

Knox County Right To Life
P.O. Box 1462
Galesburg, IL 61402-1462

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITE LINKS!

Illinois Federation for Right To Life

www.ifrl.org

National Right To Life Committee

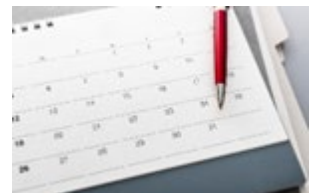
www.nrlc.org

Knox County Right To Life

www.knoxcountyrighttolife.org

Women's Pregnancy Center

www.womenspregnancycenterofgalesburg.org



KNOX COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE

Fall 2024

Note From Our President

Greetings to all Knox County Right To Life members!

Thank you for continuing to stand up for those who have no voice or those whose voices are disregarded – the unborn, disabled, and the elderly. We still fight for them, especially in Illinois. Illinois does not require a pregnant woman to attend a counseling session or go through a waiting period before getting an abortion and parental involvement is not required in Illinois even if you're younger than 18. Abortion in Illinois is legal until "viability." Viability is the stage of pregnancy when a fetus has developed enough that it can survive outside the uterus with medical help, which is usually around the 24th week of pregnancy. "The consensus is that deliveries before 23 weeks have a 5–6% survival rate" (The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists). I personally was at the birth of a granddaughter when my daughter was 20 weeks pregnant. My granddaughter never took a breath, and the hospital guidelines did not allow for any attempt to revive or aid her (or any baby) until at least 22 weeks of gestation.

According to 2024 CDC (U. S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention) information of their most recent abortion statistics there were 625,978 legally induced abortions in the year 2021. "In 2021, 53.0% of all abortions were early medication abortions. Use of early medication abortion increased 137% from 2012 to 2021." In Illinois, abortion pills require no video visit or office visit for the first ten weeks of pregnancy.

The May 2024 Guttmacher Institute report shows that an estimated 1,037,000 abortions occurred in the United States formal health care system in 2023, the first full calendar year after the US Supreme Court's decision overturned Roe v. Wade. From 1973 to date, the highest number of annual abortions in the United States was 1.6 million in 1990, and the number in 2023 puts our country on the path to reach or go beyond that if we do nothing. Illinois saw an abortion increase of 71% in 2023. Much of the increase was due to providing abortion care to patients from out of state, accounting for 69% of its overall increase.

What can you do? Continue to talk to your families and those around you about how abortions hurt people. If you missed the Interdenominational Prayer Service in June, here is the website with excellent videos you can share. <https://www.americanprolifemovement.com>. We had around 60 people attend the Prayer Service, and they donated over \$900 toward the Galesburg Women's Pregnancy Center. You can attend our monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, our next meeting is September 10th at 7:00 p.m. at First Church of God, 1080 Harrison Street. See if your church is participating in "Adopt-a-Day to Pray" in October. If not, ask your pastor to let us know of a contact person at your church to distribute the information or contact me for the information to pray on your own. Take part in Life Chain on Sunday, October 6th. Wear your Red Shirt during Respect Life Month in October.

Our beloved Pat Conklin passed away on August 11th and she will be sorely missed. She and her husband Dick were instrumental in starting Knox County Right to Life along with others. In her honor, I ask you to keep striving against abortion and "carry on bravely".

Roxanne Flesher, President KCRL – (630) 533-9363

Pro- Life Legislative News

An Illinois court has ruled that a law requiring Illinois health insurance companies to provide coverage for abortions is permissible.

A Sangamon County judge upheld a provision of the Illinois Reproductive Health Act, maintaining that **state-regulated health insurance** plans that cover pregnancy care must also do so for abortion services.

The judge ruled that the Illinois Baptist State Association, which filed suit in 2020, can find insurance policies not regulated by the Illinois Department of Insurance. Presumably, such policies could be obtained from out-of-state insurance carriers that do not have a provision for abortion coverage. Being out-of-state, those carriers would not be subject to Illinois regulations.

"The Sept. 4 ruling discounts the beliefs of over 150,000 Illinois Baptists, as well as all Illinoisans who hold these same sacred convictions, by requiring all insurance coverage in our state to pay for abortion on demand, without a clear pathway for religious exemptions for churches or faith-based ministries," the Baptist association said. The IBSA went on to say that it may appeal the ruling.

Presidential Debates and Abortion

If you're like most people, voting for the top of the ballot this November requires some tough decisions. That's especially true for those of us who make abortion our number one consideration when choosing for whom to vote.

There have been two debates. Remember that debate between the incumbent president, Joe Biden, and former President Donald Trump? You'll recall that Biden's performance in that single debate was so poor that his party forced him out of the race. As of this writing, the second debate is less than twenty-four hours old, this one between Trump and current Vice President Kamala Harris.

Both candidates have made their positions clear when it comes to abortion. Harris wants a nationwide law that prohibits states from placing any limits on abortion. Former President Trump wants the states to decide how they will handle the abortion issue within their borders. That is what the U.S. is currently doing. States like Illinois, which allows abortion on demand, is seeing an influx of residents from surrounding states seeking abortions as their home states place strict limits on abortion.

Is this really a "states' rights" issue as the candidates seem to be framing it? No. It is a life issue. What does it say about our country that we allow so many of our future citizens to be killed? According to recent research by the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute, in 2023 there were an estimated 1,026,700 abortions. "That's the highest number in over a decade, [and] the first time there have been over a million abortions provided in the U.S. formal health care system since 2012," explains Isaac Maddow-Zimet, a data scientist with Guttmacher. The number represents an 11% increase since 2020. And this increase has occurred since the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*. One would think that the number of abortions would have gone down, not up.

