

MCRTL President, Carrie Koesters
507 N. 2nd St.
Coldwater, OH 45828
November/December 2016

Meeting Date: Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, our next meeting will be Thursday, December 1st, 8:00 PM, Coldwater Community Hospital Meeting Rm. **Election of MCRTL Officers** will be held after this meeting. We will also need to finalize our Send-Off Rally plans. We have much to do! Why not come and see how you can help! Our January meeting will be held on January 19th, to finalize our Send-Off Rally & our trip to D.C. for the March for Life.

The Elections are OVER. Thank You ALL who put out pro-life signs, to Commissioner Greg & Lori Homan for purchasing the "Vote Pro-Life" yard signs, to those who wrote "Letters to the Editor" and Prayed and especially to those who Voted.

Words from MCRTL President, Carrie Koesters: What an Historic Election! We now have a Republican House, Senate, and President-Elect, which means we have an incredible opportunity to protect the pre-born and pass pro-life legislation in our country. Our work is not over but rather just beginning. Now, more than ever, is the time to let our elected officials know that our children and future generations deserve to have their right to life protected and defended, from conception until natural death, no matter the circumstances. We need to push our state Representatives for state level pro-life laws, and encourage our President elect to appoint pro-life Supreme Court justices so the overturning of Roe v. Wade becomes a reality.

How can we make this happen? Write to your representatives. Call them. Attend legislative days, like those sponsored by Ohio Right to Life, and meet with your elected officials. Most importantly, however, we need to continue to pray. Pray not only for our law makers, but for those who are a part of the pro-choice movement, including abortionists themselves.

In the Bible, the book of Acts describes how Saul of Tarsus, once an extreme persecutor of those of the Christian faith, was blinded for three days. When the disciple Ananias healed Saul, it says that "something like scales fell from his eyes and he regained his sight." Saul went on to become St. Paul, one of the early leaders of the Church whose writings comprise much of the New Testament.

Dr. Anthony Levatino, OB-GYN, is a former abortionist. During his career as an abortionist, he completed over 1200 abortions. In the days following the death of his adopted daughter, he recalls an abortion procedure; "I looked at that pile of baby parts on the table... and all I saw was someone's son or daughter." He further stated, "A change had come that I couldn't take back." Perhaps this was the moment the "scales" fell from his eyes. He is now a devout pro-life advocate. More of his story and education regarding the different abortion procedures can be found at www.abortionprocedures.com.

Laws follow culture, and our elected representatives show our culture is getting on the right track. Let your officials hear your voice, know your face, and feel the power of your prayers over the next four years! Educate yourself on abortion. Approach abortion advocates, post abortive women, and abortion doctors themselves with love, and continue to pray that the "scales" that blind their hearts and minds may fall, and they too can become voices that defend the weakest in our society.

ELECTION OF MCRTL OFFICERS: It's hard to believe that another year has rolled around and its Election time for our Organization. Our current President Carrie Koesters, has done an ***Outstanding Job, especially during a Presidential Election time!!*** Carrie – we Thank You and your whole family, Dave and the boys, too, for all of the time & effort you put into your term of Office. Being President of an Organization is a Big Task - you did a remarkable job! You are a TRUE Leader!!

After our December meeting, VP Sarah Homan Post will take over the reign as President of the Mercer County Right to Life for the upcoming year. Sarah Homan just got married in July. She is now the NEW Sarah Post, the wife of Mark Post. They reside in Ft. Recovery. Sarah was Home Schooled all 12

years and then she went to Edison Community College in Piqua and received her degree. She is employed with Moorman & Harting in Celina. Sarah, Thank You so much for getting involved in the pro-life movement. We all feel honored that you have agreed to add the RTL to one of your many duties. We know she will do a great job. When someone takes over the President, she or he does not act alone. There are many Past Presidents that will gladly help out in any way.

As of this writing, we are looking for a **Vice President candidate and a Secretary** for 2017. Lisa Homan has served as our trusty Secretary for 20 years. She said, "It's time for a change!" Thank You Lisa for your years of service. You are Special. Phyllis Wenning, Treasurer, is planning to continue to be our Treasurer. Thank You Phyllis.

Several people are at the 'thinking' stage. We planted the seed! If **YOU** are interested in being a part of our pro-life organization, now is the time to step forward, either as our VP or Secretary. As stated before, **No one ever does this job alone.** Being the leader of a RTL Chapter is a HUGE commitment, but a worthwhile one. Our Organization has been active for over 42 years, and we have LOTS of Past Officers willing to help out. INTERESTED??? Give Carrie or Sarah a call. Their phone numbers are at the bottom of this Newsletter.

