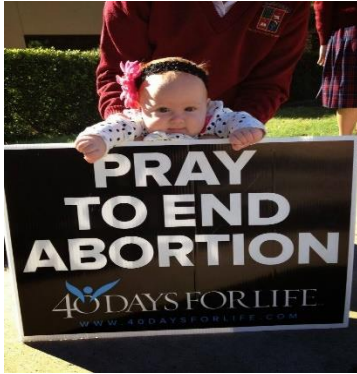




The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia affirms the sanctity of life through leadership, service to those making the choice for life, and witness to a culture of love.

September 2017

Time to Sign Up



The next campaign for 40 Days for Life begins on September 27th and continues until November 5th. Through God's grace and the commitment of many people, stunning results have been achieved through the 40 Days for Life effort. God works through order and simplicity and this unified effort has brought a life-saving message to our communities. Here in Philadelphia, it has been the forerunner to our Sidewalk Servants Program, filling the time with prayer and witness in between campaigns.

Join the campaign and be a part of this great work defending and protecting life. Forty Days for Life has been hosted in 715 Cities with 750,000 volunteers in 44 nations. Nationally, 13,305 lives have been saved and at the two locations here in Philadelphia we know of 35 babies who have been born and not aborted. The conversations that we engage in have opened eyes to the sanctity of human life.

Local Campaigns

Planned Parenthood – 610 Louis Drive, Warminster, 18974 – Mon-Sun 7 am to 7 pm Call 215-589-5422

Planned Parenthood – 8 S. Wayne St., West Chester, 19382 – Mon-Sun 8 am to 8 pm Call 610-286-5450

Planned Parenthood – 12th & Locust, Phila., 19107 – Mon-Fri 8 am to 5 pm; Sat – 8 am to 3 pm

Philadelphia Women's Ctr. – 777 Appletree, Phila., 19106 Tue-Fri 8 am to 5 pm – Sat – 8 am to 3 pm

(Contact info for the two Phila. Locations – Dr. Monique Ruberu – 469-231-9084 or Pat Stanton – 267-718-4851)

Saving Lives, Transforming Communities

The Pro-Life Union is excited to share the great news of continued expansion of our partnership with Catholic Social Services at Guiding Star Ministries. We have worked with CSS at Guiding Star for two years and they have provided Case Management to residents. In July, CSS staff members Yvonne and Diamond joined GSM to provide increased program and case management. These two women and the entire team at CSS have hearts of service, recognizing the dignity and value in every life. Our residents are served well and now we are expanding Community Outreach.

In September, a diaper bank, parenting classes and parenting café's will be held in the Hall of St. Benedict Parish, adjacent to Guiding Star. Our residents will attend classes there and we will extend the invitation to women we meet through our Hotline and Sidewalk Counseling. This community outreach is really exciting.

The material gifts, the classes and support offered are the tangible signs that women and communities vulnerable to abortion need. This outreach is an invitation to a relationship with the pro-life community. In this way, abortion becomes unthinkable and hope begins to build. Lives are saved through this outreach and communities will be transformed!

Thank you to Catholic Social Services, St. Benedict Parish and Guiding Star Ministries for the living, breathing example of what unity and faith can accomplish!

Guiding Star Update

It is always exciting to welcome new families into the home. It is a time of adjustment and growth for staff and residents. Last week we gathered together to celebrate one mom's birthday and welcome our expanded partnership with our staff from Catholic Social Services.

In the last eighteen months Guiding Star has responded to over 200 phone calls providing emotional support and guidance, and offering referrals and material assistance to women and families. Fifty-four individuals including pregnant women, toddlers and new babies have been given housing. Our families have participated in life skills classes, community meals and case management support. Your generosity has also allowed the moms and babies to receive clothes, diapers and baby items along with household items like laundry soap and food when needed.

Thank you for partnering with us in this work which has allowed the Pro-Life Union to support those who make the choice for life. We are amazed at what has been accomplished with prayer, generosity and God's grace!



Adoption Facts

We love our friends at Adoption is a Loving Option and Brave Love. Adoption is often misunderstood even by those who hold pro-life beliefs. All of us have been impacted by adoption and it is important to know and share the truth. Here are some quick facts and a link to a video about these facts! <http://www.bravelove.org/adoption-myths>.

Myth #1 – **Adoption is "giving up"** - the term is from the 1800s. The modern term is "Making an adoption plan."

Myth #2 – **Birth moms don't care about their child** – All birth moms share one common bond – the best life for their child.

Myth #3 – **Birthparents can show up at any time to "take back" their child** – These stories are extremely rare.

Myth #4 – **Open adoption is damaging to the child** – It is an ongoing relationship, not a one-time event.

Myth #5 – **Adoption doesn't affect me** – Most Americans have a personal connection to adoption.

Support the Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia and Guiding Star Ministries. Visit our website for online donations!

www.prolifeunion.org www.guidingstar.org

Thank you, Bill.

The Pro-Life Union honors the service of our Board Members. We talked with Bill and asked him to share some thoughts about the PLU as he departs from his role as Chairman.

