



**Citizens Concerned for Human Life  
Cambria-Somerset Chapter**

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**WINTER 2025**

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Welcome to all who receive and read this Newsletter! I hope your Summer is going well!

As I reflect on the last 36 years that I have been more actively involved in the Pro-Life cause, I can't help but think about the amazing beauty of Life-most especially Human Life.

We all have experienced and appreciate the glorious wonder of nature in God's created world! One of the greatest examples is the glistening, powerful waterfalls. New York has the Niagara [Falls] and, of course there are many more wondrous falls in that State, such as the Taughannock and Buttermilk Falls, in upstate New York. I was in awe at seeing the majestic grandeur of the snow-capped Rocky Mountains in Colorado and the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California! As I have travelled in our country and throughout the world, there are many wonderful sights of nature! We have our favorites, mine are the rolling, green, tree-filled hills and mountains of Pennsylvania! Which also includes bounteous wildlife, white-tailed deer, raccoons, groundhogs, rabbits, turkey and the many colorful songbirds! What a great place to live!

But of all of God's great creation, Human Life is his Masterpiece! Is there anything more wondrous, beautiful or celebrated than the Human Person, [who is] made in the image of God? Each individual is unique with special gifts and insights by God, to that one person alone!

Another of God's gifts to us is the gift of free-will. We can freely choose to do good or we can choose to do evil! How do we know the difference? We choose good when we follow His Ten Commandments, one of which is: Thou Shall Not Kill! Abortion and Euthanasia are against God and His Law! There is never any good that can come from them!

All of us in the Pro-Life movement realize just how astounding our Created World is. We truly can appreciate nature and its beauty; [we should also] have the love and wonder of our own pets, taking care not to abuse the natural world. But most importantly, we must have a solid commitment to speak up and defend every human person's right to life, from conception, through all stages of life until natural death!

"Choose life that you and your descendants may have Life and have it more abundantly."

May God bless you all and your loved ones, abundantly! Thank you for all you do for Life!

Ann E. Poole

## **Image of God: A Biblical Case for the Sanctity of Life** by Dr. David Deavel

You don't have to be religious to be against abortion. If you believe in human rights, you can see that these rights apply to all humans, including those at the earliest stages of life. According to our biology textbooks, from the first moment of conception, a unique human being with its own DNA is present. An embryonic human being is no mere "clump of cells" any more than a fetus, infant, child, or adult is a "clump of cells." These terms only designate which particular stage of development a human being is.

But do we have to value the right to life? The increasingly secularized Western world is not so sure anymore. Even those who defend human rights are less sure about when those rights begin. That's why, even if science and reason can still produce a strong argument for the right to life, it is helpful for Christians to examine what God teaches us about that right in Scripture. There we find that, no matter how big or small, young or old, human life has "sanctity" or holiness.

While all created things bear their creator's stamp, human beings bear it uniquely. Genesis 1's creation account repeats after each day that what God has made is "good"—from light and dark to seed-bearing trees, from sun and moon to sea monsters, birds, and cattle. But only after the sixth-day creation of man, "in His own image, in the image of God . . . male and female," do we read that God looks on his work and finds it "very good" (Gen. 1:27, 31). Mankind—male and female—is the crown of creation. Made in God's image, we are his representatives, commanded to "be fruitful and multiply" and steward all creation. And, as Genesis 2 depicts, God created and set us up in a garden home as a father does his own children. Luke's genealogy of Christ goes back ultimately to "Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God" (Luke 3:38).

Though the Bible tells us that even innocent animals can be killed for our use, as God's special images, men cannot. God's covenant with Noah after the flood clarifies that in the introduction of capital punishment: "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for God made man in his own image" (Genesis 9:6). Murder is wrong not because it breaks a social contract, but because it effaces God's visible image. Children are images, too. The Law given to Moses specifies particularly that the children of Israel shall not kill their children in sacrifice as surrounding pagans do: "You shall not give any of your children to devote them by fire to Molech and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord" (Leviticus 18:21). Again, the killing of a human child *profanes the name of God*.

