



LIFESPAN news

Vol. 52 No. 10 Presenting the Pro-Life Message in Southeastern Michigan Since 1970 – 53 Years! Nov./Dec. 2023

Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund



Help illuminate
LIFESPAN's

*Lights for Life
Tree*

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

See page 3 to place a Light on our *Lights for Life Tree!*



2023 LIFESPAN Christmas Cards

Your purchase of LIFESPAN Christmas Cards represents support for the pro-life activities, education and materials offered during the coming year.



\$16 per pkg. of 20
Actual Size: 5 5/8" x 7 7/8"

Inside Verse:

May the Spirit of Christmas be with you
The Gift cherished
Its Hope brighter
Its Peace enduring
And
Its Reverence for Life celebrated
As we rejoice in the Birth of our Savior

Merry Christmas



\$8 per pkg. of 10
Actual Size: 6 1/4" x 4 5/8"

Inside Verse:

MAY YOU HAVE
THE JOY OF LIFE
THE BLESSING OF HOPE
AND THE PEACE OF HIS LOVE
DURING THIS HOLY SEASON AND ALWAYS

Wishing you a Merry Christmas

To place an order, sell at your church,
arrange for pickup, or for more information,
call one of our chapter locations:

Oakland/Macomb County (Troy):
248.816.1546

Wayne County (Livonia):
734.422.6230

All cards are made in the U.S.A.

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) organization. **Your donation is 100% tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.** Send in your donation today!

LIFESPAN's Annual Baby Shower is Coming!

Sunday, March 10, 2024 is *LIFESPAN's* 35th Annual Baby Shower to benefit local Pregnancy Help Centers. Want to participate in this wonderful event? Call the Main Office at 734.524.0162 or email us at mainoffice@rtl-lifespan.org.

35th Annual Life Chain - Sunday, October 1, 2023

Special thanks to all our co-sponsors & participants this year!

- ♥ Auburn Hills Christian Center, Auburn Hills
- ♥ Christ Church of Redford, Redford
- ♥ Church of the Holy Family, Novi
- ♥ Covenant Community Church, Redford
- ♥ Four Winds Church, Livonia
- ♥ Lakes Area Right to Life, Milford
- ♥ LifePointe Church of God, Belleville
- ♥ Knights of Columbus #856, Marine City
- ♥ Northville Christian Assembly, Northville
- ♥ Oakland Hills Community, Farmington Hills
- ♥ Our Lady of Good Counsel, Plymouth
- ♥ Our Lady of Grace, Warren
- ♥ Our Lady of Loretto, Redford
- ♥ Our Lady of the Lakes, Waterford
- ♥ Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Ferndale
- ♥ Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Sterling Heights

- ♥ St. Aidan, Livonia
- ♥ St. Barbara, Dearborn
- ♥ St. Genevieve-St. Maurice, Livonia
- ♥ St. John Fisher Chapel, Auburn Hills
- ♥ St. John Lutheran, Fraser
- ♥ St. John Neumann, Canton
- ♥ St. Joseph, South Lyon
- ♥ St. Joseph the Worker, Lake Orion
- ♥ St. Louise de Marillac, Warren
- ♥ St. Michael the Archangel, Livonia
- ♥ St. Peter Lutheran, Macomb
- ♥ St. Patrick, White Lake
- ♥ St. Sabina, Dearborn Heights
- ♥ St. Therese of Lisieux, Shelby Township
- ♥ St. Valentine, Redford



Place a Light on the Lights for Life Tree

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 **LIFESPAN Educational Fund** (Note **Lights for Life** on your check memo)
 MasterCard VISA Discover American Express *Your credit card will be charged by **LIFESPAN Educational Fund**

Bill To:

Name _____ Phone () _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date ____/____/____

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

Study shows Americans are confused about what ‘abortion’ is. Here’s why that matters

By Cassy Fiano-Chesser

How Americans feel about abortion continues to be a complicated issue. While polling has long found that Americans grapple with the morality of abortion, regardless of whether they feel it should be legal, the abortion industry continues to push for abortion to be legal across the country, for any reason, at any time, with no restrictions or safeguards. This has long been an unpopular position, which is perhaps why abortion activists have so frequently misrepresented the reality of what abortion is.

Now, a new poll shows that there is widespread confusion about what constitutes an “abortion.”

