

Abigail Ministries

"Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness."

Lamentations 3:22-23 (NKJV)

Abigail Pregnancy Services Newsletter

March/April 2010

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It's Just Tissue...



Consider the following facts: Simple tissue does not have a beating heart, brain waves, fingerprints, and unique DNA. A woman can carry a baby with a different gender or blood type from her own. After the moment of fertilization, nothing new is added to the baby except oxygen, nutrition, and time. The only differences between a newborn and a preborn baby are size, level of development, environment, and degree of dependency. All of these facts confirm the reality that you are a person worthy of protection from the moment of fertilization.



God's Snowflakes

Each snowflake is unique in its appearance, in its shape, in its internal and external characteristics. At the first snowfall, we are awed with the beauty of the white-blanketed ground, glittering like fields of diamonds reflecting the heaven's light. As the changes occur in our environment so too does the white essence. The snow becomes packed and hardened, soiled by the elements of everyday life. But then the heavens bring forth a new covering, hiding the bleakness and filth of the old snow, once again allowing the crystal flakes to glisten. Over time, as the flakes become mounds, we lose sight of their once intended beauty. We become impatient with the ugliness, with the inconvenience caused by the imperfect weather conditions, chilled by the frigid exterior. We try to ignore it in hopes that it will go away.

Like the snowflake, each of us is unique, created in His image, molded by the hands of the Master. We fall into different environments and conditions sometimes becoming soiled, hardened and no longer reflective of His light. Our clients are often viewed that way. Their birth was like that first snowfall, sweet, gentle and radiant. Their environment and life's experiences have often changed them into a hardened adult covered with a thick, icy layer resistant to and protected from life's damaging elements. They are often ignored in hopes that they will go away. At Abigail, we need to look through the transparent ice and see the once precious form that our Lord created. We need to try and melt the icy surface allowing the warmth of His love to radiate within their souls. We need to convince them that the only true protection is through a relationship with our Heavenly Father. We need to show them that His love is great and no matter what their life has been filled with, He will forgive, His love is limitless.

"And you He made alive, who were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience." Ephesians 2:1,2

We bring Christ to the lost; God brings the lost to Christ. Save the Mother; save the child. We can only try to show them the way; the rest is up to the Shepherd. You the reader are a part of this transformation. Your support allows this ministry to continue, to gather up all the sheep so that He can lead them down the path He has created for each one to follow.

On behalf of our board members, all of our precious volunteers, and my dedicated staff, I would like to thank you for caring for those snowflakes that He allows to fall through the doors of His ministry.

Blessings, Sandie

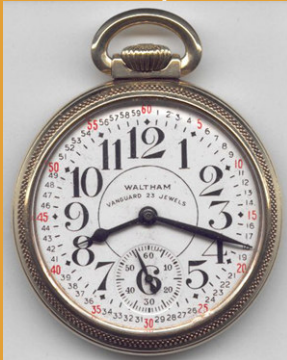
Board Members

Pastor Doug Winner, Board
Chairman
Roland Tkach, Treasurer
Joanne Lepard, Secretary
Pastor Stephen McLaughlin
Cindy Hay
Sanchia Mersereau

Staff Members

Sandra Eckler, Executive Director
Rita VonKamp, Administrative
Assistant
Tracy Enderle, Financial Analyst
Terri Bridgett, Receptionist
Carol Rinella, Peer Counselor &
Volunteer Coordinator
Roger Walters, Men's Ministry
Manager
Jennifer Babcock, Peer Counselor
& Program Manager

Hours of Operation



Mon.-Wed.-Fri.
10AM to Noon
12:30 to 4PM

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box # 68

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

3900 Laylin Road
Norwalk, Ohio 44857

PHONE

419-668-9500

WEBSITE

www.abigailonline.org

EMAIL ADDRESS

ministrydir@abigailonline.org

Making a Difference

When the Supreme Court issued the Roe v. Wade decision, it was an attack on all human life at all stages, a desire by Man to be his own god and to abandon all moral boundaries because of his love for materialism and pleasure. If a nation forgets God and makes pleasure and things the focus of its attention, culture will reflect that.

