

TEACHERS SAVING CHILDREN<sup>®</sup>  
of Pennsylvania, Inc.



*A Voice for LIFE in Education*

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## A Word From John Gordon

Chairman

**Dear Friend of Life:** Spring is in full bloom as I write to you. Life abounds in this season of renewal and growth. The victory of Easter brings with it the anticipation of life everlasting. Hope – that is what spring seems to shout!

There is cause to be hopeful as we consider the battle for life. Recent legislative efforts to end federal funding of our nation's largest abortion provider came very close to succeeding – an amazing development, given the forces against it. I would encourage you to find a link to a pro-life news source that can keep you abreast of current developments in the news that relate to life issues. Doing so will foster your prayer life, and it may allow you to become a more intelligent voter and active citizen. If you need suggestions, you will find links on the Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> website (shown in the header of this newsletter). **If you haven't visited our website lately, please do so!** You may be pleased with the new features on our updated site.

Another source of hope is the groundswell of pro-life activism among youth and young adults across our country. If you attended the **March for Life** in January, or if you saw accurate news coverage, you know that the majority of the attendees were youth and young adults. I had the privilege of attending the **Students for Life of America** national conference on the weekend immediately prior to the March for Life. I was blessed to see over 1,800 attendees from across the nation, mostly of college age. Their commitment and enthusiasm were remarkable. If you are unfamiliar with this group, I encourage you to find them on the internet. Several other similar events were held that weekend by other groups.

That thousands of students raised funds and took time to travel to Washington, D.C., to attend a pro-life conference and then participate in the March for Life indicates their commitment to life.

Another blessed source of encouragement is the growth of pro-life activism in the Christian community. An example is the exponential growth of the **40 Days for Life** campaign across our country and around the world. This spring there were campaigns in 243 cities in the United States, Canada, England, Ireland, Australia, Belize, Spain, Georgia and Armenia. This was a 45% increase over 2010 alone. If you are unfamiliar with 40 Days for Life, please look in it.

**Huge challenges to the sanctity of life remain**, of course, that demands our daily prayer and our concerted effort. Reading about what may come to pass if the planned national health care program is not modified suggests that we face a losing battle in the effort to preserve life “from conception to natural death.” Our membership of only thirty-eight members in our Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> of Pennsylvania chapter can seem discouraging. But we know that the battle we fight is the right battle to be in, and we know that we are on the winning side!

Hebrews 11:1 states: “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” I believe that God, the Author and Creator of life, is pro-life. We need to place our hope in Him, and work to see His will done on Earth, as in heaven. Hebrews 1:23-24 commands us: “Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. **And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.**” **Hope alone is not enough; we must take action** – through prayer, active participation in the political process, and through giving of our time, talents, and funds. **Consider this my effort to “spur you on” to good deeds.**



### So, About Those Websites. . .

Did John's reference to **pro-life websites** pique your interest? If so, here is more information on where to find them:

**Students for Life of America (SLFA)** can be accessed at [www.studentsforlife.org](http://www.studentsforlife.org), where you will find full information about their resources. SLFA also sponsors **MedSFLA** for future medical professionals at [www.med.studentsforlife.org](http://www.med.studentsforlife.org). SFLA sponsors a similar website **for graduate law students**.

The **40 Days for Life** organization and mission can be viewed at [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com).

And if you have not visited the **Teachers Saving Children® - National website**, check it out at [www.teacherssavingchildren.com](http://www.teacherssavingchildren.com) for valuable pro-life information, links, and resources!

Take some time to investigate other pro-life websites, and keep educated about and aware of pro-life issues – and, as John Gordon suggested, **be involved!**



### Have You Heard the Buzz?

John Gordon, Chairman

**There is a book** that is drawing unprecedented attention in the pro-life community. **Abby Johnson, author of the book**, was the director of a Planned Parenthood clinic in Bryan, TX. Bryan is the Location where Sean Carney held the very first 40 Days for Life campaign, outside the clinic where Abby worked. Abby's book, *Unplanned* (Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 2010), is the story of her journey "across the fence" from Planned

Parenthood Employee of the Year to pro-life advocate.

In the preface, Abby challenges her readers to consider that people on both sides of the abortion fence are equally committed and zealous, believing that they are "doing the right thing." She states, "Oh, how we love to vilify our opponents – from both sides. How easy to assume that those on 'our' side are right and wise and good; how those on 'their' side are treacherous and foolish and deceptive. I have found right and good and wisdom on both sides. I have found foolishness and treachery and deception on both sides, as well."

