

Meeting Date: Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 19th, 8:00 PM, at the Mercer Health Meeting Rm, Coldwater, to finalize our Send-Off Rally & Trip to D.C. for the March for Life. Why not come and see how you can get involved.

ELECTION OF MCRTL OFFICERS, 2017: President Carrie Koesters conducted her last official meeting in December. **Thank You Carrie for a 'Job Well Done'. You are Special!**

At the conclusion of the December meeting, **Sarah Post was voted in as our new President of the Mercer County Right to Life for 2017.** Sarah is from Ft. Recovery and she just got married this past summer to Mark Post. In addition to being a new wife and setting up a household, she is employed at Moorman & Harting in Celina and she graciously agreed to serve as President for our Organization. Thank You Sarah. Sarah has a BIG heart and a Love for Life! We feel honored that Sarah has agreed to add the RTL as one of her many duties. We know she will do a great job.

Dee Grieshop also from Ft. Recovery has agreed to serve as our MCRTL's Vice President for 2017. Dee is married to Troy Grieshop and they have three children, Elijah, 3 yrs. old; Ezekiel, 2 yrs. old and Terez, 2 months. WOW!! Sure she has room for one more task!!

After 20 years, Lisa Homan has decided not to serve as Secretary for another year. Amanda Geier from Philthes has agreed to serve as our new Secretary. Many Thanks Amanda for getting involved and Many Thanks to Lisa for serving our organization well!!!

Phyllis Wenning agreed to continue to serve as our Treasurer.

Congratulations to our Officers. Even though we got some Newbies, our Organization will continue to do well. Being the Leaders of a RTL Chapter is a HUGE commitment, but a worthwhile one. No one ever does this job alone. Our Organization has been active for over 43 years, and we have LOTS of past officers who are willing to help out in any way they are needed. All anyone needs to do is ASK.

NEW YEARS BABY: The *1st Baby of 2017* born at Mercer Health in Coldwater was Jaycee Ahler, daughter of Jenna and Jason Ahler from Coldwater. Jaycee was born on January 3rd weighing 8 lbs, 1 oz and 19 inches. Jaycee has a big sister, Jaelyn, who is 2 ½ yrs. old.

Vice President Dee Grieshop presented Jaycee with a lovely pink afghan. Their family photo will also appear in the Daily Standard.



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 and the Joe Pottkotter Family was kind enough to Chair this Project.

The ads will appear in the January 23rd issue of the Daily Standard. Many Thanks to all of you for participating in this Signature Ad Campaign.

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

This years Send-Off Rally will take place at the Mary Help of Christian Church in Ft. Recovery at 6:00 PM. The Guest Speaker will be Kelly Anderson, 'Maddy's Mom'. She has an Amazing story to tell.

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

One bus has been reserved for the Washington D.C. trip and it is FULL. We are working to fill bus # two. Buses are scheduled to leave from the Church Parking Lot after the Rally. Everyone is welcome to attend this Rally and pray for those traveling to our nation's capital to participate in the National March for Life, a safe and successful trip.

NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE – WASHINGTON, D.C. – 1/22/17 – 44th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade –
HOWEVER - Due to the Inauguration of President Donald Trump, the March for Life 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 one bus Reserved, working on Bus #2. Gary Borger, Coldwater 678-8538 and Dave Kaiser, 678-2569, have graciously agreed to coordinate the D.C. March for Life trip. Gary reports that they would like to fill the second bus, so, if you wish to place your name on the list, give him a call NOW and leave your message. 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 attend can wait in the Shrines cafeteria and enjoy 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 at Harriet's Family Restaurant, 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.

At the Rally site, we will hear from many Congressional and Spiritual leaders, all sharing their thoughts of wisdom before making the long March towards the Supreme Court building. The crowd is expected to be Huge! What we plan to do after the March is still open for discussion, which we will do at our next RTL meeting, 1/19/17. We do know that when we board our bus for the trip home, we will stop for Dinner. Those traveling will need to bring extra \$\$ for this Dinner.

Also, don't expect the National Media to cover this event. Rely on our friends at EWTN.

In Loving Memory of Benita Rindler: Benita Rindler recently passed away on 12/17/16. She was one of the original Volunteers that started the *Baby Bootie Project*. For MANY years, Benita created hundreds of pairs of beautiful booties for the babies born at the Coldwater Hospital. After her funeral, her family donated LOTS of Baby Yarn to the MCRTL in hopes that the *Baby Bootie Project* will continue for a long time to come. To Benita's Family, Thank You for your generous Gift.

2017 MERCER COUNTY RTL SWEETHEART DANCE, Ft. Recovery Legion Hall, Saturday, February 25th

: 4 Dance tickets & envelope are enclosed with this mailing. Mark Your Calendar - The Sweethearts Dance will be held on February 25th. Get your gang together & come out for a good night of fun & fellowship. The tickets will get you thru the door for the Dance and also enter you into the Raffle Drawing. Check out the Prize List!!! If you are unable to attend the Dance and want to be entered in the Raffle, send your completed ticket stubs along with a check, payable to Mercer County RTL in the envelope provided with the tickets, \$5.00 per ticket. Please. If you return your tickets in advance, just hang onto the Ticket Stub & it will be your ticket into the dance that night. Many thanks to Celina Insurance Group for donating the printing of the tickets again this year!!

