

Ashtabula County Friends for Life



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Member of
*Right to Life Action
Coalition of Ohio*

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Issue 2

Many Thanks to our Sponsors

President's Note:

After forty-some years of praying, the Dobbs decision came down in a whirlwind. Our current US President is rabidly pro-death. Meanwhile, the value of life has dramatically spiraled downward (although considerable ground has been made on some state levels). Taxpayers are once again funding abortion, here and all over the world. Read on to get the latest in Pro-Life news. Please get involved – pray, donate, or volunteer.

Your FFL Board President,

Crystal Latimer (440) 466-7441

Coming Events

(Reg. meetings are at Gateway Church, Austinburg Rd)
Sunday, Sept. 18 – Candlelight Vigil 6:00 PM
Sat, Sept 24 – Breakfast Mtg @ Best Friends 9:30
Wed, October 5 – Ohio March for Life 11:00 AM
Tuesday, Nov 15 – Dinner with Friends 5:30 PM
Tuesday, Jan 17, 2023– Regular Meeting, 7 PM
March 10 & 11 – BABL Pro-Life Convention
Tuesday, Mar 21 – Regular Meeting, 7 PM

Dinner with Friends

FFL's annual Dinner with Friends meeting will be held Tuesday, Nov. 15th at Brighter Horizon Restaurant, 2315 West Avenue, Ashtabula, at 5:30 pm in Ashtabula. The featured speaker will be Kate Makra, Executive Director of Cleveland Right to Life. Brighter Horizons isn't normally open on Tuesday evenings, but is opening just for us! Please RSVP if you plan to attend by either calling 440-466-7441 or emailing ashcofriendsforlife@yahoo.com



16th Annual Candlelight Vigil

The 16th Annual FFL Candlelight Vigil will be held on Sunday, September 18, at Zaback-Willaims-Ducro Funeral Home at 500 West Prospect in Ashtabula. We will gather at 6:00 pm on the day after *National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children*. Pastor Curtis Cecil of the Jefferson Nazarene Church will give the message and Sherry Cornell will bless us with song. We have much to celebrate this year with the Dobbs decision, but lives are still being destroyed to the god of convenience. Let us remember the 65,000,000+ who never got to draw a breath.

Ohio March for Life

The Ohio March for Life is being held on October 5, 2022 in Columbus, OH – will be the biggest pro-life advocacy event in our state’s history! We are focusing on making a statement in support of life that will be heard loud and clear by our legislators. Our message of love for unborn children and their mothers will be heard by every member of the legislature as they come to Hartford that day during the legislative session. The rally will be held at the Ohio State Capitol Square at 11:00am, facing S. High Street. The address of the capitol building is 75 E State St, Columbus, OH 43215. Some of the speakers include Dr. Alveda King, Aaron Baer, President of Center for Christian Virtue, and Peter Range, Executive Director of Ohio Right to Life. We encourage you to be creative and bring your own signs! It is likely that many groups will have signs available as well.

Gateway Church has graciously offered to send their 15-seat bus down – Praise the Lord! There are also buses leaving from Cleveland. Anyone interested in going, please call 440-466-7441 to reserve a spot or for more information.

The Overturning of Roe vs. Wade

Every pro-lifer’s hope came true on June 24, 2022 when the Dobb’s decision came down from the Supreme Court. What an historic moment after 49 years of death being imposed on every state in our union. Liberals all across the country are outraged and taking their rhetoric to a new level. The ever-compliant media is very happy to keep their venom in the headlines, indicating how unfair it is to not be able to take the life of your child and possibly be forced to bear it (unless, of course, their employer is willing to pay for their travel to have an abortion)! Much prayer is still needed as we still have a long way to go to make this country safe for all babies. Here is one quote concerning the new status quo: **“It appears that voters will maintain the status quo in states where, according to the Guttmacher Institute, 71% of abortions took place in 2017 and will be effectively banned in states which had only 10%. Roe, like Dred Scott, failed to impose uniformity of belief on a fraught moral issue in a nation whose founders knew, even if too many of its boomers forgot, that it has always been a land of diversity that has striven**

for equity and inclusion.” Michael Barone at Townhall, 7/1/22

Many, many thanks to Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost for petitioning for the Heartbeat Bill to go into effect immediately! God bless you, Dave!

Gateway Church was excited to host Ashtabula County Friends for Life for a service of Celebration on Sunday evening, June 26. Many came out to praise God for the Dobbs decision. Kate Makra of Cleveland Right to Life and Margie Christie of Cincinnati RTL and President of RTL Action Coalition of Ohio made the trip to celebrate with us and share the latest news. Pastor Craig Adams gave the message.



