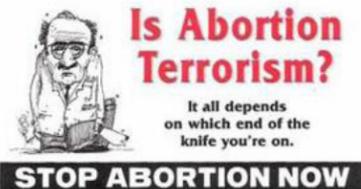




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Keep up-to-date with the latest LCRTL events.
Visit our web calendar: www.lakecortl.org



LCRTL Calendar of Events 2013

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| June | |
| ☛ 10th | Board Meeting, 6PM LCRTL Office |
| ☛ 16th | Prayer 6-7 pm, General Meeting 7 pm, Cornerstone Church, 3425 Orchard Dr., Hammond, IN |
| ☛ 21st | Boot Camp/Summit, 8am - 4 pm, St Pat's Chesterton (Registration \$20) |
| ☛ 26th - 28th | National RTL Convention, Louisville, KY |
| ☛ 28th | National Oratory Contest |
| July | |
| ☛ 3rd | Highland Parade |
| ☛ 4th | Crown Point Parade |
| ☛ 15th | Board Mtg 6 pm LCRTL Office |
| ☛ 15-17th | FBC Youth Conference |
| ☛ 21st | Prayer 6-7 pm, General Meeting 7 pm, Cornerstone Church, 3425 Orchard Dr., Hammond, IN |
| August | |
| ☛ 1-10 | Lake County Fair |
| ☛ 12th | Board Mtg, 6 pm LCRTL Office |
| ☛ 18th | Prayer 6-7 pm, General Meeting 7 pm, St. Stephen the Martyr, 5920 Waite Street, Merrillville, IN |
| ☛ 23rd | Sidewalk Counselor Training 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Location to be announced |



Check out our NEW website at www.lakecortl.org. Same address, new look.

If you would like to UNSUBSCRIBE to our newsletter please call the office at 219-838-1138 with your name, address, phone, and e-mail address. We will miss you.

Errors and Omissions - while every effort is made to ensure accuracy sometimes we mess up.
Thanks to Brenda Huerter and Dr. Carole Reeves for assisting with editing chores.

Lake County Right to Life® Newsletter

With a circulation of over 6,500 individuals

April-May-Jun 2014

Lake County Right to Life Newsletter is the official publication of Lake County Right to Life, a non-profit organization. The purpose of Lake County Right to Life is to promote the sanctity of human life, to educate the public on the subjects of abortion, assisted suicide and euthanasia, and to support legislation and constitutional changes to protect the right to life of all innocent

human beings.
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Lynne Scherschel
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2014 Banquet a Success!

by Lynne Scherschel

The 41st Annual Lake County Right to Life fund-raising banquet was held at the beautiful Avalon Manor in Merrillville on Friday, April 4, 2014. Over 1100 lively, engaged attendees enjoyed a delicious meal of salad, fried chicken, tilapia, garlic mashed potatoes, steamed broccoli and carrots, and cake or brownies. Blessing our food and invoking God's presence was the Rev. Cannon Robert Jennings, Sr., pastor of St. Andrew Anglican Church, Merrillville.

Our emcee for the evening was the delightful Father Richard Simon, AKA "Reverend Know-It-All" on Relevant Radio and pastor of St. Lambert's Parish in Skokie, IL. He kept the program going and blessed us with his wit and wisdom. The evening's events began with Corey Girnus singing "God Bless America" followed by the presentation of the Dr. John Kelly Founder's Award to Eddie Lapina, administrative pastor of First Baptist Church of Hammond. Danielle Lopez announced our Oratory Contest winners, including first-place winner, Grace Lukenof, who also placed third at the state contest. President Len Reynolds and Vice President Lynne Scherschel reported on many of the accomplishments of the organization over the past year.

