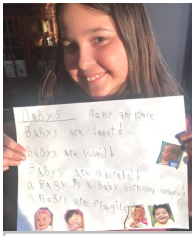


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SPRING 2021 / ISSUE 44

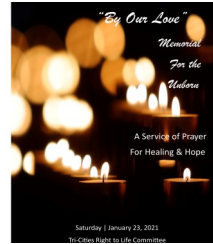


Natalia C. gets it!
Babies are amazing!
See pg. 3 to learn more.

LAKESHORE LIFE NEWS

In This Issue: The Memorial, Our Mission, and Money

Find the video at our
NEW TCRTL channel on
Rumble.com



Above: Images from our Memorial for the Unborn event on January 23, 2021. Photo credits: Suzi McCabe and Rich Giacalone.

Here we are 48 years later. Roe v. Wade's grim anniversary snuck up on us again; and what can we say? I'm not sure. There are adjectives, like 'sad', though that doesn't go far enough. We've done so much to turn the tide—to prevent a pro-abortion administration from taking the reins and reigning with executive orders over U.S. international relations (Mexico City Policy), and who gets to use our tax dollars (Title X and the Hyde Amendment). Do you spend a lot of time thinking deeply about these things? We do. We must. January again brought Sanctity of Human Life Sunday (Jan. 17th this year) and a newly declared National Sanctity of Human Life Day on Jan. 22nd. Between those, on MLK day,

Joe Scheidler, the 'Green Beret' of the pro-life movement passed away at 93. So, yes, LIFE has been in the spotlight, as it should be; and now it's in increasing jeopardy. Although politics is merely a tool to effect moral change in our culture, it's become something of a sledge hammer, hasn't it? So our method of playing offense is to, for just one day, turn from the onslaught to remember the victims of it. Jan. 23rd was our day. Representatives from several area churches joined in planning, hosting and participating in the event, reading scriptures, prayers and sharing testimonies. A gospel reading and keynote address given by Fr. David Gross helped paint the perspective on such an unimaginable number: 62 million lives lost! Taken.

Alex Navas performed a cover of the popular Christy Nockels song, "By Our Love". This year the walk followed the service and, though it was cold, it was a bright, shiny day. Full of hope as we witnessed to Life. Our Memorial won't change the fate of the tiny victims, but we heard it deeply touched the hearts of those in the pews, and saw passersby stop to think as they read our signs.

Only God knows what He'll do with our sincere efforts and prayers on behalf of His youngest children, but with Him, the possibilities are endless. For now, we honor the lives lost by giving them a proper memorial. And thinking on these things, perhaps we'll find an answer.

Money Theme - Keepin' it Green

In last summer's newsletter, I introduced its new color scheme; and, hey, it still works! The Thanksgiving edition had a short reprieve to an autumnal palette, but along with St. Paddy's Day, green is back! How fitting, since a big theme in this *Life News #44* is money! Who doesn't love to talk about that?! Just kidding. Money can be a tough subject— maybe since a lot hinges on it. Or that, despite warnings in scripture, many still put it first. Given the current financial woes following so many cataclysmic events (like Texas in day five of its literal and figurative 'dark night' as I write this), money *should* take its place toward the front of the priorities line.

As I find myself, more and more, researching non-profit management, I see lots of language about fundraising 'ask' strategies. So first, some good news: our work def-

initely starts with an 'ask', but not for funds. We first ask for God's guidance— which means PRAYER. And that is FREE! It's the most important thing we do because ending abortion is a spiritual battle. (If you happen to be a pro-life atheist or agnostic, you might already know you're in the minority. I also want to meet you!)

After prayer (or logical reasoning) the rest is just staying the course. We continue with our mission, while you— our supporters, keep showing up, putting your wallets where your hearts are. Every. Time. In fact, we seldom need to ask for funds. Case in point: One billboard costs \$875. And wouldn't you know, as soon as I sign the ad contract, the dollars flow into our P.O. box like you knew. Right around the \$875 mark, too! (Thank you!) It still amazes me, though it shouldn't. Prayer puts us on the same wavelength. Also, we

know that Good wins— and the Good are winners. Running for that shiny crown, right?!

