Lifespanus

Volume 42 Number 3

Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

April/May 2013

Right to Life - LIFESPAN

Invites you to its 23rd Annual

Celebration of Life Dinner and Silent Auction

Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Guest Speaker

Jeanne Monahan "The Power of One"

See page 3 for reservation information



Jeff Gura, Steadfast Volunteer!

The Oakland/Macomb Chapter of LIFESPAN had its annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Saturday, March 2nd.

Jeff Gura received the Jane Condron Steadfast Volunteer Award this year! He was very surprised and encouraged those present to keep up the great work they do in promoting the respect and dignity of human life in whatever ways they can!

Congratulations, Jeff!

Auction Items Needed!

A Silent Auction will take place as part of our Celebrate LIFE Dinner on May 7th. Your donations to the Auction are most welcome and needed—whether it is a collection of items (collectibles), gift cards to area restaurants, a basket of items or tickets to local venues.

Please deliver your donations to Lifespan's Main Office, 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, by April 26th. Call Eileen, 734-524-0162, for more information.

\$10,000* RAFFLE PRIZE DRAWING

Maximum of 500 tickets will be sold Donation: \$50 per ticket



You could be the winner of \$10,000!

Not everyone wants to take chances. However, this is one you'll want to consider!

> Lifespan's raffle ticket is \$50. We are offering only 500 tickets. The prize is \$10,000.00!!

This is an opportunity that is really too good to miss!

The Raffle drawing will be held on May 7, 2013 at Lifespan's Annual Dinner.

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Proceeds from this raffle will be used to help support the life-saving programs of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund License No. R16783

*If fewer than 400 tickets are sold by drawing time, the raffle will become a 50/50 drawing. The winning ticket holder will receive half of all ticket sales. If 400 or more tickets are sold, the prize will be \$10,000. Tickets are available by mailing in the order form or by visiting one of Lifespan's offices:

Lifespan Main Office 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia 734-524-0162

Oakland/Macomb Chapter 1637 W. Big Beaver, Ste. G, Troy 248-816-1546

Wayne County/Downriver Chapter 14600 Farmington Rd., Ste. 108, Livonia 734-422-6230

Please send me	raffle ticket(s). Enclosed is \$	(\$50 per ticket)
Name		
Address	City	StateZip
Area Code/Phone	Email Address	

32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305

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Right to Life - LIFESPAN's Celebration of LIFE Annual Dinner Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Silent Auction begins 5:45 p.m. ◆ Dinner served 7:15 p.m. San Marino Club ◆ 1685 E. Big Beaver Rd., Troy

Join us for our Celebration of LIFE Dinner and meet the new March for Life President, **Jeanne F. Monahan.** Ms. Monahan was previously a board member of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund and served as interim president following the passing of Founder and President Nellie J. Gray. Prior to being named the full-time President of the March for Life, Ms. Monahan was the Director of the Center for Human



Dignity at the Family Research Council in Washington, D.C. In this capacity, she served as an expert on life issues and a regular media contributor on issues related to the dignity of human life. Prior to her service at FRC, Ms. Monahan served in various capacities at the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services. From July 2002 to June 2004, Jeanne served the Archdiocese of Detroit as Associate Director, Cardinal Maida Institute. She taught weekly courses on various topics, including the dignity of women and marriage. She provided frequent presentations for local parishes and groups on culture of life issues and was interviewed regularly on radio shows on topics related to life, women and the Catholic Church. Jeanne coordinated the first annual diocesan conference for women, with 1000 participants.

Dinner Reservations: Advance reservations required by	\$50 per person/\$475 per table of 10 y Monday, April 29.	. Stude	ents (under 21) \$2	25 per person.
	osed please find a check in the amoun om reservations are made on a separate			
(Please list names of all those for whom Table seating will be determined by d	of 10. Enclosed please find <u>one</u> check in the matable reservations are made on a separa ate of receipt of paid reservation.) osed is a donation of \$ to suppose to suppose the control of the con	te sheet o	f paper. <u>Tickets wil</u>	
Name	Address			
City	State		Zip	
For Dir	Email Address nner reservations, please make checks p e - LIFESPAN, 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd.	avable a	nd mail to	

For information, call 248-816-1546

Photos/video may be taken at this event and may be used on the web, in publications and/or other media. If you would prefer that your image not be included, please contact Right to Life – LIFESPAN's Main Office at 734-524-0162 or mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org.