As our keynote speaker, Shawna Prewitt shared the very compelling account of her experience of conceiving a child as a result of rape. After deciding to carry and parent her daughter, she soon discovered that her child was bringing her life in the midst of a very dark time. As shocking as it might seem, her rapist was soon suing for custody of her daughter, and Shawna discovered that the majority of states allow this by law. As a consequence, she decided to become a lawyer and try to change these very unjust laws. Since then, she has testified before a number of state legislatures, dispelling the myth that all women who conceive as a result of rape will grow to hate "the rapist's child." Instead, she stressed the power of words, emphasizing the reality that her daughter is HER child and the driving force of her life.

Near the end of the banquet the Rev. Ron Johnson, Jr. artfully delivered the financial appeal, sharing many helpful facts about how the donations would be used. Finally, the Rev. Scott Ferry, pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Hammond gave the benediction.

The evening was a great success, measured not only in the size of the crowd and the abundant donations, but also by the positive feedback from attendees about the impact of Shawna's story on their lives. All of these elements are the goal of our banquet, and God blessed us richly!

As chair of the banquet committee, I want to thank again those who gave much time and effort to prepare for this successful banquet: Len Reynolds, Cy Huerter, Joshua Belk, Eddie Lapina, Brent Hiles, Barbara Opperman, Cherlyn Lukenof, and Elizabeth Morrison.

"I have been just this year more heavily involved in Right-to-Life with my speech that I recited about Stem-Cell Research, so my mind and heart was really excited about the Banquet, and I was glad to be able to be a help. The Avalon Manor was a great location for this year's gathering, and I was so happy about the great attendance. The whole program was an inspiring experience. It was such a great testimony to the attitude of our community for LIFE that so many came; and I know it was a great educational tool for those who had come for the very first time. It was an EXCELLENT BANQUET!! Thanks, LCRTL, well done." --Jacob Sadlowski



Shawna Prewitt

2014 Banquet

Just a few of the over 1,000 people who attended our largest banquet ever, even beating last year's record attendance!



Oratory Contest Winners

By Barb Opperman



2014 High School Oratory Contest winner Grace Lukenoff with her family and her speech coach, Gail Merhalsk



2014 High School Oratory Contest Participants



State Oratory contest: (l & r) Madison Wonson, 4th Pl.; Grace Lukenoff, 3rd Pl. Both representing LCRTL.



Our oratory contest proved to be very successful this year. There were 13 Junior and Senior contestants, and 2 Freshman and Sophomore contestants.

Our contest took place on Saturday, March 22nd, at the Highland Pubic Library. The judges this year were Shannan Tetrault, Brenda Huerter, and Suzanna Lynn. I would also like to thank our timekeeper Cy Huerter. Also, thank you to all those who provided refreshments for the guests.

We had a total of 60 in the audience, and they were able to hear the wonderful speeches of our contestants from Hammond Baptist High School, Lake Central High School, Fair Haven Baptist School, and Kolbe Academy Homeschool. Grace Lukenoff, who spoke concerning abortion with some excellent facts, from Hammond Baptist, was the first place winner. Our second place winner was Madison Wonson, from Hammond Baptist, won second place. He also spoke on the topic of abortion. These two, besides winning our monetary prizes, went to the State competition May 10th, as entries in the Indiana Right to Life Competition. At the state level, Grace Lukenoff won 3rd place, and Madison Wonson won 4th place.

Goodbye . . . Hello! by Lynne Scherschel

Lake County Right to Life wishes to thank Cherlyn Lukenoff, who served as secretary to the board of directors with great skill and commitment. She has taken another position with her church and has committed to continued volunteering for several LCRTL projects. Her generosity with her time and her can-do attitude have been a great contribution to our mission. We miss her but wish her great joy and success in her new position.

Barbara Opperman had served LCRTL on the banquet committee and as volunteer coordinator, and as such, helped Cherlyn and became quite familiar with the workings of the office. Barbara was also chosen as board secretary. When Cherlyn announced her resignation, Barbara chose to remove herself from the board in order to be hired as secretary to the board. She has already demonstrated great skill in managing the office as well as taking over the role of "Sanity Control!" Welcome, Barb.