The pregnancy centers are the key component in saving lives in an anti-life environment. They are the Underground Railroad of the 19th. Century that helped slaves escape, or like those in the 1940s who hid Jews from the Nazis. Although in 1973 few of these centers existed, since then, thousands have sprung up and some are saving hundreds of lives every year and leading both men and women to Christ.

Every life saved is important and a branch of the family tree that will not be cut off.

Supporters can be confident that any money, time or goods donated to Abigail Ministries will be used in accordance with biblical principles.

The battle for unborn life in America is truly a "David vs. Goliath" fight, and abortion advocates are the giant. They own the White House and congress. Their financial resources are virtually limitless. Immeasurably powerful special interest groups such as Planned Parenthood, NARAL, and the ACLU drive them forward. Yet just as David defeated Goliath, pregnancy centers have made incredible progress in this contest.

Victories:

- The plummeting abortion rate. It's now down 25% from 1.6 million in 1980
- A majority of Americans declaring themselves "pro-life"--for the first time ever
- The network of pregnancy centers grew to more than 1,180. By God's grace, more than 3,000 women who visit a pregnancy center choose life every single week.

All of this is a testament to what God is accomplishing. He is able to do more than we can ask, or even imagine. Thank you for joining in the defeat of the Goliath of our age, Planned Parenthood and its allies, and restoring the sanctity of life.

*Statistic provided by Care Net, a nation-wide representative of pregnancy centers.



Look What You Did!

Can you remember the day of your first baby shower? It was a special time in your life. Being a new mom was exciting and something you and your husband were looking forward to.

That isn't always true with the ladies that we see. Many don't or won't have husbands, are frightened about facing motherhood alone, and can't even imagine anyone caring enough to buy their baby gifts. Some of them have never had anything new in their lives to call their own.

These moms have courageously chosen to accept the challenge of being a single Mom, to give the gift of life to their unborn baby, instead of the alternative. We feel that they deserve something special and you helped us provide it.

Each new Mom is now able to receive a brand new diaper bag filled with baby essentials. This has been a labor of love from all those involved. Included also in the bag is a copy of the new testament together with a prayer that He will watch over Mom and her new baby. Attached to the bag is a card that says:

"This gift is given to you because men and women in our communities believe that our God wants us to share His love with others who are in need. Your baby is a gift given by God; a gift that needs to be nurtured. The supporters of this ministry, our volunteers and staff pray that you will always value your little one as a treasure. Perhaps someday you will be able to pass along a blessing to someone else who is in need."

I want to thank all of you for helping make this blessing possible. I'm sure it made Him smile!

All Services Free of Charge

Pregnancy Tests
Peer Counseling for Women and Men
Abortion Facts
Bible Studies
Abstinence Education
Maternity and Baby Clothes
Baby Food, Diapers, & Formula
Parenting Classes

I'm Personally Opposed...but can't tell others what to do.

What If U.S. citizens had been willing to accept this justification for tolerating slavery? Our forefathers took away the "rights" of slave owners in order to give freedom and respect to African American people. Our youngest and most vulnerable are still slaves to the life and death decisions of others.

Ministry Quicklinks

[Our Home Page](#)
[Newsletter Archive](#)
[How You Can Help](#)
[Our Services](#)

How About Fetal Deformities?

No one's perfect. Abortion for fetal deformities is a form of discrimination against disabled people. Recent U.S. studies have indicated that when Down syndrome is diagnosed prenatally, 84% to 91% of those babies will be killed by abortion. Who's to say their lives aren't worth living? There are waiting lists of people who would be willing to adopt a special needs child. When we make life and death judgments based on "quality of life," it can lead to eugenics.



Teens Helping Teens

February 15th is set aside to honor past Presidents. For Abigail it was even more special. We were honored by having seven students from St. Pauls' school, class of juniors and seniors, and

their teacher help prepare special gifts for our first time Moms. Joining them in helping was Summer, the 10-year-old daughter of one of our staff members.

