Lights for Life, back page



Volume 47 Number 10

Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

December 2018



Right to Life -LIFESPAN wishes to all a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year



the comfort of hope,

the warmth of peace,

and the joy of life.



You Can Never End Abortion If You Vote For It

By Ryan Scott Bomberger

have to laugh when I hear liberals accuse social conservatives of being "single-issue" voters. Of course voters, like me, are concerned about a whole plethora of issues especially since the government has intruded into every possible facet of our lives. But there is virtue in single-mindedness. There is worth in focusing on an egregious injustice that outweighs other concerns.

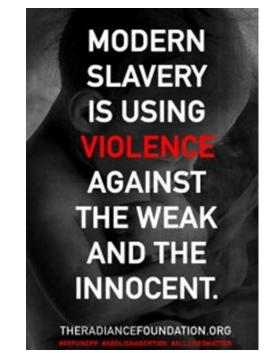
Suffragists were singularly focused. They believed in the promises of Liberty guaranteed in the Declaration of Independence and made possible through the amendment process of the Constitution. They were betrayed by House Democrats, 49.1% of whom voted against the 19th Amendment (81% of House Republicans voted for it). In the Senate, 67% of Republican Senators voted for it; only 47% of Democrats did.

You better believe women, like founding feminists demanded Americans focus on a single issue. The Democrat-led 65th Congress failed to legislate a woman's right to vote. So, in the next Congress (the 66th), Democrats were swept out of power and Republicans led the victory for women's rights instead. In the final House vote for passage of the landmark 19th Amendment, 91% of Republicans voted for it while only 60% of Democrats voted for it. You won't hear that from mainstream media.

By the way, celebrated and founding feminist, Susan B. Anthony, was indisputably prolife. In fact she made it unambiguously clear in her periodical "The Revolution" that abortion was "child murder". It was the title of an article that went on to declare: "There must be a remedy even for such a crying evil as this." Leading feminists, many of them proud mothers, embraced everything that made them women while fighting fearlessly for equality. Conversely, today's fake feminists think the barbaric act of abortion is "equality". True feminists can't vote for Planned Parenthood's pro-abortion candidates.

I'll never forget, a few years ago, when I participated in a meeting of leading liberal evangelicals including Cameron Strang of Relevant Magazine, Shane Claiborne of the Simple Way, and Mark Clapham of the Clapham Group. The entire weekend was filled with presentations on issues with lots of emotion, scattered and disconnected Biblical verses, and zero statistics. I'm a factivist, so it struck me that there was lots of activism that weekend and little factivism.

One session was as amusing as it was shocking. We were told to split up by tables and discuss, in our smaller groups, how we should define a "pro-life ethic". I naively thought this meant we were talking about human beings



in the womb. Mark Clapham kicked it off by offering "concern for cage-free chickens". I laughed, thinking he was joking, then realized he wasn't. He was dead serious.

When each group presented to the entire room, I endured listening to the litany of things that rendered the word "pro-life" meaningless: mercury levels in water, food deserts, global warming, and yes, compassionate chicken-care. As only one of 3 minorities in a room of more than 60 leaders, I had to speak out. I challenged the gathering saying: "You know, it's nice that we can sit here and wishfully add all of these things to define a 'prolife ethic'. We have the luxury of doing this. None of us are enslaved. Imagine if this were 1860 and the prevailing issue were slavery. Would we sit around and define an "anti-slavery" ethic with things that have nothing to do with slavery? We're talking about one of the most brutal acts against a living human being - abortion. At least a slave had the limited opportunity to defend himself or herself or to run away hence the Underground Railroad. A child in the womb has no ability to do either. None."

To that, someone from the International Justice Mission (which goes out of its way not to decry or fight the global injustice of forced abortions) scolded me and said: "Your comparison of slavery to abortion is crass and careless." Sure. If you don't know history and can't employ common sense. In American jurisprudence, there is no case more aligned to Roe v. Wade than Dred Scott. In both, seven Supremely wrong justices decided that certain human beings weren't persons, therefore had no Constitutional rights. In both rulings, human beings were then property that could be bought, sold, or killed at will. In both rulings, the humanity of a group of people was denied so that a small group of people could profit (immensely) from their oppression.

