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Since 1969 – Pennsylvania's oldest and largest grass roots pro life organization

3050 Pioneer Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15226

OUR 56TH YEAR

JUNE 2024, MONTHLY UPDATE

ONLINE PUBLICATION

MOTHER'S DAY DIAPER DRIVE AT PP BENEFITTED CATHOLIC CHARITIES PARENTING PROGRAM



The Lord was shining down on our Diaper Drive with a beautiful sunny morning. Toward noon it got cloudy and started to rain, so we knew He was saying, "That's enough, good and loyal workers". We collected a car full of diapers, wipes, etc. and \$65.00.



We even had passersby giving money! What a joyful day. Thank you to everyone who contributed by coming to drop off at Parenthood, who had diapers sent, and who help monetarily!

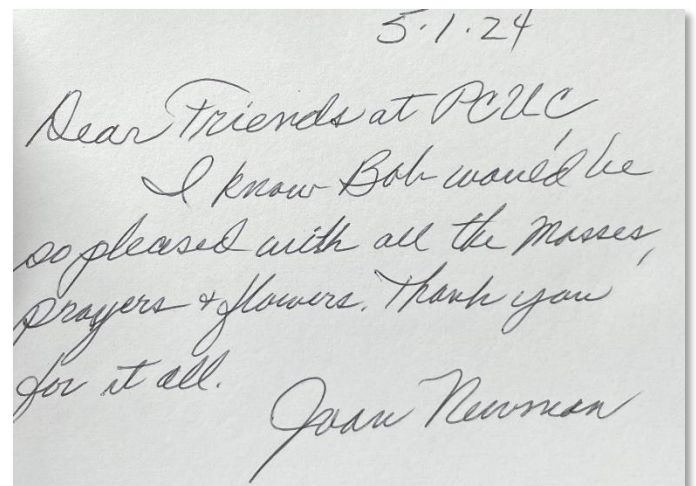
Thanks to Charlene for organizing and delivering this year's diaper drive, and to all who donated!

FORMER PCUC PRESIDENT, DIANE MARCELLA IS LAID TO REST



On April 9th, 2024, after an extended illness, our sister, Diane, passed into eternity. Diane was the president of the (former) New Castle chapter of PCUC for 17 years. Those who knew Diane will always remember her as a dedicated servant of the community, a good Catholic and a loving mother and friend. She will be sorely missed, but the work she did will live on as a testament to her good works and her good heart.

JOAN NEWMAN EXPRESSES GRATITUDE FOR ALL OF YOU!



LOCAL PRO-LIFE HERO TURNS 80!



John Dick is now 80 years old and shows no signs of slowing down! He has been a regular pro-life witness at Allegheny Reproductive; the abortion clinic in the East Liberty section of Pittsburgh, where 4,000 babies lose their lives annually. I can only imagine how many children are alive today because of his

faithfulness! For 40 years now, John has prayed and witnessed in front of “Allegheny Repo” three days per week, along with his wife Judy. Thank you John, for fighting the Goliath of abortion since 1984. May God bless you for standing in the gap and being a voice for the voiceless!

LOCAL PARISH HOSTS FREE COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER AS PART OF USCCB’S “WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED” OUTREACH PROGRAM!



Divine Grace Parish in Cranberry recently hosted a free community baby shower that served 64 pregnant or new moms! Walking With Moms In Need seeks to make Catholic parishes a welcoming and supportive community to moms in crisis pregnancies, thereby promoting a culture of life.



Denise Slusser was the primary organizer of the event, while 100 volunteers from the parish & community worked together to make this community baby shower a success. Pictured above are men from the local Knights of Columbus council, who loaded all the gifts into the mom’s cars.



Each guest received a filled diaper bag upon arrival, along with their choice of one “primary gift” (such as a car seat, stroller, crib, or other major item). There was also a boutique where moms received cute outfits for their little ones. The event also featured

representatives from 11 resource organizations which were available to talk to the women about needs ranging from child support, help with food, as well as providing free items such as baby bottles and pacifiers. Everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch, prepared by the parish kitchen team, and listened to a speaker, Dr. Belle Bautista.

According to many of the volunteers who acted as “table hosts”, the women were deeply moved (some to tears), by seeing so many people who cared enough to volunteer their time. Overall, the event had an incredible impact on all involved! Thanks to Denise and Divine Grace Parish for setting an example for other parishes to imitate!

