

## Accomplished The First Step Towards a Big, Life-Saving Goal



WVFL President Dr. Wanda Franz explains the 'Abortion Corridor,' which seeks to funnel women into Maryland for abortions.

Alicia Martin, Program Director

On January 10th, WVFL's Host Sponsor Luncheon kicked off fundraising efforts related to the 27th Annual Rose Dinner. Senator Chris Rose hosted the event, which was held at the Marriott Waterfront in Morgantown. The audience was first treated to a review of 16 major legislative victories that they had helped to accomplish over the decades. This was accomplished with the animated assembly of a beautiful puzzle that had been created by WVFL Treasurer Doug Joseph. The presentation showed how the abortion community is attempting to skirt WV's pro-life laws, and segued into explaining a strategy to educate the women of West Virginia.

The main points of this pro-life strategy include: 1) Educating about the dangers of obtaining chemical abortions using RU-486 pills; 2) Publicizing the truth that abortion pill reversal is safe and effective; and, 3) Protecting West Virginians from the dangerous abortion industry by describing the plans and methods the industry uses to make money. In order to fund this strategy, generous attendees gave and pledged more than \$50,000 towards the ultimate goal of \$250,000.

### Your Help is Needed: Step 2

WVFL is now focused on Step 2 of this big, quarter-million-dollar goal: Finding additional

*Continued on p.4*

## Texas Attorney General Brings Case Against New York Abortion Pill Provider

By Randall K. O'Bannon, Ph.D. NRL Director of Education & Research

One reason abortions have not fallen more since the 2022 *Dobbs* decision that overturned *Roe* is that doctors in abortion friendly states are shipping abortion pills to women in states where they are not legal. Earlier this month, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton filed a suit against Maggie Carpenter, a doctor from New York, who had a telehealth conference with a woman from Collin County, to whom she prescribed and shipped abortion pills sometime early past summer.

The Attorney General's office found out about the illegal sale after the woman ended up in the hospital with severe bleeding and the baby's father discovered the mother had gotten the drugs responsible from Carpenter. The mother was not charged, as it is never the intention of the law to do so, but Paxton sued the New York abortionist for multiple violations of Texas law.

### The Lawsuit

Carpenter, Paxton alleges, was practicing medicine without a (Texas) license, performed an abortion in violation of Texas Health and Safety Code, and in several ways specifically violated Texas law regarding chemical abortions. That is by providing an abortion-inducing drug by courier, delivery, or mail service; not having the required admitting privileges at a hospital within 30 miles of where the abortion performed (to handle complications); failing to examine the pregnant woman to determine gestation is no more than 49 days gestational age before prescribing; and failing to schedule a follow-up visit.

Texas AG Paxton is seeking an injunction that enjoins Carpenter from illegally prescribing abortion inducing drugs to residents of Texas and from illegally practicing medicine in the state.

The full penalty sought is not listed in the complaint. However, the suit says, "The attorney general is



authorized to collect a civil penalty of not less than \$100,000 for each violation of Tex. Health & Safety Code" in addition to "costs and attorney's fees." Also, "the attorney general may seek other civil remedies."

Paxton filed the suit in Collin County District Court, the jurisdiction where the 20-year old woman ordered, received, and took the abortion pills and was eventually treated for complications.

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A publication of



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Newspaper**

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**From the  
President**



**CHEMICAL  
ABORTIONS  
(RU-486)  
ARE MORE  
DANGEROUS  
THAN SURGICAL  
ABORTIONS**

*Dear Friends,*

The women of the United States are being poorly served by the government. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) bowed to pro-abortion advocates and changed most of the guidelines that had been put into place by the French company that developed and tested RU-486, the mifepristone drug. They established the two-drug process. Mifepristone, which kills the unborn baby, is taken in the clinic. The woman is sent home with a second pill (misoprostol) to induce uterine contractions to expel the dead unborn baby. The French company recommended that the women return to the clinic three times for medical supervision. However, many of their recommendations were changed by the FDA.