“As I look back, my involvement began when a doctor’s office in West Chester would be re-zoned and Planned Parenthood would move in; this stirred my life long pro-life feelings into action. I had recently retired from the corporate world, and the timing was perfect. God’s always is! Sadly, the West Chester Council believed the lies of Planned Parenthood and they opened. I had attended a lot of the council meetings, met some incredible people, and soon was active praying at Planned Parenthood. I joined the local Chester County Chapter of the Pro-Life Union and eventually was asked to join the Board of the Pro-Life Union.”

When asked about some of the blessings that have come from his involvement, Bill responded. “Without a doubt, it’s the people I’ve met and being able to work with them on this issue. My interest in public affairs has allowed me to work with some wonderful elected officials and seeing the relationships with the groups in Harrisburg grow has been amazing. I’ve seen people become more aware of the evil of abortion and am grateful for that, and all of this has helped me on my faith journey. Some of my favorite moments are from the Stand Up for Life Dinner and seeing all the young people. I always enjoy the March for Life.

Finally, I’m most proud of steadfast commitment to the sanctity of life of the Pro-Life Union and it has been inspiring to be a part of the growth. We have a wonderful staff, and are good stewards of the gifts given. We’ve helped pregnancy centers build, and the transformation at Guiding Star has been tremendous. It’s like watching God’ plan unfold!”

Thank you, Bill for your service and kindness!

From Terri Schiavo to Charlie Guard

Education is a core pillar of the Pro-Life Union. Through our website, our Newsletters, Bulletin Inserts and brochures, the sanctity of life is affirmed and shared. As our Sidewalk Counseling Trainings continue to be held in different areas, we are expanding the education effort to our PLU Pro-Life Training Day. Please save the date: October 28th from 9:30 am to 11:30 am to learn how to affirm life for the medically vulnerable. The case of Charlie Guard will be discussed and ways in which we can continue to build the Culture of Life. Keep your eye out for reservation details.

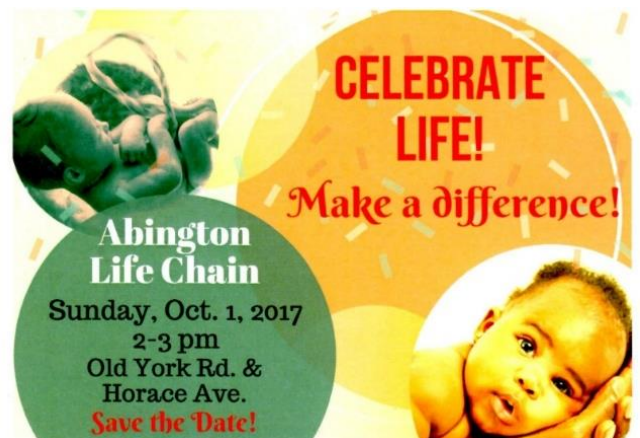
Upcoming Events

- ❖ **National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children** – Sept. 9th at noon, St. John Fisher Church, 4225 Chichester Ave., Boothwyn, PA 19061. Contact patandjohnob@yahoo.com
- ❖ **Friends of Fertility Care “A Quiet Revolution” Film & NaPro Technology Presentation** – featuring Dr. Delia Larrauri, OB/GYN – Thursday, September 14th 7 p.m., 3501 Solly Ave., Phila. 19136. Register at www.fertilitycarefriends.org
- ❖ **Appreciation Dinner for Church Reps & Volunteers of the Pro-Life Union** – Thursday, September 21st, 6:30 pm, St. Anthony of Padua, 259 Forest Avenue, Ambler PA 19002
- ❖ **September 24th Walk for Life & 40 Days for Life Kick Off** at Sister Cities Park, Philadelphia. Youth Rally at 4 pm, General Rally at 5 pm and Walk for Life at 5:30 pm. Music, prayer and special guests Shawn Carney, President of 40 Days for Life and Kristan Hawkins, President Students for Life of America. Vendors, food, fun!
- ❖ **November 4th Trip to 911 Memorial Museum** – run by St. Dominic’s Respect Life Committee. Please call Susan Silcox at 215-333-4313 for more information.

Abington Hospital Board Meeting

Pro-lifers met with the Board of Directors at Abington Hospital in an attempt to change the abortion policy of the hospital. Dr. Louis Welsh reminded the Board that he became a doctor to help people, not to terminate children in the womb. Dr. Monique Ruberu spoke of the pain that mothers deal with years after the abortion takes place. Dr. Chris Christiansen pleaded with the Board to let his Department of Critical Care work with the Ob-Gyn Department to deal with the hard cases.

Pray that the Board changes its policy and that the Ob-Gyn Department of Abington DOES NO HARM.



STAND UP FOR LIFE DINNER

Please join us for the 2017 *Stand Up For Life Dinner* on Sunday, November 19th at the Sheraton Hotel, Center City Philadelphia. Cocktails at 4:30 p.m. – Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Keynote speaker Melissa Ohden was fourteen years old when her adoptive mom told her that she had literally survived a failed abortion. She will tell us her amazing story and how her life came full circle when she gave birth to her own daughter at the same hospital where her life was almost ended.

Individual adult tickets are \$75. Tables of ten adults are discounted to \$700. All student tickets are \$50. Please send paid reservations to Pro-Life Union, 88 Pennsylvania Ave., Orelan, PA 19075. To register online, visit www.prolifeunion.org/dinner.