



LIFE LETTER

Spring 2017 TLC Pregnancy Services • 825 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120 • 847-622-1235 • www.tlcpregnancyservices.com

★ SPRING FUNDRAISING BANQUET COMING SOON - RESERVE YOUR SEAT

We invite those who have a heart to support the life-affirming ministry of TLC Pregnancy Services to our annual Spring Fundraising Banquet. The theme this year is: **“Those who are wise will shine as bright as the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever.” (Daniel 12:3)** The event will be held on **Thursday, April 27, 2017 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at The Seville in Streamwood. Seating starts at 6:30 p.m.** We are celebrating 21 years of touching hearts and changing lives as we shine the light of Christ into the lives of those who come to us for help.

We are very blessed to have Scott Klusendorf, founder and **President of Life Training Institute**, as our guest speaker. Life Training Institute (LTI), was established in 2004 to challenge and equip pro-life advocates to persuasively defend their views in the public square. Scott is the author of *The Case for Life: Equipping Christians to Engage the Culture in 2009* and co-author of *Stand for Life: Answering the Call, Making the Case, Saving Lives*, released in 2012.



*Banquet Speaker,
Scott Klusendorf*

Scott is outstanding as a speaker because of his passion and ability to engage his audience. He has appeared on several nationally syndicated Christian programs, among them, Dr. James Dobson's *Focus on the Family*, Lee Strobel's *Faith Under Fire* and Billy Graham's *Hour of Decision*. He has also participated in secular talk show appearances, including KABC out of Los Angeles. Chuck Colson, founder of Prison Fellowship, said: **“Scott first grabbed my attention when Focus on the Family featured one of his presentations on its national broadcast. I was struck by his ability to communicate truth so clearly and insightfully. In fact, I was so impressed with Scott's talk that I phoned him directly to learn more about his work. After that, I scheduled him as a keynote speaker for our Breakpoint conference.”**

Nationally, **Scott has participated in numerous debates at the collegiate level.** His debate opponents have included Nadine Strossen,

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Spring Banquet: Thursday, April 27

The Seville
700 S. Barrington Rd.
Streamwood, IL 60107
Check in and Seating: 6:30 p.m.
Scott Klusendorf, outstanding speaker, trainer, author, and debater

The National Day of Prayer: Thursday, May 4

Elgin, Geneva, Your Town...

Mother's Day Flower Sale

Interested churches & organizations call TLC at 847-622-1235 ask for Mary. Volunteers needed to help with flowers on Friday, May 12!



Annual Mother's Day Mom's Program

Tuesday, May 16
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
American Legion Post
820 N. Liberty St., Elgin
We need male and female volunteers to bake, babysit, help unload, set up, serve, clean up and load up at the end of the program.

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Thoughts from the Director

by Vivian Maly, Executive Director

It's very obvious that there is a movement in our country to marginalize and silence those of us who believe in absolutes such as "abortion is the taking of human life." This "movement" is gaining ground and now is threatening those of us who are a vital part of the "pro-life movement." **Illinois SB1564, which went into law on January 1, 2017, violates our "rights of conscience" protections as citizens and forces pregnancy centers with medical clinics, like ours, all around the state to refer clients to abortion clinics and give the benefits of abortion.**

Our Statement of Principle states that "TLC Pregnancy Services/Life Choices does not recommend, provide, or refer for abortion or abortifacients." Our core beliefs are "to protect and preserve human life," not to refer to individuals that will destroy this life. More importantly, God says in His word, "Open your mouth for the speechless, in the cause of all who are appointed to die." And, as Creator He declares, "You made all the delicate parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb." (Psalm 139:13)

It is said that, "the first victim of abortion is the child, and the second, the woman." We know what the brutality of abortion does to the preborn child. **For the woman, in most cases, the results of abortion are feelings of pain, regret and despair.** (Please read the article in this newsletter written by a participant in the last *Surrendering the Secret* 8 week program which ended in January.) Thank God, through His power and grace, we are here to help mend the wounded and broken hearts of those who have experienced abortion. Some who come to the program have aborted the only children they could ever have!