For example, the FDA raised the limit on the recommended safe use of the drugs from 7 weeks to 10 weeks. Research had shown that the later in pregnancy the drugs are used, the more dangerous they are to the woman. Failure rates of the procedure increase with pregnancy age: 8% in the first trimester to 38.5% in the second trimester.

In addition, the FDA's other changes allow women to order and use these dangerous pills without ever seeing a doctor. Thus, women have absolutely no verification of the age of the pregnancy and no verification of whether or not the pregnancy is ectopic (that is, in the fallopian tube). An untreated ectopic pregnancy causes the tube to burst, and this is the most dangerous situation that occurs in pregnancy. Pill-induced

abortions hide the ectopic pregnancy's presence, since the symptoms of both are the same: pain and heavy bleeding. In the United States, there have been 26 deaths and thousands of complications, such as hemorrhage and infection.

The United States has no requirement for reporting damage from complications of chemical abortions. In foreign countries where this data is collected, chemical abortions have four times the rate of complications of surgical abortions: 20% of women have excessive bleeding that requires a hospital visit, and 8% of women using the pills early in pregnancy will require surgical completion of their abortion.

But, what does the woman actually experience? Chemical abortions are painful and bloody and may occur at home without any care or supervision. The woman is actually delivering a baby, which she might see, and the process takes longer -- days to weeks -- to be fully completed. The pain is more severe than normal because the contractions are being artificially stimulated by the second pill.

These are the scientifically-determined facts about the use of abortion pills. We need to provide education for the people of West Virginia to protect them from using these dangerous drugs, and you can help us protect our women.

For Life,

*Wanda Franz, Ph.D.*

**Wanda Franz, Ph.D., President**



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**ABORTION  
IS NOT  
HEALTHCARE**



**WV Law  
Says:**

Medical treatment for ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage and stillbirth is "not considered an abortion."

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*Life Matters*, the official publication of West Virginians for Life, 25 Canyon Rd., Morgantown, WV 26508, (304) 594-9845, info@wvforlife.org, is published at 25 Canyon Rd., Morgantown, WV 26508. Third class postage paid at Morgantown, WV.

Permit #56. A Non-Profit Organization. Price: \$10.00 ISSN 1084-3795, Vol. 47 No.1 Published Quarterly

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# Priority Legislation

By Sadie Keaton

The current legislative session will address multiple pieces of pro-life legislation. Two of these involve The Women's Right to Know Act and The Support for Mothers and Babies Act.

West Virginia's pro-life protective law contains certain limited exceptions to the state's prohibition on abortion. Outside of cases of medical emergency, it's important that mothers considering abortion are empowered with relevant information necessary to choose life. **The Women's Right to Know Act**, will ensure that happens by reinstating **comprehensive informed consent** protections for these women before they decide whether or not to obtain the abortion. Information that will be provided includes facts about surgical and chemical abortions; the abortion pill reversal procedure; options for perinatal hospice in the circumstance of an unborn child who may not survive long outside of the womb; parenting and adoption resources; and the right to see an ultrasound of their baby if they wish. When given information like this, more women choose life for their babies.

**The Support for Mothers and Babies Act** has been a huge win for mothers, babies, and families in West Virginia. This program, which the Legislature created in 2023, now serves West Virginians in all 55 counties and has brought in over 4,000 new clients to pro-life pregnancy help organizations.

Last year, the Legislature graciously granted \$3 million dollars in funding for pro-life pregnancy help organizations. Pregnancy resource centers, maternity

homes, and family support networks have registered to receive funding to better serve their communities. None of these organizations refer for, commit, or in any way support the abortion industry.