Yes. They're exactly alike. I'm sorry that liberal sensitivities blind some to what's so crystal clear.

This is why liberal evangelicals (or today's fake feminists) would never have ended the institution of slavery. They want to put everything on par with the brutalization of defenseless human life or just ignore the social injustice of abortion altogether. Humans have more worth than chickens. Unlike Cecile Richards' often used little punch line ("This year women learned that if we're not at the table, we're on the menu.") chickens actually are on the menu. And they should be; they're delicious. Horrifically, unborn babies are on Planned Parenthood's "menu" of services, slaughtered in the name of faux equality and corporate profits.

As a black (biracial) American, I am eternally grateful that courageous radicals decided that one issue trumped others as they fought the impossible fight — to abolish slavery. (By the way, the Republican Party abolished it, gave black Americans citizenship, and black men the right to vote in the Reconstruction Amendments).

To see the injustice of abortion as an issue that eclipses others is a sign of our humanity shining through. Take a look at history. It never ends well when people become the arbiters of human worth. Our dignity and value are inherent, irreplaceable and non-negotiable.

So, as an adoptee and adoptive father, I'll vote pro-life (and, no, third party voting isn't an option for me). I'll vote to protect those who have no voice... and no, I don't mean chickens. The ironic thing is that when a chicken is slaughtered, you can at least hear it. When a human being, in utero, is slaughtered...there is only silence. Perhaps that's why it's easier to pretend that single-issue voters are making a lot of noise about nothing.

But my vote and my actions will resound with this singular truth: human life is everything.

- Radiance Foundation, November 1, 2018

You Still Have Time!

The end of the year is coming!



Have you donated to the Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund yet? The work of our Chapters, Wee Care and Youth Programs benefit greatly from your gift!

Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund is a 501(c)(3) org. Your donation is 100% tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Send in your donation today!

News and Notes

Editor's note: Michigan may not have elected all pro-life legislators in the November election, but the people of West Virginia got the job done this year.

WVL-PAC President Wanda Franz, Ph.D., had this to say:

"West Virginians for Life thanks the people of the state of West Virginia for passing Amendment 1 to stop taxpayer-funding of abortion on demand. Passage of the amendment returns control of the budget to the state legislature, as required by the State Constitution. We commend the members of the state legislature for their courage in putting this amendment on the ballot."



The Christmas Pageant

My husband and I had been happily married (most of the time) for five years but hadn't been blessed with a baby.

I decided to do some serious praying and promised God that if he would give us a child, I would be a perfect mother, love it with all my heart and raise it with His word as my guide.

God answered my prayers and blessed us with a son.

The next year, God blessed us with another son.

The following year, He blessed us with yet another son.

The year after that, we were blessed with a daughter.

My husband thought we'd been blessed right into poverty. We now had four children, and the oldest was only four years old.

I learned never to ask God for anything unless I meant it As a minister once told me, "If you pray for rain, make sure you carry an umbrella."

I began reading a few verses of the Bible to the children each day as they lay in their cribs..

I was off to a good start. God had entrusted me with four children and I didn't want to disappoint Him.

I tried to be patient the day the children smashed two dozen eggs on the kitchen floor searching for baby chicks.

I tried to be understanding... when they started a hotel for homeless frogs in the spare bedroom, although it took me nearly two hours to catch all twenty-three frogs .

When my daughter poured ketchup all over herself and rolled up in a blanket to see

how it felt to be a hot dog, I tried to see the humor rather than the mess..

In spite of changing over twenty-five thousand diapers, never eating a hot meal and never sleeping for more than thirty minutes at a time, I still thank God daily for my children.

While I couldn't keep my promise to be a perfect mother -I didn't even come close... I did keep my promise to raise them in the Word of God.

I knew I was missing the mark just a little when I told my daughter we were going to church to worship God, and she wanted to bring a bar of soap along to "wash up" Jesus, too.