As much fun as FUNdraisers are, they're really only a means to do what we do, namely educate, advocate, and inspire. Our volunteerism can take many forms— in the case of our annual Memorial, we essentially become pall bearers, carrying the reality of abortion to a watching world. Sound bleak? It is. As well, Title X, The Mexico City Policy and Hyde Amendment are money-related topics that our ignorance of could mean death for countless unborn children. We're all at varying stages of our pro-life journey so I never assume what anyone who doesn't do this full-time knows. Which is why I was sure to include these themes in my Memorial welcome message. If it sounds like I'm talking politics, I probably am. But only one party made Life issues political. For the rest of us, it has always been about moral-ity. There. Another M word to join Memorial, Mission, and Money. :) *TG*



Above— Walkers for the 2020 Memorial for the Unborn pose for a picture before departing to the service. Photo credit: Theresa Giacalone

Vickie Tober is this issue's featured member. Vickie (short for Victoria) has been with Tri-Cities Right to Life since, shall I say, its infancy. Many of us were barely born when nearly fifty years ago, she and some of her pro-life peers were knocking on doors talking with voters to help stop a Michigan proposal on the Nov. 1972 ballot that would have legalized abortion in some cases. They succeeded! Then just two months later, Roe v. Wade usurped

our State's strong pro-life laws. Perhaps her career as a nurse is what first sensitized her to saving lives, but in the more than twenty years I've known her, Vickie has always been the innovative parent, life and marriage advocate, and even the religious retail store co-owner where I loved to shop. She knows most every 'local', nearly their entire story, and is a truly valued member of this community. The photo above, in my opinion, best captures her spirit.

(Vickie, cont.) The only thing staged was my, "Can everyone hold up your signs?" Vickie and her husband, Dieter, were already out front, leading the way with smiles on their faces. Behind the lens, I recalled that it was only a month prior that he had been released after a serious hospitalization. Two more fine examples of pro-lifers' enduring spirits; and Vickie was one of the early pioneers who we have to thank. Vickie and Dieter have seven children, twenty-seven grand-children, and seven *great* grandchildren! It's a busy, full life, and yet she still makes time to attend meetings, help on committees, and spread the word about TCRTL ... sometimes remotely from wherever their travels take them.

-Theresa Giacalone

The ultrasound photo on page 4 is one of Vickie and Dieter's grandchildren featured on the cover of a TCRTL newsletter nine years ago. What a legacy, Vickie!

"I did it!"

Single mom, Caitlin, shares the joy after meeting her baby boy, Finnegan. July 2020



Thoma 2.0

When he's not hosting a conference with Candace Owens, Charlie Kirk and Justice Clarence Thomas, he might have time to visit us to impart his humor, common sense, and encouragement as we confront our lost culture. After endless requests from guests last year, we have again booked Pastor Chris Thoma for our 2021 event on 9/23. Tickets will go on sale in August. More details in our July Life News edition. For now, you can find his books at major book-sellers and can scan here for more info. →



✓ To Do List

♥ Get **dinners to go** from Knights of Columbus. Fridays 5-7pm. Fish, fries, slaw & a roll. **Just \$10!!** 1416 Washington Ave. Grand Haven. **Knights are Pro-Life!**

♥ **Volunteer with us:** Just call or fill out the contact form at our website. tricitierighttolife.org 616-201-7813

♥ **Support** high school **speech writers** at our Pro-life Oratory Contest. 3/23/21 6:30pm. Check website for updates on location.

