



NEWS FOR LIFE!

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KEEPING LIFE IN VIEW

January brings the Roe v Wade Anniversary, Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, the National March for Life and, in Traverse City, January also brings the GTARTL Billboard Project Drive! We will be gearing up for another full year of keeping the Pro-Life message before the eyes of this community, and we're counting on your help to make it happen. Have you noticed our billboards as you drive around Traverse City? Our choices of location are limited to those not already purchased by commercial customers. Nevertheless, we've had some nice spots! There's a new board in a new location each month, and we run a little contest on Facebook—first one to tell us where it is gets a "Precious Feet" pin! We'd love to put up more billboards to cover more areas and the only reason we can't is financial. That's where you and your church come in. We have a great way to get the message of life out. Will you help us do it? Donors will be acknowledged on our website. For \$425, you can sponsor an entire billboard for a month. We received word that one church has already put that in their 2020 budget! What a blessing! Could your church do that too? Area churches will be receiving details later in December. They will have information and sign-up/donation sheets available for several Sundays in January for individual participation. Please also watch Facebook and Instagram for further details.

Mary's Pregnancy...
unplanned

God's Son...**PLANNED**

Merry Christmas!



231-946-9469 WWW.GTARTL.COM

Student-Led Local Pro-Life Event

For the 7th year in a row, the students at St. Mary School in Lake Leelanau will be sponsoring a pro-life event, marking the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. The event will be held on Friday, January 24, at 1pm. When we went to press, details had not yet been decided, but they will be on Facebook and at gtartl.com on the Teens for Life page as they become available. Or you can contact Mary Lingaur at mlingaur@stmarysll.org or 231-256-9670. As in previous years, this is a community event and **everyone** is welcome to join in.

January 24 in Washington DC



The National March for Life is Friday, January 24th at noon. Our friends at Gaylord Right to Life have 2 charter buses going and you are welcome. The cost is \$135 per person. \$35 reserves a seat (get it in ASAP— they are filling up fast!), with the balance due by January 17. Get more information and sign up at www.gaylordrighttolife.com or call Barbi at 989-731-4756 or Sherry at 989-619-9040.



Sanctity of Human Life Sunday is January 19, 2020

Are there plans to honor life at your church?

If not, maybe YOU are the one who could Change that!

We'd love to help with ideas and resources. Call us at 946-9469!!



Thank You to All Focus on Life Benefit Challenge Sponsors

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 Agostinelli Builders, Inc.
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 Michael & Syrena Marie Bean
 Dan & Sue Boss
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 Ronald & Sandra Turek
 Kayla VanMaanen
 Giorgio & Laura Vozza



On June 26th, Right to Life of Michigan held a press conference in Lansing to officially “kick-off” our Michigan Values Life petition drive. More than half a dozen organizations joined in the press conference, speaking of their support and pledging their help in collecting signatures.

The 180-day window to collect signatures ends on December 23. Local pro-lifers have been collecting signatures at their churches and other gatherings since July. We’ve even had some people volunteer to go and help churches that would like to participate but are unsure of the particulars. At the halfway point, Right to Life of Michigan reported that we were halfway to the total goal of 400,000, and as we go to press, we’re still collecting. We’d like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who has helped in any way. We appreciate you more than you could ever know. More information about the petition can be found on the petition drive website, www.michiganvalueslife.org.

2019 FOCUS ON LIFE DINNER

Over 500 life supporters gathered in the Governor's Ballroom at the Grand Traverse Resort on September 30 for the 2019 Focus on Life Dinner. Guests were treated to a lovely meal and great fellowship followed by an amazingly educational and inspiring speech; and topped off by the 2019 Baby of the Year Contest. Featured speaker Mary Rathke, who herself was conceived in rape, related her life story and touched on issues of defending life even when conceived in rape or delivered prematurely with a poor prognosis. She says, “My mother and I were both victims. You don’t kill one victim to make the other feel better. Pregnancy is temporary, death is permanent.” She received a standing ovation in response to her story of victimhood and hope. Master of Ceremonies, Deacon Kevin Endres did a wonderful job of making sure the evening went smoothly. Brian Cusack of Right to Life of Michigan delivered a stirring appeal. Thank you to everyone who gave of their time and resources to make the evening possible. And a big thank you to all who came and helped make the year’s major fundraiser a success.