Contact Information

President

President Barack Obama The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Opinion Line: 202-456-1111, M-F, 9-5

Fax Number: 202-456-2461

Web contact: www.whitehouse.gov/contact/

Dear Mr. President:

U.S. Senators

The Honorable (Carl Levin, Debbie Stabenow) United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

202-224-3121 Website/Email: www.levin.senate.gov/

Website/Email: www.stabenow.senate.gov/

Dear Senator (last name):

U.S. Representatives

The Honorable (first and last name) House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 202-224-3121

Website/Email: www.house.gov/

Dear Congressman/Congresswoman (last name):

Governor

The Honorable Rick Snyder P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909 517-373-3400

Opinion Line: 517-335-7858 Website: www.michigan.gov/snyder Email: Rick.Snyder@michigan.gov Dear Governor Snyder:

Michigan State Senator

The Honorable (full name) P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909 517-373-1837

Web contact: www.senate.mi.gov/ Dear Senator (last name):

Michigan State Representative

The Honorable (full name) P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909 517-373-1837

Web contact: www.house.mi.gov/ Dear Representative (last name):

Legislative Update

Cost More, Cover Fewer

ObamaCare policies will cost more, cover far fewer than promised

By Betsy Mccaughey

The central parts of ObamaCare don't roll out until 2014, but the wheels are already falling off this clunker. The latest news from four federal agencies is that 1) insurance will be a lot less affordable than Americans were led to expect, 2) fewer people than promised will get insurance and 3) millions of people who have coverage through a job now will lose it, thanks to the president's "reforms." Oh, and children are the biggest victims.

The Affordable Care Act is looking less and less affordable.

Start with the IRS's new estimate for what the cheapest family plan will cost by 2016: \$20,000 a year to cover two adults and three kids. And that will only cover 60 percent of medical bills, so add hefty out-of-pocket costs, too.

The next surprise is for parents who thought their kids would be covered by an employer. Sloppy wording in the law left that unclear until last week, when the IRS ruled that kids won't be covered.

Starting in 2014, the law will require employers with 50 or more full-time employees to offer coverage or pay a penalty. "Affordable" coverage, that is—meaning the employee can't be told to contribute more than 9.5 percent of his salary. For example, a worker earning \$40,000 a year cannot be required to pay more than \$3,800.

But the law doesn't specifically mandate family coverage—and now the administration says that won't be required.

You can see why: If the lowest-cost family plan (again, two adults and three kids) is to run a whopping \$20,000, and if the employee's contribution is limited to \$3,800, the employer's tab would be \$16,200—adding about \$7.40 an hour to the cost of that employee. Wisely, the IRS announced on January 30 that employers won't have to pay for dependents.

But the Congressional Budget Office's much-cited prediction that ObamaCare would leave only 30 million people uninsured by 2016 was based on the assumption that kids would be covered by employers. At the very least, employers insuring their workers for the first time to avoid the penalty are unlikely to do that.

So how will the kids be covered? They won't. The IRS shocked the law's advocates by announcing that the insurance exchanges won't provide subsidies for a child whose parent is covered at work.

Nor will these parents be penalized for not insuring their children—the IRS will kindly consider the kids exempt from the mandate.

Also exempt are millions of people who'll stay uninsured because their state is wisely choosing not to loosen Medicaid eligibility.

Some background: Despite President Obama's promises to help solve the problem of the uninsured by making private health plans more affordable, the law expands coverage mainly by forcing states to loosen their Medicaid eligibility rules. But the Supreme Court ruled that the feds can't command states in this way.

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News Notes

University Calls Pro-Life Display Too Controversial, Faces Lawsuit

Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys filed a federal lawsuit Tuesday against Eastern Michigan University on behalf of a pro-life student organization. University officials denied the group funding from mandatory student activity fees based on its "political or ideological" views even though the university funds other groups involved in political and ideological speech.

"Universities should encourage, not shut down, the free exchange of ideas," said Senior Legal Counsel David Hacker. "The university funded the advocacy of other student organizations but singled out Students for Life for exclusion based purely upon its viewpoint."

In February, Students for Life at Eastern Michigan University applied for student fee funding to host a pro-life display on campus called the Genocide Awareness Project, a traveling photo-mural exhibit which compares the contemporary genocide of abortion to historically recognized forms of genocide. EMU denied the request because they deemed the photos of the aborted babies and the event as too controversial, biased, and one-sided.