The Support for Mothers and Babies Program currently distributes the funds on a fee-for-service basis, meaning that the pregnancy help organization must first provide the service, and then seek reimbursement for it. It is working well for established organizations. However, funds are not available for start-up costs to establish new centers, nor for things like the purchase of an ultrasound machine or the repair of a roof on a maternity home. To remedy this problem, West Virginians for Life, in consultation with the WV Pregnancy Center Coalition, is supporting a change to the language that would allow the program to pay for larger one-time expenses. "We have money to serve and help moms and babies in desperate situations by opening more maternity homes and better training our staff. It has been effective, but could be even more so with this change," says the Executive Director of the Support for Mothers and Babies Program, Jenny Enstminger.

WVFL hopes to see eligible expenses added to the authorizing statute of the Support for Mothers and Babies Program. This would mean that Pregnancy Help Organization (PHO) funding may be distributed to cover facility needs, training costs of staff and volunteers, and other large capital expenditures necessary to expand services.

## How You Can Help:

*Ask your representatives to support The Women's Right to Know Act, and The Support for Mothers and Babies Act.  
You can find your representatives' contact information at [https://pac.wyforlife.org/legislator\\_info/](https://pac.wyforlife.org/legislator_info/)*



### Governor Morrisey on Inauguration Day

*West Virginians for Life congratulates Patrick Morrisey as he begins his tenure as the 37th Governor of West Virginia. Morrisey built a strong pro-life record as the state's Attorney General, a position he held for 12 years. During that time, he joined other states' Attorneys General in letters to the CEOs of Walgreens and CVS, warning them against selling abortion pills in contradiction of the state's pro-life laws. When the Dobbs decision was announced reversing Roe v Wade, he upheld the state's 19th Century criminal law against abortion and confronted the state's pro-abortion forces, who sued him for the decision. The suit became moot once the West Virginia Legislature passed our law protecting the lives of unborn babies from conception onward. Morrisey also stood up to – and ultimately defeated – a lawsuit from an abortion pill manufacturer attacking our new law.*



*The WV Alliance for Ethical Health Care, a subcommittee of West Virginians for Life, deals specifically with issues at the other end of the spectrum of life, i.e. hastened death at the end of life due to a "poor quality of life" perception, discrimination in access to medical care, physician-assisted suicide, and euthanasia.*

# The Victory for Life was Groundbreaking

## *But There's Still Death in the Details*

*By Mary Tillman, Legislative Coordinator for the West Virginia Alliance for Ethical Healthcare*

One certainly would like to breathe a sigh of relief and thanksgiving since Amendment 1 passed last November, and our state constitution now prohibits physician-assisted suicide, euthanasia, and mercy killing in West Virginia. (We are the first state in America to pass such a constitutional amendment.)

But does this mean all West Virginians are now forever safe from the dangerous practice of assisted suicide? Not necessarily. Unfortunately, two of the eleven jurisdictions (10 states, and Washington, D.C.) that have legalized physician-assisted suicide in the United States have removed their former requirement that the patient be a resident of that jurisdiction. The states that have removed their residency requirement are Oregon and

Vermont.....so far. That means that a WV resident can travel to Oregon or Vermont and, assuming they meet all the requirements of that particular state's law, access assisted suicide there. This is called "suicide tourism."

In fact, we have seen evidence that both Oregon and Vermont are aware of, and attempting to enable, suicide tourism to their state. Hotels are recommended for out-of-state patients to use for their stay. Social workers are trained to collect the dead bodies after lethal doses are taken. It is becoming a commercial enterprise.

The WV Alliance for Ethical Healthcare is exploring possible ways to discourage suicide tourism by WV residents. Some of the issues are whether or not medically-assisted suicide by a WV resident, even if obtained out-of-state, would disqualify recovery of life insurance benefits under the usual "suicide exclusion" clause? Will life

insurance companies in WV be able to question a death certificate from OR or VT, because it will list an underlying disease, rather than the fact that the death was caused by assisted suicide? Would accident and medical insurance policies pay for doctor consults or the lethal drugs obtained out of state? Could a Vermont or Oregon physician be able to use telehealth in West Virginia to start the process of seeing if the patient is eligible? Should an heir's signature as a witness to the request to obtain assisted suicide, or an heir's help transporting the patient out-of-state, constitute elder abuse or possibly make them an "unworthy heir" for any estate distribution?