Next year's Dinner will be held on September 28, 2020. Save the date!!

Meet Clarabelle Gooden - 2019 Baby of the Year!



After almost 3 years and 2 miscarriages, little Clarabelle was born at 24 weeks and 6 days, weighing 1 lb 14 oz and measuring 12 inches. Her parents were told that she had less than 25% chance of making it past 72 hours. She spent 100 days at DeVos Children's Hospital and amazed the staff with her progress. She continues to exceed all expectations and now is a healthy 14+ pounds and 24 inches. She's mom and dad's little miracle.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE REPORT: Fall 2019 Campaign

Thanks to everyone who participated. Our deep respect to Jeff Bergman for his leadership and dedication. Jeff was onsite at Planned Parenthood most days and kept us informed this year with a daily email “from the trenches.” Contact Jeff at mibergman@charter.net or 231-342-7028 to arrange a showing of *Unplanned* at your church. The Spring 2020 40 Days for Life campaign runs February 26, through April 5, 2020. See you there!

TEENS FOR LIFE NEWS

What a great time to be involved with Teens for Life - so many exciting things going on! The groups at St. Francis and St. Mary are going strong and a new group is getting started at TC Christian! Several students who don't yet have a formal group are nonetheless becoming involved with activities, and there is excitement in the air! Students have been active with the Baby of the Year Contest fundraiser, with directing traffic at the Focus on Life Dinner, and with circulating the petition to end Dismemberment Abortion. Very shortly, they will be recording "Teen Moment" radio spots which are slated to air on WLJN! There are plans in the works to provide area church youth groups with prepared Pro-life Moments, which will be short lessons on pro-life apologetics for youth. The idea has been well-received by our local churches and we are excited to provide them with helpful material. There are many other ideas in the works including a youth contest to design a billboard and possibly a local pro-life mini-conference for teens! March will bring competition for the Outstanding Pro-Life Youth Award and the annual Oratory Contest. For information about Teens for Life, please contact Tfl Coordinator, Wendy Fulton at gtateensforlife@gmail.com



Preparing to shower the Baby of the Year

Thanks to our Focus on Life TABLE CAPTAINS!

Ace Welding
Art and Theresa Bak
Lawrence Bunchek
Christ the King Catholic Church
Stephanie & Scott Coggan
Donna Daciuk
Diocese of Gaylord
Pam & Pat Dunphey
Jon & Wendy Fulton
Jeff & Shelly Grant
Robert & Diane Gregory
GTACS
Terry and Amy Harper
Holy Rosary Church
Immaculate Conception Church
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Jade Tool
Ken and Pat Kleinrichert Sr
John Krcmarik
Betty Kunkel
Sheila McIntyre
Patrick & Beth McIntyre
Bridget McManus
Shirley Mikowski
Pete and Lisa Miller
Aggie Ochs
Old Mission Windows
Dana & Ron Olm
Mary Orth
Ann Pasch
Pete & Mary Jo Piche
Pregnancy Care Center
Jozell & Doug Rexroat
Mark and Michelle Salgat
Robert & Terri Shoemaker
Dan and Jan Shoup
Rick & Carrie Skendzel
Laurence and Jean Skendzel
Margaret Smedley
St Francis Catholic Church
St Mary Lake Leelanau Parish
St Philip Neri Catholic Church
Steve Yoder



Grand Traverse Area Right to Life is sponsoring a Bible study to help post-abortive women in the healing process. *Surrendering the Secret* is a powerful, video-based Bible Study that walks hurting post-abortive women through 8 steps to healing and freedom through the hope of Scripture. Sessions include meaningful hands-on experiences; unique journaling exercises; and confidential, caring community, led by someone who understands the heartbreak of abortion from personal experience. A new 8-week Session starts on January 14, 2020. There is no charge. Go to GTARTL.com, "Other Resources", "Post Abortive Help" for more information and to sign up privately. Or call 231-946-9469 or 231-633-9994 and talk to Mary.