Music for the evening will be provided by D.J. 'F 1 Sound'. Doors open at 8, with the music starting at 9:00. Tickets available at the Door. Questions? Call Marilyn Pottkotter, 375-2400 or Lisa Homan, 375-2515.

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.

MERCER COUNTY STUDENTS FOR LIFE will hold their next meeting Monday, February 13th, 7:30 PM, at Fish-Mo's Restaurant in Saint Henry. The speaker for the night will be Created Equal representatives to share information on the upcoming Justice Rides, as well as share information on Created Equal's very dynamic tactics to assist the pro-life movement. There will also be \$50.00 vouchers available at the meeting to put towards cost of the Spring Justice Ride. Refreshments will be available. Hope to see you there!

SPRING JUSTICE RIDE 2017: *Defend Life in Florida.* Will you use your Spring Break to change minds, save lives, and offer help to post-abortive women? WHO: Preborn defenders from across America WHAT: Bus load of students creating public dialogue about abortion WHERE: University campuses in Florida WHEN: March 4 – 11, 2017 COST: \$275- This covers travel, food, and lodging. There will be \$50.00 vouchers distributed from Created Equal at Mercer County Students for Life's February meeting from a Created Equal representative. In addition, Mercer County RTL will reimbursement \$150.00 towards the first five persons who register.

Members from MCRTL visit residents of Mercer County Home: On Wednesday, Dec. 21st, Linda Noll and Lois & Bob Gaerke, along with several helpers, visited residents of the County Home for their annual Christmas party. The 13 residents of the County Home really look forward to this visit. Santa (Ralph) made his annual visit bearing gifts to each resident. Many Thanks to all who make this so successful.

RIGHT TO LIFE NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS HONORED: After the Nov/Dec Newsletter mailing was completed, the Chickasaw Ladies were treated with refreshment because after 29 years, many of them were retiring from the job. According to Deb Post, Coordinator for the Volunteers stated, "Alma Puthoff of Chickasaw started way back when the Volunteers were *writing* the addresses on the Newsletters. Alma then formed a 'Chickasaw Group'. Several ladies from that group have been volunteering for 29 years. Those ladies include Florie Moeller, Tillie Elking and Sis Puthoff. Also volunteering for 29 years, but NOT retiring is Carol Ranly, Coldwater. Carol also takes the mailings to the Post Office. From St. Henry, Pat Kittle has served for 27 years, and Deb Post has 24 years of coordinating the Volunteers and helping with the mailing process. Other Volunteers include Doris Rindler & Burt Ables, serving for 10 years, Paulette Bruening & Lucy Nieport, serving four years and Carolyn Hoyng and Eileen Huber serving one year, all from St. Henry, and Esther Kuess, also from Chickasaw serving 5 years. A BIG Thank You to those that help with sending out our monthly Newsletter.



Seated: Tillie Elking, Florie Moeller, Sis Puthoff

Standing: Burt Ables, Eileen Huber, Esther Kuess, Deb Post, Pat Kittle, Carol Ranly, Paulette Bruening.

Volunteers not in photo: Doris Rindler, Carolyn Hoyng, Lucy Nieport

MERCER COUNTY STUDENTS FOR LIFE to pray outside of Kettering Abortion Mill February 17th, 2017. Meeting location will be TSC, on the corner of State Route 219 and Highway 127. Estimated time of departure from TSC to be 8:30 a.m. and time of return to TSC will be 2:30 p.m. Students to bring money for lunch at McDonalds on the way home. Chaperones and students needed. All students will need waiver form to join. Please e-mail janellepoepelman@hotmail.com with interest of being chaperone and for student waiver forms.

ESSAY CONTEST FOR FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORES: Mercer County Students for Life will again be facilitating their Essay Contest for all 9th and 10th graders. The Essay is to be 500-800 words, with the topic, "Why I Am Pro-Life", and be submitted to janellepoepelman@hotmail.com by Monday, March 6th. All contestants will receive a pro-life t-shirt to wear for National Pro-Life T-Shirt Week. All essays will be scored by Mercer County SFL's two advisors: Janelle Homan and Kristie Evers. The top three essays will receive the following cash prizes: \$150 for first, \$100 for second, and \$50 for third. For an essay application please e-mail janellepoepelman@hotmail.com.

Choosing Life Pregnancy Center. 560 Touvelle Street in Celina, (South East of the Little Flower Daycare Center, 2nd building - little white block building with a dark blue front door - on the West side of the road) is Open for business Monday thru Friday, 11 – 5. If you wish to donate any item to the Center, new or gently used, it would be much appreciated. Their Boutique has something for everyone. All proceeds go to the Pregnancy Center so please come and shop while helping out a great cause.

Mark your calendars for Choosing Life's 8th Annual Celebration/Auction which will be held on Sunday, April 9, 2017. More details will follow in next months Newsletter. IF you wish to help out with their Auction by donating an item, please give Director Patty Thees a call, 419-733-4847. Tickets for the Celebration/Auction are FREE for the asking. Talk to Patty.

Check us out on the WEB, <http://mercerlife.org/> & Facebook page. * 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.

VISIT US AT OUR WEBSITE. <http://mercerlife.org/> E-mail address: mercercountylife@gmail.com

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Vice President: Dee Grieshop

Secretary: Amanda Geier

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