Discussion with delegates and senators with expertise in these areas has begun. In the meantime, we must do our part reaching out to the vulnerable people in our lives, with kindness and inclusion as we are able. Let's make the idea of assisted suicide unthinkable!

### *Luncheon, continued from p.1*

sponsors and encouraging people to register for the Rose Dinner. This gala event will be held on Friday, April 25th, at the Marriott Waterfront in Morgantown. The keynote speaker will be Rachel Campos-Duffy.

Rachel Campos-Duffy is a NY Times best-selling author, communications consultant, and television personality specializing in politics, culture and parenting. She is the host of America's #1 rated cable news morning show, "FOX & Friends Weekend" on the FOX News network. She is married to former Wisconsin Congressman Sean Duffy, who has been recently sworn in as Transportation Secretary in the Trump cabinet. They have nine awesome kids. The youngest daughter, Valentina, was born with Down Syndrome, and Rachel considers it a privilege to use her platform to advocate for her daughter and everyone with special needs.

Would you please consider attending the Rose Dinner this year? It's only \$60/plate to participate in this important life-saving fundraiser. Whether you are able to attend or not, perhaps you can help sponsor the event? Upper-level sponsorships come with tickets to the VIP Room, where you can meet with Rachel Campos-Duffy and have your picture professionally taken with her.

For Registration and Sponsorship details, please see page 5 of this Newspaper, or go to <https://www.RoseDinner.com>

We hope to see you on April 25th!

Please see pages 6-7 for pictures from this event.

### *2025 Calendar of Events*

<b>March 14</b>	Rally at the Capitol
<b>March 22</b>	WVFL Board Meeting
<b>April 12</b>	Legislative Session Ends
<b>April 25</b>	27th Annual Rose Dinner
<b>June 7</b>	WVFL Board Meeting
<b>June 20-21</b>	National Right to Life Convention, Oberland Park, Kansas (suburb of Kansas City)
<b>July 12</b>	Golf FORE Life Tournament
<b>Sept 20</b>	WVFL Board Meeting
<b>Oct 5</b>	Respect Life Sunday
<b>Nov 8</b>	WVFL Board Meeting

2025  
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27th Annual **ROSE DINNER**

25 april 2025

social hour/  
VIP reception at 6:00 p.m.  
dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Two Waterfront Pl,  
Morgantown, WV 26501

Rachel Campos-Duffy  
keynote speaker

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	Amount	Quantity	Total
General Admission Ticket(s)	\$60		
Table Sponsorship • Banquet seating for a table of 10	\$1,000		
Below are the rewards for higher levels of sponsorship:			
Bronze • Preferred banquet seating for table of 10 • Name/company on day of event materials	\$2,500		
Silver • Preferred banquet seating for table of 10 • V.I.P. Reception and photo opportunity for 2 • Name/company on day event materials	\$5,000		
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List you and your guest names as you want to appear on your nametag. Names not listed will not receive a nametag:

Number of Guest \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I will not be attending

GUEST LISTS:  
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YOU HAVE THE OPTION TO REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE

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Questions: 304-594-9849 or email info@wvforlife.org  
Paid for by WVFL Educational Trust Fund  
Wanda Franz, Ph.D., President



# WVFL Luncheon



WVFL President Wanda Franz with Brent and Deedee Wilmoth



Senator Chris Rose was an excellent Emcee. He is pictured here with Senator Jay Taylor and Delegate Geno Chiarelli.



WVFL Vice President Riley Keaton with daughter Margaret



Marget Rose Keaton was probably everyone's favorite guest.



Stacie Dinkel (third from left) with WVFL Office Staff members Sherri Stevens, Sara McPherson, and Mary Anne Buchanan

Pastor Doug Joseph created an amazing video, and also performed the Benediction.



Pastor Briane Turley offered a blessing before the meal.