We can learn from more than just legal codes when we inquire about the Biblical case for the sanctity of life. In Psalm 139, David praises God for his own being "fearfully and wonderfully made" even before he was born: For thou didst form my inward parts, thou didst knit me together in my mother's womb. (v. 13) Lest we think that is hyperbole, the Scriptures give us a series of titanic figures introduced as infants—or even earlier. The nation of Israel takes its name from Isaac's younger son, Jacob, whose birth while grabbing at his twin brother's heel foreshadows his becoming the one who wrestles with God—what his new name, "Israel," means.

The lawgiver Moses' origin story begins as a child saved from slaughter after his birth by two clever Hebrew midwives. His importance is signaled in Hebrew by the "basket" in which he is put to float down the Nile. In Hebrew, it's the same word for Noah's boat—*teva*, or "ark."

The whole of Israel, it would seem, rides in this little boat of bulrushes and pitch, just as the whole of humanity did in Noah's ship of gopher wood. Many more children in the Old Testament are marked out by miraculous pregnancies and callings as children—Samson, Samuel, and even Jeremiah. But the supreme witness to the sanctity of life is the greatest of the prophets and the One to whom he points.

Mary is visited by the angel Gabriel, who tells her the Holy Spirit will come upon her and cause her to conceive a son to be named Jesus, who "will be called holy, the Son of God" (Luke 1:35). Afterward, she goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth, also pregnant under miraculous circumstances. The famous greeting, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" is explained by Elizabeth as due to her wonder that "the mother of my Lord" should come to her. Elizabeth's recognition, she says, is because, "when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the child in my womb leaped for joy" (Luke 1: 42, 44).

Elizabeth's son, John the Baptist, is fearfully and wonderfully made to know even in the womb when the Son of God, the true "image of the invisible God" (Colossians 1:15) after whom all humanity is made, is present—also in the womb!

It is the perfect lesson for us. No mere clump of cells, this prophet cries out even in his mother's womb, preparing the way for the Savior, whose blessedness John detects even in Jesus' mother's voice. The Holy One of God and his forerunner are identified as holy in the womb so we might know the holiness of every human life, at whatever stage.

**Editor's Note:** The article, Image of God: A Biblical Case for the Sanctity of Life was originally printed in AMAC's April 2025 Edition by Dr. David Deavel of The University of St Thomas.

**Attention Readers:** We encourage you to go to <https://www.blaircountyprolife.com> and read Volume 17, Number 2 for two informative articles on IVF and defunding Planned Parenthood.

***IN LOVING MEMORY OF:***

Dorothy Grigg  
John M. Trabert  
Jim Vizzini  
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***Respect Life Presentation Available***

***Dennis Ryniak***

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown's Respect Life Committee has a mission to promote pregnancy support and provide education to the faithful. The Abortion Presentation covers five key components and lasts about 50 minutes. This includes a PowerPoint presentation with pictures and videos. This is ideal for Christian and Parochial High Schools, Campus Ministries, churches and service groups. The program is also adaptable to speak to Protestant Churches and service groups. And has already been presented to protestant denominations in the area. Whether Catholic or Protestant, we should all agree on the need to provide pregnancy support. Everyone should consider supporting a pregnancy center that provides alternatives to abortion. Please contact the Respect Life Committee at (814) 207-9110, if you would like to schedule a pro-life presentation at your school, church, organization or religious education program. <https://www.facebook.com/ajrespectlife/>

## CCHL OFFICERS



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Six members of our Chapter attending the PA Pro-Life Annual Banquet, held at the Hershey Convention Center in October, were given the opportunity to have their photo taken with the keynote speaker, acclaimed television news host and author Kayleigh McEnany. They are: (L-R) Steve Dillon (VP), Mary Dillon, Jackie Kulback, Kayleigh McEnany, Sister Lucia D'Cunha (SSA) Ann Poole (P) and Cristian Ridilla (Sec).



## ***2025 Annual Prayer Breakfast Review***

Dennis Ryniak

Thank you to all our attendees who made our Annual Prayer Breakfast, this year, a great success! By joining us for this occasion, you are helping to share our mission of changing hearts and minds, so that more may understand the need and the necessity for the sanctity of human life. From the moment of conception to the moment of natural death.

We were very fortunate this year to invite Bridgett Mack to be our Keynote Speaker. She is known as BMackWrites and can be found on facebook and other social media platforms and is also the author of two books. Her passion is through her family and her faith.



