

## Teachers Saving Children® Inc.

### A Voice for LIFE in Education...

Volume 21, Number 2

PO Box 125, Damascus OH 44619-0125 \* 330-821-2747 tsc-life@juno.com www.teacherssavingchildren.org

February, 2011



# THOUGHTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Connie Bancroft

"In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps." -Proverbs 16:9

In preparing for a career change, I have been reflecting over the past years of my life. It is amazing to see how the Lord has directed each step, even when I have failed to see those steps clearly.

Now some of you may ask – A career change? Well, I am currently working for the West Branch School District in the second year of a 2-year rehire contract. In June I will complete that 2-year agreement. Though I would like to continue working in education in some capacity, there has not yet been clear direction as to what that might be and whether it would be full-time or part-time. Yet, I know from experience that my God is faithful and that He will lead me exactly where He wants me to serve.

The same is true of Teachers Saving Children®. Over the past 20 years the Lord has been directing our steps. At times it has seemed that those steps are very slow, and other times it seems like those steps are moving very quickly. Our pace is often connected, understandably, to the level of activity in our personal lives. All involved in this organization, including myself, are volunteers who are involved in other areas of service as well – church, family, and volunteer work for other pro-life and conservative organizations. It is difficult to unite our efforts when we are spread so far across the United States. Yet, the Lord has used this organization in a powerful way.

Over the years, we have attended various conventions, where we have set up our "Wonder of Life" exhibit. Our most effective use of "The Wonder of Life" exhibit has been at the NEA Expo, where we have been able to share the pro-life message with thousands of educators.

We have also had opportunities to speak at various conventions and other events. We have been interviewed by

various media and have coordinated efforts in purchasing newspaper ad space during January in order to share the sanctity of life message.

Teachers Saving Children® state affiliates have engaged in awards and contests, too. At one time, the Michigan affiliate had a Teacher of the Year Award. This year, the Ohio affiliate is sponsoring a Photo/Video contest for teens.

Also, this year, Teachers Saving Children® made its presence known with its new banner at the 2011 March for Life. On January 24th, after the prior evening of brutal cold, the sunny skies warmed the city of Washington DC, where thousands upon thousands of pro-lifers spilled out into the streets that could barely contain them. Members of Teachers Saving Children® were among those standing up for the lives of preborn babies. The 1973 Supreme Court decision of Roe v Wade has led to the largest loss of life in all of human history. It's the kind of loss that can take the form of grisly abortion clinics in Philadelphia or it's the kind of loss that can stir a generation who will say "ENOUGH!" We must be part of raising up that generation who will say "ENOUGH!"

Though our membership is slightly lower this year which we believe is due to several reasons, one of which is the economy, our mission continues to move forward. We are determined to proceed with even more resolve and enthusiasm! As we consider ways to reach our colleagues with the message of life, the Lord determines our steps. It is His mission. We are merely instruments through which His message is spoken. Again, thank you for your membership, your prayer support, and for being a Voice for Life in Education!

## **Updated Website Is Live**

We are excited to announce that our updated website is now live. We want to encourage you to visit the updated website and view some of our new features. The updated website is also much easier to navigate. Please be patient with us as some items – especially archival items – will be uploaded over a period of time.

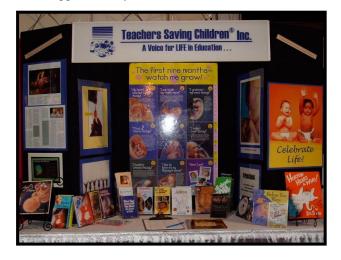
Again, our special thanks to SKWD Associates, LLC (Wayne, PA) who has updated the website and is our new website host.

#### "THE WONDER OF LIFE"

The Teachers Saving Children® Board of Trustees has made the decision to, again, purchase exhibit space at the NEA Expo that precedes the National Education Association's Representative Assembly. From June 30 – July 2, 2011, hundreds of exhibitors will participate in the NEA Expo 2011 which will be held in Chicago IL. With God's help, our exhibit puts the facts and the wonder of human development before the largest assembly of decision-making educators in this nation. Through our exhibit, thousands of educators, their guests, and NEA staff are reached with the pro-life message.

