



## January 2024

Our next meeting will be on January 25th, at 7:00PM at Preferred Insurance Center, 809 W. Main St., Suite 2 (basement), across from Mercer Health Hospital in Coldwater. Please park in the back of the building.

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### Upcoming Events:

**Essay Contest Deadline:** Monday, January 15th

**Sweetheart Dance:** Saturday, February 10th

**Oratory Contest Deadline:** Saturday, February 17th

**Choosing Life Auction Online:** March 7th-9th **Live:** March 10th

**Brining America Back to Life Convention:** March 8th and 9th

**Top 6 Oratory Finalists Present Speech:** Sunday, March 10th at 1:00PM

**Life Defenders at K of C Hall in St. Mary's:** Saturday, March 23rd

**Pro-Life T-Shirt Day:** Tuesday, April 16th

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We are hoping to go all-email format for the newsletter by March. By going all-email we will be able to get the newsletter out faster and save time and money with not having to worry about postage and going through the mail system.

However, we would like to hear your thoughts on going all-email format for our monthly newsletters. If you could call/text at 419-852-2091 or email us at [mercercountylife@gmail.com](mailto:mercercountylife@gmail.com) and say yes or no to receiving the newsletter by email that would be great!

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**Meeting Dates 2024:** Mark your calendars! The MCRTL meeting dates for 2024 are as follows: **January 25th, February 22nd, March 28th, April 25th, May 23rd, June 27th, July 25th, August (no meeting) September 26th, October 24th, and December 5th.** We hope to see you at our meetings in 2024!

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**Election of Officers:** At the November meeting, all the officers agreed to volunteer to hold their positions for the year 2024. They were voted in unanimously. Connie Randall will continue as president, Kari Dameron as vice president, Vanessa Roediger as Secretary, and Phyllis Wenning as Treasurer. These ladies have been a bold voice in our community and standing up for the unborn. We are so blessed to have them in this fight! Thank you all for dedicating another year to this work! You are all very much appreciated!

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**First Baby of the Year:** Mercer County Right to Life welcomed the first baby of 2024 born at Mercer Health with a gift. Little Ace Willis Briand was born on January 2nd at 10:35AM to Rutha Anitak and Jimi Briand. He will be welcomed home by his big brother and his big sister. He was given a crocheted blanket, a book, and a \$50 Celina Chamber certificate.

Shown in the picture are Anika holding Ace Willis, and MCRTL president, Connie Randall. Congratulations to the Briand/Anitak family!

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**Special Thank You's:** We would like to thank RB Design for designing and printing our new Thank You notes. Along with designing and printing the thank you cards, they donated the envelopes! We are so blessed to have companies like RB Design in our area!

We would also like to thank Mark and Angie King for letting us use t-posts for our banners in the last two elections. Angie would not take any payment for the two posts that were damaged/destroyed. She said it was their donation to Mercer County Right to Life. If you see her-Thank her. Angie, our Ohio State Representative for the 84th District, continues to stand on the front line for issues in the house that pertain to "respecting life at all ages." Thank you, Mark and Angie!

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**National March for Life:** We will not be sending a bus to the National March for Life this year, as we want to focus on our state. We will be sending a bus in October to the Ohio March for Life.

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**MCRTL Essay Contest:** Mercer County RTL is excited to sponsor their youth essay contests for the following age groups: 9th/10th grade, and 11th/12th grade. The cash prizes for each group are as follows:

1st place: \$400

2nd place: \$200

All participants will receive a \$10 McDonald's gift card. Each educational or persuasive essay is to be 600 – 800 words and to have **ONE** of the following topics:

- 1.) Why I Am Pro-Life
- 2.) How I Defend My Pro-Life Position
- 3.) How I Can Assist the Pro-Life Movement

Essays will be scored equally by four criteria: grammar, facts, creativity, and inspiration. All essays are expected to reflect the pro-life convictions held by Mercer County Right to Life. Please include in subject line of the e-mail submission the contestant's name. In the message portion please list the contestant's address, age group essay is to be entered, and school. Essays are to be e-mailed to [prolifegeneration.mercercounty@outlook.com](mailto:prolifegeneration.mercercounty@outlook.com) before January 15th, 2024. Good luck!

