion, human trafficking thrives because of society's general lack of respect and value for the inherent dignity of human life. Just as the abortion industry uses the unborn child for profit, the trafficker also profits off of the vulnerable woman whom he sees as disposable.

Human trafficking harms women, men and children and takes away their right to their own lives. Human trafficking is a threat to the right to life of unborn children. Human trafficking enables forced abortions to thrive, especially in a society that does not hold abortion clinics accountable for under reporting sexual abuse.

Each year, 3,016 domestic Ohio youth are at-risk for sex trafficking because of their vulnerable status as runaways or homeless. Another 1,078 youth have already been trafficked into the sex trade. In 2010, Toledo was listed among the worst cities for human trafficking in the United States. Given the city's population in comparison to other human trafficking hubs, such as Miami, Sacramento, Portland and Las Vegas, Toledo can be considered one of the worst of its kind per capita.

If you or someone you know needs help, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) toll-free hotline, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-888-373-7888 to speak with a specially trained NHTRC Call Specialist.

*This article is from Ohio Right to Life Website <https://www.ohiolife.org/issues>*

### **Back to School With Pro-Life Tools** *Continued from page 1*

According to Bunting, efforts are underway to curtail the dangerous abortion practices at universities. "A group of Republican lawmakers has introduced a bill that would pull taxpayer funding from universities that offer abortion pills to their students. Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT), U.S. Rep. Mary Miller (R-IL), and U.S. Rep. Chip Roy (R-TX) co-sponsored the legislation.

" 'A college dorm room is no place to have a do-it-yourself abortion, and the American taxpayer should not be paying for the destruction of innocent human life on our college campuses,' Roy said. 'The Protecting Life on College Campuses Act is about guarding young college women and their unborn children from the predatory abortion industry's radical and reckless push for universal access to abortions.'

"The bill is a direct response to a 2019 California bill requiring public universities to provide chemical abortion pills to students by 2023. Signed into law by Democrat Gov. Gavin Newsom, California's law was the first in the nation to require abortion medication on campuses." (See full story at Christian Broadcasting Network, "[Legislators-trying-to-stop-federal-funding](#)," July 22, 2021.)

Most universities have become minefields of immoral and destructive ideologies, with some tied to the abortion industry. For example, the University of Pittsburgh has been identified by the Center for Medical Progress (CMP) and Judicial Watch as "a 'fetal distribution hub' with 'over 18 years of experience' collecting aborted baby body parts, making it an ideal candidate for supplying NIH researchers with fetal tissue. The University of Pittsburgh went on to explain that 'labor induction' is the 'procedure that will be used to obtain the tissue.' As CMP noted, 'if the fetus' heartbeat and blood circulation continue in a labor induction abortion for harvesting organs, it means the fetus is being delivered while still alive and the cause of death is the removal of the organs.' "

The University of Pittsburgh is also noted to have racial quotas for fetal tissue, with 50% coming from minorities, including a full 25% from black women. (See more at [LiveAction.org/news/university-pittsburgh-harvesting-organs-abortion-survivors-minorities/](#), August 4, 2021)