The lawsuit, Students for Life at Eastern Michigan University v. Parker, notes that EMU officials have been inconsistent with their funding guidelines and have allocated the same funds to political and ideological speech discussing "welfare rights, women's and abortion rights, student activist training, and race-conscious issues, just to name a few."

The lawsuit also explains that the First Amendment's Freedom of Speech Clause "prohibits content and viewpoint discrimination in a public university's allocation of mandatory student fee funding." Moreover, "the government may not regulate speech based on policies that permit arbitrary, discriminatory, and overzealous enforcement." As the U.S. Supreme Court has affirmed, "viewpoint neutrality" must be the operating principle of student fees and funding.

"The constitutional freedoms of pro-life student organizations should be recognized by university officials just as they recognize those freedoms for other student groups," added Senior Counsel Kevin Theriot. "We hope EMU revises its student-funding policy to include all groups, regardless of their political or ideological viewpoint."

Steven M. Jentzen, one of nearly 2,200 allied attorneys with Alliance Defending Freedom, is co-counsel in the suit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Alliance Defending Freedom has prevailed in similar lawsuits against University of Wisconsin-Madison and Texas A&M University.

-LifeNews.com, March 20, 2013

Nine Pro-Life Books You Should Read

By Kristi Burton Brown

For anyone out there who'd like to increase their knowledge or expand their thinking on pro-life issues, here are my reviews and reading recommendations:

The "#1 Book Out There" Award goes to **Why Pro Life?** by Randy Alcorn. This is an incredibly easy-to-read, yet appropriately detailed and informative book. It's even available in an audio-CD format. I highly recommend that you grab a copy. I rate this an absolutely invaluable resource!

Third Time Around by George Grant (free online copy) is a wonderful history of the pro-life movement. If you've everbeen curious about the Christian church's involvement (or lack of involvement) on this issue over the centuries, if you've ever wondered about what early pro-life heroes did, if you've ever wished for a basic history of the movement...this is the book for you.

A Perfect Persecution by James R. Lucas. This book is a heart-stopping thriller of a novel. It takes the reader into a not-so-difficult-to-imagine world where the pro-choice position has taken over the U.S.A. The really cool thing about this novel is that it is believable. It's not a sci-fi, pie-in-the-sky, fake-world book. It's the real thing. Don't pick up this book unless you want to be more motivated than ever to stand up for innocent life.

Make Me Your Choice by Cheryl Chew is written by a mother who had two abortions. She shares—through multiple personal accounts—the impact of abortion on women's mental, physical and emotional health. She believes abortion also negatively affect women's relationships, their life purpose and the world as a whole. And she certainly speaks from experience. This book is an insightful view from a woman on a woman's issue.

Gianna by Jessica Shaver and **True to Life** by Janet Folger are two books about two wonderful women. One miraculously survived an abortion attempt because she was "too far along" to die; one survived a car bombing attempt; both are pro-life activists. If you'd like to get into the mind of pro-lifers, these books are the way to do it.

Does the Birth Control Pill Cause Abortions? by Randy Alcorn (downloadable for free). Ah yes, the question that never goes away. What's a pro-lifer to do about birth control? What's the pro-life position on birth control? Get your questions answered with this simple and informative book.

Why Can't We Love Them Both by Dr. and Mrs. J.C. Willke. This is the classic pro-life book, recognized and loved by many in the movement. This book appropriately portrays pro-lifers' concern for women and their babies. This book goes to the very heart of the movement in many ways and is a must-read.

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Lifespan Chapter News

Raffle

On page 2 of this newsletter, you will find an order form for purchasing a Raffle ticket. At first glance, some may think that \$50.00 for ticket is a rather steep price, but you are being invited to think again.

If you take two of your children or grandchildren to McDonald's as a treat, it is unlikely that you will leave having spent much less than \$25.00. That is halfway to the price of the raffle ticket. If you do that twice in one month, you pretty much have the price of the raffle ticket.

You have a 1 in 500 chance of winning the \$10,000.00 prize which beats the odds of the Michigan lottery hands down. Should you be the lucky winner, think how much greater the benefit would be for those kids if a college fund of \$10,000 could be established, as opposed to 9 chicken nuggets and an order of fries.

If the \$50.00 price tag seems hard to reach, share a ticket with your best friend, sister, brother or neighbor. Winning \$5000 (the \$10,000 prize shared by two) is nothing to sneeze at and would have cost less than the sirloin and lobster special at Outback Steakhouse!

