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Guided by a commitment to the sanctity of every life, the Pro-Life Union fosters a cohesive vision and strategy for a Culture of Life in Greater Philadelphia. Our beliefs are incarnated in the context of the family and through service to those making the choice for life. We work in the four areas of the pro-life movement: outreach, education, public affairs, and alternatives.

Stand Up for Life this November

The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia is excited to announce that Damon Owens, Executive Director of the Theology of the Body Institute, will be our guest speaker for the 2015 *Stand Up For Life Dinner* on November 22nd at the Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel. Damon is an internationally known speaker at conferences, seminars, and universities on the good news of marriage, sexuality, and adoption. Please send in your reservation and payment! Individual tickets are \$65 and tables of ten are discounted to \$600. Student tickets are just \$40.

We encourage all runners to consider joining our team at the Philadelphia Marathon! Held the weekend of the Stand Up for Life Dinner, the signature Philly event includes an 8K on Saturday, November 21st, and a half and full marathon on Sunday, November 22nd. Run and raise funds for the Pro-Life Union and Guiding Star Ministries, our program which provides housing and support for women and children.

Planned Parenthood Exposed



On July 28th, in response to the Center for Medical Progress (www.centerformedicalprogress.org) release of two undercover videos of Planned Parenthood executives discussing the organization's involvement with the use of aborted children for compensation, the Pro-Life Union coordinated a rally at Planned Parenthood in Center City. Over 200 attended the event, which was held simultaneously across the country. Speaker Maria Malone, of Adoption is a Loving Option, noted that only one adoption referral is provided for every 149 abortions at Planned Parenthood. Jewels Green shared her conversion from pro-choice to pro-life and Catie Payne of the Culture Project International, encouraged everyone to stay involved. The rally was very prayerful and it was beautiful

to see so many young women and families. Pro-Life activists will continue to keep concerns about Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry in the forefront through the use of social media and through our conversations with family and friends.

Planned Parenthood is the recipient of our tax dollars and local and national pro-life lawmakers have responded with calls to defund the abortion giant.

Upcoming Events

- The King's Men are hosting a White House Witness in defense of marriage. The goal is to bring over 500 people to the White House on August 15th for prayer from 10am-Noon. On August 14, a press conference will be held. For details on the event, visit www.whitehousewitness.com or email markhouck@gmail.com.
- Pro-Life Union Annual Open Board Meeting on Thursday evening Sept. 17th. Contact us for details.
- During the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia, which will be held in Philadelphia from September 22-25th, there will be a Pro-Life International Symposium (www.prolifeworldevent.com) on Wednesday night September 23rd from 6pm-7:45pm at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Grand Ballroom.
- Catholic Medical Association's 84th Annual Education Conference in Philadelphia from October 1st-3rd. The conference theme is "Healing the Wounded Culture." Visit the website: www.cathmed.org
- Dr. Alveda King will at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 235 E. State Street, Doylestown, PA 18901 on Wednesday, October 7th at 7:30 pm. She will be introduced by columnist J.D. Mullane of the Bucks County Courier Times. Admission is free (a free will offering will be taken).
- A Baby's Breath Golf Outing, Tuesday, September 1st at Rivercrest Golf Club. For more info, contact wickershamchristine@gmail.com or ceverly245@verizon.net.

Member Organization Spotlight

The Friends of FertilityCare Philadelphia are a group of health care professionals and members of the community who promote effective, integrated health care for women and couples. To that end, the Friends of FertilityCare are dedicated to making Creighton Model FertilityCare™ services and NaProTechnology, which is a fertility awareness program allowing women to space their children naturally or achieve pregnancy.

Like many couples, Betsy and John found true hope with NaProTechnology. After being unable to conceive for the first eight years of their marriage, they were put in touch with a nurse practitioner and fertility care specialist, who taught them the Creighton Model FertilityCare system. Eventually, Dr. Jean Golden Tevald of MorningStar Family Health diagnosed the root of the problem as a hormonal imbalance. Within four months of their first visit to Dr. Jean, Betsy conceived and in May 2014, their beautiful son Dominic was born.

There are free group introductory sessions to the Creighton Model FertilityCare system every month in Bucks, Montco and Delaware Counties. To locate a session and register, please visit www.fertilitycarefriends.org.

40 Days for Life Campaign

The fall campaign begins on Wednesday September 23rd and ends on October 31st. The Pro-Life Union is proud to support the effort and goals of 40 days as they reach out to communities with the pro-life message. Campaigns are held throughout the world and have been one of the most effective ways of inviting people to join in witnessing at area abortion facilities. Please sign up and know that your sacrifice and effort will make a difference!

- Center City Philadelphia Planned Parenthood at 12th & Locust. Opening on Wednesday morning, Sept. 23rd from 9-10am. Visit www.40daysforlife.com/philly to sign up or call us here at the PLU.
- Warminster, PA Planned Parenthood on Louis Drive. Opening on Tuesday Sept. 22nd at 7:00 pm at Nativity of Our Lord in Warminster. Contact Mary Paris to get involved at 215-348-7480.
- West Chester, PA at 8 South Wayne St., Planned Parenthood. Contact Paulette Matthews 610-286-5450
- Norristown, PA at Planned Parenthood at 1221 Powell St. Contact Rita Smith, 610-489-1929

Loving Life Always

The Pro-Life Union encourages our members to support every effort to save human life. We recently joined the Pennsylvania Coalition to Stop Doctor-Prescribed Suicide which is “an alliance of disability rights, healthcare, civil rights, faith-based and patient advocacy organizations dedicated to preventing legalization of doctor-prescribed suicide in Pennsylvania.” The advocacy group helps all of us to understand the truth about what allowing suicide will mean in the lives of those we love and care for. An important note to remember is that suicide requests from the terminally ill are often based on fear or depression. When we address these issues, those facing a terminal illness are free to live out their lives with love, joy, dignity and beauty! Learn the facts: www.noassistedsuicidepa.org and join a Patients’ Rights Action Fund webinar on August 18th from 2-3:30 p.m. Call our office for details.

“Will you love me?”

Actor Jim Caviezel, well known for his role as Jesus in *The Passion of the Christ*, was once challenged by a friend, “You’re pro-life. Tell you what, if you really believe in what you speak, adopt a child – not any child, he’s got to have a serious deficiency.” This friend promised that if Jim would do this, he would change his pro-abortion stance. Caviezel was “completely terrified,” but he knew that God wanted him to do it. The Lord led him to Bo. Abandoned on a train in China soon after he was born, Bo was raised in an orphanage until he was five and told that he never had a mommy – he came from dirt. A large, visible brain tumor threatened his young life and took away any real hope of a family. When Jim first met Bo in a Chinese orphanage, he knew that adopting him would mean a life of doctors and surgeries, worries and heartbreak. But he said, “I saw his eyes and in my heart, I heard this boy calling to me, saying, “Will you love me?”

Later, Jim and his wife Kerri decided to adopt a healthy newborn girl. However, before the adoption took place, they met a five year old girl – also with a brain tumor. They knew the healthy baby would find a good home, but it was likely that the sick girl would not. LeLe became a member of the Caviezel family.

Both children have required several surgeries and Bo’s cancerous tumor has been particularly challenging, but the Caviezels feel extremely blessed. So much so, that David, born in China in 2010, has joined this happy family. Jim’s message to parents considering adoption - “You have no idea the blessings that you have coming.”

