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PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE
Butler County Chapter
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PENNSYLVANIANS FOR
HUMAN LIFE / SWR

*Butler Chapter
PO Box 93
Butler, PA 16003-0093*

Choose Life!

**Winter 2023
March for Life!**



Pennsylvanians for Human Life / SWR

Winter 2023

Chairperson/Editor :
Tom Patterson

Butler Chapter



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March for Life: January 20, 2023!

Our work to build a Culture of Life is far from over.

Yes, Roe v. Wade has been overturned, but we must continue to work for legislation to protect life from conception through natural death. Recent examples of legislation introduced and/or passed in the US Congress are the “Respect for Marriage Act”, which redefines marriage in our country and the “Women’s Health Protection Act”, which would nullify existing Pro-Life State laws. Pro-abortion leaders in Congress are even looking for ways to target Pregnancy Help Centers, which exist to provide alternatives to abortion.

So we need to **March for Life on Friday, Jan. 20, 2023.** The theme of this year’s march is “Next Steps: Marching Forward into a Post-Roe America!” This upcoming march represents the 50th March for Life.

At the present time there are 2 buses scheduled to leave Butler County for the March for Life; please contact the individual Bus Captains for cost, leave times, etc. Both buses will leave early in the morning and return the same day.

Bus 1:

All Saints Parish Bus

Bus Captain: Ray Ferguson

Phone: 724-822-8041

Bus will be leaving from St. Conrad’s Church in Meridian

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National March for Life *(cont'd)*

Bus 2:

Holy Sepulcher/St. Kilian Bus

Bus Captains: Ron Hartzel @ 724-496- 4771 or

Gretchen Cararie @ 724-898-2529

Bus leaves from Holy Sepulcher Church

Election Results

November's general election witnessed both good and bad with respect to life issues.

On the plus side, the United States House of Representatives changed hands and is now narrowly controlled by Republicans. This should ensure that national efforts to codify Roe don't advance to President Biden's desk. Additionally, pro-life forces in the House should be in a better position to limit or eliminate the use of federal funds for anti-life measures. Further, pro-life legislators may be able to conduct investigations and hold hearings regarding the anti-life behavior of the current administration, including the unequal enforcement of the law by the Justice Department and the harassment of pro-lifers by governmental agencies.

Specific election victories worth mentioning include the re-election of Governor Ron DeSantis in Florida by an overwhelming margin. Governor DeSantis, a strong voice for life, carried the state by nearly 20 percentage points, setting himself up as a potential candidate for President in 2024. The common-sense programs and demonstrated results he has achieved for Florida, plus the way in which he effectively communicates a family-first, pro-life message in today's hostile media environment, are desperately needed at the national level right now.

Elsewhere, governors who signed pro-life legislation in Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas and Wyoming all won re-election. The Republican Party, with its pro-life platform, still has control of both chambers of the legislatures of thirty states, and makes up a majority of the Supreme Courts in more than half the nation's states.

All that said, the election was disappointing in many respects for the pro-life side. The pro-life seats picked up in the House of Representatives were fewer than had been forecasted, and the Senate remained in control of pro-abortion politicians.

Donations

In Memory of:

Patricia Liberto by William Liberto

Other Donations:

- Daniel Jonczak
- William Adams

Thank You!

Special thanks also to those of you who contribute but desire anonymity. And to all those many donors who helped support the cause during 2022. We are grateful for your support!

Your Generosity is Appreciated!

Pennsylvanians for Human Life is committed to promoting the dignity and value of human life in the region. We produce this newsletter, maintain a presence at the annual Butler Farm Show and help facilitate attendance at the yearly pro-life marches (the March for Life in Washington, DC and now the Pennsylvania March for Life), all of which entail a cost.

If you would like to make a donation in memory of a deceased loved one or in honor of a living loved one, please include a note to that effect. We will endeavor to mention all donors and any honorees in the next newsletter (unless you indicate a wish for anonymity).

