

An Affiliate of Right to Life of Michigan Serving Grand Haven, Spring Lake, & Ferrysburg, MI **FALL 2022 / ISSUE 49**

LAKESHORE LIFE NEWS











Our year in pictures speaks for itself. We have been the busiest we've ever been starting in January right up through this month's midterm elections, and now composing this newsletter. Despite our best efforts at ALL of it, we came up short— or shall we say, Michigan residents came up short and will be paying the price due to uninformed, misled, lazy, or selfish voters who made it all about themselves. Note

how their solutions never include all the "choices" women & men could make about "reproductive rights". They don't refer for adoption. They don't promote abstinence. They don't do what they do free of charge as volunteers. Our side does! But those of us with a faith foundation know our battle is not against 'them'. It's against an unseen enemyprincipalities and powers, working to unsettle us and steal the Life and blessings that our all-loving God seeks

to bestow. He has allowed this to come to pass in Michigan so we will have to trust Him to see us through. We need to identify what action steps are still within our power and bravely take those steps. Our plan is unfolding and we will reveal it in a matter of weeks. I'm sure you have some ideas of your own. Let's stay in touch so we can stay most effective. One good way to do that is to ensure we have your contact info. Here's ours...







1. March for Life DC in memory of Mike Grillo (masked outside only for photo:); 2. Memorial for the Unborn 2022; 3. Memorial walk 4. Student oratory contest, March; 5. Violence after Dobbs case leak, May 2nd; 6. Our early push-back against what became Proposal 3; 7. More push-back after spotting a bake sale for abortion in our own town; 8. CG Parade! Our 2nd entry ever!; 9. Lifechain, our 1st sponsored locally; 10. Record-setting event— 400 plus in the room and highest \$ raised, after which all of our election efforts continued. Whew!





Just scan code with your smartphone camera or app!





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Or enter manually:

https://Linktr.ee/TCRTL

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Thank You to All!

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Seeking Forgiveness vs. Permission

Well, I got in trouble last time. After the summer newsletter. I received my first hate mail. 'Hate' is overstating it a bit; the letter-writer was polite enough describing how she took offense at my agitated expressions. And as much as I'd like to avoid being negative here, I need to tell this to make my point.

While trying to save lives [and souls], sometimes 'over-turning a few tables' is necessary. Those who really know me know that I unrelentingly give others the benefit of the doubt— to a fault! Although the writer was much more genteel than sentiments you've heard for months from our opposition, she should have been way more upset by the outright evil the former county commissioners allowed on the health department's website than how I was responding to it. No doubt, that content led to some pursuing dangerous sexual lifestyles, procuring abortions, or helping others to; however, I actually wrote a letter to thank her

because I truly am grateful to those who take the time to share dissenting views. Plus I appreciate how much I learn by listening. Did I send the letter yet? No. Sadly I let perfectionism get in the way and then the busy-ness of the next couple months swept me toward the run-up to the successful failed election.

And that one letter wasn't all. There were other hurdles thrown in my way (e.g., someone I consider a mentor doubted the viability of my leadership and our affiliate). Clearly, some people don't know me very well, because when I'm challenged— I'll admit if they're right, but if substantiating evidence and reason won't support their opinions, I will not only rise to the challenge but will then set the bar even higher. This is how it must be as we move forward in a radically 'pro-abortion Michigan'.... because WE KNOW that view is a lie. Those whose votes yielded that outcome are grossly misinformed and lack understanding

of the truth that we know we bear. While I will never apologize for bringing the truth, we all must humbly admit that the method by which we bring it could often be improved, and at times, apologized for. Isn't it humble to ask permission first? Not in my opinion. Because it's a mandate to go be a light. I said last time: "How I wish I could inject such worriers with hope!" The culture will only seek the truth we bring if they perceive the love and joy that's so easily buried when we're discouraged. Yet, these bring hope! And yes, we must all become prolife apologists— but only by remaining apostles of the One who sent us, accepting that we will often be hated like He was.

Thankfully in recent days, my phone and computer have become portals of hope. There have been so many encouraging words for our efforts, Bishop Boyea's reminder of John Quincy Adams' historical fight against slavery was spot-on, as was my parish <u>priest's</u> comparison of the same to abortion. A fellow affiliate president even reminded some of us of a song, <u>Press On</u>, by Selah in a music book— one that I also happen to own! And finally Amanda's artwork on Pg. 3. Wow!!! It arrived just as I wondered what to put in place of the previous word cloud. Incredible!!