Crystal speaks at the FFL celebration

Forty Days for Life

From Sept 28, 2022 to Nov 6, 2022 many areas in Ohio will unite with other communities from coast to coast and internationally - for a major, simultaneous pro-life mobilization - the 40 Days for Life campaign. Faithful believers are praying that these efforts will mark the beginning of the end of abortion.



Phil and Cathie working the fair booth

Ashtabula County Fair, 2022

Our county fair was held August 9-14 in Jefferson. The huge change for vendors this year was the move from the Commercial Bldg. to the 4H Bldg. What a wonderful improvement to volunteer at the fair in air conditioning! Many visitors to our booth were given the new fact sheets on Misinformation in the News regarding lies about abortion in the media. Many pro-life t-shirts were sold and donations accepted. Many thanks to all our booth volunteers, members, pastors, and the Knights of Columbus for their help.

Bringing America Back to Life

Bringing America Back to Life Convention was held on March 11 & 12 in Independence, OH. Several FFL members attended, hearing the latest info on a wide variety of subjects concerning life (from Joe Allen about artificial intelligence to American history by David Barton). Mark your calendars for March 10 and 11 for next year's convention. A limited number of free tickets are available through Friends for Life. Send an email to ashcofriendsforlife@yahoo.com if interested.

Bits and Pieces

The following abortion statistics pertain to 15 counties in Northeast Ohio from 2020 –

- 94% were residents of Ohio
- 44% identified as white
- 48% identified as black
- 86% identified as single, divorced, or widowed
- 63% had other children!
- 43% of all abortions in Ohio are from women in these 15 counties, making Northeast Ohio the deadliest place of unborn children in the state.
- Cuyahoga County residents account for 51% of the area's abortions.
- In 2020, there were 9,413 babies killed by abortion in Cuyahoga and Summit Counties alone (although only 5,102 were residents of those counties).

RTL Coalition of OH is sponsoring a raffle – High 5 For Life. A ticket is \$5 for a chance to win up to \$500 in cash or gas cards. Email or call to buy a ticket while supporting the pro-life cause. Ends 11/1

So, what's next for Ohio? Currently, Ohio does not have a law that ends abortion from conception. The **Human Life Protection Act** (SB123), which will effectively end *all* abortions from the moment of conception, is working its way through the Ohio House and with your help will be passed after the November Election and sent to Governor DeWine to sign before the end of 2022. Hallelujah!

Walmart Will Fund Abortion Travel to Kill Employees' Babies in Abortions

Walmart announced today that it will fund abortion travel for its employees — using its health care plan to subsidize travel for any employee who has to go more than 100 miles to get an abortion that will end the life of a unique human being. According to a CNBC report, Walmart's health care plans will cover abortion “when there is a health risk to the mother, rape or incest, ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage or lack of fetal viability.” Employees and their family members who are insured through Walmart will also have travel costs covered, if they cannot access a legal abortion within 100 miles of their location, according to the email, which was sent by Walmart's Chief People Officer Donna Morris. Walmart is the nation's largest employer with about 1.6 million employees and is headquartered in Arkansas, where strict abortion limits have already got into effect. Lifesitenews.com 8/19/22

Abortion Clinics in Ohio with Expired Licenses

Last November, FFL sent out emails about Ohio's abortion facilities. Six surgical abortion mills in Ohio have been operating with expired licenses for YEARS! Over a dozen of us submitted complaints to the Ohio Dept of Health. This is despicable that these surgical mills were permitted to operate without a license. We were informed that the health dept. is required to respond to these formal complaints. No response has been forthcoming as yet. Although these businesses are no longer performing surgical abortions (thank God), they are still open for “helping” with chemical abortions as well as directing women to out-of-state abortion clinics. They are still open without having a current license – This is wrong!



A “Comic” from the Star Beacon – how true!

The next two articles are a little lengthy and older, but they are so important and contain information that is especially relevant now. They clarify some common misconceptions and explain why we believe the way we do. Please read on to learn –

Why Miscarriage, Ectopic Pregnancy, and Early Delivery Are Not Abortions

Too often, inaccurate medical terms have led many women to believe they have undergone abortions when nothing could be further from the truth. Let’s clear up the facts and make sure women have the whole story.