NEWSPAPER SIGNATURE AD CAMPAIGN: To commemorate the 44th Anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion, our Chapter will once again purchase a full-page ad in the Daily Standard. **The Pat & Dennis Pottkotter Family and the Joe Pottkotter Family will once again Chair this project.**

For a \$5.00 donation, your name, along with several hundred others, will be included in the Pro-life Ad. If you wish to participate in this year's Ad Campaign, please fill out the form below and return to Pat Pottkotter, 5158 State Route 119, St. Henry, OH 45883 by January 7, 2017. Make checks payable to Mercer County Right to Life. Please don't wait until the last minute to turn in your name.

Signature Ad Form: A \$5.00 donation will get your name, (ex: John, Mary, Susie & Bill Smith or The John Smith family) in the Daily Standard.

Name: _____
(As you wish it to appear in the Newspaper)

Signature _____ Mail to address above by 1/07/17

MERCER COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE SEND-OFF RALLY, Thursday, January 26, 2017

This year's Send-Off Rally will take place at Mary Help of Christian Church in Ft. Recovery. The Guest Speaker will be Kelly Anderson, 'Maddy's Mom'.

The annual '**Friend for Life Award**' will be presented during the Rally.

At the present time, two buses have been reserved for the Washington D.C. trip and are scheduled to leave from the church parking lot after the Rally. Everyone is WELCOME to attend and wish those traveling to our Nation's capital to participate in the National March for Life a safe & successful trip.

NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE – WASHINGTON, D.C. – 1/22/17 – 44th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade – Due to the Inauguration of President Donald Trump, the March will take place on Friday,

January 27th: More than 100,000 people who support LIFE are expected to travel to our nation's capital for the annual March for Life. The National RTL Committee is still in the process of finalizing their plans for the March for Life. The Rally is expected to begin at NOON with the March to the Supreme Court building following around 1:30.

At the present time, we have two buses Reserved. Gary Borger, Coldwater 678-8538 and Dave Kaiser, 678-2569, have graciously agreed to co-ordinate the D.C. March for Life trip. We are asking that

those wishing to join us on the Bus Trip to fill out the registration form and please make every effort to get it returned to Gary Borger, 806 S. Dogwood Dr., Coldwater, OH 45828 by December 15th in order to reserve a seat. Payment can be made later.

Our buses are scheduled to depart from the Parking Lot of Mary Help of Christian Church in Ft. Recovery, immediately following the Send-Off Rally and travel thru the evening. The plans include stopping at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in D.C., where those wishing to attend the 7:30 AM Mass, can do so. Those that do not wish to, can wait in the Shrines cafeteria and enjoyed the beautiful sites of the building, until the services conclude. Plans are not finalized yet, but we will get that info out ASAP.

The cost for the trip, which includes a Breakfast Buffet, is \$65 for adults and \$50 for students. As always, we rely heavily on contributions from individuals and organizations to help defray the cost of this trip. Your past generosity has enabled many students from our area the opportunity to participate in a very powerful pro-life experience. We would like to see a good crowd from this area make the trip, however, if you personally cannot join us, please consider helping someone else go in your place.

===== Please return your Registration Form early to assure a seat =====

Name _____ Age _____ Phone _____

Address _____

_____ I wish to reserve a seat for the March for Life 2017. Please do so before December 15th.

_____ \$65 for adults – Make checks payable to Mercer Co. Right to Life March

_____ \$50 for students under 19. **Students will miss one day of school.**

_____ Payment will be made later.

_____ I am unable to participate in the March, however, I wish to make a contribution of \$_____ to help defray the expense of others.

I absolve the Mercer Co. Right to Life, Inc. of all responsibilities en route, during & returning from the March.

Signature _____

Parent/Guardian of student _____ Even though this is not an official School Function, students are expected to follow the same policies as if it were (no drugs, alcohol or tobacco, etc. permitted.) Parents are ultimately responsible for student’s actions and behavior. This is NOT a party trip.

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Mercer Co. Right to Life’s Bus Trip to Kettering Abortion Clinic – Thursday, October 20th:

In conjunction with the "40 Days for Life” Fall Campaign" 23 members from our Mercer County area (several for the first time) visited the Kettering Abortion Clinic. Our faithful leader, Marie Heitkamp stated, “We prayed to bring an end to the slaughter of God's Most Precious Gift of Human Life. Our heart's go out to all those who came to the abortion clinic, and to the abortionist and their employees...One by one, cars drove by, giving us lots of ‘thumbs-up’ signs, honking their horns in approval and even some gave us the ‘you’re #1 sign!!’. We continued to pray, knowing our prayers can and do change mind's and heart's.”

