

Central Illinois Life News

Pastors Speak Out



Coming Events

The Lord Does Not Change

by Rev. James McDonald

Malachi 3:6: For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.

The election has passed; and for many, especially those in the prolife camp, fear has come. True to his promise, Senator Obama is pulling together a cabinet composed of many stalwart pro-abortion supporters. While the junior senator from Illinois said that he desired to seek common ground on the abortion issues, so far, every one of his appointments that might have some say on this issues of life have records that reflect the extreme pro-abortion camp. In addition, the senator has vocally expressed support for the so-called Freedom of Choice Act, legislation that may wipe out many of the prolife gains we have fought so hard to achieve.

In such days, it is understandable why some would be fearful.

But we need to remember, especially in times like this, the Lord does not change. In theological terms, we refer to the immutability of our God.

The Lord is immutable, unchangeable, in His governance of the earth. He is responsible for setting up kings and magistrates. The election results of this past November did not take our God by surprise. While we will never know why He allowed the most liberal senator in Washington to rise to the highest

The following Pro Life events are scheduled in January 2009:

Family Resources Center Open House, Tuesday, January 20, 2009 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM, 321 Main Street, Peoria, before the Walk and Sanctity of Human Life Rally.

Walk for Life, 6:30 PM on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at the Peoria County Courthouse. After prayer we will walk together to the Rally carrying signs showing our support for the sanctity of all innocent human life.

Sanctity of Human Life Rally, 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 20 2009 at Sacred Heart Church in downtown Peoria by the Civic Center. The rally will feature special music and prayer along with reports on local Pro Life efforts. The keynote speaker was Derrick Jones, Communications Director - National Right to Life Committee.

Washington, DC Bus Trip to the annual March for Life will leave at on Wednesday, January 21, 2009 and return on Friday, January 23. Total cost is \$180 per rider with two meals included. Some financial assistance is available for children. Call Sondra McEnroe at 645-8000 for more information.

office in the land, we need to take heart in the truth – God is over all. Perhaps the Lord has brought Senator Obama to come to power to bring judgment on our land. We certainly deserve it. Over 50 million children have died since the Roe decision. And the carnage continues. Yet, at the same time, the church of Jesus Christ has become complacent. Standing against abortion does not seem to be as important these days.

The Lord is also immutable, unchangeable, in His hatred of sin. He has told us directly, “You shall be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.” We are to be a holy people, not a people who compromise for the sake of political expediency. He calls us to honor Him in our thoughts, our words, and our deeds. But we are a people who do not honor Him by living holy lives. We acquiesce to the culture, rather than being those who define culture.

The Lord is also immutable, unchangeable, in His mercy toward us. Again, He has told us, ““I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.” We must remember that His love for us is unchangeable. His love for us is based on His unchanging will. Regardless of the circumstance, we can count on His love.

Lastly, the Lord is also immutable, unchangeable, in His power. He calls us to not trust in our own strength, but in His. We are to not trust in what we see, but have faith in what we do not see. In this day of doubt and fear, we need to redouble our efforts to stand for the truth – part of which is to be undaunted in our commitment to the cause of life. He is our strong tower, our shield and buckler.

Let us not lose hope in these seemingly uncertain days, but be courageous because we know the Lord does not change. And let us pray that He would turn the heart of Senator Obama to Him and His Word.

Rev. James McDonald serves on the board of the Central Illinois Right to Life. He is also the pastor of Providence Church in Morton, IL (www.providencepeoria.org). God has blessed Rev. McDonald and his wife Stacy with ten children and, so far, one grandchild. They reside on a couple of acres of heaven in the middle of nowhere, Illinois.

Derrick Jones

Communications Director

National Right to Life Committee

Keynote Speaker for Sanctity of Human Life Rally

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

A proud native of Springfield, Illinois - “the city Lincoln loved” - Derrick Jones serves as National Right to Life communications director. A lifelong pro-lifer raised in the movement, his active start in the pro-life movement came at an early age working alongside his grandmother at Springfield Right to Life’s Life Center. In 1992, he co-founded Sangamon County Teens for Life. Shortly after joined the board of National Teens for Life and served two terms as NTL president. In 1996, he made his way to Washington as an intern for National Right to Life and has remained ever since. In addition to his communications duties, Derrick serves as an advisor for National Teens for Life and directs NRLC’s college internship program. He holds a bachelor’s degree from the Catholic University of America in Washington.

Central Illinois Right To Life, Inc.