If you ever take an evening out at one of the local casinos, you know that the chances of winning \$10,000

at one of the slot machines are practically non-existent. It's fun to pull the lever, but you pretty much know that the casinos are not in business to give money away.

Our LIFESPAN raffle does not have bells and whistles and loud noises going off when the winning name is drawn. Lights are not going to flash on and off and you will not get a ride home in a limousine. In fact, the best part of winning this raffle, besides your money prize, is knowing that your \$50.00 will help LIFESPAN continue to promote protection and dignity for women and children. Over the years, we have learned how to make every penny count (usually several times over), and with your help we will continue to do so.

So, take a chance, buy a raffle ticket, ask a friend to buy one, call your sisters and brothers and aunts and uncles and ask them to buy one. No bells and whistles or loud noises—just a heartfelt thank you from LIFESPAN and maybe a tiny voice that can say, "I'm alive!" because of you.

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Irene Tharp, Director • Diane Trombley, Ofc. Mgr.
Lynn Gura, Ofc. Staff & Youth Director

Church Rep Gathering

On Sunday, April 21, our church reps will be meeting once again for our annual time of fellowship and sharing of ideas. We greatly appreciate everything that our reps do throughout the year on behalf of LIFESPAN and the unborn and we love to hear about their experiences. We encourage all of our reps to join us at St. Dunstan Church Hall, in Garden City, from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m., for this enjoyable event. —Sharon Neal, Church Rep Coordinator

A Special Miracle Follow-up

Here's what Baby Brayden put on Facebook, March 19th: Hi everyone! Thank you for praying for me! I am growing and eating at least a couple bottles a day, but the doctors say it is all up to me now. All I have to do is eat all my food from bottles and continue to gain weight! Pray for me to get my eating figured out, and that I have the energy to eat and grow so I can show the doctors when I am ready to go home. Pray for my Mom and Dad, too. They can't wait to take me home, and it can be hard for them to hear some people say it could be over a month. I am going to try my best to prove those people wrong.

Brayden March 21: Weighs 3 lbs. 6 ozs...2 lbs. over his birth weight on January 7, 2013.

Email Addresses

We are very anxious to receive your email addresses so we can keep you current on events impacting on human life. Our computer is secure, and we will use your emails prudently.

Membership Renewal Reminder

In December, the Wayne County/Downriver Chapter sent out membership renewals accompanied with a "pledge request" form. This is to remind you just in case you put it aside, meant to send a donation later and then it slipped your mind. Even if you can't make a pledge now, but want to keep your membership active, please send in your renewal. Reminder letters with postage are costly, but necessary to keep our office solvent and stocked with prolife materials which could save lives. If you need another envelope, pledge form or further information, please call.

Mother's Day Tribute

Now is the time to order a pro-life gift item for churches for Mother's Day. The long-stemmed, silk rose which is a symbol of Life, comes in various colors and is tagged, "Thanks, Mom, for Life." In addition, we've added a fancy pen inscribed, "Thanks, Mom, for Life" AND "Happy Mother's Day." Church reps usually have them available for a donation after church services on that day. So, Dads, look for these gifts as they are a beautiful tribute to Moms on their special day from their children. These can be taken on consignment.

Happy Mother's Day!

14600 Farmington Rd., Ste. 108, Livonia, MI 48154-5431
Phone 734-422-6230 • Fax 734-422-8116
e-mail: wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 10-4; Friday Closed
Patricia Holscher, Director • Laurie Masiarak, Ofc. Mgr.



Wee Care

Have you ever noticed in Spring, when the heavy coats come off, all the beautiful pregnant women? What a great way to celebrate the

"New Life" of Easter and Mother's Day—the day we honor all mothers! (Although, I doubt if they planned it that way!)

Being pregnant should be a time of joy, anticipation and over-the-top happiness! In a perfect world, there should be no fears about how they will ever provide for their tiny babies. But the world is not perfect, and these are difficult times for so many of our mothers who are alone, frightened and destitute.

When they contact Wee Care, we can give them resources that help with housing, the WIC Program that provides formula and food, parenting classes, visiting nurses, social workers and so many other organizations. Because of you and all YOU do for my babies, we can supply them with

diapers, bedding, clothes and so much more. Many no longer feel alone or frightened and they can, along with expecting mothers everywhere, be joyfully counting the days until their cherished child is in their arms.

And speaking of Mother's Day, Happy Mother's Day to all our moms—those who give so generously and those who love so deeply. And to our moms who are blest to be carrying a precious baby—may God bless you and know that we care and that you and your baby are loved.

