

### **Teachers Saving Children® Inc.**

#### **Pro-Life Voices in Education...**

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May 2017



# THOUGHTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Connie Bancroft

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in His way." -Psalm 37:23 (NKJV)

Over the past several weeks, I have been reflecting on the past 27 years of service as the Executive Director of Teachers Saving Children®. When seven concerned teachers came together in February, 1991, I never dreamed that I would be asked to serve as the co-chairperson and then eventually the Executive Director of the Ohio Affiliate. Then in 1994, as the Ohio Affiliate made the decision to oversee the National organization, I was again humbled by the privilege of serving as the Executive Director at that level.

It has been exciting to watch the Lord move in and through this small entity. It has also been exciting to see His hand in guiding this organization to influence hearts and lives across this nation.

I remember attending the OEA-RA sessions for many years. Several individuals would speak regarding their concerns about the abortion position of the OEA. During those years, one teacher who initially was "pro-choice" was moved by our patience and the righteousness of our cause. He was also struck by the intolerance of the delegates. This teacher stood up to be counted as a "pro-choice" person who felt that any reference to "reproductive freedom" should not be in the OEA documents. He was invited to join our small group and as we shared over dinner, this teacher was moved by our love for people. Through several personal events, this teacher with a Jewish background found Christ as his Messiah.

And then there were the opportunities through "The Wonder of Life" exhibit when we shared the love of Christ to women who either were pregnant or they had a daughter who was pregnant. A few years ago we began to give baby afghans as gifts to these women who were so amazed that we would share this gift of love to them. And then that one special opportunity came when a vendor representative stopped by our exhibit and took a long time looking at our pre-born models that were around 18-19 weeks gestation. As we conversed, I learned that she was at that same stage of pregnancy. When I offered her a baby

afghan as a gift, she was touched. I later learned that this woman was not a Christian, but as another vendor conversed with her, this woman shared how touched she was by this gift of love. This is just one example of the expressions of "awe" and the glowing smiles we saw on the faces of those who received the baby afghans. What a blessed experience!

There were also the opportunities to be on the platform at the March for Life rallies. For several years, I had the opportunity to represent Teachers Saving Children® as I stood with leaders from many different pro-life organizations.

And the many board members over the years who I now call family. What an awesome network of people who not only share a common belief about the sanctity of life, but they also pray together and share the message of Life with others. There is a deep love and concern for individuals who so desperately need to hear about the love of Christ.

August 31, 2017 will be here soon and it will be a bitter sweet day as I officially turn over the responsibilities of this position to someone else (yet to be named). This organization has never been my organization. It has always been God's ministry. I have full confidence in the Board of Trustees as they move forward with plans that will fulfill the purpose of Teachers Saving Children® for many years to come.

God has not called us to be successful, but obedient and faithful to that which He has called us to do. The results are in His hands. Thus, what a blessing it has been – not only to serve, but also to connect with wonderful people from across the nation.

Thank you for your respectful support and for allowing me the opportunity to serve as the Executive Director for the past 20+ years. It has been a blessing that I will always treasure.

#### **IMPORTANT – PLEASE NOTE:**

The address and phone number for Teachers Saving Children® will remain the same!!!!

If you have questions about this transition, please ask. We have always agreed to be upfront and above board; so please ask rather than assume as there may be something that needs to be shared or clarified which we have not thought about. Thank you for your prayers and continued support!

#### THE BATTLE IS NOT OVER!

Source: LifeNews, April 17, 2017

President Trump has kept his inaugural promise to support the cause of life. Some actions he has taken:

- -1/23/17: Signed an executive order in January reinstating the "Mexico City Policy" to block federal funding to international non-governmental organizations that promote or perform abortions.
- -1/31/17: Nominated Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court, a jurist whose record supports life-affirming decisions. Gorsuch was confirmed on 4/7/2017.
- -4/12/17: Trump overturned President Obama's "parting gift to the abortion industry" by signing into law a bill that permits states to redirect Title X funding toward comprehensive health care providers and away from those such as Planned Parenthood that focus on abortion

Meanwhile, the "other side" is becoming increasingly bold in their opposition:

- -Increases in vandalism of pro-life displays and properties, along with threats to student leaders, have been reported on college campuses, according to Kristan Hawkins of Students for Life of America. In a letter to SFLA supporters dated 4/18/2017, she says, "tensions on college campuses are hotter than ever. With half-a-billion in taxpayer funding on the line, Planned Parenthood is really feeling our pressure. So they're pushing the envelope further than I've ever seen before." Similar reports were issued by the leaders of peaceful prayer vigils during the most recent 40 Days for Life campaign, as reported by the President, Sean Carney, in a letter to supporters dated 4/20/17.
- -Increased pro-abortion lobbying of legislators, with at least one Republican with a pro-life voting record succumbing to pressure to state he would support federal funding of Planned Parenthood. (<a href="http://www.lifenews.com/2017/04/18/republican-senator-says-i-have-no-problems-with-funding-planned-parenthood/">http://www.lifenews.com/2017/04/18/republican-senator-says-i-have-no-problems-with-funding-planned-parenthood/</a>)
- -Early efforts by the Democratic party to recruit candidates and raise funds for next year's election, in an effort to regain control of the US House and Senate

So: where are we in the struggle to defend life? Carol Tobias, the President of National Right to Life, encourages us that, despite the many recent "victories" in the pro-life movement, "our opponents are loud and forceful...They will not back down or slow down." She encourages pro-lifers to remain engaged in educating our culture, working with legislators, and informing voters. She states that while we may need to "take a break", we must do so in order to "recharge our batteries. She says, "But don't stay away too long. We have a battle to win!"

We of faith know that prayer is our first line of defense. But as we are admonished in James, we must "put feet to our faith." How will you put your faith into action in support of life "from conception to natural death"?

<u>Source:</u> Carol Tobias, "Elections Have Consequences: Trump Defunded UNFPA and Gave Us Gorsuch, Hillary Never Would Have." LifeNews, April 17, 2017 <a href="http://www.lifenews.com/2017/04/17/elections-have-consequences-trump-defunded-unfpa-and-gave-us-gorscuh-hillary-never-would-have/">http://www.lifenews.com/2017/04/17/elections-have-consequences-trump-defunded-unfpa-and-gave-us-gorscuh-hillary-never-would-have/</a>

#### JUST SUPPOSE...

- -That abortion and/or involuntary sterilization was mandated after you had one child, or at most two children.
- -That abortion was mandated if you conceived a child out of wedlock.
- -That sex-selection was an acceptable reason to have an abortion.
- -That 336 million abortions and 222 million sterilizations had been performed in your country between 1971 and 2014.
- -That every woman of child-bearing age had their menstrual cycles charted by the local government.

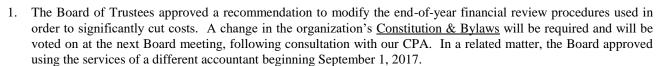
Then...suppose that you are living in China.

**Source:** Nicole McGovern and Olivia Enos "UN Helps Implement China's Two-Child Policy, Which Includes Forced Abortions." LifeNews.com 4-18-2017 <a href="http://www.lifenews.com/2017/04/18/un-helps-implement-chinas-two-child-policy-which-includes-forced-abortions/">http://www.lifenews.com/2017/04/18/un-helps-implement-chinas-two-child-policy-which-includes-forced-abortions/</a>

If the above information touches your heart, you may wish to explore the pro-life organization "All Girls Allowed" at the following website: allgirlsallowed.org.

#### MARCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> National Board of Trustees met in Coldwater, Ohio on March 18, 2017 for their regularly scheduled Spring meeting. The following are highlights of some of the items that were discussed:





- 2. Oral reports were presented concerning the Teachers Saving Children® exhibits at the Students for Life of American East Coast Conference and at the West Coast Walk for Life in San Francisco CA in January 2017. Very positive results were noted, and suggestions were made for improving future exhibits. A committee was formed of those who plan to volunteer at a Teachers Saving Children® exhibit at the Fort Wayne Area Home Schools' Home Education Resource Expo on May 20, 2017.
- 3. Considerable time was spent in discussing how the newsletter would be printed and mailed, following the transition to new responsibilities of the Board members after the departure of our current Executive Director. Discussion was also held regarding the effectiveness of our current means of communication with members.
- 4. Membership statistics were presented and paid membership was noted to have risen over the previous membership year. As of February 28, 2017, membership stood at 261 (versus 247 in last membership year).
- 5. A project to have T-shirts designed and printed as a means of publicizing our organization was discussed. Several prospective designs were examined. The design will be finalized following further consultation with a printer. Once printed, the shirts will be available for purchase by our members and at our educational outreach efforts. More information will be available in the August newsletter.
- 6. Election of Officers for the 2017-2018 fiscal year was postponed until our June meeting. Please be in prayer for someone to accept the position of Executive Director.
- 7. The next Board of Trustees meeting is planned for Saturday, June 17, 2017 with the location yet to be finalized. All members of Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> are welcome to attend. If interested in attending this meeting, please contact the National Office for details.