By faith, all decisions regarding the exhibit, the cost of the exhibit application, and purchases of materials are made. Through our general budget, we do not have the means to financially support this endeavor. It is only through your giving of \$5, \$10, \$20, and more that we have been able to continue this huge financial endeavor.

The exhibit space application, along with a check for \$1400, is due this spring, and it is my plan to send the application with full payment by March 15, 2011, when exhibit spaces are assigned. Currently we have about \$900 toward the application fee. In addition to the exhibit application fee, there will also be miscellaneous fees to cover, such as for the 8' tables for our display, for electricity usage, and for other items needed at the convention center. These miscellaneous fees come to approximately another \$900.



Each year we also purchase pro-life brochures, books, and videos to distribute free of charge to individuals who visit our exhibit. Due to the high volume of visitors at our booth, a lot of materials are needed for distribution. We have found over the past several years a high interest — especially among science and health teachers — in the materials we have purchased for our exhibit. These materials include approved brochures which are age-appropriate, positive, colorful, and scientifically accurate. We also include videos, CDs, and books that encourage a respect for human life. Each year we exhaust our supply of these materials and need to replenish them before the next Expo. Only as funds are available, are materials purchased for distribution. To allow for shipping, we need to process orders in late April or early May.

At the present time, NO materials have been purchased for distribution as the funds are not currently available. In addition to the amounts listed above, we could use approximately \$1500 to purchase the variety of materials needed to reach educators across a wide spectrum of teaching responsibilities. Each year we rely on the goodness of God and His people to raise the money for this effective pro-life education ministry. We have never been disappointed with His provision.

We appreciate all the suggestions and assistance received to help cut expenses and raise the monies needed. It should be noted that the Executive Director does **not** receive any monies from Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> for personal expenses such as lodging, travel, and meals since her way is currently paid through another means.

Through your giving of \$5, \$10, \$20, and more, the Lord has each year miraculously provided the finances for this special ministry opportunity, and for that provision we are grateful. This exhibit has become the primary means for our organization in communicating to educators about the sanctity of life. Thank you for prayerfully considering being a part of this special endeavor by sending in your contribution today.

**Note:** Please make checks payable to "TSC Inc. – National". Carefully note how the amount given is to be designated ("NEA Exhibit") so that the contribution will be appropriately allocated. As a tax-exempt organization approved under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, contributions received are **NOT** tax deductible.

## 38<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE – JANUARY 24, 2011 – WASHINGTON DC



TEACHERS

SAVING

CHILDREN®

WAS

THERE



### OBAMA CELEBRATES ABORTION ON 38<sup>TH</sup> ROE ANNIVERSARY

On the 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton Supreme Court decisions that allowed virtually unlimited abortion, President Barack Obama released a statement celebrating them, despite the *53 million* abortions taking place since then.

Obama said the decisions offer protection for women's health even though significant medical research and millions of personal experiences of women show abortions pose major medical and mental health risks for women, sometimes including death.

The statement has Obama, who has crafted a lengthy pro-abortion record, saying he is committed to protecting the so-called right to abortion and he claimed he would promote adoption despite his administration doing nothing to promote abortion alternatives and de-funding abstinence education programs preventing unplanned pregnancies and abortions.

Obama's statement follows:

Today marks the 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that protects women's health and

reproductive freedom, and affirms a fundamental principle: that government should not intrude on private family matters.

I am committed to protecting this constitutional right. I also remain committed to policies, initiatives, and programs that help prevent unintended pregnancies, support pregnant women and mothers, encourage healthy relationships, and promote adoption.

And on this anniversary, I hope that we will recommit ourselves more broadly to ensuring that our daughters have the same rights, the same freedoms, and the same opportunities as our sons to fulfill their dreams.

(Source: LifeNews.com. January 23, 2011)

"America stands for liberty, for the pursuit of happiness and for the unalienable right for life. This **right to life** cannot be granted or denied by government because it does not come from government, it comes from the Creator of life."