-Love, Karen

PS: In last month's newsletter, we learned about a very special little guy named Brayden. He is now two-monthsold and such a little fighter. Please continue to keep him and his family in your prayers!

A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305 Phone: 734-524-0165 • Fax: 734-524-0166 Office Hours: By appointment; Karen Patrosso, Director

All material and monetary donations to Wee Care are tax-deductible. Checks must be made payable to **Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund.**

Receive the Newsletter by Email!

Help us save on postage and printing

One Person

n Thursday, January 24th, a group of 12 high school students and 7 adults from St. Anastasia Parish got on a bus and headed to Washington, D.C. to participate in the March for Life. Early Friday morning, our day began with a Youth Rally and Mass, where we sang praise and worship, participated in the Eucharist, and were surrounded by over 20,000 youth from throughout the country. Here is a reflection from one of the teens who participated in this event.

"Do you think that you made a difference today?"

On January 25th, Elizabeth Spencer asked this question of a group of teenagers. She was referring to our participation in the 40th annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. After a night of traveling, an inspiring youth rally and a two-hour march to the Supreme Court Building, the response to her question was a deflated: "No."

Granted, we were tired. And slightly frostbitten. But why were we so disheartened? We were in Washington, D.C., exercising our First Amendment right, along with more than 500,000 other pro-life advocates. We knew what we were doing was right. We represented human dignity. We represented Love.

The issue, I believe, was not our purpose, but the response. In our eyes, there were half a million people protesting the degradation of life. But there was nothing in our sight, or even our peripherals, to suggest that we were noticed. Since 1973, when abortion was legalized in the United States, about 54,559,615 babies have been murdered. We demonstrated our care for all of God's children, the ones who were deemed not useful yet and those thought no longer useful. We thought that we could represent the rejected. And some of us felt, after a day of defending the "unwanted," as if we had just been discarded as well.

We teenagers can find it hard to see anything valuable unless it's immediate. It's difficult to just be "seed planters." The "powerful" people of our nation may not have cared about us. But God, all-powerful, certainly cared about each person in D.C. that day. Each of us marched one hundred unborn souls to the Supreme Court building. By appreciating His creations, His gift of life, we expressed our love and gratitude.

Did we make a difference? I say we did. I know we did. One life might have been saved—maybe thousands. The numbers don't matter. The person matters. Every individual—those in the womb, in hospice and in prison. Those who went to the March for Life and those who stayed home. You. You matter to God. He loves you. By standing up for the dignity of the human person and living your own life with dignity, you are pro-Life and pro-Love. That makes a difference.

— Katie Bart

HUGE Used Book Sale Over 10,000 Books

July 11-14

FREE OFFER WITH ERREE
FOR YOUR FREE
YOU FOR YOUR BOOK!

St. Mary Church Fellowship Center 730 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
July 11, 12 and 13: 10 AM—7 PM
Sunday (Bag Day)
July 14: 10 AM—3 PM

\$5 Parking Fee for Book Sale*
(Free Parking on Thursday and Friday)
*This is also valid for the HUGE Royal
Oak City-Wide Garage Sale happening
at the same time!

For more information, call Mary: 313.885.8238



Sponsored by Right to Life-LIFESPAN Educational Fund

ObamaCare

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At first, the CBO said that ruling would only prevent 4 million people from gaining coverage—but more states than it expected are refusing to go along; it could well be 8 million more without coverage.

Oh, and the CBO last week also doubled its previous estimate on how many people will lose the health coverage they now get through work, upping the figure to 8 million by 2016 and 12 million by 2019. Several top consulting firms put the figures even higher.

Yet the biggest setback is that most states are refusing to set up insurance exchanges. The exchanges are supposed to sell the government-mandated plans and hand out taxpayer-funded subsidies to most enrollees.

Here's the glitch. The law says that in states that refuse, the federal government can set up an exchange. But the law empowers only state exchanges, not federal ones, to hand out subsidies. The Obama administration says it will disregard the law and offer subsidies in all 50 states anyway, but the case will likely go to the Supreme Court.

If the courts uphold the clear language of the law, then some 8 million people in the affected states won't be eligible for subsidies to cover that \$20,000 (or more) insurance bill. That's another 8 million without coverage.

All in all, at least 40 million people could be uninsured in 2016, only 9 million fewer than before the law was passed.

Expect the momentum for repealing this law to grow as its flaws, perverse incentives and faulty predictions come to light.