Something was lost in the translation when I explained that God gave us everlasting life, and my son thought it was generous of God to give us his "last wife."

My proudest moment came during the children's Christmas pageant.

My daughter was playing Mary, two of my sons were shepherds and my youngest son was a wise man. This was their moment to shine.

My five-year-old shepherd had practiced his line, "We found the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes."

But he was nervous and said, "The baby was wrapped in wrinkled clothes."

> My four-year-old "Mary" said, "That's not 'wrinkled clothes,' silly. That's dirty, rotten clothes."

A wrestling match broke out between Mary and the shepherd and was stopped by an angel, who bent her halo and lost her left wing.



I slouched a little lower in my seat when Mary dropped the doll representing Baby Jesus, and it bounced down the aisle crying, "Mama-mama."

Mary grabbed the doll, wrapped it back up and held it tightly as the wise men arrived. My other son stepped forward wearing a bathrobe and a paper crown, knelt at the manger and announced, "We are the three wise men, and we are bringing gifts of gold, common sense and fur."

The congregation dissolved into laughter, and the pageant got a standing ovation.

"I've never enjoyed a Christmas program as much as this one," laughed the pastor, wiping tears from his eyes

"For the rest of my life, I'll never hear the Christmas story without thinking of gold, common sense and fur."

"My children are my pride and my joy and my greatest blessing," I said as I dug through my purse for an aspirin.

Jesus had no servants, yet they called Him Master.

Had no degree, yet they called Him Teacher.

Had no medicines, yet they called Him Healer.

Had no army, yet kings feared Him.

He won no military battles, yet He conquered the world. He committed no crime, yet they crucified Him.

He was buried in a tomb, yet He lives today.

Feel honored to serve such a Leader who loves us. Do you believe in God and in Jesus Christ His Son?.

By Susan Beardsley



LIFESPAN Gift Memberships - Only \$8!



Give holiday gift memberships to people you feel would benefit from reading LIFESPAN News. We'll send the recipient an attractive gift card.

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Make check	: payable & ma	il to: RTL - L	IFESPAN Ed. Fund
32540	Schoolcraft Rd.	, Ste.100, Lia	vonia, MI 48150

Planned Parenthood in Livonia!



Editor's Note: This was sent to all Livonia City Council Members on 11/9/18.

Dear Leaders of Livonia,

I am writing because I am very concerned about the direction of the City of Livonia. As you enter Livonia, signs proclaim "Family First" as our city's motto. This will not be true by allowing an abortion mill known as Planned Parenthood to move in on Five Mile Road, just around the corner from Livonia's City Hall, Courthouse and the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Office.

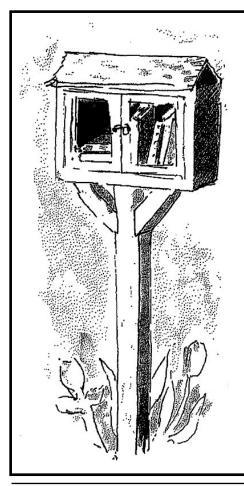
Killing innocent babies should not be part of what Livonia means to people. Wouldn't it be better to be known as a place where a woman faced with an unplanned pregnancy could go and receive support, counseling and resources?

Do you realize what actually happens on an abortionist's table? Do you know that innocent babies are torn apart--literally, limb by limb before being pulled out --in many pieces-- from their mother's womb? Do you know that abortionists often distort the facts of gestational age, what an abortion actually consists of, risks of an abortion and more? Do you really want to drive by the abortion mill on a daily basis knowing that women are being hurt and innocent babies are being killed inside? Do you really want to watch people repeatedly picketing near the center of our city?

Our city should be a place where babies are BORN, not killed. A place where a baby who, at conception, had a unique blood type, individual dna and a heartbeat within a week of conception. A place where the baby who sleeps, dreams, smells, hears and LIVES in the mother's womb knows safety, really sanctuary.