Miscarriage is Not Abortion

The insensitive term “spontaneous abortion” is often used in medical settings instead of the term “miscarriage.” Many a woman has been devastated when, while recovering from a miscarriage in an emergency room or a doctor’s office, she is informed that her “spontaneous abortion” is complete.

A miscarriage — the *completely unintentional* death of a child in-utero — is not remotely related to an actual abortion. Actual abortion — whether conducted through means of the abortion pill or surgical procedures — is the on-purpose, consciously chosen, and fully intended violent taking of a child’s life. The distinction between miscarriage and abortion becomes clear when Dr. Anthony Levatino’s videos describing abortion procedures are viewed.

No woman suffering through a miscarriage should be made to feel that she has had an abortion.

A D&C Procedure (or Taking Pills After a Miscarriage) is Not an Abortion

Far too many women have been guilt-tripped into believing that undergoing a D&C procedure or taking a pill to clear their uterus *after a miscarriage* is no different than a woman who has consciously chosen an abortion.

However, a woman who has a D&C or takes a medication after an incomplete miscarriage has *not* chosen an abortion. An incomplete miscarriage arises when the child dies inside his mother’s womb, but has not yet been expelled by the mother’s body. This can cause health and infection risks to the mother, and doctors commonly recommend either a D&C procedure or the misoprostol pill to clear the woman’s uterus. While a D&C is *also* used to commit an abortion, a D&C is *not always* an abortion. It completely depends on the purpose: is a D&C being committed while a child is still alive in her mother’s womb? If so, it’s an abortion. Is a D&C being used to clear the mother’s womb after her child is dead and her body is not naturally cooperating? If so, it is most certainly *not* an abortion.

The same is true if a woman is prescribed misoprostol or other medication that causes her body to expel her dead child. This is *not* equivalent to taking the abortion pill (which includes misoprostol) while her child is still alive and with the express purpose of ending her child’s life. It comes down to the purpose: Is a living child being intentionally killed? Or is the child already dead, and are the procedures and medications being performed and prescribed to preserve the mother’s health? One is an abortion. The other is not.

The Removal of an Ectopic Pregnancy is Not an Abortion

Nearly all ectopic pregnancies are deadly to the child and have a high statistical risk of being deadly to the mother if they are not removed. With rare exceptions, a preborn child cannot survive unless inside the mother’s uterus. There is hope that, one day, medicine will advance to the point where ectopic pregnancies can be safely transferred to the mother’s womb. A few doctors around the world are willing to manage certain kinds of ectopic pregnancies.

Until these medical advances become possible for all women, the removal of ectopic pregnancies is a matter of life and death. Sadly, a child will not survive the removal of an ectopic pregnancy

because she is too young to survive outside the womb at this stage. However, the purpose of removing her from her mother's womb is not to kill her, but instead, the purpose is to preserve life. In ectopic pregnancies, two lives are at risk. In most cases, if the pregnancy is allowed to continue, the mother and the child will likely — or, in some cases, certainly — die. Generally, the removal of an ectopic pregnancy is not done with the intention of killing a child, but with the intention of saving the one life that can be saved: the mother. It is not an abortion.

As a statement by the Association of Pro-Life Physicians explained:

When the life of the mother is truly threatened by her pregnancy, if both lives cannot simultaneously be saved, then saving the life of the mother is the primary aim. If through our careful treatment of the mother's illness the pre-born patient inadvertently dies or is injured, this is tragic and, if unintentional, is not unethical and is consistent with the pro-life ethics.

An Early Delivery to Save the Mother's Life is Not an Abortion

Sometimes, a woman's body is unable to gestate her child long enough for her child to survive. This is due to no failure of her own, but is simply a tragic reality. In these situations — often caused by an infection, illness, incompetent cervix, and numerous other reasons — her body goes into premature labor, and medical professionals are unable to stop the delivery. This is not an abortion, and no woman should be led to believe it is.

Additionally, specifically in scenarios where a woman is in the midst of a life-threatening illness, doctors may recommend an early delivery to save her life. If a woman undergoes an early delivery and her child cannot or does not survive, she has not chosen an abortion. She did not choose to have her child undergo a violent procedure that gave him no chance of survival and intentionally killed him. Instead, she chose a natural process that gave her child the best chance at life — delivery. If her child is born at the age where he has any chance of survival, medical teams should be in place and work to save his life. Whenever both lives can be preserved, that is always the best practice. However, if the child does not survive, the mother did not intentionally end her child's life, and she did not have an abortion.