Returning to the upcoming election, how will you decide who to vote for? One candidate says no limits on abortion. The other says leave it up to the states. For those who value life, this will be one of the most difficult decisions we make come Election Day.

Knox County Right To Life

INVITES YOU TO:

2024 Respect Life Month Annual Events

OCTOBER, 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Tuesday, October 1st –Thursday, October 31st

CHURCH ADOPT A DAY TO PRAY Fall Campaign

Pray for the End of Abortion

Each church chooses a week day (Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, or Friday)
During your assigned weekday, church members fast and pray, Prayer Bags provided.
[Email: brodybunch8@comcast.net](mailto:brodybunch8@comcast.net) to sign up or for more information

Thursday, October 3rd

Galesburg Women's Pregnancy Center

1st ANNUAL FALL BANQUET FUNDRAISER

Keynote Speakers: Debbie and Tim Schulz
Doors open at 5:15 pm. Food line at 5:50 pm
at Lake Storey Pavilion, Galesburg, IL
Call (309) 343-4739 for more information

Sunday, October 6TH

ANNUAL LIFE CHAIN

1:30 to 3:00 pm at Henderson & Fremont, Galesburg

Nationwide interdenominational, peaceful, prayerful demonstration since 1987.
Christians standing for 1 hour holding Pro-life signs, united in silent prayer for unborn babies and their mothers, allowing our hearts to break for what breaks God's heart.

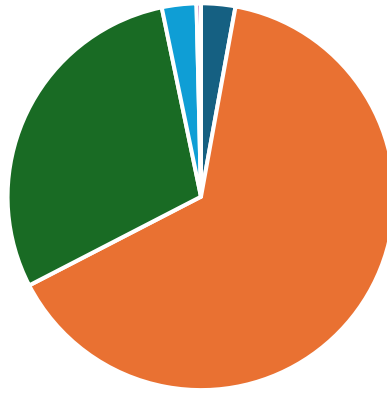
1:15 pm-1:45 pm Signs will be provided in Dollar General Parking lot

1:45-2:45 Life Chain along Henderson and Fremont in Galesburg

2:45-3:00 pm Return signs, Closing Prayer, Announcement

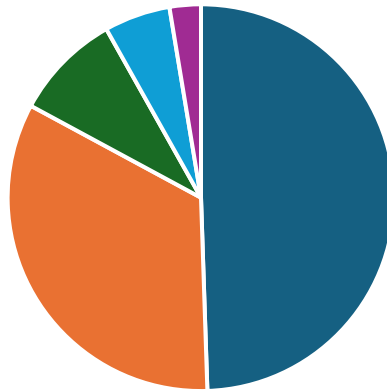
Abortion By The Numbers

Abortions by Age of Mother, 2022



■ < 18 ■ 18 - 29 ■ 30 - 39 ■ 40 + ■ Unknown

Abortions by Gestational Age, 2022



■ < 8 Weeks ■ 8 - 11 Weeks ■ 12 - 15 Weeks ■ 16 + Weeks ■ Unknown

Induced Pregnancy Terminations by Residence, by Year

Year	Illinois Residents	Out-of-State Residents	Unknown
2022	38964	16849	644
2021	40073	11307	417
2020	36174	9686	383
2019	38756	7534	227

LIFE CHAIN, Sunday, October 6th, 1:45 – 2:45 pm.
Sign pickup at 1:30 pm in the parking lot
across from Walgreens on Fremont Street.
Please stand along Henderson Street
between Losey and Dayton Streets.

Unless you are unable to walk far from where we are handing out the signs, please stand on Henderson Street instead of Fremont Street or other east/west streets. Although, if your church wishes to have you stand on its property, please do so. Feel free to bring a chair so you can sit while holding your sign and praying for our country, for abortions to end, and for those grieving for children lost through abortion. Please stand and show yourself a watchman who dissuades others from wrong ways (Ezekiel 33:7-9). We will close in prayer in the parking lot after the signs are turned back in.

Illinois Lives Billboard Update

Since 2023, as a local non-profit educational group, Illinois Lives has united to bring the light and hope of God's Word to end abortion in Illinois. Perhaps you have seen our Pro-Life Billboards in Galesburg and the surrounding areas and have been encouraged. Let us tell you about them.

The "Mercy Billboard" is of a baby holding his 3D ultrasound photo. We have been blessed that it was well-lit on U.S. HWY 34 through this past June 22nd. It then moved Downtown to Main Street just in time for the crowds attending Railroad Days this summer. It remained there throughout the summer reaching minds and hearts during so many other Downtown events as well, totally a God move!

On September 16th our "Hope Billboard" will be going up by Steele Elementary School on West Main and Ivan Avenue encouraging women and men to trust God through their planned or unplanned pregnancy and beyond. Will you pray for those who see "Hope" for their hearts to be stirred towards Truth and their unborn child(ren)?

God is using Illinois Lives also on social media. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram. We are funded solely by donations and 100% are used towards billboard media or location fees. If you would like to be part of this, please send your non-tax-deductible donation to: Illinois Lives, P.O. Box 275, Knoxville, Illinois, 61448.

Greetings from the Women's Pregnancy Center. We have been busy recently. We are still getting things ready and set for our Ultrasound service to be available. This should happen by the year's end. Please continue to pray for our Medical Director. We are excited that we now have a male advocate to help us reach fathers in the community for parenting and navigating pregnancy with their partner. This started at the beginning of September and is going well.

Exciting events are happening in October!! We will be having our first ever Fall Fundraiser Banquet. If you are interested in attending and have not been invited, please give us a call and RSVP as we would love to have you as our guest. We do have seating available for individuals. This is an adult-only event.

Thank you to all who are currently donating to the Pregnancy Center. All money, furnishings, diapers, and prayers are so much appreciated.

God bless,

Dawn Walter, Director