**“FOR YOU FORMED
MY INWARD PARTS;
YOU KNITTED ME
TOGETHER IN MY
MOTHER’S WOMB.”**

PSALM 139:13



**~IN MEMORY OF OUR
GRANDCHILD WHO
WAS NEVER HELD~**

**JESUS AND BERNICE
LOPEZ
AND FAMILY**

We Goofed

The ad to the left was supposed to go in the banquet program book, but it was left out. It was purchased by Jesus and Bernice Lopez. We also missed an ad for the Gabriel Project. Please patronize these vendors and next year their ads will be in the banquet book. Thanks for your support.

A Night to Remember

by Rachel Lewis

My heart was full even before I walked into the Avalon Manor for this year’s Right to Life Banquet. As I entered the banquet hall, I saw many volunteers happily making finishing touches. I joined the committee as they met to discuss the evening’s events. Then, something special took place; a few people in the group stopped to pray. The prayers of these sincere people asking God to be involved in the evening and in the pro-life movement were serene and sacred. All the work, effort, money, and time would be in vain if God was not glorified that night; for, after all, it is Jesus Christ who can give healing to our broken society. It was fitting that before anything began, God was first and foremost. Our guest speaker, Shauna Prewitt, was graceful in her receiving of the guests during the VIP reception attended by many politicians and officials before the banquet began. Over 1,000 people gathered in attendance to give a voice to those who have none.

As Shauna began to speak, a hush fell across the room. Although not everyone could relate with her story, everyone knew in their hearts that here was a woman who had been raped and had chosen to keep her child. She also chose to go to law school to fight for the rights of mothers who bear children through rape. Shauna explained that she knew this was a child, and she knew she had no other choice but to carry the baby to term. Today her daughter is her life. She made it very clear that even though this situation was meant for evil, she views her daughter exactly how everyone should be viewed: a human being who deserves the same love and opportunity as anyone else.

The evening ended with many donating money to further the pro-life cause. My heart was overwhelmed that so many people would gather, care, and donate to this worthy cause. Thank God for life and for many people who realize that God values life and so should we. The 2014 Right to Life Banquet was a night to remember.

Sidewalk Counselor Training

by Lynne Scherschel

Our next training for sidewalk counselors is scheduled for Saturday, August 23, 9 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. The deadline for registration and \$20 fee (includes lunch) to be received in our office is August 15. There are two forms which may be downloaded from our website: www.lakecortl.org. One is an application, and the other is a pastor’s reference form. The pastor’s form may take a little longer to get completed, so start early! Completed forms and \$20 fee may be mailed to our office at P.O. Box 9103, Highland, IN 46322-9103. The location for the training will be announced soon. Questions may be directed to 219-838-1138.

Capital Punishment & Abortion

by Brenda Huerter

“Thou shalt kill” the altered commandment in a recent editorial cartoon in the Hammond Times was drawn to make us think twice about capital punishment. Clearly no one wants an innocent person to die for a crime he did not commit. When persons are guilty then we should rehabilitate them before returning them to society. Nonetheless, psychiatrists may surmise that some individuals are chronic criminals and should be given a life’s sentence instead.

Now consider the unborn. Virtually at the whim of any pregnant woman, the INNOCENT baby can be given the DEATH SENTENCE. This precious preborn child does not even get a jury. Because abortion is legal in America any woman can decide she does not want to complicate her life. She does not want to even pass this guiltless baby on to a family that would delight in adopting it. No, not even rape is a good excuse for terminating a pregnancy. You see, there still is an innocent child involved. There are numerous agencies that will care for a troubled woman and her baby. Let’s face the truth. The womb ALWAYS carries a baby and an abortion ALWAYS exterminates an innocent victim. “Doctors” who used to take the Hypocratic Oath to “do no harm” now butcher the contents of the womb without so much as giving the innocent baby an anesthesia! Our amoral society will ultimately take the path of ancient Rome and perish.

