# **Upcoming Events**

Every Thursday of the Month - Prayer Vigil Every Thursday from 3 pm to 4 pm in front of the Planned Parenthood office in Johnstown, on Franklin Street. Please join us in prayer to end abortion.

Every Second Tuesday of the Month – Monthly Meeting Our Cambria-Somerset Citizens Concerned for Human Life/CCHL Pro-Life group holds its monthly meeting at Saint Michael's Church Hall in Saint Michael, PA at 7:00 pm. Meetings are open to the public. Come and join.

March 2022 - State Essay & Oratory Contests. The PA Pro-Life Federation's Essay and Oratory Contests are excellent opportunities for students grade 7 through 12 to learn about prolife issues. Encourage students that you know to enter the state and regional student contest. The PA State Oratory Contest winner will receive an allexpense paid trip to the National Right to Life Convention to compete in the National Competition, the Jane B. Thompson Oratory Contest! Mail entries to: PA Pro-Life Federation: 4800 Jonestown Road Suite 102; Harrisburg, PA 17109 or emailed to lifelines@paprolife.org.

Help save lives in Johnstown. You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization! Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, **40 Days for Life** has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers. Learn more and get involved by visiting: 40daysforlife.com/johnstown



## A WORD FROM ANN

Welcome to all who receive and read this newsletter. It has been a while since I have written and there are many circumstances that have brought hope to our pro-life causes since our last newsletter. They include The Texas Heartbeat Law which is making abortion illegal in Texas after the baby's heartbeat and Dobbs vs Jackson Women's Health Organization which is a Mississippi law banning abortion after 15 weeks. The later law is now a law that is challenged by the abortion industry and is before the U.S. Supreme Court. The court's final ruling is due sometime in June this year. Some Constitutional experts have expressed that there is a distinct possibility that the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision may be overturned with the Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization being ruled upon. This indeed should give us hope; however, such a ruling would bring the issue of each individual State to decide how to handle the issue. So, our fight for the Right to Life for the pre-born children goes on.

I'd like you to know that our parent organization, The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, has submitted amicus curiae brief calling the Justices to overturn Roe. The brief notes that "a pregnant woman and her unborn child represent two distinct patients, who should be treated as such" and the brief goes on to say "Roe was a radical decision that overturned the legislative judgements of all 50 states. It was based on flawed understanding of the humanity of the unborn child and views of obstetrical practice that are outdated because they fail to treat the unborn child as second patients in pregnancy ..." These are excellent points made to the Supreme Court by the Federation, so our own hope abounds. Keep your prayers for this ruling to be on the right side of true justice and of life.

May God bless you and your loved ones abundantly!! Ann E. Poole

# The March for Life 2022

By Cristian A. Ridilla

The March for Life is back in full swing after a hiatus in 2021 due to COVID19. My hiatus was seven years longer. I went in 2015 and this was the first time for me back then. God arranged for me to see this show of love for the unborn eight years later. The bus ride down was so very positive, because each of us talked about why we defend life. There are



so many laborers in the field of the Lord and this gives glory to Him.

In hearing the blessing of the Eastern Rite Bishop, this showed that all Christians are in unity of Life. The other speeches showed that there are lawmakers trying to etch the right to Life in various levels of legislative



houses across our states and Nation. The other important lesson is that the other "options" are downright dangerous to women and are not proper healthcare. I think Father Mike

Schmitz's speech showed

that a person should always hold to their convictions and views.

The March itself was so beautiful to see, so many people from all over the USA were showing how they were for the protections of pre-born children- the other factor is there was so much prayer by many groups. This shows that everyone's faith in God was the driving force of why they marched. I implore all those reading to pray for Life to finally be enshrined in our laws.



# Editor's Note: This is a reprint from the Fall 2012 Edition of the CCHL Newsletter.

Welcome to all who read this newsletter and thank you for your support of Life. This year marks the 100-year anniversary of the sinking of the R.M.S Titanic. It was billed as one of the greatest ships ever and was said to be unsinkable. It was one of modern engineering and ship design's greatest accomplishments. Passengers lined up to board on her maiden voyage. The wanted to be part of her proud history. Never could they imagine what awaited them on the night of April 14, 1912, in the cold Atlantic Ocean. The weather was so very clear and calm. The people aboard the Titanic were enjoying the voyage two days out; some were dining, some were partying, some were sleeping, none of them knew of the massive iceberg that awaited in the ocean. At 11:40 pm the iceberg is spotted dead ahead, but the Titanic is sailing at 21 knots and cannot be turned away quickly enough to avoid a collision. The iceberg scraped across her starboard hull and opened six forward, completely flooding her bow section. In less than three hours, the ship and many of her passengers were at the bottom of the ocean. Just in an instant, just one iceberg, just one miscalculation, just one collision and the end result was tragedy.