3 MINUTE PRO-LIFE VIDEO SURE TO MAKE YOU CRY AT THE END



[\(2281\) Here I Am Short Film Contest - ORTL 2024 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M900v4K-pJk)

PCUC received this message on our website and the video was so poignant I just had to share it with you:

Hello,

This video that we produced and acted in won the Oregon Right to Life 2024 short video competition for the 10-13 year old age group. Our families have been sharing this video with extended family, friends, and friends of friends over the past couple months. The feedback we have received has been positive and encouraging. The majority of responses have talked about how this video impacted them in an emotional and effective way. We have even received this response from individuals who we believe may lean towards pro-choice.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M900v4K-pJk>

Based on viewer reactions, we are realizing that this video just 'hits different' and has the potential to carry the pro-life message with organic momentum to thousands of people. Please feel free to view this video and share it within your community as you see fit.

With Love,

Peter, Vivienne, Oliver, Gemma, Perpetua, Louisa, Natalie, Felicity

BUTLER COUNTY PHL JOINS PCUC!

From Tom Patterson, former President of PHL (Butler):

The Pennsylvanians for Human Life (PHL) chapter from Butler County has lost its funding and will cease to exist on June 30, 2024. This PHL chapter was founded in April, 1972, and had been continuously active in promoting Respect Life activities in Butler County since that time.

After Prayer and thoughtful reflection, the leadership of Butler PHL has decided to join forces with People Concerned for the Unborn Child (PCUC) of Pittsburgh. We hope to continue to sponsor activities in the Butler area and to continue to speak up for Life, now as members of PCUC.

Our next planned activity is participation in the Butler Farm Show.

For those of you who financially supported PHL in the past, you can continue to support Butler activities by donating to PCUC and noting 'Butler' on the check memo line. Please note, as was the case with PHL, donations to PCUC are not tax deductible. Donations should be sent to:

*PCUC
3050 Pioneer Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15226*

We look forward to our future as part of PCUC!

PCUC WELCOMES FIVE NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

The heart of PCUC is it's board of directors. The selflessness and talent of these 15 individuals are what keep PCUC going strong! We would like to thank all of our new members for coming "on board" (pun intended) 😊:

Tom Patterson, Meredith Parente, Mary Lawrence, Peggy Donley and Peter Elliott

Thanks to all of our wonderful board members...both old and new!

SIDEWALK ADVOCATE TRAINING WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!



From Andrew McCauley, Pittsburgh Director of Sidewalk Advocates for Life:

The June 1 Sidewalk Advocates training was a great success! We had a total of 13 new trainees, and we will hopefully be seeing some new faces on the sidewalk soon. Please pray for these newly minted advocates that they will be guided by the Holy Spirit in this new phase of their pro-life work, and also for those experienced advocates who will be helping them put their training into practice.

Thanks to all who gave up their Saturday to take the training! It is inspiring to see so many new faces! I am sure that there are babies who will get to be born one day because of the selfless sacrifice of many of these volunteers!

If you would like to support the work of PCUC, please consider making a donation at:

[Donate – People Concerned for the Unborn Child \(pcuc.org\)](https://www.pcuc.org)

Either online through PayPal at:
[Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)

Or by mailing a check to:

PCUC
3050 Pioneer Ave.
Pittsburgh PA 15226

Thank you for your support!

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Greg Engelmeyer, PCUC President:



Dear Friends of Life:

I am honored to tell you that PCUC held an election of officers at our last meeting, and am now President of PCUC. I have large shoes to fill, succeeding Michael Siyufy, who successfully managed PCUC through the purchase of our office building and other challenges. Michael spent countless days working on the renovation of the house, leading groups of volunteers, until we had the 2nd floor ready to rent. As you probably know, the upstairs is now the home of the wonderful St. Vincent DePaul charity, a tenant with common values and goals. Thank you, Michael for your excellent stewardship of PCUC the last several years.

Other officers elected were Dr. Beth Svirbel, Vice President, Peter Elliott, Secretary, and Pete Mullen, Treasurer. These officers along with our terrific board are hoping to start a new wildfire in the Pro-Life movement in Pittsburgh.

Some of the changes we're making at PCUC include the formation of a number of key committees who we hope will take an active role in several area regarding the fight for the lives of the unborn. We also moved our meetings to a bi-monthly schedule with the idea that most our work will be done at the committee level. We are looking for volunteers to add to some of these committees!

These committees include:

Billboard Committee – A group of passionate Pro-Life board members and volunteers have been working hard on developing a campaign to promote Anti-abortion advertising all over the Pittsburgh area. Keep an eye out for these electronic billboards, as we expect to kick it off in the next couple of months. A trial run was made during Lent advertising the 40 Days For Life Campaign. (This committee is full.)

“Letter from our President”, continued from page 6

Communications Committee: Headed by new board member Meredith Parente of the The Magee Project, this committee is tasked with writing to elected officials, newspapers, periodicals, and web pages. We could use more volunteers!