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**2024 Oratory Contest:** MCRTL will facilitate their annual Oratory Contest for all juniors and seniors living in Mercer County. Contestants are asked to research, write, and present an original pro-life speech on **ONE** of the following:

- 1.) Abortion
- 2.) Infanticide
- 3.) Euthanasia

The speech is to be 5-7 minutes in length. Contestants are to submit a video entry of their speech by February 17th to [prolifegeneration.mercercounty@outlook.com](mailto:prolifegeneration.mercercounty@outlook.com).

Please look for a confirmation email upon receiving your submission.

All contestants who submit a video entry will receive a \$100 participation prize! The top 6 contestants will be invited to present on March 10th at the Preferred Insurance Center in Coldwater at 1:00PM. The prize amounts for the top 6 finalists who present on March 10th are as follows:

1st place: \$1,000

2nd place: \$750

3rd place: \$500

4th – 6th place: \$250

We ask that all interested contestants e-mail [Julie.Link09@gmail.com](mailto:Julie.Link09@gmail.com) for a set of complete rules. Thank you!

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**Choosing Life Auction:** "Our 15th Annual Choosing Life Auction will be held online March 7th-9th, 2024. This year we will also hold a live auction on March 10th with doors opening at 4:00PM and the auction beginning at 5:15PM. We will have some games, raffle and live auction along with appetizers and drinks. We will have more information along with items on our website at [choosinglife.us](http://choosinglife.us) about one week before the auction. We will also be sending out postcards closer to the date for those who have attended in the past. The tickets will be free for the live auction. Just call 419-733-4847 or 419-852-1021 for the tickets and we will get them to you." -Patty Thees

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**Brining America Back to Life Convention:** This convention will be held on March 8th and 9th, 2024, in Independence, Ohio. Being pro-life and pro-family, this program will equip you with the proper tools you need in order to better equipped in your fight for human life. To learn more, and to register, visit:

[www.BringingAmericaBackToLife.org](http://www.BringingAmericaBackToLife.org)

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**Life Defenders Class:** Mike Spencer from Project LifeVoice will be teaching a 101 class at this year's Life Defenders at K of C Hall in St. Mary's. The date is March 23rd from 9AM-12PM. The cost is \$5, which includes breakfast! The class is sponsored by Mercer County Right to Life and Auglaize County Right to Life. We really hope to see you there. Please bring a friend and spread the word to others! The link to sign up is below.

**Sweetheart Dance:** The Sweetheart Dance will be on Saturday, February 10th, 2024, at Romer's Catering in St. Henry. Doors open at 5:00PM, with the meal at 6:00PM. (\$14 meal optional with RSVP online at [www.RomersCatering.com](http://www.RomersCatering.com) or call 419-678-8482.) Music will be provided by the Walt Schmitmeyer Band from 7:00-10:00PM. A \$5 raffle donation is your cost for the dance. Many raffle prizes will be given away. If you need more tickets, you can call Karen Romer at 419-852-2642. The Friend of Life Award will also be given at this dance. We hope you can make it!

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**T-Shirt Order Form:** Pro-Life T-Shirt Day is April 16th, 2024. Here is the link to the form to order a t-shirt. There are two different colors to choose from!  
Here is the link to order a shirt:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ksg0buzkeazom1jmos0a4/Order-Form-2024.pdf?rlkey=6n11qus7rtylw04hsc6h1m90x&dl=0>

# 2024 RIGHT TO LIFE SHIRT ORDER FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARISH: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_



**2024 : Choose your Color!**

Lavendar shirts with black and dark purple print  
- OR -

Navy shirts with white and green print.

Please mark your order quantities in corresponding boxes below:



Baby	Item				12M	18M	24M	Price	TOTAL				
	LAVENDAR - Onesie							\$ 8.00	\$				
NAVY - Onesie							\$ 8.00	\$					
Toddler	Item				2T	3T	4T	5/6T	Price	TOTAL			
	LAVENDAR - Tshirt								\$ 8.00	\$			
NAVY - Tshirt								\$ 8.00	\$				
Youth	Item				YS	YM	YL	Price	TOTAL				
	LAVENDAR - Tshirt							\$ 8.00	\$				
NAVY - Tshirt							\$ 8.00	\$					
Adult	Item				S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	Price	TOTAL
	LAVENDAR - Tshirt											\$ 8.00	\$
NAVY - Tshirt											\$ 8.00	\$	