If donating, please note that our treasury function has been assumed by the Pittsburgh office. Please continue to send any donations to our Butler address (PHL - Butler Chapter, PO Box 93, Butler PA 16003-0093). We want to still be able to offer thanks and recognition to our donors.

However, if you are donating with a check, please make the check payable to PHL (without the Butler reference) or PHL Educational Trust Fund. Donations made out to the educational fund are tax deductible. We in the Butler branch will be transporting these donations to the Pittsburgh office on a regular basis.

God Bless, and thanks very much for your generosity!

Upcoming Activities

SAVE THE DATE: The Spring campaign for 40 Days for Life is scheduled for February 22 – April 2. Visit 40DaysforLifePittsburgh.com to schedule a time to participate. Volunteers are needed every day from 7 am - 7 pm.

SAVE THE DATE: The National Right to Life Association will be holding their 2023 national Convention in Pittsburgh, PA on June 23-24 at the Hyatt Regency at the Airport. The theme of the convention is “Making Abortion Unthinkable”. The convention website is nrlconvention.com.

Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation Essay/Oratory Contests

Essay Contest

- ◆ Open to PA students in grades 7-12.
- ◆ Write a pro-life essay about abortion, infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia or stem cell research.
- ◆ Word limit: 500 for grades 7-9, 750 for grades 10-12.
- ◆ Essays must include a completed cover page from: www.paprolife.org/for-students.
- ◆ Winners in each age group will receive cash prizes: 1st - \$200, 2nd - \$150, 3rd - \$100

Please submit entries by **March 1, 2023** to lifelines@paprolife.org or mail to:

PA Pro-Life Federation
4800 Jonestown Rd, Suite 102
Harrisburg, PA 17109-1741

Video Oratory Contest

- ◆ Senior contest open to Pennsylvania students in 11th and 12th grades.
- ◆ Junior contest open to students in 9th and 10th grades.
- ◆ Cash prizes awarded for first through third place winners. Senior contest grand prize is an all-expense paid trip to the 2023 National Right to Life Convention.
- ◆ Email speech link to lifelines@paprolife.org by April 15, 2023.
- ◆ Please visit paprolife.org/for-students for rules/instructions.

Election Results (*cont'd*)

In Pennsylvania, voters elected pro-abortion John Fetterman to the Senate, flipping a seat that had been held by retiring pro-life Senator Pat Toomey. Voters also elected Josh Shapiro to the governor's mansion, keeping the state's executive branch in pro-abortion hands. Redistricting and election results have both served to reduce the clout of pro-lifers in the state legislature, likely putting in jeopardy any effort to advance pro-life measures through ballot initiatives.

Speaking of life issues on the ballot, November witnessed a number of anti-life developments. Perhaps the most shocking of these results involved an initiative to protect babies who survived abortions. Montana voters rejected a referendum to criminalize the denial of life-preserving care to those children who manage to exit the womb alive during an attempted abortion.

Voters in California, Michigan and Vermont chose to protect abortion rights under their state constitutions. Kentucky voters declined to adopt language that declared the state constitution to be silent on the subject of abortion.

Add to this that voters in generally pro-life Kansas back in August rejected language removing abortion rights, and one realizes just how much more work needs to be done. The overturning of *Roe v. Wade* was welcome and necessary, but that was only the beginning of this next phase in securing protection for the most vulnerable among us.

Moving Forward

Following the November elections, pro-abortion forces and the mainstream media were celebrating the election of pro-abortion candidates and rejection of abortion-restricting ballot initiatives. They have concluded that Americans want abortion rights and see the reversal of *Roe v. Wade* as an issue to leverage in future elections. Is this really the case?

To reach this conclusion, one must do two things: 1) Assume that pro-life candidates who were defeated in November lost only because of their pro-life views and 2) Claim that consistent polling on abortion and the desire for restricting it is no longer relevant.