Let’s support pro-life legislation in both our State and federal courts. How can we celebrate Mother’s Day when a baby is not ALWAYS safe in his/her mother’s womb

When are Mother’s Day and Father’s Day?

by Brenda Huerter

Is Mother’s Day a Sunday in May - this year the 11th - or may I suggest - the very day that any woman gives birth to her baby? My first Mother’s Day was March 2nd. I pray that all women who want to raise children get the opportunity, whether their babies are their own biological children or whether they are fortunate enough to adopt.

Naturally, you must also ask - when is Father’s Day? My response is, what was the day your wife gave birth to your first child or what was the day the two of you brought home a child from the orphanage? In either case, everyone knows parenting is a 24/7 job that does not stop with your son or daughter’s high school graduation. Once a parent, always a parent. Your heart strings are ever connected so everything they say or do matters.

Although our children live in six different states, technology has made it possible for us to receive a consistent stream of pictures. They arrive not only in the e-mail, but also on our cell phones.

Nature had a surprise outside in the bushes near our front door not long ago. A local robin hatched two eggs. We have had a ring side seat for eight days. They must have realized we’re a pro-life family before choosing the site.

Five Guys Burgers & Fries Serves LCRTL a Sweet Deal

by Barb Opperman

On Thursday, May 29, 2014, meals at Five Guys Burgers & Fries in Schererville tasted extra delicious, as LCRTL supporters “ate for life”. At the end of the day, we realized a profit of \$159.16. Thanks to all who participated and to Danielle Lopez, who organized the fundraiser!

We are truly grateful for all the businesses who promote life thru these fundraisers! Please remember to support their businesses.

Volunteers Needed

by Barb Opperman

We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to visit our advertisers to thank them for advertising and deliver a 2014 Banquet Ad Book to them along with some other LCRTL materials. If you would be interested, please email Barb at office@lakecortl.org.

Immediate Opening

Lake County Right to Life has an immediate opening for a board member. Any interested party, please submit your name to Barb at the Lake County Right to Life office (219) 838-1138 no later than 3pm Monday June 30th, 2014 to have your name on the ballot for a special election held by the board at the July 2014 board meeting.

Youth Camp/Summit Speaker Bios



MICAH A. CLARK - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR American Family Association of Indiana

In 1989 Micah Clark graduated from Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Missouri with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. Micah interned as a member of the Indiana House of Representatives' Republican staff and later became an Assistant Campaign Manager for a State Senator. Micah then served as a legislative assistant for Citizens Concerned for the Constitution. He served as the Indiana Family Institute's Director of Public Policy, and later as its Executive Director, throughout the 1990's.

Micah is the only person to have served with all three of Indiana's top statewide pro-family organizations. In November 2001, Micah became the Executive Director of the American Family Association of Indiana. His experience has helped AFA expand into an organization with a consistent state house presence while maintaining its role as Indiana's leading decency organization. Since joining AFA of Indiana Micah has conducted nearly 600 media interviews as its executive director. Governor Frank O'Bannon appointed Micah to serve on his Education Roundtable. Micah was re-

appointed for a second term by Governor Joe Kernan.

In October 2007, Citizens for Community Values of Indiana named Micah its "Citizen of the Year" for his work for family values in the political arena as both the head of AFA of Indiana and the President of the AFA of Indiana Political Action Committee. In September 2008 Micah was given the Respect Life Award from Right to Life of Indianapolis for his leadership on life issues in Indiana. Micah's wife is a marriage and family therapist at a Christian counseling center. They have two children.

Ron Johnson Sr. - is the founder of Living Stones Fellowship Church. Living Stones officially began in 1981 as an outgrowth of a weekly "marriage class" taught and led by Pastors Ron and Carol in their home. Over the past 25 years, God has healed and restored hundreds of strained and broken relationships through the powerful marriage ministry.