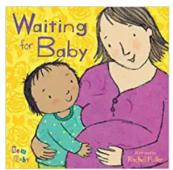
What are your thoughts about this heinous moneygrabbing business installing itself around the corner from Livonia's City Hall and Courthouse? As a taxpayer and citizen of Livonia, I would like to know what your plans are in regards to Planned Parenthood's intent to move in and wreak havoc on our city?

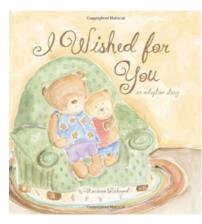
Eileen Brandt, A Concerned Livonia Resident



LIFESPAN's Lil' Library Project

Share the <u>knowledge of life</u> through our grassroots approach by supplying your neighborhood "Lil' Libraries" with two pre-selected books appropriate for children of pre-school and primary grades - books that celebrate the joy of life.





We have new books for you to share!!! Call (734-524-0162) or email (mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org) the LIFESPAN Main Office to obtain two (2) books for each location that you have discovered in your town. Be prepared to report the address of the location(s). This is an ongoing event that you can participate in at any time.



47 Years of Abortion

Below are short reflections from our Rose Ceremony last January. Each year since 1973 is represented.

<u>**2013</u>** - Pro-life advocates at the United Nations succeeded in halting US efforts to list abortion as an international human right.</u>

<u>2014</u> - Individual states continue to increase the number of laws protecting women and their pre-born babies. Through God, all things are possible and we will persevere and win!

2015 - The number of Americans who self-identify as "pro-life" is at an all-time high. The majority of Americans believe in the value of human life.

2016 - The first bill ever to try and defund that nation's largest abortion provider is sent to then President Obama's desk; it is vetoed, but this is still a major pro-life victory.

<u>2017</u> - Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, please intercede for us on behalf of all pre-born children and their mothers.

2018 - Mothers are the link to eternity... between God and the human race. O Holy Spirit, protect all pregnant women and the new life within them. Comfort the fearful, counsel the doubtful and help us to be present for these women... especially in their hour of need.

From the President's Desk

May the blessings of this holiday season be upon you and yours!

To all of our Christian supporters, MERRY CHRISTMAS. May the message of Christ's peace and hope be upon you and your families. The celebration of the birth of Christ, coming as a small baby, to bring hope to the world, is so comforting for those of us who work to save the unwanted babies of our country.

To our Jewish supporters, we wish you a HAPPY HANUKKAH. As the "Feast of Lights" is celebrated, may the candles of Dedication shine brightly in your homes and the blessings of God be upon you and your families. May the eight candles that brighten your home also be a beacon of hope, expanding out to brighten a darkening world -SHALOM.

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all! As the year comes to an end, I would like to thank all of our LIFESPAN supporters for being a part of this 48 year old organization. Without your support, whether financial or physically working at our events and projects, we could not exist. YOU have brought the prolife message to the Detroit Metropolitan area - YOU are LIFESPAN.

Our pro-life message must be lived daily. Our goal is through Education and Action to change hearts and minds making Human Life and the respect for the individual a paramount theme in our work. Respect for Human Life is essential for "Peace in the World". It will begin with you and permeate to your family, friends and co-workers.

This coming year will be an exciting one. Along with our established projects, we will start preparing for our 50th Anniversary coming up in 2020. If possible as a Christmas gift, give a LIFESPAN Newsletter subscription to someone you love. It will carry our message into a new home - the pro-life message to someone who may not have access to this information (you will find a form on page 3).

And, don't forget during this Blessed Holy Holiday Season - take time to sit back, relax and think of all the wonderful gifts we have - especially the first - THE GIFT OF LIFE. Without it nothing else matters.

Peace, Diane



LIFESPAN Chapter News

Music

Excitement

Richly dressed gifts

Recalling Christmases past

Youngsters with sparkling eyes

As we celebrate, we also remember the Reason for the Season.

The board members of LIFESPAN, Oakland/Macomb wishes you a wonderful Christmas celebration with family and friends.