They broke down into teams of two and started stuffing diaper bags. After they finished, they joined the staff for lunch and some great conversation. Roger, our Men's Ministry Manager, gave a brief talk about the importance of helping others and the importance of having positive goals in their lives.

Having the teens help us was wonderful but the fact that they unselfishly took time out of their day off from school to help us was even more awesome. Our thanks go out to each one of those special young people for caring about others who are in need.

Volunteer Positions

POSITIONS **REQUIRING** COMPLETION OF THE 21 HR VOLUNTEER CARE NET TRAINING

- **Receptionist:** Answer the phone, help clients feel welcome and assist the other staff members in a variety of ways. The time commitment is one 8-hour shift weekly on M-W-F.
- **Peer-Counselor:** Meet with clients individually in counseling room; assess needs, and provide information. The time commitment is one 8-hour shift weekly.
- **Baby Boutique Attendant:** Help keep clothing room organized; assists clients in selecting clothing, scans, checks out and bags clothing for clients, etc. The time commitment is one 4-hour shift weekly
- **Board Member:** Oversees the leadership of Abigail Ministries. This is an advisory board with specific responsibilities in support of this ministry. Board meetings are once per month on the second Monday. Involvement in fundraising events is required
- **School/Church Abstinence Workshop Leader:** Coordinate scheduling with the Executive Director all abstinence programs presented to school or youth groups.
- **Post Abortion Stress Facilitator:** Facilitates post-abortive healing and Bible study programs to post-abortive clients
- **Parenting Program Assistant:** Helps facilitate current parenting classes and/or conducts evening classes.
- **Public Relations:** Distribute literature at fair booths, malls, etc.
- **Fundraiser Developer:** Develops successful fundraising events and coordinates the activity under the supervision of the Executive Director. Must be organized, experienced, personable, and willing to help with the work involved. Must be passionate about this ministry.



How You Can Help!

We are almost always in need of diapers, sizes 4 through 6 and Similac Advanced Formula in the blue can.

Furniture items that are needed are:

Cribs, High Chairs, Play Pens,
NO CAR SEATS PLEASE
Changing Tables

We try to include handmade blankets in the diaper bags for new moms... either the fleece type or crocheted

Thank you and bless you for your willingness to help others!

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL LAKE PARK

SHELTER #1

205 S. OLD STATE

NORWALK, OHIO 44857

JUNE 19, 2010 FROM 9AM TO
NOON

Veterans Memorial Park features a hiking trail, playgrounds, lakeside picnic areas and fishing.

OTHER POSITIONS **NOT** REQUIRING VOLUNTEER TRAINING

- **Building Maintenance:** Light "handyman" activities as needed
- **Church Liaison:** Responsible for getting permission and announcing Abigail Ministries' information to their church congregation. He/she works with their church office to get information into church bulletins, display Abigail posters, keeping their church supplied with Abigail brochures and making special announcements when Abigail volunteer training and fundraising events are going to occur. This person is encouraged to recruit participants for the Abigail annual walk for life and to host a table at our annual fundraising banquet.
- **Janitorial Service:** Dusting and vacuuming office areas, mopping and cleaning bathrooms, kitchen, and laundry areas. All areas do not have to be covered by just one volunteer. Most areas need attention on M-W-F; mopping of areas can be done once a week.
- **Laundry Help:** Pick up garments that need laundering; launder and return them to center. OR laundry can be done at the center during regular working hours.
- **Yard Maintenance:** Spring and fall cleanup; weeding as needed; shrub trimming. Great job for a youth project.
- **Newsletter Assistant:** Meet one to two days every other month to prepare hardcopy of newsletter for mailing (approx. 600). This includes delivering the newsletter to the post office on the day it is completed.
- **Prayer Support Team:** These people pray for the needs of the Center. Always needed
- **Snow Removal:** Remove snow/ice from all sidewalks and apply ice guard before the center opens. As needed. Center opens at 8:30AM

Standing on the **ROCK** for LIFE

"The Lord is my Rock and my Fortress and my Deliverer" 2 Sam. 22:2

This year Abigail Ministries is standing on the **ROCK** for LIFE. He is the foundation of this ministry and the One who is responsible for changing the minds of our abortion-minded or abortion-vulnerable clients. He is the One who provides the direction for our walk in this life; preparing us for the walk in our eternal life.