Networking Committee – Co-chaired by new board members Peter Elliott and Meredith Parente, this committee is seeking to connect with other Pro-Life organizations in the Pittsburgh area. Some of this work involves revamping our website with links to these other organizations. We welcome other groups to send a volunteer or to communicate with Meredith or Peter.

Pro-Life Speakers Team – Nikki has begun actively reaching out to schools, community organizations, and church groups to speak on behalf of Life. I am also on that committee, and we welcome invitations to speak on why saving the lives of the unborn is so important. Please reach out to us to and ask for a 30-60 minute presentation.

Other committees include:

Fall Banquet – Nikki Bruni, Chair, (volunteers welcome) – Fr. Joe Freedy is the featured speaker.

Finance /Fundraising Committee – Pete Mullen, Chair, - We hope to begin fundraising to support our projects.

March For Life Buses –Anita Theiss, Chair – Anita could use an assistant for the work she does every year organizing buses for the March.

Annual January Prayer Breakfast, Chair, Anita Theiss – (needs volunteers)

Facilities – Michael Siyufy, Chair, - If you are of mind to help with cleaning, maintenance, or landscaping, please contact Michael.

Website – Chairs – Peter Elliott and Meredith Parente – This committee has overlapped from our billboard and networking teams. Keep an eye out for big changes – specifically offering help and facts about abortion to abortion-minded women.

To paraphrase Charles Dickens, it’s the best of times, and it’s the worst of times. With the overturning of Roe v. Wade, abortion is now up to the states. In some states, abortion has been virtually eliminated, while in others, it’s expanding to incredible numbers. Our government has taken aggressive action against Pro-Lifers, while funding and expanding access to abortion wherever possible. Over 62% of abortions now are “chemical abortions” where babies in the womb are now killed by taking abortion pills.

Those of us who support the lives of the unborn need to speak out more than ever. We cannot stand in the shadows and remain silent. Please talk about the horrors of abortion and the sanctity of life among your friends, relatives, and acquaintances. It’s not easy, I know firsthand. We need your prayers. Please continue to pray for the little babies being aborted every day in our fair city. If you want to do more, please consider volunteering or sending a donation of any size to PCUC. We are working very hard to spread the word that Life is a gift from God, that taking an innocent life who cannot yet even speak for itself, is an atrocity to God and to our humanity.

God bless,

Greg Engelmeyer
PCUC President



LEGISLATION UPDATE...FROM ANITA



PA SUPREME COURT USING “ERA” TO PROTECT ABORTION RIGHTS:

HISTORY: Congress first proposed the ERA in 1923. In March of 1972 it read: *“Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States of by any State on account of sex.”*

CURRENT: Allegheny Reproductive Health Center vs. Pennsylvania Dept. of Human

Services: *This case is trying to put abortion as a right in the PA Constitution and use Medicaid funding to cover. This is an ongoing case with appeals.*

In this case, abortion clinics are challenging a state law which has historically prohibited public funds being used for abortion. Abortion activists are again pushing for ratification of the ERA.

The “Allegheny Reproductive Health Center”, (*listed in the name of the case*), includes Planned Parenthood and Affiliates through the state.

As of January 2024:

The Court ruled Pennsylvania’s abortion providers could challenge the Pennsylvania ban on Medicaid coverage for abortion as sex discrimination under the Equal Rights Amendment and as a violation of the Equal Protection provisions of the Pennsylvania Constitution. In doing so, the court overruled the decades-old precedent that foreclosed such a challenge.

PLEASE PRAY. A law prohibiting abortion does not treat men and women differently or, put in the Pennsylvania ERA’s terms, discriminate against women. Abortion activists are again pushing for ratification of the ERA.

I will be meeting with the State Reps and Senators this month and will have an update on this. More to come.

NEW PA HOUSE BILL HB 2034 SEEKS TO REPEAL PRO-LIFE PROTECTION

This a bad bill. Primary Sponsor is Rep. Kristine Howard. Co Sponsors in our SW PA area are Reps. Venkat, Kinkead, and Mayes. Reps Daley, Shusterman, Kenyatta and Rozzi are cosponsors as well as many others. Since we pay PA Taxes, feel free to contact them by phone or letters saying this bill is NOT what the PA People want.

Hon. Emily Kinkead
658 Lincoln Avenue
Bellevue, PA 15202
(412) 321-5523

Hon. Arvind Venkat
9800B McKnight Road, Suite 130
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
(412) 348-8028

Hon. La'Tasha D. Mayes
2015-2017 Centre Ave, 1st Fl.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-6333
(412) 665-5502

Hon. Mary Jo Daley
312 Old Lancaster Rd
Merion Station, PA 19066
(610) 832-1679

Hon. Melissa L. Shusterman
42 East Lancaster Ave, suite A
Paoli, PA 19301, (484) 200-8260

Hon. Malcolm Kenyatta
1501 N Broad St. Ste 117
Philadelphia, PA 19122
(215) 978-0311

Hon. Mark Rozzi, 4933 Kutztown Rd, Temple, PA 19560
(610) 921-8921

GOOD NEWS! PA State Senator Katie Muth plans to introduce Emersyn’s Law.