For years, polling has revealed that a majority of Americans believe that restrictions on abortion are appropriate. The fact that a number of pro-life ballot initiatives suffered defeat in this last election was not a change of heart, but more likely a function of a substantial spending/marketing advantage for the pro-abortion side. And remember, even if the funding were to be more equal, the pro-abortion forces enjoy the support of majority of print, television and digital media in promoting their anti-life message and misrepresenting these initiatives.

Moving Forward *(cont'd)*

The post-Roe world is going to require a couple of things that are not foreign to those in the pro-life movement: patience and hard work. Pro-lifers worked tirelessly for nearly 50 years before Roe was reversed, exercising faith and patience throughout that time. While many states have taken steps that are already saving innocent lives and protecting mothers, complete victory for the unborn will take time.

The pro-life movement is growing younger, but there are millions upon millions of younger Americans who know nothing but abortion on demand. Converting their hearts and minds may be an incremental process. Keep the faith . . . it can be done! At least now we are having the discussion, which puts the focus on the facts of abortion. Over time, the loving message of the pro-life side has to be more appealing and righteous to people than the cynical, defeatist and empty promises of the pro-abortionists.

With respect to the biased media, we need to correct the record and promote the pro-life message wherever possible. The odds may appear daunting, particularly with what we are finding out about censorship of groups and individuals that don't align with the current administration or the corporate media, but we cannot give up the fight. Our children are fed the pro-abortion message by these media and many of our institutions, notably in the area of education. Stay involved . . . if we keep our children in the pro-life camp, we cannot lose, as by definition pro-lifers are contributing more to the next generation of voters.

God bless everyone who stands up for life issues!

"When the time comes, as it surely will, when we face that awesome moment, the final judgment, I've often thought, as Fulton Sheen wrote, that it is a terrible moment of loneliness. You have no advocates, you are there alone standing before God -- and a terror will rip your soul like nothing you can imagine. But I really think that those in the pro-life movement will not be alone. I think there'll be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world but are heard beautifully and clearly in the next world -- and they will plead for everyone who has been in this movement. They will say to God, 'Spare him, because he loved us!'"

- Congressman Henry Hyde

Pennsylvania Officeholders

State and US Legislators-Butler County, PA

As you may be aware, all State and US legislative districts have been re-aligned effective Jan. 2023. We have tried to summarize the changes below. Contact information for all existing legislators is available on our website (PHLButler.org). Contact information for newly elected legislators will be added as soon as it becomes available.

PA Senator:

Senator Scott Hutchinson (Senate District 21): City of Butler and most of Butler County
Senator Elder Vogel, Jr. (Senate District 47): Townships of Lancaster, Jackson, Cranberry, Forward, Adams, Middlesex and the boroughs of Callery, Evans City, Harmony, Mars, Seven Fields, Valencia and Zelienople

PA House of Representative:

Marci Mustello (11th District): City of Butler, townships of Butler, Donegal, Jefferson, Oakland, Summit, Clearfield, Winfield, Clinton, Buffalo and the boroughs of Chicora, East Butler and Saxonburg

Aaron Bernstine (8th District): Townships of Worth, Brady, Clay, Muddy Creek, Franklin, Center, Lancaster, Connoquenessing, Forward, Penn, Middlesex and boroughs of West Liberty, West Sunbury, Portersville, Prospect and Connoquenessing

Tim Bonner (17th District): Townships of Mercer, Marion, Venango, Allegheny, Slippery Rock, Cherry, Washington, Parker, Concord and Fairview and boroughs of Harrisville, Cherry Valley, Eau Claire, Slippery Rock, Bruin, Petrolia, Fairview and Karns City

Stephenie Scialabba (12th District), newly elected: Townships of Adams, Cranberry and Jackson and boroughs of Callery, Evans City, Harmony, Mars, Seven Fields, Valencia and Zelienople

PA Governor

Josh Shapiro, newly elected

United States Senators

All Pennsylvanians share the same 2 Senators:

Senator Bob Casey

Senator John Fetterman (newly elected)

United States Representative

All Butler County residents now share the same US Rep: Rep Mike Kelly