What a privilege that we are making this journey with such beautiful people of truth & hope, setting bars higher and clearing hurdles one at a time. I am humbled!



each other and everyone they meet, the physical and emotional connection between an expectant mom and her baby, and the Hearts of Jesus and His mother, Mary. GIRLS is an acronym that stands for Girls Inspiring Respect for all Life's Stages. Nice!

We encouraged dinner-goers to feel free to tip the girls as they served the Culver's frozen custard and cake; and they were so excited to earn \$137 on this first fund-raiser. They also participated in a craft sale since then. Watch for these young ladies— they're going places, all while leading others toward loving LIFE on the way!

Contact us to learn ways to volunteer with TCRTL, or start your own prolife group.

Meet the Newest Prolife Group!



There's something very exciting stirring in the Tri-Cities: It's young people, guided by their moms, who started a prolife group for girls. The enthusiasm at their first meeting was heart-warming as I stood to describe what Tri-Cities Right to Life is all about. Then they asked questions (good questions!) and began to plan the details of their new endeavor.

The first order of business was to decide in what way they could be of

< Table 1 of 2 Heart2heart GIRLS, Smiling because they love to serve for a pro-life cause! Photo credit Angela Boxer, Oct. 13,

service at our annual fundraising dinner. There was a need to serve desserts to the more than 400 guests, so that seemed like a winning idea. Other details such as attire and hairstyle could be determined later, but the group really wanted to reach a consensus on a name. The list got to about twenty or so creative choices before it was whittled down to just one: And that is ...

Heart 2heart GIRLS! 'Heart to heart' representing the way they interact with





INSPIRATION by LOCAL ARTIST!

The above was created by Amanda Fickel, a local wife, mother, nurse, & artist who emailed me on Friday 11/11 following the disappointing news of Michigan's election results. She said, "I was inspired to draw this on election day. I'm so deeply saddened by the [election] results but I know this battle is not over." She is gifting this artwork to us and we're considering the various ways to share the beauty and truth that Michigan does love LIFE. If you have ideas, let us know. Thank you, Amanda!

For real change, stop feeding the monster! When we financially support a company that supports abortion, we are advancing both.

See <u>2ndVote.com/company-scores/</u> Example: if you choose <u>Charity Mobile</u> for phone equipment and service, we earn 5% of all customers' payments!

Want less mail? Ask for this newsletter in digital form, which retains active links. How convenient!

For a deduction when giving to TCRTL, make your check payable to: RLM Education Fund— and write "Tri-Cities RTL Escrow" on the memo line.

Maybe you're wondering how your donations will be used ... well, we are currently spending your gifts to erect a billboard message in January that inspires

https://give.cornerstone.cc/TCRTL



respect for Life. Even though Michigan seemingly voted otherwise, we can still make a difference reaching countless drivers to hopefully make a better "choice".]



▼ The Focus on Life event
VIDEO will be viewable very soon at our Linktree. Also hear
Maggie's Story. <u>Linktr.ee/TCRTL</u>

▼ VOLUNTEER!
Help us make abortion
unthinkable! We are always planning the next method of touching hearts and minds for LIFE. The most vulnerable must be protected! If not by us, then by whom?

▼ MEMORIAL... AGAIN!

On Jan. 14, 2023, somewhere in the Tri-Cities, we will once again host our annual Memorial for the Unborn. Since abortions continued in Michigan as if Roe had not even fallen, we will memorialize those who lost their lives in 2022. Watch our Linktree for details on the upcoming event.

▼ FUNDRAISER!

The new prolife group,

Heart2heart GIRLS will be having
a wreath sale fundraiser in the
Tri-Cities on Sat. Dec. 3rd
from 4-7pm. Watch your church
bulletin & our Linktree for location.

▼ ORATORY CONTEST! And other youth events will be announced soon. Please ... yep, you guessed it— see our Linktree for the latest info!

♥ 40 Days for Life!

If you joined a campaign, be encouraged! A record number of babies were saved in 2022!

▼ THE MATTER OF LIFE MOVIE. Watch for news about a local screening coming soon!

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Front inset: Immaculée on 10/13/2022, a record-setting event for attendance as well as dollars raised! Photo credit: Veronica Miller



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Have a Blessed Holiday Season!

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As the signs fell, it was 'a sign'...



See page 1 for a pep-talk & our VAST **year-in-review!**

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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.

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Above are some <u>amazing</u> people (plus Joyce W., Denise S., Char L., Hannah A., Bailey Q., Jer M., & Veronica M.:) who helped make our successful dinner possible! <u>Thank you</u> to all!!

Did you know? Our event hit another attendance and fundraising record. If you played a part in that... Thank you!!

"When the world is upside down, or you are... smile & still keep your cool."

We were able to install a NoOn3 message due to your

BILLBOARD \$UPPORT!

Thank you!

