

CHURCH CONNECTION

JANUARY 2024



BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

For 50 years, we've been recognizing January as Sanctity of Human Life Month, primarily focusing on abortion as we mourned the US Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* ruling on January 22, 1973. Praise God that this horrific ruling was finally overturned on June 24, 2022. But let's be honest. The fight for life is as intense as ever, and we must continue to work hard to reach hearts and minds with the truth that every human life, both unborn and born, is valuable and deserving of protection.

Here are a few ways we can work at promoting a culture of life.

First, we need to assist in every way possible pro-life pregnancy care centers around the state. These agencies are prepared to help women and men in crisis pregnancy situations get accurate information about what abortion is and what options are available, receive emotional and social support, as well as spiritual help in many instances, and have access to tangible assistance in the form of diapers, clothes, car seats, and more, if they decide to keep their baby. These care centers are amazing life-saving places offering help and hope in extraordinary ways from caring, compassionate people. They need volunteers, money to operate, and prayer support. They also need champions promoting their work.

Next, we have adoption. While the number of truly Christian agencies that have not capitulated to the LGBTQ+ agenda is dwindling, we do still have at least one--the Evangelical Child and Family Agency (ECFA) in West Allis. ECFA is equipped to work with both the birth parent and the adoptive parents. Supporting this type of agency also promotes a culture of life. But we also need more Christian married couples to prayerfully consider whether God wants them to be adoptive parents. If we honestly believe adoption is an incredible life-saving option to abortion, then we need people to champion it and to engage as adoptive families. Churches can be some of the best champions for this life-saving option as they encourage families to adopt and then support them when they do.

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STRENGTHENING,
PRESERVING & PROMOTING
MARRIAGE, FAMILY, LIFE &
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee..." - Jer. 1:5

Prayer Requests

Pray that believers will be truly effective at communicating pro-life values in our culture.

Pray for your elected officials (1 Tim. 2:1-4).

Related to traditional adoption is embryo adoption. These are embryos that are created as a part of in vitro fertilization and if not implanted are then frozen for a period of time. If not adopted within that time, they are destroyed. (This reality underscores the ethical and moral issues with IVF.) Across the country there are agencies that specialize in facilitating the adoption of these "snowflake embryos," as they are often referred to. This type of adoption uniquely acknowledges the biblical and scientific truth that life begins at the moment of conception.



Our state also has a "Safe Haven" law, which allows a parent of a newborn not more than 72 hours old to anonymously relinquish the baby to law enforcement personnel, hospital workers, or a 911 center. There is a form encouraging the parent to supply information that will help make sure the baby is properly cared for, though no information is required. Last month, Governor Evers signed into law an expansion of this bill, allowing hospitals, law enforcement facilities, and firestations to install "baby boxes" that allow parents to relinquish their infant completely anonymously. The "Safe Haven" law is all about saving babies from being tragically abandoned or discarded resulting in their demise. Over the years a number of babies have been saved through this law, and we anticipate even more as "baby boxes" are installed across the state.

The sanctity of human life applies to all human life—the unborn, the ill, the aged, the disabled—because every person bears the image of our Creator God and has incredible, inherent value—and that’s worth recognizing and celebrating every month. It’s all part of building a culture of life.

SMALL ACTIONS WITH BIG IMPACT

Sometimes we may wonder, “What can I do, really, to make a difference for the sanctity of life?” Rest assured, many small actions lead to big impact. After 10 years of effort, the first “Choose Life” license plates became available in Wisconsin. Costing ONLY an extra \$25 per year, these license plates promote a positive message in the culture. The \$25 fees are accumulated by the DOT and paid to Choose Life Wisconsin quarterly. Choose Life Wisconsin in turn distributes these funds to pro-life pregnancy resource centers in Wisconsin. Since October of 2017, right at \$300,000 has been raised and distributed to these pro-life centers in Wisconsin. Won’t you apply for your “Choose Life” plates today? It’s a small action producing a big impact. Use this QR code to apply for your “Choose Life” plate.



Wisconsin Family Council (WFC) is a 501 (c)(3) organization that has been advancing Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin since 1986. We have largely done this by informing Wisconsin citizens, policymakers, and churches about the important legislative and cultural issues so they can be involved in strengthening, preserving, and promoting God’s plan for marriage and family, the sanctity of human life, and religious freedom in our state.

“Church Connection” is published monthly by WFC and is available to churches in Wisconsin.

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