♥ **Tri-Cities Right to Life Meetings** Generally the 2nd Tues. each month, 7:00 p.m. Pls see website for location & time updates. **TriCitiesRightToLife.org**

♥ **RLM Annual Conference** Thurs., Sept. 30th, to be held in Charlotte this year. See details & register at **RTL.org**

♥ **Focus on Life Benefit Event** 9-23-21 at Trillium Event Center 17246 VanWagoner Rd. See above on keynote speaker.

♥ **40 Days for Life - GR** Our adopted day was March 10, 2021. If you have pics, will you send to us? For the fall campaign, visit 40daysforlife.com.

♥ **Culver's Night of Sharing** 2/23 was cancelled & next date is **TBD**. Eat & \$upport TCRTL! Drive thru only, for now. We serve YOU and get 10% of the profits. Win/win! Check our website for new date coming soon!

FRONT COVER INSET:

Natalie C. gets it! She created a message her mom says was done after a bit of disappointment having to help her baby sister! For the full photo & more stories, visit : TriCitiesRightToLife.org/blog/

The Good-To-Know Section

It's been many years since we've held an oratory contest. This is the year to start again. Please join us on 3/23/21 for the **First Annual Theresa Stevens Memorial Pro-life Oratory Contest**. 6:30pm. Location is TBD (check our website for updates). Entry deadline is 3/16. Documents are at our website. **\$200, \$150, and \$100 prizes.**



Did you know **RTL.org** is where you can find resources to learn just about anything related to defending LIFE? There are also some great items to purchase there, too, such as Precious Feet pins, t-shirts, and stationery. 'Check' it out!

One way to help advance our cause is by supporting businesses who support US. Here are some who placed ads last year: *Best Builders, Weiss Chiropractic, Bowen & Thornley Dental, Sytsema, Knights of Columbus, Reenders, Washington St. Inn*; and the newest: MyAquanotes.com, our first PWP business partner earning \$\$ for us totaling 25% of their credit card processing fees!

Make every dollar count for LIFE. Visit **2ndVote.com** to see if who you \$upport supports what **YOU** do!

Goin' green? Ask for this newsletter in digital form TG@TriCitiesRightToLife.org

If **tax deductibility** is important to you when donating to TCRTL, please direct your gift to: *RLM Educational Fund 2340 Porter St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49509-0901 and write "Tri-Cities RTL Escrow Fund" on the memo line.*

<https://Give.Cornerstone.cc/TCRTL>



Convenient Online Giving

Question: *Would pro-life art made by local kids & turned into stationery be a merchandise item you'd buy?*



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Tri-Cities Right to Life

Mail: P.O. Box 943, Grand Haven, MI 49417

Phone: 616-201-7813

E-mail: info@TriCitiesRightToLife.org

Website: www.TriCitiesRightToLife.org

facebook.com/TriCitiesRightToLife



Our Mission

To raise public awareness about the issues of abortion, embryo destructive research, euthanasia, and assisted suicide. To be a community resource for area organizations about pro-life issues. To educate legislators and to promote legislation by grassroots lobbying. To support pro-life candidates for public office as endorsed by the Right to Life of Michigan PAC.

TCRTL Board Members

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Sabrina White ▪ Vickie Tober
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Marcia Haslick — Secretary
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Madonna White — Vice President
Theresa Giacalone — President

Ad Hoc membership is open!

Good-To-Know (cont.)

RLM Conference Book Ads can be purchased at reasonable rates. Email TG@TriCitiesRightToLife.org

Find great gifts at **MyAquaNotes.com**
A Pro-Life-dedicated business.

The enclosed envelope is provided for your convenience. And if membership amount poses a financial burden, we'll reduce or waive it. Please call.

A chance to win: Just find the one shamrock hidden in these pages. The first one to call our number, wins a merch item!



FYI—

To post our videos, we have a new **Rumble Channel**— (like YouTube sans censoring). MeWe and Telegram accounts are coming soon. Please make sure we have your email address so we can reach you with important news and updates.

Help! We welcome suggestions to improve how we do things. Will you LMK your thoughts in a survey on our website? :)

Thank you!

Theresa Giacalone