God uses Pastor Ron's expertise as a former high school teacher and coach to train and equip the Body of Christ to move into maturity. As the "coach" and senior leader of Living Stones Church, God has mightily used him to disciple men, to place families in divine order, and to raise up a thriving church with a vision to reach the community and the nations with the Gospel.

Pastor Ron is a gifted teacher with a strong apostolic anointing. He has authored *The Alphabet by God: an ABC Approach to a Real Relationship with God; How Can Two Walk On Together? and I'm a Brand, New Christian . . . Now what Do I Do?* Pastor Ron's and Carol's long history of faithfulness to Christ, their compassionate love for broken people, and depth of intimacy with God qualifies them as a true, spiritual mother and father in the Body of Christ. Ron Johnson, Sr. is the Bishop for the Great Lakes Region of the Fellowship of International Churches.

Paula Allen is a teacher and speaker who has been active in the Pro Life movement for over 26 years. Having experienced the pain and shame of abortion first hand, Paula brings a message of truth for women facing unplanned pregnancies, as well as hope for healing for the victims of this heinous industry.

She and Doug, her husband of 32 years, have been missionaries to the nations since the early 90's, working in Russia, Nicaragua, and recently, North Korea. Paula is a graduate of Ministers Training Institute with a degree in Missiology.

During their time stateside, she and Doug serve as the Outreach Directors of Living Stones Church in Crown Point, IN. Paula currently serves on the board of Lake County Right to Life.

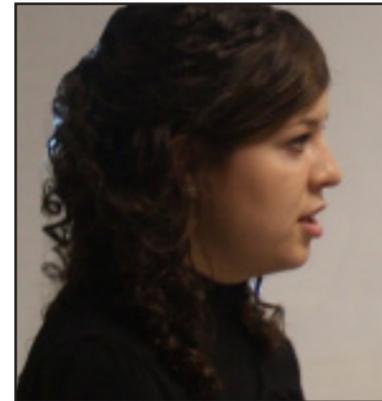


Ryan McCann serves as the Director of Operations and Public Policy at the Indiana Family Institute, a nonprofit public policy development and advocacy organization focused on strengthening Hoosier families.

Serving in this capacity for the Institute, McCann assists the President in managing the day-to-day operations of the Institute, with a special focus on influencing public policy within Indiana and informing Hoosiers of ways in which they can mold their government and culture in family friendly ways. IFI is among 34 Family Policy Councils across the nation, and is affiliated with Focus on the Family, a Colorado Springs, Colorado, ministry; Family Research Council, a Washington, D.C. based think tank; and the Alliance Defending Freedom, a legal alliance defending the right to hear and

speak the truth through strategy, training, funding, and litigation. These organizations all share a passion for promoting policies and practices in the public sphere to strengthen families, the bedrock institution of all great nations.

McCann graduated from Indiana Wesleyan University with a double major in political science/pre-law and history. He graduated magna cum laude from the Regent University Robertson School of Government, earning a Master's degree in government with a focus on public policy. Among his list of accomplishments, He is the author of *The Indiana Family Report*, a detailed statistical analysis of the state of the family in Indiana. He was appointed by Governor Mitch Daniels in 2006 to serve on the Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana. Ryan serves as the Executive Director of Indiana Family Action and Indiana Family Action PAC. IFA is the advocacy arm of the Indiana Family Institute. IFA PAC is a political action committee dedicated to electing pro-family public servants in Indiana. Ryan, his wife Tory and their son are members of College Park Church in Indianapolis.



Jami Beer Jami Beer is originally from Fort Wayne, IN. Her passion is protecting preborn children.

She is currently the Director of Campus Outreach, Created Equal. Jami has a B.A. in English literature from Indiana University. In her free time she enjoys her friends, volleyball, and reading.

Please consider a tax deductible gift to Lake County Right to Life as part of your regular giving.

Please make checks payable to Lake County Right to Life.

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