—The New York Post, February 10, 2013

Pro-Life Books

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The Miraculous World of Your Unborn Baby by Nikki Bradford is designed to be read by pregnant women, as it advises them of the changes going on in their body and their baby's body during the pregnancy. However, this book is a great science resource as well, and it definitely gives a "window to the womb." Truly, it's a miraculous world in there!

Kristi Burton Brown is a pro-life activist in her home state of Colorado, a pro-bono attorney for Life Legal Defense Fund, and a stay-at-home mom. —LifeNews.com, February 24, 2012

President's Letter

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saddened by all the abuse—by all the lives lost and those lives which will be lost because of the laws and policies of our government.

It all gets back to changing hearts and minds. Be assured, you are doing your part by being a part of this important and dynamic movement. You are changing hearts and minds just by educating yourself and speaking out for LIFE. Please, sign someone up as a supporter of life and have them join the LIFESPAN family. Fill out the coupon on page 11.

If we do not build our membership base, we will not be able to counter the culture of death that permeates this country. The question will be asked more and more with greater speed, "Are you just going to let her die? She is a human being!" The answer will continue to be, "YES"!!!

Yours in Life,

Diane

Diane Fagelman, President

A Shining Light

The Life and Legacy of Dr. C. Everett Koop

By John A. Murray

iven the myriad of scandals reported in the media these days, it is always a blessing to reflect on a life well lived. And the recent passing of Dr. C. Everett Koop has allowed many to do just that.

A man of great accomplishment, Dr. Koop demonstrated how to successfully integrate faith, virtue, and knowledge in one's field, and use one's gifts and talents unashamedly for God's glory.

Graduating from Dartmouth College in 1937, Koop received his medical degree from Cornell Medical College in 1941. A brilliant young doctor, he assumed the position of surgeonin-chief of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (C.H.O.P.) when he was only 30 years old. During his 35-year tenure at C.H.O.P., Koop established the first neo-natal care facility in the nation, launched and edited the Journal of Pediatric Surgery, and developed a pediatric surgical residency program that prepared many of the future children's hospital directors around the country.

A pioneer in his field, Dr. Koop developed many new surgical techniques for children, and performed thousands of life-changing surgeries. He became known the world over after the successful separation of conjoined twins at the hip in 1957 and conjoined twins at the spine in 1974. He would later receive the French *Legion d'Honneur* and Presidential Medal of Freedom, among many other honors.

As a matter of fact, his worldview that humans are image-bearers of God gave Koop a great passion for both the born and the unborn. For the same year he became the leader of C.HO.P, he came to faith in Jesus Christ.

Koop's Christian beliefs undergirded his excellent work in the medical field at a time in American history when the sanctity of human life was coming under attack. In his

book "The Right to Live, The Right to Die," Koop spoke out strongly against abortion and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Henry Blackmun's opinion in *Roe v. Wade:*

The Hippocratic Oath, which has been taken by physicians for the past 2,000 years, specifically prohibits abortion and the suggestion of it... When Mr. Blackmun said that the Court was not in a position to speculate on when life begins, he did us a great disservice. The Court really did decide when life begins in that life does not begin before live birth.

And while many national newspapers' remembrances have rightly honored Dr. Koop's legacy, ironically, some of the same newspapers strongly attempted to derail his nomination as U.S. Surgeon General.

Being a middle-schooler during Dr. Koop's Senate confirmation hearings in the early 1980s, I was not aware of the nine-month process he endured.

It wasn't until I read a book by Koop's Philadelphia pastor, the late Rev. Jim Boice of Tenth Presbyterian Church, that I learned of the attacks Koop faced from his political adversaries.

"Koop opposed abortion on the grounds that the fetus is made in the image of God," Boice wrote, "and that to abort is to commit murder. Indeed, he was nominated to be Surgeon General because of this conviction.

...[Nevertheless], his many medical accomplishments were ignored and he was repeatedly portrayed as little more than a close-minded fundamentalist. The *Washington Post* described him as "a fundamentalist Christian with a Lincolnesque beard ...[while] the *Boston Globe* dismissed him as a mere clinician...with tunnel vision."

Amazingly, the day after reading Boice's above commentary in 2008, I providentially ran into Dr. Koop in the lobby of a hotel in Bethesda, Md. My wife and I had attended his home church in Woodstock, Vt., pas-

tored by his son Norm Koop (a personal friend), while I was in graduate school at Dartmouth. I took this opportunity to talk with him about the confirmation hearings I had just learned about.