The 27th Annual National Night of Prayer for Life will be held at the Spiritual Center chapel, Maria Stein, Ohio beginning Thursday, **9:00 pm, December 8th until 1:00 am** December 9th. Four hours of Eucharistic Adoration and prayers of reparation for the sin of abortion will be offered. Each hour will begin with a hymn & prayers including the rosary. The Divine Mercy chaplet will be sung. This Night of Prayer again will unite over 600 parishes across the nation to end the callous acceptance of abortion in our country and the world. Father Tim Ralston, Parochial Vicar at Holy Trinity Church in Coldwater, will be available to hear confessions during adoration and will close with Benediction. All are welcome and participants may come for all or part of the event.

Mercer County Students for Life: NO DECEMBER MEETING. next meeting, January 9TH, 7:30 PM, at Fish-Mo's in Saint Henry. The speaker will be Dr. Michelle Winner with the topic, 'Natural Family Planning and Contraception: The Facts'. 7th thru 9th grade Mercer County students Welcomed. Free refreshments provided. We hope to continue seeing good attendance throughout the new year at our meetings!

T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST: Mercer County Students for Life will be facilitating a t-shirt design contest. The winner of the contest will have their design used for the 2017 Mercer County RTL sponsored, 'Pro-Life T-shirt Day'. All entries to be submitted to janellepoepelman@hotmail.com. Entries to have a front design, using a maximum of two colors. Entries to be submitted by January 25th, 2017.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD and the Election: Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood, just spent \$38 million dollars to elect Hillary Clinton — money well spent in OUR opinion. Now it can't be used to target and kill hundreds of thousands of pre-born children through abortion. Planned Parenthood had an enormous vested interest in this election. They've been feeding off the federal government for years, currently to the tune of 1.5 million tax dollars every day. This is more than a half-billion of YOUR Tax Dollars each year!

Since 2005, they've built 22 mega abortion mills around the nation with a strategy to tap into Obamacare and take in billions more while the number of babies dying would skyrocket. We realize that many of you have serious questions about the authenticity of Mr. Trump's dedication to the unborn. Based on his track record, we understand your concern. However, the pro-life movement is all about education and conversion. What changed Mr. Trump's heart were the tears of a friend and a father who years earlier wanted to abort his son whom he now deeply loves. President-elect Trump has made very specific, crucial commitments to our cause and we believe he is sincere. We believe we're going to see a thoughtful, caring president in Donald Trump. Let us pray daily for this less-than-perfect man who stepped up to the plate to make America stronger, more pro-life and determined to protect our religious freedoms. Please pray for President-elect Donald Trump and his family. Pray also for Vice President-elect Mike Pence and his family.

Choosing Life Pregnancy Center: If you know of a young woman with an untimely pregnancy, Choosing Life Pregnancy Center, 560 Touville St. in Celina is here to help! They offer pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, parenting classes, adoption classes all for FREE. Their hours are 11 to 5, Monday thru Friday. All other hours by appointment. Just give us a call, we want to Help. They also have a wonderful Boutique with baby item galore! For more information call 567-890-5433

Also, Please mark your calendars now for their 8th Annual Celebration/Auction which will be held on Sunday, April 9, 2017. More information to follow.

****Would you like to save MCRTL postage?? If you wish to receive the Newsletter via e-mail instead of the regular mail service, please send an updated e-mail address to: mercercountylife@gmail.com. Those receiving the Newsletter by e-mail will also be notified if & when an urgent message is received that needs immediate attention.**

Steve Jones is Mercer Co RTL Website Webmaster, Check us out on the WEB, <http://mercercountylife.org/> & Stacy Moeller Schwieterman takes care of our Facebook Page.

*******ABORTED LIVES MATTER*******

**Officers: President: Carrie Koesters, 419-852-4802
Vice President: Sarah Post, 419-852-6509
Secretary: Lisa Homan, 419-375-2515
Treasurer: Phyllis Wenning, 678-8123
Catholic Social Services, 800-521-6419
Mercer Co. RTL, Phone/FAX: 419-678-1348**

**Newsletter Editors: Janet Gels & Sharon Hibner
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Sorting & Labeling: Deb Post & Volunteers
Mailing: Carol Ranly
Choosing Life Pregnancy Center: 419-733-4847**