#### FINANCIAL SUPPORT NEEDED

"And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus." -Philippians 4:19

I have watched how God has provided beyond expectation. He continues to provide for Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> in ways beyond my understanding. Yet, I also realize the importance of being upfront with our membership about our financial situation during this fiscal year.

There are praises to share. Our membership is slightly higher than last year, and there are still memberships that arrive from time to time. All current bills are paid as the Lord continues to give fiscal wisdom in all decisions that are made. However, currently we have a total of \$314.89 in our accounts. Of the \$314.89, \$514.61 is designated for Educational Outreach which leaves a negative balance of \$199.72 in the general account. These balances are as of 4/15/2017.

Although we have prepared a budget based on the income received through membership renewals, we still have approximately \$800 of bills to pay within the next 2+ months before the membership renewals begin to arrive. We rarely solicited additional funds for our general expenses, but I feel the need to do so at this time.

If you feel led to assist with our increased need in general expenses, please make your check payable to "TSC Inc. – National" and designate it for general expenditures. Please note that due to the insufficient use and the large cost of credit card processing fees, the options of making online donations has been removed from our website. [As a tax-exempt organization approved under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, contributions received are **NOT** tax deductible.]

God Will Provide a Way (abbreviated)
Words by Becki Moore
© 1984, 1985 Maiden Music

God will provide a way, I know He'll provide a way; 'Cause His word is true, and He will do it for you – God will provide a way.

Yes, I know that God will provide a way -- as it is through generous donations from individuals like you that allow Teachers Saving Children® to continue to be an impact that is fruitful. Thank you.



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#### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

#### **2017-2018 MEMBERSHIPS**

Teachers Saving Children® membership is open to all prolife/pro-family educators and concerned citizens. Please be advised that, according to the Teachers Saving Children® Constitution & Bylaws, the membership year is from September 1 — August 31, though we do begin renewing memberships in June. Annual dues are \$35.00, with a reduced rate of \$15.00 for students presently enrolled in a college or university undergraduate degree program and also for retired educators currently receiving retiree benefits. Husband and wife may join under the same membership. Contributions and memberships are **NOT** tax deductible.

In June, we will begin accepting new memberships for the 2017-2018 membership year. We will again be offering the \$15 coupon, which can be applied toward any first-time membership received during the 2017-2018 membership year. Any new memberships received after June 1<sup>st</sup> are good until August 31, 2018.

Renewal membership information will be sent to all current members in late June. Please help the Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> office keep accurate records by verifying all membership information. Please make sure your membership forms are accurate, complete, signed, and dated.

Thank you for your continued support in being one of the many "Pro-Life Voices in Education."

#### **NEA CONVENTION 2017**

The 2017 NEA Representative Assembly will be held in Boston, MA from June 30 - July 5. If you are an NEA member, it is vital that you contact your delegates to the RA, letting them know your philosophy on various issues. If you have a delegate(s) from your local attending the NEA RA, contact should be very easy. However, many locals do not, or cannot, send delegates to the NEA either because of the financial burden or their small membership size. Regardless, know that someone will be representing you! Check with your local president as to who will be representing you - either as a local delegate, an at-large state delegate(s), or possibly a clustered local delegate. By the first part of May, local presidents should know who your area delegate representative(s) will be. If they don't know, ask them to find out by contacting your State Affiliate NEA office. Get involved by contacting your NEA delegates! They are your representatives!

This newsletter is published by Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> Inc.

For more information contact 330-821-2747 or

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National Board of Trustees: Ruth Boyatt \* Judy Bruns \* Frank Ebiner \* John Gordon Charles Hlavaty \* Greg Roth \* John Saxe \* Gary Winney

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