-George W. Bush, 43<sup>rd</sup> President

#### HOW TO **EFFECTIVELY** COMMUNICATE WITH LEGISLATORS

The following guidelines in effectively communicating with legislators were part of an article found in the ORTA Quarterly (Spring 2010). They are worth repeating in this newsletter because they include great talking points for getting our concerns to our legislators in an efficient and effective manner. We need to take the time and trouble to write in a way that will be effective while not alienating the legislator and doing harm to the cause. Please consider the following guidelines carefully as you communicate with your legislator.

EFFECTIVE	FUTILE
Be courteous	Don't be unrealistic in your requests
Personalize	Don't send form letters
Keep it short/succinct	Don't address multiple subjects
One page, and get to the point at the beginning	Don't assume they know all the details
Commend them for past or current actions	Don't threaten or attack
Give reasons for your position	Don't degrade or impugn their motives

<sup>\*</sup>Ask for a statement of their position on our issue

#### **AFFILIATE STATE CHAPTER UPDATE**

**Michigan Affiliate:** The next Michigan Board of Trustees meeting will be held on June 29, 2011, Mackinac Island, MI. \* mi2002tsc@accesstoledo.com.

**Ohio Affiliate:** The Ohio Affiliate welcomes new board member Christina Watts. The next Board of Trustees meeting will be April 30, 2011 in Frazeysburg OH. \* tsc-life@juno.com.

**Pennsylvania Affiliate:** John Gordon, chairperson, will be one of the speakers on March 12, 2011 at the St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Bloomfield PA. The next Board of Trustees meeting will be May 7, 2011 with the place TBD. \*tscofpa@epix.net.

#### BE A "VOICE FOR LIFE IN EDUCATION"

#### PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE

8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL PRO-LIFE T-SHIRT DAY

**April 26, 2011** 

Sponsored by Rock for Life and the American Life League 1-540-659-4171 or www.all.org

<sup>\*</sup>Include your address and sign your name

<sup>\*</sup>Follow up after they respond. Thank them for responding!

<sup>\*</sup>If they agree with our position, suggest they take a leadership role.

<sup>\*</sup>If they disagree with our position, send additional information.



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#### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

#### WHO WILL REPRESENT YOU AT NEA?

Quick! – If you have remained a member of the NEA, WHO casts your vote at the NEA Representative Assembly? If you don't know your area delegates, you *should* know.

Often educators know the names of their local officers and building representatives. However, most union dues money – in fact, hundreds of dollars – goes beyond the local to other levels of the Association. Knowing who represents you and how they vote isn't just a matter of principle; it's a matter of how your dues money is being spent.

NEA and its state affiliates maintain they have a strong tradition of democratic governance. The NEA Representative Assembly, the main governing meeting of the Association, is the largest deliberative body in the world. During the Representative Assembly, delegates vote on issues that affect educators in many ways. They adopt all the policies of the NEA, the budget and resolutions; enact legislative agendas; and consider many new business items. They also elect officers and vote on amendments to the governing documents.

All delegates are selected by their colleagues in the local and state affiliates to represent their views at the assembly. If you are a NEA member, it is not too late to get involved. Some local <u>Constitution & Bylaws</u> allow officers to serve as the delegates or allow multi-year terms for delegates. Some

deadlines are past for submitting candidacy forms at the state level; however, if you are interested in running, take the time to check. It might not be too late to be a delegate! You will never know for sure unless you talk to your local president or someone at your state affiliate office.

Finally, watch those local memos and newsletters carefully for NEA delegate election information. Many elections will be taking place between now and mid-March. Even if you do not feel led to be a delegate, you can always vote. Pro-life, profamily educators will only be represented when those who have decided to remain union members take the time to run as delegates or find out the positions of the delegate candidates — and then **VOTE!** 

This newsletter is published by Teachers Saving Children® Inc.
For more information contact 330-821-2747 or
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Miss Connie Bancroft, Executive Director

National Board of Trustees: Judy Bruns \* John Gordon \* Dennis Healy \* David Kaiser Juanita Sattler \* John Saxe \* Gary Winney

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