HELP WANTED

Looking for a way to get more involved with life issues but not sure what you can do? We need YOU! Much of what we do gets accomplished through the local churches, so we need a dedicated representative in the cause of life to help. We are looking for pro-lifers to be the liaison between their church and GTARTL. It's not hard. Please call our office at 946-9469 for details with no obligation. You can help advance the cause of life and make sure that pro-lifers in your church are not left out.

Thanks to our DINNER COMMITTEE

Sandra Call
Donna Daciuk
Mary Jackowski
Betty Kunkel
Mary Lingaur
Patrick McIntyre
Sheila McIntyre
Lisa Miller
Dana Olm
Mary Jo Piché
Jozell Rexroat
Barbi Aumiller
Brian Cusack
Randy Royston

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, February 24, 2020, 6:30 pm
Grand Traverse Area Right to Life Office

This serves as official notice to all GTARTL Members of this Annual Meeting at which board members will be elected. All Members are invited to participate.

DID YOU KNOW? If a woman takes an abortion pill there may be time to reverse it? Live advice and information about referrals for medical support can be found here 24/7: <https://www.abortiondrugfacts.com>



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Dedicated to the preservation of all human life from fertilization to natural death

Phone: 231-946-9469
www.gtartl.com
office@gtartl.com

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

**merry
CHRISTMAS!**

Pro-Life Library Wants

We're expanding our lending library. Here's a list of books and DVDs we'd like to add. Can you help?

40 Days for Life Discover what God has done... imagine what He can do, by David Bereit, Shawn Carney, and Cindy Lambert

Courageous Students Abolishing Abortion in This Lifetime, by Kristan Hawkins

Hand of God A Journey from Death to Life by The Abortion Doctor Who Changed His Mind, by Dr. Bernard Nathanson

Persuasive Pro-Life How to Talk about Our Culture's Toughest Issue, by Trent Horn

Pro-Life 101 A Step-by-Step Guide to Making Your Case Persuasively, by Scott Klusendorf

The Beginning of the End of Abortion 40 Inspiring Stories of God Changing Hearts and Saving Lives, by Shawn Carney and Cindy Lambert

The Case for Life Equipping Christians to Engage the Culture, by Scott Klusendorf

DVDs: **Bella** **October Baby** **Unplanned**

Mark Your Calendar

Dec 24 & 25 - Office closed for Christmas

Dec 31 & Jan 1 - Office closed for New Year

Jan 19- Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

Jan 24- March for Life, Washington DC

Jan 24- Pro-Life Event, St. Mary's youth, Lake Leelanau

Feb 24 - Board & Annual Membership Meeting

Feb 26 - 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign begins

March- Oratory contest- Details TBA/TFL Facebook

Local Contacts

GTARTL Board of Directors

Mary Orth (Chairman), Dana Olm (President), Mary Jo Piché (Vice President), Pete Miller (Treasurer), Donna Daciuk, Dr. John Krcmarik, Mary Lingaur, Patrick McIntyre, Lisa Miller, Jozell Rexroat, Fr. Mitchel Roman, Neil Witkowski, and at-large member: Pastor Paul Silbor

Office Staff

Mary Jackowski - Director of Operations
Bonnie Comfort - Administrative Assistant

Teens for Life Coordinator

Wendy Fulton

Michigan Representative:

Barbi Aumiller (989) 731-4756

28-Aug Mary Ann Kolarik	In Memory of Dave Grant
30-Aug Mary Ann Kolarik	In Memory of Bill Grant
1-Sep Michael & Becky Dornoff	For Taylor Ann, in the arms of Jesus, on your Birthday
4-Sep Leonard & Linda Ritola	Happy Anniversary Bernadette & Dave!
14-Sep Fred & Cathy Swaffer	Happy Birthday, Rachel!
14-Sep Linda Emmert	In Memory of Bill Emmert
30-Sep Dave & Bernadette Dzwik	Happy Birthday Owen & Sophie
2-Oct Leonard & Linda Ritola	For our Children
5-Oct Gerald & Roberta Kolak	In Honor of our Grandchildren: Alex, David, Haven, Jacob and Rowan
8-Oct Pat Roebke	In Memory of My Mother
8-Oct Pat Roebke	In Memory of Carolyn Swisher
14-Oct Mary Orth	Happy Heavenly Birthday, Brother Jerry Miller
18-Oct Patricia Alpers	In Memory of Jim Alpers
18-Oct Dave & Bernadette Dzwik	Happy Birthday Emma
18-Oct Mary Orth	In Memory of my Dear Friend Ida "Idie" Tompkins. Happy Birthday
20-Oct Fred & Cathy Swaffer	Happy Birthday, Zach!
24-Oct Jason & Suzanne Allen	In Memory of Jack Edward Allen
5-Nov Leonard & Linda Ritola	For our Grandchildren
9-Nov Bill & Connie Biggar	Happy Birthday Matthew Biggar!
15-Nov Mary Orth	In Honor of our Parents' Wedding Anniversary. We miss you. ALL 14 of Your Children
18-Nov Patrick & Janet Fraley	For our Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren
28-Nov Rose Reinbold	Forever in Loving Memory of my Precious Granddaughter Kerstin Marie Colmus
2-Dec Michael & Becky Dornoff	For Joshua, in the arms of Jesus, on your Birthday
4-Dec Jeff & Peggy Critchfield	Thank you, Lord, for the family You've given us!
25-Dec Rose Reinbold	Forever in Loving Memory of my Precious Granddaughter Kerstin Marie Colmus
25-Dec Shirley Schopieray	For My Children, Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren
26-Dec Michael & Becky Dornoff	For Mikey, in the arms of Jesus, on your Birthday.
31-Dec Bill & Connie Biggar	Happy Birthday, Tina Biggar!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR NEW OR RENEWED MEMBERSHIP!

Daryl & Kathy Couturier, Sheralyn Beattie, Gerald & Geneva Lamie, Raymond Hosek, Pat Roebke, Shirley Schopieray, David & Elaine Kozlowski, Delores Eikey, Jeff & Shelly Grant, Brian & Mary Jackowski, Constance M. Sarya, Jeff & Peggy Critchfield, John & Mary Penny and Tom & Suzanne Borsos

*Thank you for your formal membership in Grand Traverse Area Right to Life.
We also deeply appreciate your previous support and donations to our cause.*

Insert - GTARTL NEWS FOR LIFE Vol 31 Issue 3, December 2019

Thank You!

To all our listed
Open Doors Sponsors...

We offer our sincere gratitude to those who have supported our program over the last few months. Donations help to cover operating expenses and keep our doors open to serve you. Open Doors helps to maintain a strong Pro-Life presence within our community. There are many days available in the upcoming months that we need sponsored. Please consider honoring your loved ones by helping defend the

precious
Gift
of
LIFE



GRAND TRAVERSE AREA RIGHT TO LIFE OPEN DOORS ... OPEN HEARTS

Serving Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, and Wexford Counties

HELP KEEP OUR DOORS OPEN!

Open Doors Sponsorship

Make a dedication to a loved one, living or deceased, or honor a special occasion and help keep our doors open. Recent sponsor names and dedications are on the reverse of this flyer.

Dedication Date: _____

Dedication Date: _____

Dedication Reads: _____

Dedication Reads: _____

Dedication Date(s): _____

Dedication Reads: _____

Number of Dedication Dates _____ x \$25 = Total: \$ _____

Membership Matters!

Your membership in GTARTL gives you a dual membership with Right to Life of Michigan and contributes to statewide efforts in legislative, election and education efforts as well as supporting your local office. **Annual membership is from July 1 through June 30.** You can join at any time - please contact us with questions about pro-rated membership fees.

1 Year Membership - July 1 - June 30 - (Please Circle Type)

Business - \$500 Red Rose - \$200 Gold - \$100 Silver - \$50

Family - \$40 Single - \$20 Senior- \$15 Student - \$ 5 Membership Total: \$ _____

Please **circle** method of payment:

CHECK (enclosed) VISA MASTERCARD

Card Number _____

Expiration Date: _____ Code _____

Total Sponsorship: \$ _____

Total Membership: \$ _____

Other Donation: \$ _____

Grand Total: \$ _____

EVERYONE please complete: (regardless of payment type)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please make checks payable to Grand Traverse Area Right to Life
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