NPR reported on a study from the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute, which portrayed multiple situations, and then asked if it was an abortion. “Our biggest takeaway is that people do not hold a shared standard definition of what is and isn’t an abortion,” Alicia Vandevusse, lead author on the study, told NPR. “We found that there’s a lot of nuance and ambiguity in how people are thinking about these issues and understanding these issues.”

One question asked of respondents involved miscarriage:

“Person G is 12 weeks pregnant. When they have their first ultrasound, there is no cardiac activity, and their doctor recommends having the fetus removed. Person G has a surgical procedure to remove the fetus.”

Of the 2,000 people who took the survey, one-third felt this qualified as an “abortion.”

Conversely, people seemed to waver on whether or not a eugenic abortion — when someone ends their preborn child’s life due to fetal abnormalities — still counted as an abortion. “I guess, I mean, maybe [it’s an abortion]. It depends on if you know you’re not able to take care of a severe — a sickly child I guess, then what choice do you have?” one respondent said. “Would you rather go all the way through, you know. I think it’s considered abortion only when you personally know you can take care of a child and you’re being selfish.”

Why is there such confusion surrounding what is, or is not, an abortion?

It’s fairly simple: because the abortion industry has insisted that things like miscarriage treatment qualify as abortions, even if the preborn child is no longer alive. The pro-life movement has sought to clarify this confusion by noting that induced abortion is the intentional, direct killing of a human being in the



womb. Therefore, miscarriage treatment does not qualify, and early delivery with attempts to save the child (even if the child dies secondarily) is also not an abortion.

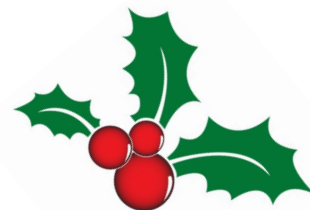
Abortionist Nisha Verma claimed an induction, followed by a hysterectomy, was an abortion. Abortion activists bullied Jessa Seewald after she experienced a miscarriage, claiming that because she had a dilation and curettage (D&C) procedure, she had undergone an abortion even though her preborn child had already died in utero before the procedure. Another abortion activist said she had undergone a late-term abortion, when in reality, she had a c-section out of medical necessity, and her babies were too premature to survive.

The difference between things like miscarriage management, ectopic pregnancy treatment, or induction for health reasons and abortion is simple: one intentionally causes the death of the preborn child, while the others do not.

Plain and simple, these legitimate health care procedures are not abortions — yet the abortion industry has worked hard to conflate these issues, likely because they are aware that these scenarios are more sympathetic, and therefore, are scenarios Americans would support.

Ultimately, the confusion surrounding “abortion” is beneficial to the abortion industry, because when people know the truth about what abortion is, how it’s committed, and what it does... they are much less likely to support it.

- National Right to Life News, October 3, 2023



2023-2024 Pro-Life LIFESPAN Events



Lights for Life Campaign
November - December, 2023

***Movement In Motion* Bus Trip Registration**

September 1 - November 15, 2023

Pro-Life Christmas Cards

October - December, 2023

***Movement In Motion* Youth Bus Trip**

January 19, 2024



***Be the Change* Training**

April 12 & April 13, 2024



35th Annual LIFESPAN Baby Showers

March 10, 2024

Right to Life - LIFESPAN presents

Be the Change

Learn to be **EFFECTIVE** advocates for the unborn at Michigan's **BEST** pro-life youth training!

GENERATION TRUTH **PROTECT LIFE MICHIGAN**

SPEAKERS

RYAN BOMBERGER

JOSEPH TUSKI

FREE

for 7th grade through young adults

Fri., April 12, 2024 **OR** **Sat., April 13, 2024**
Livonia Auburn Hills

REGISTER: ProtectLifeMI.regfox.com/bethechange

Questions? Contact Lynn: 248-816-1546 | OAKMACeRTL-LIFESPAN.ORG

Wayne County Youth Coordinator Wanted

Looking for a dynamic & energetic individual to be our new **Wayne County Youth Coordinator**.

You will lead LIFESPAN's Generation Truth youth program within the Chapter.

You will collaborate with the Oakland/Macomb Youth Director to increase membership & programs within the Chapter.

This is a part-time position averaging 10+ hours/week with salary negotiable depending on experience and skills.

Please contact the Wayne County Chapter at 734.422.6230 for more information or send your resume to tpruse@miLIFESPAN.org.