Fundraisers Extraordinaire Anne Wolfe & Linda Day



**The Monongalia Chapter of West Virginians for Life chartered a bus for the March for Life. US Congressman Riley Moore joined WV Teens for Life in a photo.**







*Senator Section*



*Governor Morrisey being sworn in*



*Delegate Section*

# WV Inauguration Events



*Swearing in of AG Commish Kent Leonhardt, with wife Shirley at his side*



*WV Secretary of State Kris Warner being sworn in*



*WV Attorney General McCuskey swearing in*



*Treasurer Larry Pack with wife Lisa*



*Former US Congressman David McKinley with wife Mary*



*Mary Anne Buchanan, WV Alliance for Ethical Healthcare Legislative Director Mary Tillman, Senator Patricia Rucker, WVFL President Wanda Franz, and Sherri Stevens*



*Sherri Stevens, WVFL President Wanda Franz, Senator Tom Willis, Mary Anne Buchanan, Sara Willis*



*Auditor Mark Hunt and Family*



*Senator Oliverio conversing with WVFL President Wanda Franz and WVAEHC Legislative Coordinator Mary Tillman*

*Teens for Life President Thomas Dinkel with (from left to right) Governor Morrisey, Senator Stuart, Senate President Smith, Senate Majority Leader Martin, Rhett Duesenberry, and Senator Rose.*



# Pro-Life Profile:

## Thomas Bishop, Alan Brant, and Other Unsung Heroes

By Kay Lowther

Thomas (Tom) Bishop retired some years ago as a project manager for Union Carbide here in South Charleston and moved to Claudville, VA. He was very active in his home church and in a Christian men's fellowship group. He went home to be with the Lord very suddenly on January 11.

I well remember an incident in which some staff and supporters of West Virginians for Life were involved. Those of you who were on board in those days will recall that, for many years, Sherry and I, and our Ekklesia Ministries group, furnished A/V equipment and technicians for the annual Prolife Rally Day At The Legislature. It was always the most complicated and equipment-heavy setup we were ever called to do, because of the acoustics in the capitol rotunda.

In fact, we had a saying among ourselves that all A/V technicians who died without repenting and receiving Jesus as their Saviour would be condemned to set up a sound system in that rotunda every day for eternity. The echo factor in there is just about insolvable if you have a large crowd attending, and if you were among those there from WVFL you will remember that in those days the crowd overflowed the place.

It was all that we could do to manage the sound

level, work with all the singers and musicians, and still generate a sound signal which could clearly be heard. We literally had to set up what amounted to three separate systems to get the desired distribution without blowing everyone's head off.

Previous to the beginning of this particular noon rally, we had received word that there might be protesters trying to break into the meeting and disrupt it. Upon hearing that, I spotted Tom Bishop in the audience. I also spotted one of my fellow workers from the Department of Employment Security named Alan Brant. (Alan was also my assistant teacher for a Bible class which I taught every Friday at noon.)

I asked Tom and Alan if they would just come and stand behind the sound equipment and to keep their eyes open for any possible disturbance. Both Tom and Alan were about 6' 4" and weighed about 220 pounds each. They came and stood, one on each side, behind the sound gear. That's all they did, just stand there.

We didn't have one scintilla of trouble.

I never forgot that, and Tom's passing brought it back to my memory. Who knows how many lives were saved, how many babies were rescued from abortion, by the presence of these two gentle



*Thomas Bishop*

giants? (I have a distinct suspicion that there were a couple of 9-foot guys with wings standing with them.)

Just thought I'd share this with you. How many "unsung heroes" have we had who stepped out to help us in the pro-life movement? I have to say that whoever they are, great is their reward in heaven. And I am sure that Tom and Alan received a great reward. (Alan is also home with Jesus.)

Love, peace, and blessings to you all.