Emersyn’s Law would allow for the charges of homicide by vehicle, aggravated assault by vehicle, homicide by vehicle while driving under the influence, and aggravated assault by vehicle while driving under the influence to be applied for the death of an unborn child. The bill would also include an exemption stating the mother of an unborn child could not be charged under this law. Even though Sen. Muth is not one of ours, this is significant piece of legislation that could set precedents. Since we do pay PA State Taxes, we do a right to thank her and encourage her:

Senator Katie Muth
338 Main Street
Royersford, PA 19468
(610) 792-2137
FAX: (610) 948-3037

Senator Katie Muth
Senate Box 203044
Harrisburg PA 17120
Room 185 Main Capitol
717-787-1398

HONORS & MEMORIALS (MAY THROUGH JUNE)

(Correction from May-June Newsletter): Memorial for Charlotte Graham given by Nita Fragomeni Bollinger

- In Honor of Nikki Bruni
From Mary Anne Ferris
- In Honor of Helen Cindrich
From Fr. John Sweeney
- In Honor of the Liptak Family
From Dr. Robert F. Good II
- In Honor of Carolyn & Terry Martin
From Milan, Rose & Mark Liptak
- In Honor of the Martinez Family
From Marie Mankos
- In Honor of Maria & Josh Montaguini
From Brian & Victoria Scarnecchia
- In Honor of Christine O'Toole
From Mary O'Toole
- In Honor of the Pittsburgh 40 Days for Life family
From Jim Maochi
- In Honor of Scott & Heidi Potter
From Milan, Rose & Mark Liptak
- In Memory of Catherine Bollibon
From James & Joan Maimone
- In Memory of Harvey Bower
From George Ann Bower
- In Memory of Al & Sally Brunn
From David Poliziani
- In Memory of Victor Carbin
From his wife, Mary
- In Memory of Margaret Christman
From Jerry & Peggy Wrabley & Family
- In Memory of Joan Conroy
From Lawrence Conroy
- In Memory of Peg Gallagher
From her sisters, Kathy Ryan & Patty Reed
- In Memory of Rosalie Grasha
From Mary Grasha Houpt
- In Memory of Charlie Hogan
From Don & Claire Hogan
- In Memory of Margaret Just
From Maureen Lucas
- In Memory of my God Child, Kathy Kness
From Aunt Aggie
- In Memory of Stephen Mackin
From Jerry & Peggy Wrabley & Family
- In Memory of Diane Marcella
From Mary Beth Langdon & Masotti Family
- In Memory of Diane Marcella
From Fr. Benedetto Vaghetto
- In Memory of Fr. Jerome McKenna
From Joseph & Mary Lou McKenna
- In Memory of Fr. Jerome McKenna, C.P.
From Bill & Evelyn Turocy
- In Memory of John Mihm
From David Poliziani
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From David Poliziani
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Jackie Fetchko
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Chris & Mary Ann Kahlenbborn
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Gary & Regina Bash
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Hank & Judy Freedy
- In Memory of Robert F. Newman
From Frank & Pam Arianna
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From David & Marlene Wohleber
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From John & Judy Dick
- In Memory of Robert "Bob" Newman
From Angela & Douglas Marvin
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Suzan Firment
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Becky McGann
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Diane & Thomas Hahn
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Stacy Rosello
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Susan & Nelson Caro
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Jim & Linda Ludwig
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Terry & Carolyn Martin
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From St. Aloysius Church, Hickory NC
- In Memory of Bob Newman
From Joseph & Sheila Krill
- In Memory of Michael O'Toole
From Mary O'Toole
- In Memory of Fr. John O'Shea
From Anonymous
- In Memory of William Premozic
From Regina Lea Premozic
- In Memory of Sr. Mary Thomas Rodgers, SC
From Jerry & Peggy Wrabley & Family
- In Loving Memory of Diane Slagle
From John Slagle
- In Memory of Michael Christopher Strathman
From William & Maureen Strathmann
- In Memory of George & Gary Stoka
From Margaret Stoker
- In Memory of Unborn Babies
From Martha Westerlund
- In Loving Memory of Carl Valeri
From John Slagle
- In Memory of Eileen Waldo
From her sisters Kathy Ryan & Patty Reed