LIFESPAN Chapter News

Oakland/Macomb Counties

Many counting down the days
Energy needed to accomplish everything
Ribbons wrapping boxes
Rich meals being planned
Young and old enjoy the preparations
Christ is coming!
Hosannas being heard
Richly blessed by the Newborn Babe
Increase in love to all who praise Him
Sending praise for the Saviour's Birth
Thankful for this wonderful Gift
Magi travel to see the King
Angels show the way
Saved by Christ this Christmas Day



1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G, Troy, MI 48084-3540
Phone: 248-816-1546 • Email: oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org
Office Hours: M/F: 9-3; T/W/Th: 7-3
Diane Trombley, Director
Lynn Gura, Office Staff/Youth Director

Membership & Volunteer Drives

Wayne Chapter members receiving this newsletter will soon receive a 2024 Membership Renewal letter. Please respond with your renewal and dues prior to Thanksgiving if possible! We love you and appreciate your continued participation in LIFESPAN! In September, we sent out a Membership invitation letter to non-affiliated supporters of the Citizens to Protect MI Women and Children Coalition from the local Wayne-West region. Please invite your pro-life friends, family, and colleagues to become LIFESPAN members and stand up to the Culture of Death in Metro Detroit. If you can think of anyone who may appreciate our invitation to join, please send us their name and address to (734) 422-6230 or wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org and we will mail them an invitation letter. Please also contact us if you are interested in volunteering at the Chapter or at LIFESPAN events in 2024!



Wayne County

October Event Recap

Enjoy the images of the 2023 CIDER Walk in this issue! We look forward to sharing photos and details from the Pro-Life Luncheon in the January newsletter.

**ARE ALL HUMAN BEINGS
WORTHY OF EQUAL RIGHTS
OR ONLY SOME HUMANS?**

32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 210, Livonia, MI 48150-4305
Phone 734-422-6230 • Email: wcdr@rtl-lifespan.org
Office Hours: T-Th-F: 11:30am - 4:30pm; MW: Closed
Timothy Pruse, Director
Pam Jankowski, Office Manager



Wee Care

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas – actually it's not!

As I write this, leaves are beginning to fall and our thoughts are turning to Thanksgiving and thanking all of you wonderful friends for what you do year round for our sweet babies.

For those who purchase beautiful baby supplies, who crochet pretty afghans, who arrange showers and giving trees, who drive and pickup carloads of gifts, who donate monetary gifts and gift cards and who pray for our precious babies and their moms – there are no words to thank you! We just ask God to bless you with all the happiness you give to others!

And speaking of happiness – holding a newborn baby in your arms at Christmastime brings unspeakable joy! And that joy is overwhelming when the mom can also experience the peace knowing that they do not have to worry about their baby's

immediate needs – diapers, warm clothing, soft blankets, etc. – thanks to all of you!

May you all have that peace and joy at Christmas and be surrounded by hugs, laughter and much, much love!

Happy Holidays!

Love, Karen



A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund

32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste. 100, Livonia, MI 48150-4305

Phone: 734-524-0165

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.



YOUTH REPORT

Dear Friends of Life – students of all ages, parents, teachers, campus ministers, assistant principals, principals, school presidents, youth ministers, young adult leaders, DRE's, church administrators, deacons, pastors, and priests:

Here is an update for you regarding LIFESPAN's Youth Outreach Program:

1. Our **Movement in Motion Youth Bus Trip** plans are continuing to take shape for four buses to go to Washington, DC in January for the 2nd annual Post-Roe March for Life. The cost of the trip is \$185.00 per person which covers the bus cost, a donation to the host churches, and LIFESPAN hats. See the flier on page 9 for more details and contact Lynn Gura, YPT Coordinator, at oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org for the registration forms, as well as on our website (<https://milifespan.org/events/2024-movement-in-motion-youth-bus-trip-registration/>). **Note:** 7th & 8th grade students are welcome to join the high school and college students on the trip, as long as they have a parent or aunt/uncle who will travel with them.
2. We are starting early to plan for next year's **Protect**

Life Michigan Life Advocate Intensive Training in Lansing. For anyone who wants to attend the training next August (2024), please contact Lynn. The age requirement is 11th grade through college age.