In an effort to give more concerned individuals an opportunity to share in the event, we are providing walk forms in our March/April newsletter. If you are not a newsletter recipient, you can call 419-668-9500 for more information or to request that the forms be sent via e-mail or snail mail. Better yet, if you are new to this ministry, drop by for a visit, meet the staff, pick up your walk forms and take a tour of our facility. You can see first hand the awesome things our Lord has provided and how your donations will be used. Our hours are M-W-F, from 10AM to 4PM.

We are attempting this year to get walk shirts for *everyone* who signs up to be a walker. For us to be good stewards, we are asking that all walk forms be completed and turned in by May 14 along with the money making certain that you include your shirt size on the form. This will allow us to order the exact number of shirts we need and have them available the day of the walk. Last year we had to mail several shirts to those who did not come to the walk and it was quite costly for the ministry. We are therefore asking that you pick up your shirts when you join us the day of the walk or at the center the following week.

← ← **The Walk will again be held at the Veteran's Memorial Lake Park.**

Thank you for your support in helping us take the crisis out of the lives of many women and men who otherwise may think that abortion is their only alternative.

October 4, 2010

**Colonnade Banquet
Facility**

11001 US Highway #250 N.

Milan, Ohio 44846

Invitation Only

So *please* let us know
way in advance if you are
interested

Seating begins at 6PM

Dinner at 6:30PM

Abigail Ministries Annual Fall Banquet

October 4, 2010 is the date of our annual fundraising banquet. The format of this year's event will be a little different. Though we aren't ready to reveal the details, we can promise you an evening of entertainment and delicious food.

This event is critical to the success of Abigail Ministries. The money that is raised from this event must sustain this ministry for several months enabling us to serve women and men involved in crisis pregnancies with the love of Christ.

So please jot the date down on your calendar. We will keep you posted as He reveals His entire plan to us.

This event is by invitation only and requires a reservation, as seating is limited. If you are interested, please call the center so that we may count on seeing you there.

If you are interested in being a table host for this event, please contact Sandie at 419-668-9500, M-W-F between the hours of 10AM and 4PM. Table hosting simply involves inviting three other couples who share your belief in and are willing to support the efforts involved in changing lives.

An Invitation

I continue to invite all of you to stop by the center for a tour. I believe you will be pleasantly surprised at what you see. If you would like to take a tour after hours, please do not hesitate to call for an appointment. I would love for you to see for yourself what it is we do. We promise to continue to be good stewards of your gifts and praise Him for everything that He has done and continues to do for this ministry.

Please direct all comments or questions regarding the content of this newsletter to Sandie Eckler, Executive Director of Abigail Ministries. If you have a "letter to the editor" or an article that you would like to see in the newsletter, please contact me at 419-668-9500 or email me at ministrydir@abigailonline.org. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile mission.

Contact Info

Sandra Eckler, Executive Director; Carol Rinella, Peer Counselor and Volunteer Coordinator; Jennifer Babcock, Peer Counselor and Program Manager; Roger Walters, Men's Ministry Manager; Tracy Enderle, Financial Analyst; Rita VonKamp, Administrative Assistant; Terri Bridgett, Receptionist PLEASE CALL 419-668-9500 if you wish to speak to any of these staff members.

We Haven't Heard From Everyone!

We are getting our records updated for those who want to view the newsletter via email, via the website, or want to continue to receive the newsletter via regular mail. There are quite a number of people who have not responded. If you could please complete the form below (if you haven't already) to let us know your preference. Again, please, if you prefer to receive the newsletter through regular mail, we want to accommodate you. The cost of the stamp is a small amount to pay if reading a hardcopy of the newsletter pleases you.

I would like to receive the newsletter via regular mail.

I would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail.

I would like to view the newsletter on your new website, www.abigailonline.org

I am no longer interested in the newsletter

Please complete the following information and **mail to Abigail Ministries, PO Box #68, Norwalk, Ohio 44851:**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Phone No. _____