Besides, **God wants us to stand for righteousness and justice and those who fail will be held accountable.** He says in Isaiah 1:17: "**Learn to do good, seek justice, reprove the oppressor, defend the fatherless...**" and, "Deliver those who are drawn to death, and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, 'Surely, we did not know this', does He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?" (Proverbs 24: 11, 12)

Yet, we know that, "we do not wrestle against flesh and blood (*in Illinois government), but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12) So, we must take our stand against evil and pray. **Please join us and let us know that you are taking your position by standing with us and praying also!** This would be such an encouragement to us. We know the Lord is mighty in battle (Psalm 24:8). We need to do our part to support and protect women and children and He will do His, and in due time, He will give us the victory!

*My thoughts in parenthesis.



Medical Corner

The Rest of the Story

by Ruth Feldmann, R.D.M.S.

While sadly not every story at Life Choices is a “success story”, we like to celebrate the ones that are! **For every client who informs us of their plan to abort, there are several who change their minds and decide to parent.**



Celebrate with us, a young lady who requested an ultrasound in December. She informed us that she was planning to have an abortion and only wanted to make sure she was early enough for the “pills for an abortion” as she did not want surgery. Our client described herself as having an unstable home situation, very little support from some of her family members, and tight finances with only her working. She also shared about a family member who now regrets an abortion she had a few years ago. This gave me an opportunity to talk with her about some of the emotional and spiritual side effects of abortion, and also of our *Surrendering the Secret* support group for this regretful family member.

Our ultrasound showed that she was 12 weeks (3 months) into the pregnancy, too far for taking medication to abort. At this point, she said she would parent! At a later follow-up call, she told me that she’s having a boy. She has been surrounding herself with supportive family members, and is content with her decision to parent. Yay, God!



NEVER GIVE UP

by Cathy Robertson

A woman in her late 20’s came into our clinic to request a pregnancy test. She wasn’t surprised when the results of the pregnancy test were positive as she had a positive home pregnancy test a week before. **She wanted to have an ultrasound the same day because she was considering having an abortion.** Prior to the ultrasound, we discussed the baby’s development and gave her brochures explaining a healthy pregnancy. **We performed the ultrasound and she was able to see her baby’s beating heart.** She accepted pictures of the baby. She said she didn’t have words to explain how she was feeling.



Ruth, TLC sonographer (on left) and Cathy, staff RN at work!

Following the ultrasound, she accepted a Bible and we talked about her relationship with God. She said she had attended church as a child. She allowed me to share the Gospel message. She talked about attending church as a child, but hadn’t been to church in a long time. She shared that she would think about getting back to church.

Several attempts were made to follow up with this client. We left voicemail messages but she never returned our phone calls. **After many months, she finally returned our phone call and said she decided to keep the baby. The client thanked Life Choices for helping her with answers to questions and support for her as she thought about her options.** We are thankful to God for not allowing us to give up on this precious family!

Banquet *continued from page one*

President of the ACLU (1991-2008), Dr. Malcolm Potts, the first International Medical Director for Planned Parenthood, Kathryn Kolbert, an attorney that has argued for abortion rights in a United States Supreme Court case, and Kathy Kneer, President of Planned Parenthood of California. ☆☆☆

Scott has debated or lectured to student groups at over 80 colleges and universities, including Stanford, Berkeley, UCLA, USC, Johns Hopkins, MIT, and the U.S. Air Force Academy—to name a few.

Responses to Scott's messages are overwhelming positive. After hearing Scott on a *Focus on the Family* broadcast one pregnancy center director said, "I was so gripped by his speech that I pulled my car over to the side of the road to concentrate on it!"