1,500 lives lost. There have been movies and documentaries made; we can revisit all the events and circumstances of that fateful night, but we cannot bring the ship or her passengers back. It is too late.

Right now, our country, the United States of America is like the R.M.S. Titanic. Many refer to the USA as the greatest nation ever, a country founded on God and assuring for all, freedom. Freedom to pursue their happiness by establishing a government by the people, for the people, governing themselves in a democracy. By the grace of God, this country did, in fact, prosper and grow. It became the Melting Pot of the world and in the Twentieth century, a world superpower. Its greatness was demonstrated when it saved the world from tyrants in two world wars. Its armed forces are believed to be the strongest in the world. Many believe that the USA is "indestructible" just like the Titanic.

Our country is on her maiden voyage into a new century...maybe the seas are not as calm as they were in the Atlantic on the night of April 14, 1912. There is much unrest in the world today especially in the Middle East. Just like back then, there is one avoidable obstacle in our way. There is miscalculation of how dangerous this obstacle is and there is unavoidable disaster awaiting our country in the dark waters that lie ahead. That obstacle is abortion. It has torn a hole in America and it has flooded her very soul with the waters of indifference drowning our respectability and killing over 55 million of her citizens.

This issue, the issue of life inside the womb is the most pressing matter of our time. If we miscalculate and think we can push it to the side while we address other more "important" issues like the economy, energy use, the environment, poverty, etc., our great country will cease to be great. She will sink to the bottom of the world powers, no longer free, a third world country. We will not be able to resurrect it. Now is our chance to save our country.

Do what is right, pray, work and vote Pro-Life; and encourage others to do the same, as if our very existence depends on it- it may.

Pease continue to stand up for the right to life of the unborn and for all, because all Life, all holiness comes from God. May He bless you and all your efforts abundantly. Thank you.

Ann E. Poole

# Prayer Breakfast 2021

By Steve Dillon



Our Annual Pro Life Prayer Breakfast was once again a great success. There were several things that happened this year to make the success of our annual Pro Life Prayer Breakfast even more amazing than usual. Within about 2 weeks of the event our scheduled speaker Steve Deace contacted me via email and then called to explain that for family reasons, he would not be able to speak at our event. Well, with that short of a notice, I was very concerned as to what we would do. As you all know, this event is always known to have outstanding speakers to highlight the importance of continuing the prolife agenda of elimination of the abomination of abortion which is the killing of pre-born babies in the womb. When

Steve Deace called me, he knew that he had put us in a dire situation and had already contacted a substitute speaker for us. I was so relieved to hear him say he had secured Ashley Bratcher (the Actor who played Abby Johnson in the film *Unplanned*) to speak for us, if that would work for our group. I

## **CCHL Officers:**

President Ann Poole (814) 472-8584

Vice-President John Poole (814) 472-8584

Educational Director Chelsey Miller (814) 279-6213

Treasurer Marge Gallardy (814) 472-5616

PR/Legislative Director Dennis Ryniak (814) 703-6906

March for Life Coordinator Pat Mulcahy (814) 269-1470

Mailing List Maria Shulte (814) 262-0384

Newsletter Editor Cristian Ridilla (814) 615-8072 immediately thanked him and soon after was able to communicate directly with Ashley to arrange the specifics for her to come. As Michael said in his introduction, Ashley truly is as authentic a person as you will ever meet.

Then just days before the event Ann Poole called and said that she and John were sick and could not come and manage the event as they always do. We considered who may be able to fill in for her and she suggested Patti Frederick who I knew would be a great choice if Patti would accept the task. Again, the rest is history.

We are so thankful to our regular attendees and to those who came this year for the first time, without the wonderful attendance, it would all be in vain.

Some parts of the morning were fulfilled as planned: Michael Ciccocioppo was able to come and be our MC this year. Thankfully, Michael accepted Ann's invitation and he came and did a great job, and as God would have it, he had known Ashley beforehand and was able to make her introduction very special and personal.

Our own Margie Gallardy was successful in procuring the venue at the New Germany Grove Hall and getting volunteers to assist her in preparing the expected outstanding breakfast, including the cinnamon rolls!

The other thing that went off without a hitch was the professional filming of the whole event by Chris Cameron of Cam-Ron Video Productions, thanks to Chris we have been able to have professional video and audio of our Prayer Breakfast events the last 2 years.