---

## *Lawsuit, continued from p.1*

### More on Carpenter and "Shield Laws"

This was not an isolated occurrence for Carpenter. Carpenter identifies herself as the "Co-Medical Director and Founder of the Abortion Coalition for Telemedicine" (ACT), who has been performing "medical" and surgical abortions since 1999. In 2020, she began working with "Aid Access," the on-line abortion pill promoter and seller founded by Dutch abortion activist Rebecca Gomperts and helped launch another on-line abortion pill supplier Hey Jane later that year.

Carpenter continues to work with both groups out of her office in New York, performing telemedicine and shipping pills to women across the country, often to states like Texas where they are not legal.

Carpenter and other abortionists like her working for Aid Access, "Hey Jane," and others believe they are protected from prosecution by "shield laws" passed by abortion-friendly states like California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, and Carpenter's home state, New York.

Through these "shield laws," these states assert that the actions of abortionists are to be governed by the laws of the state in which the abortionists operate rather than the laws of the states where their patients reside.

### Constitutionality of "Shield Laws" in Question

This is a departure from normal legal process, which says a crime is charged and adjudicated according to the jurisdiction where the violation occurred. For example, a person from Indiana who robs a bank in Illinois is charged and prosecuted by Illinois rather than Indiana.

States are generally bound by the "Full Faith and Credit Clause" of the Constitution which requires states to respect the "public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state" (Article IV, Section 1). This puts the validity of these "shield laws" in serious doubt.

Paxton's suit against Carpenter may provide a test case for the constitutionality of these so-called "shield laws."

That case will first be heard and adjudicated by the Collin County District Court, likely sometime early next year. If successful, and after any appeals are exhausted, Texas will seek to enforce its judgment by making a filing to that effect in a New York State Court. New York could accept and enforce the judgment against Carpenter, or it could assert that their "shield law" protects the abortionist from prosecution or judgments by Texas.

After appeals have gone as far as they can

in New York courts, and if New York persists in denying Texas judgment, Texas can appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court to arbitrate between the conflicting state claims.

The Supreme Court is not necessarily in the habit of taking the first instance of a particular legal dispute, but if other similar cases arise elsewhere, it may consider the issue ripe for judgment.

### Why this matters

If and when the Court finally rules on this, it will be a critically important ruling. It will determine whether doctors in pro-abortion states can simply ship pills into pro-life states with impunity.

As Paxton points out, this is not simply a matter of violating Texas law, which seeks to protect unborn children from this violent end. It also protects their mothers, who risk hemorrhage, like Carpenter's patient here did, or infection, the rupture of undetected ectopic pregnancies, or even death from unmonitored, unsupervised chemical abortions.

Carpenter, Aid Access, and the other irresponsible online abortion pill promoters believe they can prescribe and ship these pills to absolute strangers who they never have to deal with again. Paxton and Texas say it's high time Carpenter and her ilk were held accountable.



## WVFL Treasurer's Article



WVFL Treasurer - Pastor Doug Joseph

# Life is worth it!

I once heard Dr. Wanda Franz mention that back when *Roe v Wade* was first handed down, pro-life folks were told something along the lines of, "OK, you can go home now and stop your work. It's over. You've lost." Right close to 50 years' worth of work later, when *Roe v Wade* was finally overturned, pro-life folks were told something along the lines of, "OK, you can go home now and stop your work. It's over. You've won." Both voices were wrong, and both had something in common: trying to get all defendants of the sanctity of life to just shut up and quietly accept whatever horrible efforts were being made against life, without any "fight." We've always had to carefully adapt as quickly as possible to the reality of our current situation, but no matter that situation, we've advocated tirelessly for life. Life is worth it. As we continue the fight, current circumstances now reveal a pressing need for educating the public about the dangers of chemical abortions (Mifepristone, also known by its developmental code name "RU-486"). May God grant us the resources and abilities to achieve an overwhelming victory in uncovering lies and expounding truth. Lives depends on it. Life is worth it! Your donated time, talent, and treasure has perhaps never been more important!

Join us: [wvforlife.org/membership](http://wvforlife.org/membership)

Better yet, step up to **Rose Society Membership** while you're there!