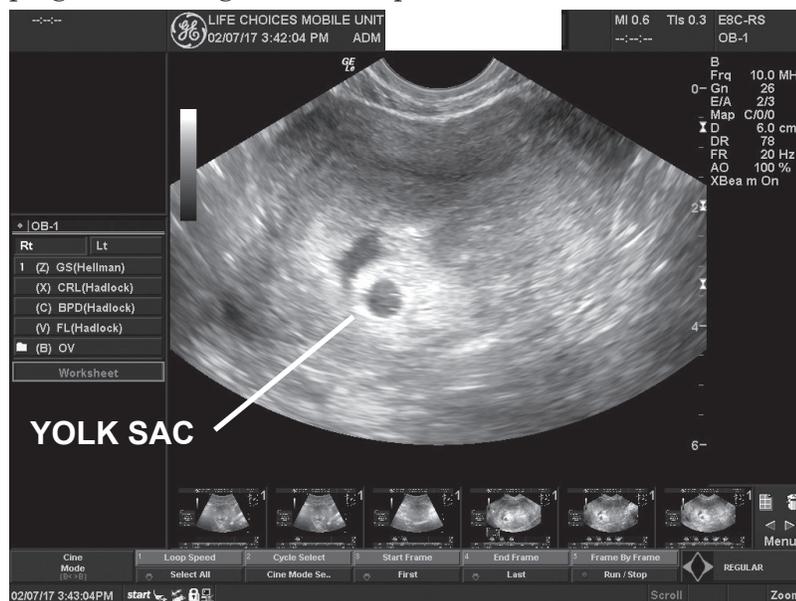
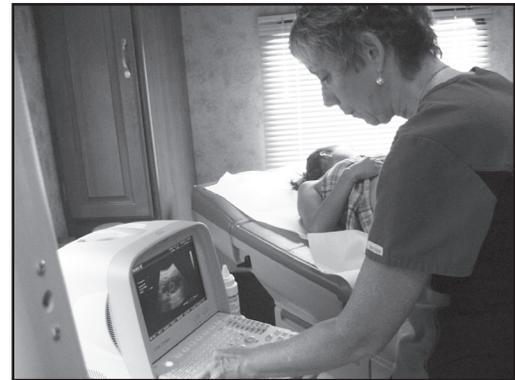
Scott travels throughout the United States, Canada and Europe **training groups of people to engage the conversation about abortion.** He contends that the pro-life message can compete in the marketplace of ideas if properly understood and articulated.

Register soon as space fills up quickly! **You can "shine" by registering online as a table host** (tables seat 10) or as an individual at www.tlcpregnancyservices.com or call 847-622-1235 and ask for Mary or Odette. **Be a "bright star" by underwriting to help cover the expenses for this event.** Please call our office if you are interested. Thank you in advance for your support of the work of TLC. ☆☆☆

Moving On With Our Mobile Unit

By Jan DeFily, R.D.M.S.

One of our Life Choices Mobile Unit visitors was a young lady who had recently separated from her husband. She felt that abortion was her best option, given the fact that the father may not be there for her, and she already has two little children ages 2 and 4. She also is in a nursing program in college and works part time.



Our technician was able to help her process her situation, go over information about her options and provide a limited obstetrical ultrasound. She was very early and the ultrasound showed only a gestational sac with the yolk sac which showed a healthy pregnancy. The tech went over fetal development and reminded our client that the baby's heart starts beating at about 21 days from conception. **Our client gave permission for the tech to pray for her and commit the baby and her decision to God.**

A recent follow-up phone call to the client reveals that she has decided to parent, and has made an appointment to see the doctor. **Please keep this young mother and her unborn baby in your prayers.**

A Surrendering the Secret Program Testimonial



Release! If I could explain it in one word, it would be release. The bondage, shame and guilt I held in for all those years was overwhelming. **Sharing the secret of my past abortions was the first step to freedom.** I was so scared that first day of the session. My heart felt like it would burst out of my heart. I was about to reveal the secret I've kept locked up to a group of women. When the words came out, so did the tears. **The restoration and healing had begun. Every session brought a new sense of hope and peace.** God ministers to you in many ways through this process. I held on to the truth that He has revealed to me every step of the way. Many emotions felt and many wounds released and healed. God is using this ministry in an astounding way. Please consider *Surrendering the Secret* if you have experienced the pain and destruction of abortion. I am forever grateful for *Surrendering the Secret* and for Vivian and all who are blessing others through this ministry. **AM**

For information about our upcoming spring class, call Vivian at 630-715-5875.