3. What a great **Respect Life month** in October! So many things were happening to raise public awareness! I participated in Life Chain in Traverse City with my husband and my oldest nephew. There was a strong presence of pro-life people lining the main street. His pastor reminded/encouraged the faith community at the end of morning Mass to participate and it had a very positive effect on the turnout of people. I was very impressed by his strong leadership in defending Life, marriage and family by things he said and by what he wrote in the parish bulletin. We received many thumbs up and friendly toots with some negative comments screamed out by people from their vehicles and a certain finger waved at us from windows, but we all remained prayerful and joyful to witness to people how valuable the gift of Life is! Do you have any pictures you can share with us from when you participated in Life Chain, Sidewalk Chalking, Silent Day of Solidarity, CIDER Walk, and/or Cupcake Day?

Continued on Page 10

A Program of Right to Life - LIFESPAN Educational Fund

Email: youth@milifespan.org

Email: oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org



Patricia Louise Holscher

October 9, 1932 - October 16, 2023

Patricia Louise Holscher was born on October 9, 1932, in Barnesboro, PA to her parents, John and Mary Ora Jones. Patricia passed away on October 16, 2023, at age 91.

Beloved wife of the late Robert Holscher Sr. Loving mother of Judith (Paul) Smith, Robert Holscher Jr., Jeffrey (Lisa) Holscher, and William (Amy) Holscher. Cherished grandmother of Jennifer (Blake) Koomen, Jake Holscher, Benjamin Holscher, Jackson Holscher, and Charles Holscher. Dear great grandmother of Brynleigh and Jordyn Koomen. Dearest sister of Gerald Jones, Carol Gekiere and the late John Jones, Marjorie Evans and Dorothy Church

We have lost an original LIFESPAN pro-life advocate. Pat's work with LIFESPAN goes back to the early 1970s. She will truly be missed, especially by those of us who worked with her in LIFESPAN over these past fifty years. Pat originally worked in our Macomb Chapter before moving to Livonia with her husband, Bob. She never left the movement, but transferred her love of LIFESPAN'S work and its mission to the Wayne County Chapter.

Pat was very instrumental in getting our Wee Care Outreach Program started at that Chapter. We were reminiscing not long ago, and she was again sharing with me Wee Care's modest beginnings. How they went to the landlord and wanted to know if there was any free office space in the building. They informed him of a new project for LIFESPAN and the Wayne County Chapter needed storage space for storing baby clothes - they had very little space in their office to store baby clothes. The story she told was both inspirational and humorous. Pat spoke about this space: it was in the front of the building, but they had no lights, no heat, no plumbing. So, they worked to sort and package baby clothes for women in need, next to the window for light and with their coats on, for warmth. Today, this project that Pat worked so hard to implement supplies over 500 layettes to moms and babies in need yearly.

Pat loved her Wayne County Chapter work and was the Director from 1990 - 2013. She and her late husband Bob worked together to promote the pro-life cause in Wayne County. When she had to leave for health reasons, she left a void that is still present today. It was her greeting to everyone that passed through its door, her laughter, her smile, her personality was seen by anyone who entered that office. She was an inspiration and her love of LIFESPAN and her devotion to the pro-life movement continued even through her Retirement. Pat never stopped working to save God's children. Rest in peace dear friend. May all the babies you tried to save surround you in prayer and their choir of voices take you to your heavenly Father.



**2024 Movement in Motion
Youth Bus Trip**
Post-Roe America



Why Do We Still March?

Our most important work is changing hearts and minds. The goal of the national March for Life is to not only change laws at the state and federal level, but to change the culture to ultimately make abortion unthinkable. We will continue to march every January at the national level until a culture of life is restored in the United States.

From the National March for Life website



Dates:

Thursday morning, January 18-
Saturday evening, January 20

Pick Up:

*Two locations in Wayne
County, one location in
Oakland, one location in
Macomb County*

*Accommodations for two nights
at two different host churches
(bring sleeping bags
and pillows)*

Cost Per Person:

\$185.00

Includes bus cost and beanie hat
but does not include any meals

Registration Period

September 1-
November 15, 2023

To Register:

Contact Lynn Gura
at 248-816-1546 or by email at
oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org

From the President's Desk



Like you, I watch with horror the attack of innocent people in Israel. The total destruction of individuals and families because of hate. A moment in time when we saw firsthand man's inhumanity to man. A total disrespect for human life is being played out before us.