Conclusion

In the name of making abortion “normal,” pro-abortion individuals and groups who sell abortions to women try to convince women who have undergone tragic but necessary medical procedures that they chose an abortion. This is simply not true. A woman who has already been forced to suffer through a miscarriage, the loss of an ectopic pregnancy, or an early delivery should not be misled into thinking she's had an abortion.
By Kristi Burton Brown @ Live Action| 12/1518

Is Abortion Ever Necessary to “Save the Life of the Mother”?

It's dropped on a daily basis: Abortion should not be legal except in cases where the life of the mother is threatened by the pregnancy. But should it? Politicians who do not affirm the legitimacy of abortion under these circumstances are written off as straight-up lunatics. Who could be so callous, opponents ask, as to deny life to a pregnant woman whose life is threatened by her pregnancy? The truth is, there is one *massive* misconception about the “life of the mother” exception: the belief that abortion is sometimes *necessary* to save the life of the mother.

The abortion procedure is not — ever — necessary to save the life of a mother. There are, however, maternal health risks that require a treatment that *cause* the unfortunate, indirect, and unintentional death of an unborn child. For instance, in life-threatening ectopic pregnancies that require removal of a Fallopian tube, the pregnancy (including the unborn child) will be removed along with the Fallopian tube. The intention in this procedure is first and foremost to save the life of the mother, and in order to do so, a physician must perform a procedure that indirectly causes the death of her unborn child.

This is not an abortion. Furthermore, a true abortion — in which the direct intention is to end the life of a human being — is *not* a treatment for any type of maternal health risk. Abortions never save mothers, but procedures which by their nature may indirectly *lead to* a child's death sometimes save the life of the mother.

The Association of Pro-Life Physicians, whose mission is to practice pro-life medical ethics as the only legitimate means of living out the *do no harm* clause of the Hippocratic Oath, clarified the

subject with the following statement, which can be found within its broader context here:

We find it extremely unfortunate that many pro-lifers have regarded the health of the mother to be a consideration in whether or not she should have the right to terminate the life of her pre-born baby. Politicians who herald the title “pro-life” on the campaign trail frequently tout this health exception, as well as exceptions for rape and incest, as pragmatic compromises that will not offend political moderates and not alienate the pro-life community. We do not consider this compromise consistent with pro-life Hippocratic principles at all. To intentionally kill or condone the intentional killing of one innocent human being precludes one from being considered “pro-life” at all. A murderer of one person is not any less a murderer if he allows thousands to live, nor if he saves thousands from dying!

When the life of the mother is truly threatened by her pregnancy, if both lives cannot simultaneously be saved, then saving the mother’s life must be the primary aim. If through our careful treatment of the mother’s illness the pre-born patient inadvertently dies or is injured, this is tragic and, if unintentional, is not unethical and is consistent with the pro-life ethic. But the intentional killing of an unborn baby by abortion is never necessary.

Most of what passes as a therapeutic, or medically-necessary abortion, is not necessary at all to save the mother’s life. For example, if a mother has breast cancer and requires immediate chemotherapy to survive that can kill the baby, the physician will frequently recommend a therapeutic abortion. Another example: if a mother has life-threatening seizures that can only be controlled by medication that will kill or severely deform her unborn child, the physician will frequently prescribe a therapeutic abortion. In both of these cases, the abortion is not necessary to protect the mother’s health. The necessary medication may injure or kill the pre-born child, but this is no justification for intentionally killing the child. If the child is injured or dies from the medication prescribed to the mother to save her life, the injury was unintentional and, if truly medically necessary, not unethical.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, who recently announced his bid to run for Texas governor as

pro-life Rick Perry’s successor, was mocked and accused of “waffling” on the issue when he made the following comment:

If you’re really pro-life, you want to save every life, but that also includes the mother’s life. The life of the mother is just as precious as the life of the child. When asked whether this meant he supported a “life of the mother” abortion exception, he said: In a way, but you’re in a way kind of mischaracterizing the word. It’s not like an exception. What both the medical community needs to do, and the pro-life community supports, is doing everything we can to protect the life of the mother.

Pro-abortion media has labeled the language of this statement as “gobbledygook,” but it was actually an accurate summary of the pro-life position on the life of the mother. Unlike organizations such as Planned Parenthood, who have proven time and again that maternal health is *not* their priority, the pro-life community puts maternal health first by condoning any procedure that would save her life. The bottom line, however, is simply this: Abortion is not, and never will be, one of those procedures. By Lauren Enriquez @ Live Action | 10/2/13