"BOWLING FOR BABIES" – A SUCCESS! *by Mary Viz*

TLC's annual bowling fundraiser was held in February. The new location – Streamwood Lanes worked out well and easily accommodated the 50 or so bowlers who turned out for the event. Everyone had an enjoyable time with refreshments, prizes, and maybe even a little friendly competition.

We are thankful for the effort the participants put into collecting pledges for our center and grateful for the donors' generosity. The top 3 pledge collectors alone raised over \$700 each! This fundraiser is another way that helps to strengthen our pregnancy resource ministry.



MENS' PROGRAM UPDATE *by Dan Reed, Mens' Mentor*

Since June of 2016 a group of men have been meeting at TLC Pregnancy Services in Elgin with the hope of restarting a men's mentoring program. The purpose would be to come alongside the men, who come in with the women who are seeking help in their unplanned pregnancy situations. We want to be able to provide encouragement along with the fathering skills they may need as the pregnancy progresses and after the child is born. We also want to provide any material and spiritual support they may need.

After much prayer and planning we have begun to see some fruit to our labors. We were able to reach 2 young men who have shown an interest in being contacted. We have contacted them and have had very significant conversations with them. We pray that God would continue to grow and work through this outreach to these young men.

Memorials

A gift has been given to TLC Pregnancy Services in honor of the following individuals:

In memory of Frieda Ahrens

*Given by: Jackie Stengle
Phil & Cathy Carter*

In memory of Ed Maly

Given by: Phil & Cathy Carter

In memory of Lawrence & Frieda Ahrens

Given by: Mary Ann & Edward Pelser



HANDYMAN'S SPECIAL

*Mobile
unit
interior is
worn*



Do you like using your remodeling and repair skills for God's kingdom purposes? If the answer is, "Yes", we have opportunities for you to serve at our pregnancy resource center which will brighten our services and make us smile (and others feel uplifted as well!) Below you will find a list:



Old pharmacy counters

- Painting the replaced brick at the back of our building
- Remodeling a storage area into a closet for our medical staff at our Elgin location
- Renovating the front portion of our mobile unit and replacing the worn flooring
- Renovating our kitchen at our Elgin location as half of the counters (circa 1950?) are leftovers from the old pharmacy that occupied that part of the building

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

LIFE CHOICES CLIENT ADVOCATES

(Training is available)

Elgin location	Wednesdays	1:00pm to 5:00pm
Elgin location	Fridays also	10:00am to 1:00pm (1st shift) 1:00pm to 5:00pm (2nd shift)
Mobile Unit	Thursdays	8:30am to 12:30pm
	Fridays	1:00pm to 5:00pm



A SUBSTITUTE FOR OUR MOBILE UNIT DRIVER.

You don't need a special license for this volunteer job you only need to have a good driving record!

TLC PREGNANCY SERVICES WISH LIST

GIFTS FOR GREATEST IMPACT:

- Sam's gift cards for gas for the mobile ultrasound unit
- Meijer & Jewel gift cards for supplies for the center
- Large packages of paper towels or toilet paper

OTHER NEEDED ITEMS:

- New outfits, sleepers, or onesies, 0-3 months, boys or girls – NEUTRAL ONLY PLEASE (white, mint green, yellow)
- Diaper Bags

OPPORTUNITIES TO OFFER GIFTS & TALENTS:

- Volunteers for Mailings
- See "Handyman's Special" article