"But life requires life to create life. Babies are created through our seed." Bridgett Mack

While volunteer training at a local Pregnancy Resource Center her eyes were opened to some very hard truths that became difficult to accept. In addition to learning the graphic details on how abortions were performed she was shocked at the statistics.

The Guttmacher Institute is a leading research and policy organization committed to advancing sexual and reproductive health rights worldwide and is a pro-abortion organization. In 2020 the Institute reported that nearly One Million abortions were performed in all Fifty States including Washington D.C.

She finds it hard to believe that the new norm of abortion has been deemed as birth control. Bridgett presented a very inspiring message rooted in deep faith, compassion and a biblical perspective. Based on her own personal life experiences, she made it very clear that we need to fight for our children with solutions. In order to deal with abortion we need to be on solid ground. So that we can bring about change through Jesus Christ. We need to redirect the focus of our youth back to the importance of getting an education and enjoying their youth.

*Please watch the full video of Bridgett Mack's phenomenal message on our website at [prolifecambriasomerset.org](http://prolifecambriasomerset.org) The video is currently available on our HOME page, just click the play button and watch!*

# Let's Have "Breakfast!"

*Dennis Ryniak*

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Please join us for our 2026 Annual Prayer Breakfast as we prepare to welcome our next Keynote Speaker, Ryan Bomberger. Ryan has a rather unique perspective of the innate nature of Purpose. His biological mother was raped yet courageously rejected the violence of abortion. Ryan was adopted and loved by a diverse family of fifteen.

Today, he is an Emmy® Award-winning Creative Professional who founded The Radiance Foundation. A faith-based, life-affirming, educational nonprofit, along with his amazing wife Bethany. He is a factivist, international public speaker, columnist, educator, and author of two books. He and his wife Bethany also co-authored three ground-breaking children's books.

Ryan was the creative force behind the first ad campaign to expose abortion's hugely disproportionate impact in the black community. The bold TooManyAborted.com billboards/web campaigns made an unexpectedly huge impact on the pro-life movement. His regularly published Op-eds cover core issues such as abortion, adoption, racism, fatherlessness, gender radicalism, religious liberty, free speech and the War on Common Sense. The nation's oldest civil rights organization sued Ryan and The Radiance Foundation for exercising their First Amendment rights to parody the organization's name. In a national Op-Ed, Ryan called out the NAACP branding it the "National Association for the Abortion of Colored People." With the incredible help of Alliance Defending Freedom, Radiance was victorious after two years in federal court.

As Chief Creative Officer of the Radiance Foundation, Ryan hopes to continue to impact millions to embrace their inherent and equal value and the incredible possibility with which we are all created. Ryan is happily married to the love of his life, Bethany. They are the proud homeschooling parents of four children, two of whom were adopted. They are his daily inspiration in illuminating that every human life has a God-given purpose.

Learn more at [www.radiance.life](http://www.radiance.life)

**Editor's Note:** You can now make donations directly to the Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Cambria-Somerset Chapter, on the website. Click the "DONATE" button in the top right corner. Go to: <https://prolifecambriasomerset.org/> The CCHL is a Non-Profit 501(c)3 Organization.

### ***Calendar of Upcoming Events***

1. CCHL Monthly meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month at Saint Michael's Church Hall, 751 Locust St, St. Michael, PA 15951. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to come and join us!
2. The Washington D.C. March for Life will be on Friday, January 23, 2026. For Bus information please contact Patti Frederick at (814) 344-6521. Please leave a message with a call-back number and your call will be returned.

### **Please complete and Return ASAP!**

I would like to renew my membership. Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$10 suggested annual dues) Make check out to CCHL Cambria/Somerset.

I would like to help out with mailings, fair booth, annual breakfast,

\_\_\_\_\_.

Please remove my name from the mailing list.

Print your name & phone #

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### ***SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!***

The Membership Appreciation Luncheon has ***Sprung into Spring!*** This means that in January 2026, we will be having our regular meeting on Tuesday, JAN 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. The Luncheon will replace the April Meeting and be held on:

Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Start Time: 12 Noon

Location: St. Michael Church Hall, St. Michael, PA

***Spring into Action and Save the Date!***