Working in the pro-life movement, you see and hear about evil. Evil is a strong word and should not be used indiscriminately. Its description in **Websters Dictionary** is "morally

reprehensible: SINFUL, WICKED." To many of us, it also represents the work of the evil one, the Devil.

The events of this past week in Israel conjures up a real picture of evil. Mass killing is so evil, it is hard for us God-fearing people to understand how people can be so cruel to one another. When you see the pictures and actual interviews with people who were there it is hard to undo the image in your brain - people being brutalized and tortured, (descriptions of babies being beheaded and their parents slaughtered) without feeling deeply sad, and emotionally effected. You are totally helpless in stopping the carnage. These people are children of God and yet they are hated and discarded by their captors. These captors see these humans as unwanted deplorable people who need to be killed because they are alive, and they reject their beliefs.

Not to minimize these tragic events, but I can't help relating the event that continues in this country and worldwide every single day. There are no TV cameras, no interviews, no immediate shock to the public of the one thousand babies being torn from their mother's womb. That event is abortion. It is evil. It is happening in the world every day. You cannot see this little person or touch them so to relate this horrid procedure to killing another human being is hard for many people.

According to the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute, in Michigan, 31,510 abortions were performed in 2020. In 2023 January through July, they estimate that there were over 3000 abortions every month. So, through July we have had over 21,000 babies killed in the womb within the State of Michigan. Those numbers are staggering! Worldwide numbers for abortions are even more incomprehensible: I cannot put my head around these numbers. According to Human Life International, the World Health Organization reports 73 million abortions are done annually. You cannot see these children ripped from the womb nor can you hear their cries, but it is still happening. I believe if the same reporting was exercised by the media as it is with the tragic pictures, we see during war time our society would react differently. Michigan citizens would not have voted to change our State Constitution to allow abortion up to the time of delivery.

Yes, it is overwhelming, but we must never give up. Yes,

you can do something! Pray, join the prolife movement, work locally to change hearts and minds. We need to reach our people through speaking out in the Public Square no matter how hard it may get. Become your place of worship's LIFESPAN Representative, call our Chapter offices to find out how you can help.

If we want Peace, peace must begin in the Womb.

May God Give us the courage to continue this work no matter how difficult it becomes.

- Diane Fagelman, President

P.S.

"On a lighter note, I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. This is the season of joy and hope. I thank God for the gift of His Son, and for His gift of Life to all of us. We must always be hopeful for nothing is impossible for God! Do not let anything steal the joy!"



Youth Report Continued from Page 7

We would be happy to put them in our next Newsletter with comments from you as to why you participated and what you experienced!

We wish Kathryn Priddy all the best as she stepped out of her role as Youth Director at our Wayne County office so she could concentrate more on her youth ministry duties at her parish. We look forward to having her and her students participate in our youth activities/events in the future, like our Youth Bus Trip and Be the Change!

If you know anyone who wants to receive our monthly Youth Mailings by email, please let me know. I will be happy to add them to the list. I will need the person's name, position if an adult working at a school or faith community, if a student or parent or young adult, and an email address. It really helps us in our Youth Outreach! Thank you!

Lynn A. Gura, Oakland/Macomb Counties Youth Director, 248-816-1546, oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org

Find us online at: miLIFESPAN.org & @miLIFESPAN

LIFESPAN Holiday Gift Memberships - Only \$8 each!

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

Gift Membership for (use another sheet for more recipients):

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gift From:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Make check payable & mail to: LIFESPAN Ed. Fund,
32540 Schoolcraft Rd., Ste.100, Livonia, MI 48150



Donations have been made -

In Memory of:

Mary Babcock

Given by: Michael Dean Family

Mary Tomilo

Daniel Fox

Given by: Merry Price

Reba Lois Page

Given by: The Fox Family

Norma Rapin

Given by: Virginia Gaabo

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.

LIFESPAN News

Nov./Dec. 2023; Vol. 52, No. 10

President & Publisher: Diane Fagelman

Co-Editors: Christina Hansen & Diane Trombley

Right to Life - LIFESPAN is a non-profit organization and is funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and fundraisers.



MAIN OFFICE

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Website: miLIFESPAN.org

Christina Cascos Hansen, MA, M.Ed., Office Manager

Right to Life - LIFESPAN Membership Form

Nov/Dec 2023 News

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 LIFESPAN News as well as educational materials and special mailings.