Already a member? Give here: [wvforlife.org/donate](http://wvforlife.org/donate)

*With Determination,*  
**Pastor Doug Joseph**  
WVFL State Treasurer

## Donors Please Note:

*In mid-January of 2025, the WVFL office received several donations that had been postmarked in mid-December. This was but one incident among several in recent weeks in which delivery of our mail was severely delayed or encountered a serious error. Some donors have called the office asking if we moved, because their envelopes were returned to them with a sticker that said unable to deliver or forward. We have not moved. If your envelope was returned to you, please let us know. Also, please inform the Post Office; this was their error, and they ought to deliver your envelope without charging you for postage again.*

*If you mailed a check that has gone uncashed for more than four weeks, please contact the State Office immediately at 304-594-9845.*

*We appreciate your understanding in this matter.*

## West Virginians for Life Tote Bags Are Now Available

Cost per tote: \$15 (includes shipping), or One tote bag at no additional cost is an optional gift with a donation of \$50 or more.

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**Monongalia**



*March for Life participants in Washington, D.C.*



*Teens for Life President Thomas Dinkel with Mon County County Delegates Geno Chiarelli (above) and David McCormick (below)*



**Northern Panhandle**



*Christy Beaver and Rebekah Morris (right) spoke at the Decemeber 3rd event in Weirton.*



*Teresa Devlin spoke at the Wheeling event on December 2nd.*

*Back row: Chris Hamm, Pastor Henry & Colleen Lewis; Middle row: Chapter Vice-President Faith Meyer, Chapter President Judi Meyer, Jocelyn Czapp, Chapter Treasurer Jennie Adams; Front row: Chapter Secretary Debbie Smith, Sarah Czapp.*



*Chris Hamm and Jocelyn Czapp spoke at the Feb 3rd event in Wheeling.*

**Monroe**



*Pro-Life Soup Dinner attendees enjoyed pleasant weather.*

**Raleigh**



*A celebration honoring pro-life legislators*

**WVFL Teens**



*The items pictured here, plus a \$450 donation, were from Saint Mary's Byzantine Church in Morgantown. Compass Women's Center, in Morgantown, was the grateful recipient of Dinkel's Teens for Life Pregnancy Resource Drive.*



*Teens for Life President Thomas Dinkel at the State of the State Address*



**Greenbrier County**

Stepping Up to Leadership: Ann Turley has accepted a co-leadership role in the Chapter with Angela Malo. She moved to Greenbrier County nearly 5 years ago with her husband, Fr. Briane Turley, who currently serves on the WV for Life Board. She has been serving the Greenbrier Chapter as secretary the past two years, and is also completing her first year as secretary for the recently-formed Greenbrier Pregnancy Resource Center, located in Lewisburg. Ann’s heart is to see the Chapter reach more young people, and help them become engaged with all life issues.

Angela Malo has been involved with the chapter since 2020. She and her husband relocated to Lewisburg to retire.

**Harrison County**

he Chapter is running ads in the local newspaper, providing information on the Charleston Rally and Rose Dinner. Members are following up with churches in the county which received the Life Letter bulletin insert from the State Office. This is an excellent opportunity to see if the church has any questions or needs more information about the Chapter. Mary Tillman has started discussions with Delegate Walter Hall about a bill that would prohibit life insurance proceeds from being paid out to a WV resident who travels out of state to access physician-assisted suicide.

**Monongalia County**

The Chapter chartered a bus that provided transportation to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. Some chapter members also attended Governor Morrisey’s Inauguration. Teens for Life President Thomas Dinkel attended the State of the State address in addition to the Governor’s Inauguration. He thanked the local representatives for their pro-life stance.

The Chapter held the annual Signature Ad in the Dominion-Post newspaper. In addition to recognizing the anniversary of *Roe v Wade*, the ad provides the public with information about the legislative agenda for the 2025 Legislative Session. The Chapter wishes to thank the local churches for helping to collect the names for the ad, along with the funds to pay for the 3/4-page, colored ad.