Presents

The Annual Sanctity of Human Life

Walk and Rally

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

with the following events included

Open House at the Family Resources Center

321 Main Street in Peoria, IL

5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Walk for Life

Peoria County Courthouse

6:30 pm

Prayer, singing, and walk to the Church for the Rally to follow

Sanctity of Human Life Rally

Sacred Heart Church

By the Civic Center

7:00 pm

Keynote speaker: Derrick Jones

Communications Director

National Right to Life Committee

CIRTL Bus Trip to March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Here's something that we hope you are all interested in. Central Illinois Right to Life is planning a bus trip in January to Washington, D.C., in order to take part in the March for Life in our nations' capital. This amazing event takes place on the anniversary of the awful event when the Supreme Court legalized abortion. It is amazing, because hundreds of thousands of people will gather on the National Mall and march up the street to the Capitol Building. Several of us have gone in the past, and were very impressed.

Our bus trip will have you gone from Peoria for about 48 hours, from noon on Wednesday to noon on Friday. You'll be traveling on the bus all night long, hopefully sleeping. So, our bus trip eliminates the cost of lodging.

Dan Bohan

CIRTL's bus trip will have you gone from Peoria for about 48 hours, from noon on Wednesday, 1/21/09, to noon on Friday, 1/23/09. The event takes place on Thursday, 1/22/09. The price of \$180 includes bus fare, dinner on Wednesday night, and brunch on Friday morning. You'll be traveling on the bus all night long, hopefully sleeping. So, our bus trip eliminates the cost of lodging

If you're interested, call Sondra at 645-8000 or Jeanne at 685-7307.

Or clip/mail DC Bus Trip reservations to: Sondra McEnroe, 1207 N. Glenwood, Peoria, IL 61604

Reservation Form

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Address _____

2008 Life Chain Report

The annual Life Chain was held in Peoria on Sunday, October 5, 2008. Participants stood in witness to their commitment to the Sanctity of Human Life in Peoria. Attendance was estimated at approximately 700 persons. This years route was organized differently with all participants meeting at corner of University and Northmoor and spreading out from there, north and west. This made for a much more unified presentation to the public.

Make plans now to participate in next years event on October 4, 2009. Church coordinators are also needed to inform and organize their Church members for participation. Call Dan Smith at 691-3611

HELP!!! Single? Children Grown? Semi-retired? WE NEED YOU!!! Do you have an hour or two now & then to help Central Illinois Right to Life's board members with a project? Can we put you on a list of prospective volunteers to contact in the future. Remember, the "Pro-Choice" i.e. the pro-abortion crowd has countless workers

and millions of dollars. We operate on a bare-bones budget and are dependent on willing volunteers. If you could help a little in any way, it would be greatly appreciated and immensely gratifying. Please fill out the coupon below and mark the box next to volunteer help. Thank you and have a blessed year in 2009!

Outreach Committee News: *Each Child ... Deserves Protection!*

On the second Monday of each month, the Outreach Committee of persons interested in bringing the Pro Life message into their churches meets at 6:30 p.m. We come together to share ideas, pray, and to renew our efforts to reach people with the Pro-Life message.

Past topics discussed have included presentations of The Hard Truth video to church groups, other Pro Life videos, how to stop Planned Parenthood, how to be an effective Pro Life advocate, and other Pro Life activities. At recent meetings we have also worked on organizing the annual fund raising garage sale and have put together mailings and newsletters like this one. Members have also helped organize and contribute to our new internet site. Anyone interested in joining this effort should come to our meetings or call Dan Smith at 691-3611.

Central Illinois Right to Life: Membership and Volunteer Drive

If you would like to help defend life in Central Illinois, become a member of Central Illinois Right to Life and continue receiving our quarterly newsletter by returning this form and enclosing the annual dues of \$10.00.

Name : _____

Address : _____

City : _____

State : _____

Zip Code : _____

Telephone : _____

MEMBER DUES : \$10__ Date

DONATION : \$5__ \$10__ \$15__ \$25__ Other_____ Thank You!

VOLUNTEER HELP : Please put my name on your list of volunteers.

Central Illinois Life News

Peoria Dining Tour coupon books are available again this year from Central Illinois Right to Life, Inc. The cost is \$30. The book contains over 250, two for one coupons for use at local restaurants and other businesses. The coupons are good till November 2008. Contact CIRTL at 645-8000 for more information. All net proceeds will go to support Pro Life work. Books are also available at the Christian Center Office in Peoria.

Sanctity Of Human Life Sunday, January 18, 2009 is the Sunday on which Churches in our nation make a special effort to remember unborn children and women in difficult pregnancies. Let each of us encourage the leadership of our church not to “shrink from boldly declaring all of God’s message” on this special Sunday and throughout the year.

Unity on the essentials of the Sanctity of Human Life is our objective. We are not seeking uniformity of opinion on all matters.. Therefore, some ideas advocated by the authors of articles in Central Illinois Life News or on the Central Illinois Right To Life website may not necessarily reflect the the personal views of all the members and officers of Central Illinois Right To Life, Inc.

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