_____ Annual Membership	\$30.00	_____ Platinum	\$500.00 or more
_____ Student/Senior Member	\$20.00	_____ Gold	\$250.00
_____ Monthly Pledge	\$ _____	_____ Silver	\$100.00
_____ Other	\$ _____	_____ Bronze	\$50.00

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

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

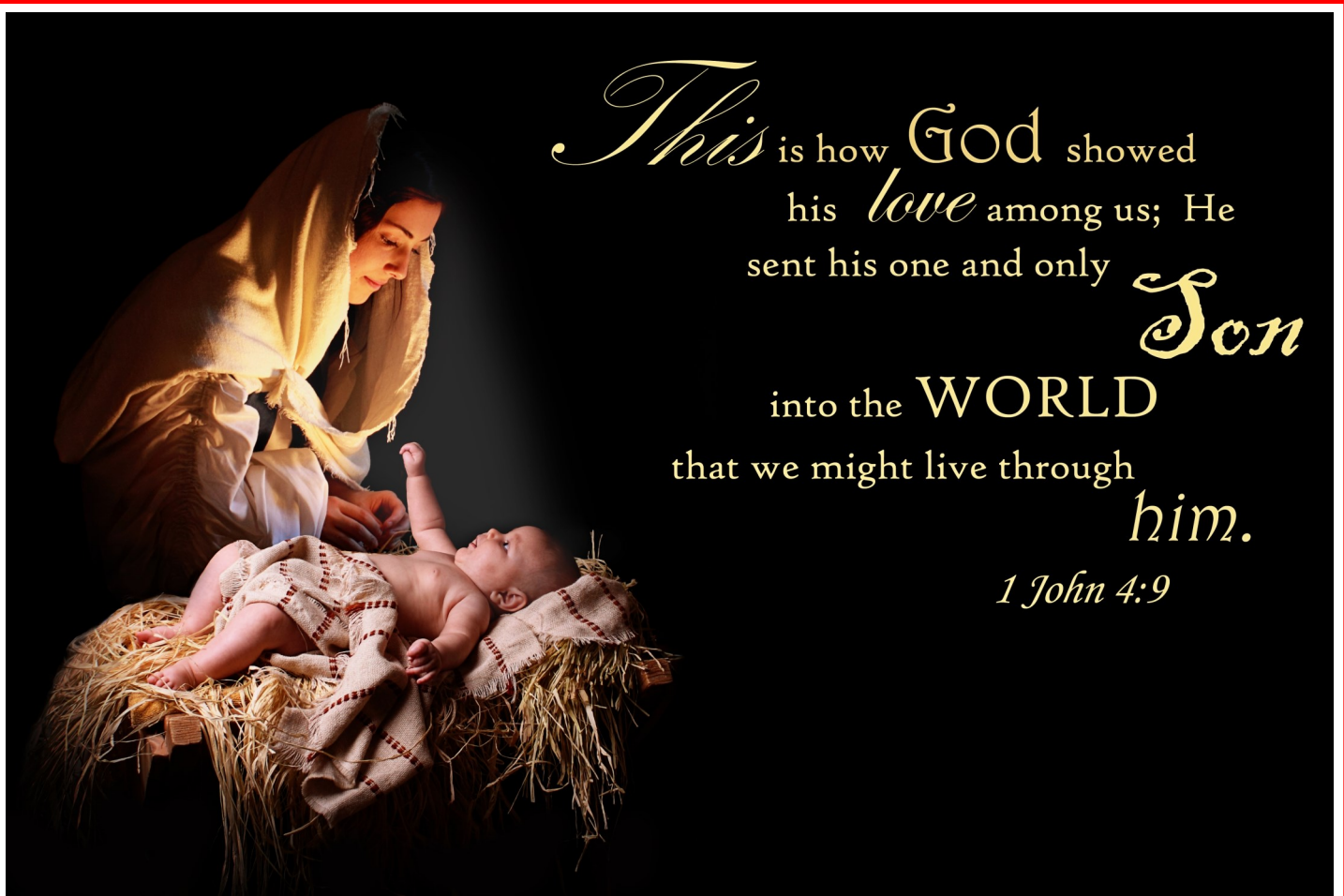
Troy, MI 48084-3540

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DATED MATERIAL



This is how **God** showed
his *love* among us; He
sent his one and only **Son**
into the **WORLD**
that we might live through
him.

1 John 4:9

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from your Pro-Life Family at
Right to Life - LIFESPAN!**