Although 90 at the time, Dr. Koop remembered this difficult time well. Acknowledging what a painful process it was for him and his wife Betty, he nevertheless believed that the lengthy confirmation period actually allowed him to prepare for the important role of Surgeon General.

What man intended for harm, God used for great good. For when he was finally confirmed, Dr. Koop was able to hit the ground running. And run he did. His warnings about tobacco use, the educational work he did on the AIDS virus, and the protections he sought for handicapped children, as well as his work on violence and public health, earned him the well-deserved moniker "America's Doctor."

Furthermore, while his faith informed his worldview, he did not use his office to promote his personal agenda. As Billy Graham wrote in his endorsement of Koop's memoir, "Dr. Koop is a man of integrity based on strong religious convictions and probably the best-known Surgeon General in American history. He was determined, no matter what the personal cost, to do the right thing for the health of the American people."

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus challenged his followers to "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

As we wrestle through the challenges of our time, I pray for more lights like Dr. Koop—men and women who are willing to shine before a searching world and honor their Father with excellence in their profession. May Dr. Koop rest in peace.

John A. Murray is the Headmaster of The Fourth Presbyterian School in Potomac, Md.

-Breakpoint, March 6, 2013

Thank You, Baby Shower Hosts

Right to Life - LIFESPAN'S 24th annual Baby Shower, to benefit local pregnancy help centers, is always a great success, thanks to our church community which graciously hosts the showers. Thank you, to each and every one of our hostesses and host churches!

Sacred Heart of the Hills Catholic Church, Auburn Hills Apostolic Christian Church, Beverly Hills Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Church, Beverly Hills Resurrection Catholic Church, Canton St. John Neumann Catholic Church, Canton Oakland Woods Baptist Church, Clarkston Guardian Angels Catholic Church, Clawson St. John the Apostle Anglican Church, Clinton Twp. Church of the Divine Child (Catholic), Dearborn St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Dearborn St. Anselm Catholic Church, Dearborn Heights Assumption Grotto Catholic Church, Detroit Christ the King Catholic Church, Detroit Sts. Augustine & Monica Catholic Church, Detroit St. Gerald Catholic Church, Farmington St. Raphael Church & St. Mel Catholic Churches, Garden City St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, Grosse Pte. Park The River Church, Holly Sacred Heart Byzantine Church, Livonia St. Edith Catholic Church, Livonia

St. Genevieve-St. Maurice Catholic Parish, Livonia St. Mary of the Snows Catholic Church, Milford St. Stephen Catholic Church, New Boston Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, Northville Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, Plymouth St. Kenneth Catholic Church, Plymouth Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church, Redford

St. John Bosco Catholic Church, Redford St. Valentine Catholic Church, Redford

St. Andrew Catholic Church, Rochester

Living Rock Church, Romulus

St. Kieran Catholic Church, Shelby Twp. St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church, Shelby Twp.

St. Jane Francis de Chantal Catholic Church, Sterling Heights

St. Matthias Catholic Church, Sterling Heights St. Paul Lutheran Church, Trenton

St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Troy

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Warren Faith Church, Waterford Church of the Divine Savior, Westland

Sts. Simon and Jude Catholic Church, Westland

St. Damian Catholic Church, Westland

St. Theodore Catholic Church, Westland



Youth group that came to Sts. Simon & Jude Baby Shower to help

The Time is Now

Author Unknown

If you are ever going to love me, Love me now, while I can know The sweet and tender feelings Which from true affection flow. Love me now.

Do not wait until I'm gone
And then have it chiseled in marble,
Sweet words on ice cold stone.
If you have tender thoughts of me
Please tell me now.
If you wait until I am sleeping

Never to awaken,
There will be death between us
And I won't hear you then.
So, if you love me, even a little bit,
Let me know it while I am living
So I can treasure it.

Happy Mother's Day!

Mom and Dad were watching TV when Mom said, "I'm tired and it's getting late. I think I'll go to bed."

She went to the kitchen to make sandwiches for the next day's lunches, rinsed the popcorn bowls, took meat out of the freezer for supper the following evening, checked the cereal box levels, filled the sugar container, put spoons and bowls on the table and set up the coffee pot for brewing the next morning. She then put some wet clothes into the dryer, sewed on a loose button, picked up the newspapers strewn on the floor and the game pieces left on the table and put the telephone book back into the drawer. She watered the plants, emptied a wastebasket, hung up a towel to dry, wrote a note to the teacher and counted out some cash for the kids' field trip. She signed a birthday card for a friend, addressed and stamped the envelope and wrote a quick reminder for the grocery store. She put some water into the dog's dish and put the cat outside, then made sure the doors were locked.