For anyone that was there, you can attest to the all-important message that was presented by all the speakers at the event, and completed by Ashley's powerful testimony of her life, as she shared with us some of her early childhood experiences, and her opportunity and decision to play Abby Johnson in such a controversial film, and her own prolife story. You can watch the whole event again if you'd like, or if you or someone you know would like to view it, please contact me for the website and password

for viewing, it is not viewable without the credentials. Just email me for those, steve@pennglassfender.com, or call 814-241-2772. Also, if you would like see pictures from the event, visit our Facebook page, Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Cambria-Somerset or our Website https://prolifecambriasomerset.org/

As we have seen over and over, we serve an awesome God, who puts the pieces together even when we stress and struggle, and for that we give Him the Glory.

Marge Gallardy was chosen for the Unsung Hero award. She has been an advocate and voice for the voiceless and has been a tireless worker for the cause of Pro- Life. Marge for years has been our treasurer but is always willing to step up to the plate; one example is how she assisted in planning the Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast and organized its team of volunteers to make the breakfast. Congratulations Marge!!

Dennis and Kathy Ryniak are the Pro-Lifers of the Year. Dennis is our Legislative Director of our organization, and they do all they are asked and more. The Ryniak's arrange for the staffing and the planning of the CCHL booth at the Somerset County Fair in Meyersdale. Congratulation to Dennis and Kathy!!

Congratulations to all the award winners and keep up the good work for the preborn children!

## A TIME FOR TRUTH

By John Poole

When I was a boy, Superman's mantra was "truth, justice and the American way". Does this have the same meaning for us today? The American dream as come true for many of us this is certain. The America of today is quite different from what I experienced in the 1950's- some of it good, and some of it not so good; abortion on demand is surely one of the evils of our time and has been for the past 49 years.

How about truth and justice? As a young man, I overheard someone say, "the only time you should lie is when the truth doesn't suit". Sadly, that attitude has become a part of the new American way for many. Justice? Where is the justice in taking innocent lives – the unborn in particular?

What is truth anyways? In order for truth to be defined properly, it would have to be logically and factually correct. Unfortunately, today "truth" means different things to different people. In today's culture of moral relativism, all points of view are equally valid, and truth is relative to the individual. In reality, relativism is self-contradictory – what is true for one individual may not be true for somebody else.



We as citizens and as children of God should always seek the truth. We should ask the Holy Spirit to guide us in this endeavor to help us discern what is true and good.

We must use our own powers of reason and logic to help us see the truth vs. deception. We cannot rely on the internet or the media to accurately report the factswe must sort all this information out for ourselves.

Finally, truth is never subjective – it is based on objective reality and our faith in its source of facts. Much of this faith comes from our religion and its trusted leaders. Faith in God, I believe, is instrumental in our quest for truth.

# **Acknowledgements**

In Loving Memory of Dorothy Grigg.... Given by John and Ann Poole on behalf of the CCHL Community

In Honor of Lucille Hoover on her 96th Birthday..... Given By Jim and Audrey Gresko

Today, we mourn the passing of a faithful woman, Dorothy Grigg. Dorothy was a strong prayer warrior who prayed for the conversion of souls every Thursday at Planned Parenthood in Johnstown. She was a woman true to the movement of protecting the unborn. May we all be as faithful to the Pro-Life Movement. We have good model to follow. She will be missed by all of us who are prolife.

Ann E. Poole

# **A Prolife Prayer**

Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life,

And for the lives of all my brothers and sisters.

I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion,

Yet I rejoice that you have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son.

I am ready to do my part in ending abortion.

Today I commit myself

Never to be silent,

Never to be passive,

Never to be forgetful of the unborn.

I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement,

And never to stop defending life

Until all my brothers and sisters are protected,

And our nation once again becomes

A nation with liberty and justice

Not just for some, but for all,

Through Christ our Lord. Amen!

This prayer was written by Father Frank Pavone



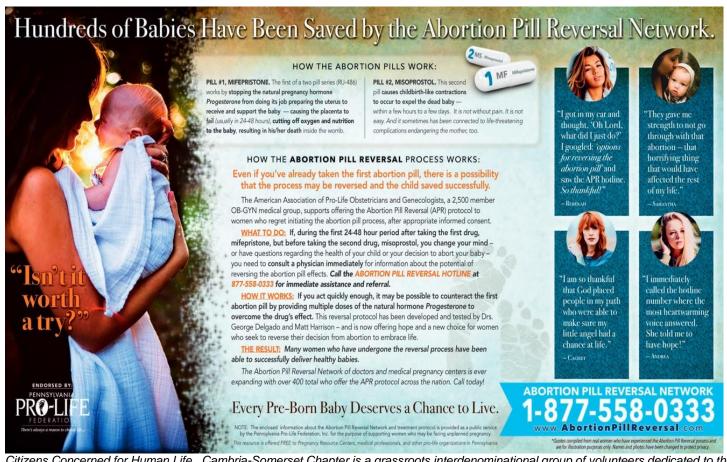
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# **Acknowledgement Request**