1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084-3540 Phone: 248-816-1546 Email: oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org Office Hours: MWF: 9-3; TTh: 8-3:30 Diane Trombley, Director Lynn Gura, Ofc. Staff & Youth Director

Christmas is a Holiday for Friends

By Nicholas Gordon

Saviour of the world

Christmas is a holiday for friends.

However they may be, or not, related.

Remember that the three wise kings were strangers

In search of one remote, uncanny dream.

So may we all be far more than we seem,

Together bound for dark and haunting changes,

More lovely for the loves we have created

Along the lonely paths from means to ends,

Stumbling towards that star of Bethlehem.

You are all so much more than friends to us here at the Wayne County Chapter. Thank you for being part of LIFESPAN's family. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! With Love, Anne Marie

Director Wanted

Are you passionate about LIFE? Do you want to do more in the Pro-Life Movement? Do you like to share your pro-life convictions with others? Do we have the job for you! We are looking for a Director for the Wayne County chapter in Livonia. This is a paid part-time position. Please contact the Main Office at 734-524-0162 for more information.

32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 210, Livonia, MI 48150-4305 Phone 734-422-6230 • Fax 734-422-8116 Email: wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org Office Hours: M-Th: 10-4; Friday Closed Anne Marie Morin, Ofc. Manager & Assoc. Youth Director



By the time you read this, hundreds of packages of baby supplies have been given to moms and their sweet babies this month - just in time for Christmas!

Because of you, they were given warm blankets, snowsuits, diapers, sleepers and so much more.

Because of you, if only for a little while, they truly will experience "Peace on Earth" as they hold their precious baby - warm, fed, clothed and snuggled in their arms.

And, perhaps, during a late night feeding, when the night is still, the tree lights are glowing and all the world is hushed, the mom will feel your love, feel that peace, and know how much we care.



May God bless you all with a Christmas filled with laughter, hugs, much love and special moments to treasure.

Love, Karen

A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305 Phone: 734-524-0165 • Fax: 734-524-0166 Office Hours: By appointment; Karen Patrosso, Director

All material and monetary donations to Wee Care are tax-deductible. Checks must be made payable to Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund.



On Saturday, October 27th, LIFESPAN was invited to have a pro-life information table at the Building Bridges to a Culture of Life Youth Event, hosted at Divine Child High School. We asked for student volunteers through our contacts at Mercy High School, U of D Jesuit High School, and

Saint Catherine of Siena High School. Two young ladies from Mercy who are very passionate about the Pro -Life cause volunteered for us. We were very happy to work with both of them through the two week process of



getting them set up for the Youth Event. LIFESPAN provided them the materials for the table and covered their admission cost. They took the items, set up the table, interacted with many people who visited the table, attended the speakers' presentations, and then packed up the materials. I asked for comments on their experience. Within the week after the Youth Event, this is how they responded:

Comments from Chloe:

I would like to begin by saying thank you to LIFESPAN for this incredible opportunity. To say this experience was life-changing would be an understatement. Although I was a pro-life activist long before the conference, I can confidently say that it opened my eyes from numerous viewpoints. Ashley and I set up the LIFESPAN booth as soon as we arrived, and we were also able to provide resources to many of the attendees before the conference began. Kathleen then invited us into the auditorium to hear Dr. Pat Castle speak.

Continued on page 10

A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084-3540 Phone: 248-816-1546 • Email: youth@milifespan.org Lynn Gura, Director & Anne Marie Morin, Assoc. Director

Youth Report

Continued from page 9

He was incredible, and was clearly passionate about the pro-life movement. He provided me with resources to start a Life-Runner Chapter at my school, which I was (and still am) incredibly grateful for. Ashley and I were then able to hear the testimonies of speakers regarding challenges they have faced throughout their lives. Hearing a young woman, Shannon Salter, speak about her encounters at such a young age was absolutely awe-inspiring. Following, Ashley and I met some more attendees and provided them with LIFESPAN resources. We were then able to hear The Culture Project speak about sexual integrity. It was life-changing in countless ways, and opened my eyes about society's portrayals of how we should live. While everyone else proceeded to the Liturgy, Ashley and I packed up the LIFESPAN booth, picked out t-shirts, went to confession, and ate dinner. During this time, we could not stop talking about what an impact the conference had on us, spiritually and emotionally. We spoke more closely with the speakers from The Culture Project and Kathleen. We discussed numerous ideas regarding another conference among Mercy and the University of Detroit Jesuit. I was incredibly excited to receive their contacts and scope out ideas for a future conference! Sadly,

the conference came to an end, and Ashley and I headed home.