**Monroe County**

he Monroe County Chapter has been busy raising funds for the cause! The annual Fall soup dinner/ gospel sing was a success and had great food, beautiful singing and many guest speakers. As Life Matters went to press, plans for the annual spring on-line auction were in the works.

**Northern Panhandle Chapter**

On December 2, 2024, the Chapter held a birthday party for Jesus at Newbridge Church in Wheeling. Three counties were represented by the 25 people in attendance. Gifts, which were optional, were donated to the Wellspring Pregnancy Center in Moundsville. Tereasa Devlin gave updates on both Wellspring and the Haven Maternity Home.

The Chapter held “A Celebration of Life” at Colliers Way Church of Christ in Weirton on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. Gifts, which were optional, were donated to AIM Women’s Center. Rebekah Morris from AIM Women’s Center shared information about AIM. Christy Beaver of Her PLAN also shared information. These ladies and their organizations are a great blessing to our community!

Elm Grove Christian Church in Wheeling hosted a Chapter educational event on Monday, February 3, 2025. The topic was “Addressing Fetal Anomalies.” Two inspirational speakers – Chris Hamm and Jocelyn Czapp – shared their personal experiences

with fetal anomalies. It was an emotional evening that included praising God for His goodness; He is faithful to bring beautiful blessings out of our trials in life.

For those looking to get involved with WVFL in the northern panhandle, the chapter meets on the first Monday of every month at 6:30pm. You can call or text Judi Varner Meyer at 304-639-3041 for more details.

**Raleigh County**

They had a celebration in November for the pro-life legislators in their county who were elected to office: Delegates Brian Helton and Eric Brooks. It was well attended, with new people coming.

**Upshur County**

If you are interested in joining the Upshur County Right to Life group, they meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Wayside Baptist Church on the Brushy Fork Road.

WV Teens for Life

Greetings Teens and Fellow Pro-Lifers,

What an exciting time for our movement! There have been so many fantastic victories for our state and our nation it is hard to contain my excitement. For starters, it is a blessing that our next Senate President is Senator Randy Smith (R-Preston) and our next Senate Majority leader is Senator Patrick Martin (R-Lewis). I am very excited to see what our legislature accomplishes with these pro-life leaders at the helm.

I was honored to be a guest at the Governor’s mansion the night before Patrick Morrisey inauguration as our new Governor. It was a fantastic experience to be a VIP guest for the festivities the following day, including watching Governor Morrisey being sworn into office.

My annual “Pregnancy Resource” drive was a great success! We were able to collect a significant number of items, and cash donations, from local churches. These were delivered to a local Morgantown PRC, which was very thankful! I’d like to extend a special thank you to St. Mary Byzantine church of Morgantown for the strong commitment!

It is very exciting to already see the pro-life stance and actions being taken by the new Trump and Vance administration. It was fantastic news to hear that President Trump had pardoned the 20+ activists for our cause who were unfairly prosecuted by the former Biden administration.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the great success of our trip to the annual March for Life in Washington D.C. We had a fantastic group go to our nation’s capital and brave the cold amongst tens of thousands of fellow citizens demonstrating our passion for the most vulnerable. The March for Life is always a fantastic event, and I plan to continue attending for years to come!

God Bless,  
Thomas J. Dinkel  
President, Teens for Life  
Matthew 18:6





Please join us  
27th Annual  
**ROSE DINNER**

Friday, April 25, 2025

Social Hour/VIP Reception at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Two Waterfront Place, Morgantown, WV

Keynote Speaker

**Rachel Duffy**

NYTimes best selling author &  
host of America's #1 rated  
cable news morning show,  
FOX & Friends Weekend on the  
FOX News network.



For more information see page 5



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**Matters**

Vol. 47, Number 1



West Virginia  
Represented at the  
March for Life in  
Washington, D.C.



Congressman Riley Moore (center) was happy to gather with pro-life constituents at the March for Life.