In Memory of		
In Honor of		
In Memory of		
	 Other	
Gift Presented by		
Address	 	

Because CCHL is an organization that celebrates Life and the wonderful gifts God sends forth, we welcome your acknowledgements to your precious gift in our newsletter. If you or someone you know has recently given birth, you would like us to acknowledge an anniversary or want to pay tribute to someone's memory and want to share this information in our newsletter- please feel free to send the slip above and we can include your celebration or memorial. Your donation and form may be mailed to: Citizens Concerned for Human Life- Cambria/ Somerset Chapter PO Box 1588 Johnstown, PA 15907-1588





Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Cambria-Somerset Chapter is a grassroots interdenominational group of volunteers dedicated to the sanctity of Human Life from moment of conception to the moment of natural death. As a a Chapter of the PA Pro-Life Federation, the CCHL opposes abortion, infanticide, fetal tissue research and euthanasia; we believe all of these procedures kill innocent life. We also ask you to stay up to date by visiting our website and invite you to our meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at Saint Michael Catholic Church Hall at 7:00 PM. The address is 751 Locust St. Saint Michael, PA 15951

Citizens Concerned for Human Life - Cambria/Somerset Chapter PO Box 1588

Johnstown, PA 15907-1588

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The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

# Chapter Focus There's always a reason to choose life! February 2022

#### Life Amendment Heads to the PA Senate for Vote

On Tuesday, January 25th the PA Senate Health and Human Services Committee voted Senate Bill 956, also known as the **Life Amendment**, out of committee. The bill now goes to the full PA Senate for a vote.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Judy Ward of Blair County, would amend the state constitution to clarify that there is no right to taxpayer funding of abortion nor a right to abortion found anywhere in the Pennsylvania Constitution. A similar bill has been introduced into the state House in HB 2252

The Life Amendment is needed because the abortion industry has a lawsuit pending in the PA Supreme Court. Their suit demands that taxpayer money be used to pay for abortions and that a right to abortion be invented by the Court. If the Court finds in their favor, not only will taxpayers be funding the abortion industry, but current abortion restrictions could be wiped out, including the Abortion Control Act and regular inspections of abortion facilities.



In order to amend the state Constitution, the bill must pass two consecutive legislative sessions and then go to the ballot for voters to decide. With this process, the Governor does not have the ability to veto the bill.

It is critical that we all work to educate the public regarding this legislation as the abortion industry is already making false claims that all abortions would be automatically banned along with contraception and in vitro fertilization. Included in this mailing are sample letters to the editor that chapter members can use as inspiration for their own letters to show support for the Life Amendment.

In addition, we are encouraging all chapter members to send an updated message to their state Senators urging support of the Life Amendment at https://oneclickpolitics.global.ssl.fastly.net/messages/edit?promo\_id=15166.

If more information is needed, please contact gallagher@paprolife.org or lifelines@paprolife.org or call our office at 717-541-0034.

# You're Invited! CHAPTER SUMMIT

We are excited to invite chapter leaders and aspiring leaders to the 2022 Chapter Summit to be held May 6-7 at White Sulpher Springs Conference Center in Manns Choice, Bedford County. Details, registration, and agenda are all enclosed. Please be sure to share this information with all chapter officers and chairs, as well as any volunteers who may be preparing for a future leadership role. Materials can be reproduced as needed or sent electronically. There is no charge to participate in the Chapter Summit.

We are looking forward to seeing you at this inaugural event and working together to strengthen and grow our chapters.

#### Pro-Life Essay Contest Deadline Drawing Near!

Spread the word about our annual contest to schools, teachers, students, churches, and homeschool groups in your community. This is an excellent way to engage young people in the pro-life movement. For copies of the flyer, visit our website at

https://www.paprolife.org/for-students.



#### Truth U. Campus Tour

We are excited to have begun scheduling talks on college campuses during March and April. We'll be visiting Penn State Main Campus on April 6, and are working out dates to present at Temple University and Messiah College. We will keep you posted as we add more campuses to our tour. If you have contacts with a local university, we would welcome your help in connecting us to them. Email lifelines@paprolife.org.

## SAVE THE DATE!

Celebrate Life Banquet

October 21, 2022

Hershey Lodge and Convention Center Keynote Speaker: Dr. Ben Carson

TUNE IN! Check out special guests and pro-life updates on our monthly Lifelines Radio available through our website at http://www.paprolife.org/lifelines-radio/ and also on our weekly podcast Positively Pro-Life available on our website and through the WWDB AM website at https://wwdbam.com/shows/positively-pro-life/podcasts/.