I won't spoil the details for you, but I will warn you to be prepared: I wept long and often as I read this book due to the painful revelations it includes about infants being killed and women's lives being altered. More often, though, I wept tears of joy and praise for the love and grace of our Heavenly Father revealed in Abby's forthright depiction of her journey of faith. Having met Abby and her husband, Doug (a special education teacher in Texas), I will testify that she is a humble servant who marvels in what God is accomplishing in and through her. **I strongly encourage you to read *Unplanned***. I suspect that you will not want to stop reading until you have finished, and I expect that you will want to share this book with others. I also believe this book will impact how you view persons "on both sides of the fence."



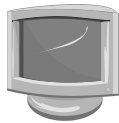
### Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

The Pennsylvania Ad Hoc Committee met on May 7, 2011. Committee members discussed ways to recruit new members (we currently have 38 members), and brainstormed ideas for getting out the message of Teachers Saving Children® of Pennsylvania. John reported on his participation in the January March for Life in Washington, D.C., in which he carried a Teachers Saving Children® of Pennsylvania banner. Connie Bancroft, Teachers

Saving Children® National Executive Director, accompanied John in the march.

The Committee approved using a Conference Call Option as a method for some committee meetings. The Committee also approved a Constitution & Bylaws change proposed by the national board of directors, amending Article 2.5 – Membership, stating that the Pennsylvania chapter shall receive 50% (changed from 70%) of dues collected by Teachers Saving Children® Inc.-National for members residing in Pennsylvania, to begin with the 2011-2012 membership year.

The next Ad Hoc Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 1, 2011.



### Let's Get Technical

The Ad Hoc Committee approved sending out the **Teachers Saving Children® of Pennsylvania newsletters by e-mail**. If you are interested in receiving your newsletter by e-mail, please contact John Gordon at [jfgordon2@verizon.net](mailto:jfgordon2@verizon.net). Thank you!



### Tidbits for Thought

**The Pennsylvania Chapter is still in need of board members!** If you would like more information (for yourself or someone you may want to recommend to us) about this interesting venture, please contact **John Gordon**, Executive Director, at **717-944-7708**.

**In 2009, there were 37,284 abortions performed in Pennsylvania.** This is a 43.3% decrease from the 1980 total of 65,777 (the highest annual number ever recorded), and **a decrease of 1,523 or 3.9% from 2008.** (Pennsylvania Department of Health)

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In the United States, **nearly one in four (22%) of pregnancies end in abortion.** (Medical Students for Life, [www.med.studentsforlife.org](http://www.med.studentsforlife.org))

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If you know any teenagers who admire singer **Justin Bieber**, let them know that 16-year-old Justin is **pro-life**, according to a *Rolling Stone* interview! ([www.etonline.com](http://www.etonline.com), as reported on [www.paprolife.org](http://www.paprolife.org))

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You are likely aware of **pro-life legislation** such as the **Patient Safety Measure** which has been deliberated in Pennsylvania, and the **permanent ban on federal funding of elective abortions** considered by the U.S. Congress (an important measure, since the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act enacted in 2010 opened new doors for federal funding of abortion) - but **have you taken time to contact any of your legislative representatives to voice your pro-life opinion?** Our contacts do make a difference!

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Teachers Saving Children® of Pennsylvania **board members are available to present talks** about our mission and pro-life matters. Interested? Contact John Gordon at **717-944-7708**.

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"America you are beautiful . . . and blessed . . . . The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being, but especially the weakest and most defenseless. If you want equal justice for all and true freedom and lasting peace, then **America, defend life.**" (Pope John Paul II, [www.prolife.com](http://www.prolife.com))

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A VOICE FOR LIFE IN EDUCATION



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## A Success Story

The Lakeland, Florida 40 Days for Life team recently had a blessing – an opportunity to actually meet a child who was spared from abortion during an earlier 40 Days for Life campaign.

While several volunteers were praying at the vigil, a woman parked her car, quickly opened the back door and carried out a beautiful little girl.

The woman had seen a 40 Days for Life vigil once before in another city. “My daughter was scheduled to have an abortion,” she said. “We arrived and there were 40 Days for Life volunteers outside.” It was her prayer that *something* would change her daughter’s mind.

“As they sat in the waiting room,” she said, “time was running out. She was next to go back. All of a sudden, she stood and said, ‘Let’s go, Mom. I can’t do this!’”

The woman then said, “God hears your prayers. He saved this precious little girl. She is living proof!”

[www.40daysforlife.com/blog](http://www.40daysforlife.com/blog)

### TEACHERS SAVING CHILDREN® of PA, INC. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

If you have questions regarding Teachers Saving Children® of Pennsylvania, Inc., or concerns for the attention of the board, please call the board member that lives nearest to your area.

John Gordon, Chairman, Dauphin County	717-944-7708
Patricia Bartow, Lancaster County	717-872-7283
Julie Myers, York County	(unpublished)
Patricia Yamrick, Indiana County	724-349-7489

This newsletter is a publication of  
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John Gordon, Chairman  
Pat Bartow, Newsletter Editor

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