Mom washed her face, put on moisturizer and brushed and flossed her teeth. Her husband called, "I thought you were going to bed." "I'm on my way," she replied. She looked in on each of the children, turned out a bedside lamp, hung up a shirt, threw some dirty socks in the hamper and had a brief conversation with the older one who was up doing homework. In her own room, she set the alarm, laid out clothes for the next day, straightened up the shoe rack and added three chores to her list of things to do tomorrow.

About that time, her husband turned off the TV and announced to no one in particular, "I'm going to bed," and he did. ◆

From the President's Desk

Dear Friends.

It seems that each week an issue comes up that can be directly tied to the anti-life campaign against human beings that started with the *Roe v. Wade* decision of 1973 and manifests itself today in the regulations connected with ObamaCare.

This week, (if you did not hear about it), an 87-yearold woman collapsed and was dying on the floor in a senior living facility. A 911 operator called an employee of the facility who refused to do CPR because this facility had a policy against doing CPR. The woman died. The frantic 911 operator sounded desperate and angry, "Are you just going to let her die? She is a human being!"

Now, there are many questions that need to be asked about this case before judgments could be handed down. Did the woman have a do-not resuscitate order? I have since learned she did not (at the time, did the worker know this?) According to family comments, they were not critical of the facility; they knew this policy before the woman became a resident. So my question is this: Was the 87-year-old content to die without medical care?

There are other questions which we cannot go into due to space limitations, but you get a gist of some of my questions. The most daunting question to me was what I heard from the desperate 911 operator, "Are you just going to let her die? She is a human being!"

For 40 years, we have just let little pre-born humans die because they are not wanted by their families. For over 40 years, we have searched out and destroyed the non-perfect human and killed them by abortion; i.e. Down Syndrome children (how many do you see today vs. 40 years ago?).

Today, the death panels of ObamaCare are real. You will see very soon committees being formed to determine who should be treated and who should not. It is here, folks, and the only way to stop it is to stop ObamaCare.

Some believe this will never happen, I still have hope that there will be a way to overturn it. With the election of Obama, came the realization that his anti-life policies will continue and ObamaCare is intact until we have a more pro-life administration, as well as Senate and House of Representatives.

The time to stop it would have been with an election of a pro-life president. We turned our backs on the truth and many claiming to be pro-life voted for this anti-life president. To them and all who voted for him, I take you back to the old woman lying on the floor, with the question being asked "Are you just going to let her die?"

The answer is YES. With our history of the past 40 years, why should anyone be surprised? For myself, I am

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Donations have been made— *In Memory of:*

Paul F. Burger
William and Gertrude Hater
Given by: Helen M. Burger

Edward J. McGrath
Given by: Mrs. George Borovsky

Donations may be made in memory of loved ones who have died; a memorial card will be sent by Lifespan in your name to the family of the deceased. Donations may also be made to honor someone special, and near and dear to you, for a particular occasion, or just because... You can live on after death by helping those whose lives are threatened by abortion, euthanasia or infanticide. A bequest in your will to Right to Life - LIFESPAN will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts. Send donations to your local Lifespan office.

Lifespan News

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Right to Life - LIFESPAN Membership Form

Right to Life - LIFESPAN believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves — the unborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you the monthly newsletter as well as educational materials and special mailings.

	Annual Membership Student/Senior Member	\$ 25.00 \$ 15.00	Oth	ner
Name			Phone	
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Please complete this form and return with your donation to: **Right to Life - LIFESPAN**, 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305. For more information, call 734-524-0162. Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.

Right to Life - LIFESPAN Wayne County/Downriver Chapter 14600 Farmington Rd., Ste. 108 Livonia, MI 48154-5431

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Save the Date! Saturday August 10, 2013

Join Students for Life at Oakland University for a Pro-Life Youth Conference

"How Our Youth Will Change the Pro-Life Debate"

Featuring Students for Life of America Executive Director



Kristan Hawkins

When: 10am - 2pm Saturday August 10, 2013

Where: The Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center at Oakland University

(2200 N Squirrel Rd. Rochester, MI 48309)

Sponsored by Educational Center for Life
Co-sponsored by Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund

For more information call 248-816-1546 or go to www.edcenterforlife.org