**Return order form no later than Friday, February 16th to:**

**Dee Grieshop**  
724 St. Joe Rd.  
Ft. Recovery, OH 45846

**Please make checks payable to:**  
*Mercer County Right to Life*

**ORDER SUBTOTAL:** \$

UPCHARGE	QTY	Price	TOTAL
SIZE 2XL		\$ 2.00	
SIZE 3XL		\$ 3.00	
SIZE 4XL		\$ 4.00	

**UPCHARGE SUBTOTAL:** \$

**GRAND TOTAL:** \$

**2024 Pro-Life T-Shirt Day is Tuesday, April 16th**

**Safe Haven Baby Boxes:** Safe Haven Baby Boxes is a resource for mothers in crisis. Taking the face-to-face interaction out of the surrendering of the baby, it also protects the mother from being seen. If unable to care for their baby, mothers can place their baby in one of these boxes, which are located in a fire station or hospital because these places are staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The boxes are temperature

controlled. Dispatch is notified and an alarm goes off to notify that a baby has been placed in the box. There is an informational packet inside the box for mothers, which provides a number to the National Safe Haven Box Hotline.

Lindsay Bath and Janice Dickerson are sending petitions to churches to sign in order to have a Safe Haven Baby Box installed in the Celina Fire Station or Coldwater Hospital. For more information, you can contact Lindsay Bath at 419-733-8209.

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### **Tragically, Ohio's Nov. 7 State Issue #1 Passed. Now, What Can YOU Do??**

By Judy Bruns

1. Display a pro-life sign in your yard.
2. Donate diapers, baby clothes, maternity clothes, baby furniture, etc. to area pregnancy help centers.
3. Patronize pro-life businesses. Withdraw support from those who support the killing of babies.
4. Help MCRTL fund educational pro-life billboards, not only locally, but now in other needed parts of Ohio, closer to abortion clinics.
5. Volunteer at the MCRTL annual county fair booth, help pull our float in parades or assist with other projects. We are VERY active!
6. Donate toward the influential pro-life organizations that MCRTL supports, including Created Equal (Columbus)
7. Write letters/emails to your Representatives and Senators in Congress on abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia related issues.
8. Write letters to the editor regarding pro-life-related issues in the news.
9. Attend—as your family obligations allow—the monthly MCRTL meetings held in the basement of Preferred Insurance Center, W. Main St. (Rte.219), Coldwater, the 4th Thursday of most months at 7 P.M.
10. Are you a member of a club, an organization, a union that funds abortion or that supports abortion ideology? Quit. . . And then tell the leaders why you are quitting.
11. PRAY. . . PRAY. . .PRAY. Picture a young, pregnant woman entering an abortion clinic. She's scared. She's likely been misled by media that shouts out abortion as her only option. Pray for the Lord's intervention, perhaps through a pro-life sidewalk counselor; maybe through words she's heard in church or from a friend or relative she respects. Just PRAY for her and the life of the moving, growing human child within her.
12. VOTE for pro-life candidates at all levels of government! Display their signs, distribute their materials. Then convince unregistered pro-life friends to register to vote!

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**You can email Kaylie Dameron at [cc2023kd@gmail.com](mailto:cc2023kd@gmail.com) to send any information you**

**would like to be put in upcoming newsletters.**

Visit our web page at <https://www.mercerlife.org> or our Facebook page to get updates  
between the newsletters.

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**Our mailing address is:**

507 North Second St.  
Coldwater OH, 45828

**Respect Life at All Stages**

Mercer County Right to Life officers and other positions:

President: Connie Randall, 216-815-0430

Vice President: Kari Dameron, 419-790-8596

Secretary: Vanessa Roediger, 567-644-9009

Treasurer: Phyllis Wenning, 419-678-8123

Address Change: Ann Schroyer, 567-279-4226

E-mail Coordinator: Sharon Hibner, 419-305-6467

Newsletter Editor: Kaylie Dameron, 419-953-4185

Sorting/Mailing: Karen Timmerman & Crew

Mercer Co. RTL, Phone/FAX: 419-678-1348

Choosing Life Pregnancy Center: 419-733-4847

Facebook Administrator: Cami Stoner, 419-341-9379

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