Again, I would like to express an immense amount of gratitude to LIFESPAN for providing us with this incredibly opportunity, and allowing us to keep some of the resources provided! Keep me in mind for future events in which you need volunteers. God Bless!



Comments from Ashley:

Last Saturday I volunteered for Lifespan at the youth conference held at Divine Child. Not only did I have the opportunity to spread awareness to a cause I was passionate about but I got to experience a life changing event. I am so appreciative

Place a Light on the Lights for Life Tree

In Honor of	In Memory of		
In Honor of	In Memory of		
In Honor of	In Memory of		
Given By			
Number of Lights to "shine"	Total amount enclosed: \$		
Any contribution will be greatly appreciated	If you need additional space, please attach another sheet of paper.		
Check made payable to <i>LIFESPAN Educational Fund</i>	(Note Lights for Life on your check memo)		
□ MasterCard □ VISA □ Discover □ America	n Express *Your credit card will be charged by LIFESPAN Educational Fund		
Bill To:			
Name	Phone ()		

 Name
 Phone ()

 Address
 City
 State
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 Signature (for Credit Card)
 Card Verification Code
 Email Address (if receipt is requested)

Send form and payment to:

Right to Life - LIFESPAN Main Office, 32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305. 734.524.0162 • mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org for this marvelous opportunity Lifespan has given me and to learn more about what it means to be pro-life. Thank you.

LIFESPAN sent a letter recognizing these two students to the Principal of Mercy High. We thank them for assisting us and look forward to working with them again in the near future!

Lynn A. Gura, Youth Director
 248-816-1546 oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org
 Anne Marie Morin, Associate Youth Director
 734-422-6230 youth@milifespan.org

@miLIFESPAN



SAVE THESE DATE! PRO-LIFE EVENTS - 2019

Pro-Life Luminaries:

Monday, January 21st

Rose Ceremony at OLGC: January 2019

LIFESPAN Baby Shower: Sunday, March 10th

LIFESPAN Annual Dinner:

Tuesday, May 7th

Donations have been made -*In Memory of:*

Richard Leo Hirsch Given by: Eileen Doherty

Stefanie Lawler Given by: Mary Beth Theisen

Tom O'Neill

Given by: Don & Bernadette D'Alessandro Mike & Tish Daly Jerry & Diane Fagelman Russell & Shirley Fairley John & Judy Jambor Michael & Marie Maloney Mary Lou Reaume

Donations may be made in memory of loved ones who have died; a memorial card will be sent by *LIFESPAN* in your name to the family of the deceased. Donations may also be made to honor someone special, and near and dear to you, for a particular occasion, or just because... Send donations to your local *LIFESPAN* office.





Right to Life - LIFESPAN Membership Form

Right to Life - LIFESPAN believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves—the preborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you the monthly newsletter as well as educational materials and special mailings.

• •	Annual Membership Student/Senior Member	\$30.00 \$20.00	Other		
Name			Phone		_
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Please comp	lete this form and return with your donati	ion to [.] Right to	Life - LIFESPAN 32540	Schoolcraft Rd	

Please complete this form and return with your donation to: *Right to Life - LIFESPAN*, **32540 Schoolcraft Rd.** Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305. For more information, call **734-524-0162**. *Right to Life - LIFESPAN* Oakland/Macomb Chapter 1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Ste. G Troy, MI 48084-3540

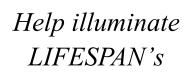


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Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund



Lights for Life Tree

Donate a light in honor of, or in memory of, someone you love!

> See page 10 to place a Light on our Lights for Life Tree.