

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

January, 2024

Note From Our President

Greetings to all Knox County Right To Life members!

Thank you for all your support for LIFE this year! Knox County Right to Life held various events throughout the year which you graciously attended and fundraisers to which you generously donated. These included our annual events such as the Pancake Breakfast in March at Knights of Columbus, International Prayer Service in June at Radiant Worship Center (formerly Open Bible Church), support of Women's Pregnancy Center Baby Shower in August, Life Chain in October, Festival of Life in October at Bethel Baptist Church, taking part in 40 Days for Life in October/November, and Christmas ornament sales throughout the fall. At last count, there were 1,010 ornaments sold.

Approximately 100 people from various churches took part in Life Chain as they stood along Henderson and Fremont streets reminding us to pray for all who have been affected by abortion. The Festival of Life was attended by around 100 people also. We had teens participate in the annual Essay Contest and a new Pro-Life T-shirt contest in September. Instead of praying outside an abortion facility during 40 Days for Life, thirteen churches participated in Adopt a Day to Pray with over 100 people praying during the dates chosen by their church. Our Galesburg City Council approved flying a Pro-Life flag during the month of October which is known as Respect Life month. Knox County Right to Life was able to host two educational and poignant speakers this year, Mercedes Harris and Josh Ford, who shared how unplanned pregnancies affected them.

KCRTL was able to donate funds to our local Women's Pregnancy Center for necessary updates and towards some preparations to be able to offer ultrasounds in the coming year. The Pregnancy Center can still use your help financially, assistance with fundraising events, or as a volunteer! You may reach the Women's Pregnancy Center at (309) 343-4739.

Did you know there are billboards in our state which welcome women coming to Illinois for abortions? Knox County Right to Life is one of several supporters of IL Lives which reaches people through pro-life billboard signs. The signs rent for anywhere from \$300 to \$1,000 for a four-week period. You may have already seen the one on Henderson Street near Steak'n Shake.

The next KCRTL meeting is January 9, 2024 at 7:00 pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary. We will be focusing on goals for the year and brainstorming how to reach those. All are welcome to attend and bring your creative ideas to the table. We would like to reach and involve more young adults, so tips about that are desired too. If you cannot attend, please call, or text your ideas.

"The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid?" (Psalm 27:1) Be encouraged despite any naysaying you may hear! Much has happened this year and we ask God's blessings in the coming year.
Roxanne Flesher, President – (630) 533-9363

FROM FORMER PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH'S SPEECH DECLARING JANUARY 20, 2002
NATIONAL SANCITY OF HUMAN LIFE DAY:

"Consistent with the core principles about which Thomas Jefferson wrote, and to which the Founders subscribed, we should peacefully commit ourselves to seeking a society that values life -- from its very beginnings to its natural end. Unborn children should be welcomed in life and protected in law."

Pro- Life Legislative News

The 2024 spring session of the Illinois 103rd General Assembly will hold its first legislative session on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Already, there are several pro-life bills being introduced. The most active legislator has been downstate Rep. Paul Jacobs (R-Marion) who represents the 118th District. Rep. Jacobs has filed several proposed bills with the clerk, the most interesting of which is HB4301 – Mobile Abortion-Prohibited. The bill, as the title suggests, would prohibit any abortion services from being conducted in a mobile facility. He has also filed proposed bills to: reinstate parental notification (HB4300); require that a live child born as a result of an abortion be fully recognized as a human person and given immediate protection under the law (HB4298); Ultrasound Opportunity Act (HB4305); and the Repeal Reproductive Health Act (HB4302) which would once again make abortion on demand illegal in Illinois. There is a bill from Rep. Travis Weaver (R-Pekin) representing the 93rd House District which would make it a Class 3 felony for anyone to coerce a woman to have an abortion.

There are many more pro-life bills left over from 2023 languishing in committee. Being an election year, expect that more bills will be introduced by both sides.

Illinois Limits Use of License Plate Readers Re: Abortion **From Radio Station WBGZ 107.1 Alton, Illinois**

Aug. 23, 2023. Illinois continues its push to offer abortion access to those out of state as Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed legislation to protect the license plate data of those coming to Illinois for the procedure from any repercussions back home.

House Bill 3326 limits other states' ability to access automatic license plate reader data in Illinois to punish someone from out of state seeking an abortion in Illinois. Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias spearheaded the measure.

The measure did receive pushback from Republican lawmakers during the spring legislative session as state Sen. Jil Tracy, R-Quincy, had concerns about the safety of shutting off these cameras for those seeking abortions.

"Under this law, a minor girl from Missouri could be brought to Illinois by her abuser to undergo an abortion, and that license plate data couldn't be used to bring him to justice," Tracy said. "We're going to perhaps make this too broad and allow a true perpetrator and an abuser to go free and avoid prosecution."

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Women's Pregnancy Center of Galesburg

The Women's Pregnancy Center ended 2023 with great plans for offering an ultrasound service to our facility. We are continuing these plans with training and hopefully we will find a Medical Director that will come alongside and help us become operational. God is doing wonderful things at the Center to help equip us in saving the lives of the unborn. We could not do any of these things without your prayers and financial support. We are truly grateful for both and most definitely the prayers. We ended the year with the most new clients we have had in 10 years. Praise God that women are finding out we are here.

The State also ended with a big win over the SB1909 that could have made Pregnancy Centers vulnerable to malicious attacks and shutdowns. Thank you to the Thomas Moore Society for their diligent work in defending the Pregnancy Centers of Illinois. However, the war is not over. There will continue to be battles until judgement day. Praise the Lord for victories along the way.

We have not seen much violent or malicious activity in Galesburg, praise the Lord, but as always, humans are unpredictable so please continue to [Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.] pray that we remain protected.

Thank you all for your support. May the Lord bless you as you have blessed others.
Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Walter, Director



Respect Life Flag Proposal

You will recall that the Respect Life Flag proposal was introduced to the Galesburg City Council in mid-September, 2023. It was approved by a vote of 5-2. One of the dissenting votes called the pro-life people in the crowd "right wing extremists." Other than that, the discussion was relatively respectful. The most heart-felt testimony was from a young woman who insisted that the flag be flown. She had received two abortions before she received God into her life. She sincerely regrets what she did, realized how wrong abortion is, and hope and prays everyday that she will have a chance to get into heaven despite her past actions. It was difficult not to want to jump up and wrap one's arms around her.

The flag flew over City Hall for all of October and a few days into November because no one thought to take it down! Your newsletter editor had to call down to City Hall and ask for his flag back.

The Galesburg City Council in December, 2023 voted to deny all future flag requests from outside special-interest groups.

Your Knox County Right to Life newsletter editor is Brent Zhorne. Feel free to contact me at bzhorne@gmail.com.

