



# Life Topics



*Empowering People to Make Informed Choices*



## From the P.I. Center Director's Desk . . .

Quite often I have someone ask, "How long have you been at the Pregnancy Care Center?" I never quite know if that person thinks I've been here too long and perhaps I should retire, or maybe they think of me as a piece of the furniture —part of the equipment! But whatever the reason, I can say "I'm where I believe God wants me for now!"

Some time ago, my sister-in-law called me and said the Crisis Pregnancy Center (the name at that time) was having a Walk for Life and would I join her? Little did I realize that day that I would be a part of that ministry. The weather cooperated and I met some wonderful people who told me about the Center. The walk ended at the C.P.C. on the Houlton Road but the "cause" was to remain in my heart for days. I picked up a pledge card and promised to support the Center with my time and prayers. I felt this was a very worthy and needed cause so I checked off several areas of interest, one being volunteering. After meeting with the director, Bryan Lawrence, I felt God calling me to this ministry. I did have a big question however! I had a problem with being very "judgmental"! One child out of wedlock could be forgiven, but two, why that's the worst thing that could happen! What would I say to these people? I felt a little like Moses when God asked him to go before Pharaoh to tell him to let the Israelites go and Moses replied, "I speak with faltering lips so let Aaron do it." Would I say the right thing, would I encourage and not discourage her, would I portray God's love? After sessions with Bryan, watching videos, and reading all I could find, I was ready to set the world on fire! It didn't happen the way I had planned, but I survived! I overcame my fears and my judgmental mind-set. I have been with the center since 1992 or 93! I was a volunteer until two years ago when I was asked to become Center Director here in Presque Isle. What an honor, but also what a responsibility!

**"What are you doing for the cause of life?"**

Christie and I have attended area churches, health fairs, and women's meetings to present the work of the Center. I have had opportunities to pray with clients, work with abortion-minded women, teenagers who have been threatened by their parents or boyfriends to not have the baby, girls who have been abused, moms whose lives have been devastated by the news of a daughter's pregnancy. In all of the problems we have encountered, it is a wonderful feeling to know you have helped women and girls in their life changing decisions even though some have made wrong choices. What are you doing for the "cause of life"? Eva Ireland, Center Director of the P.C.C.

Jeremiah 1:6  
"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you."

"I was in God's mind before I was ever in the womb of my mother."  
Marilyn Meberg



Psalm 139:13-18 "For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are Your works. And that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You. When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me. When as yet there were none of them."

## From the Executive Director's Desk . . .



This has been the most exciting quarter I have served in the past two years! We have been able to give a presentation to the Washburn Baptist Church, Family Worship Church in St. David and Caribou United Baptist Mission Conference. It is always an honor to attend a church and give a presentation of the ministry which happens daily at the PCC. As I have been evaluating the feedback from our clients, I can't help but think of the Scripture: **"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge".-Hosea 3:6** One of the most life changing things we do at the PCC is educating our clients and the community at large. We provide education in fetal development, Christian parenting classes, Bible studies, Dating & Marriage studies, post-abortion healing etc. One of our clients who was participating in the Dating & Marriage study said, "I wish I had had the knowledge that these lessons have given me a few years ago and I know I would not have made the choices I did." Another client wrote "I gained the knowledge to be able to have my daughter dedicated. It was important to me to have my child associated with the church." An-

other client said, "The education I received reinforced my knowledge of Christ and renewed my commitment". One client responded to our Give Moms Credit evaluation, "The best thing about this program was learning what I did not know about Jesus and the Bible. I feel it is important to know all about God. I was shocked to know all of the information that I never knew about. It was very helpful. It has given me a better perspective on life and knowing what was sacrificed for life itself." The comments go on and on. A woman who came to us for help with post-abortion said, "If I had only known about the fetal development of my baby, I would have never aborted". We have an amazing team of volunteers who are committed to empowering women to make wise choices, counseling from God's Word, and providing emotional support. We believe all life is worthy and God has a plan and a purpose for all life no matter where you have been. God can turn any life around and make something beautiful.

If you would like to be a volunteer, please contact our office for more information. We will be

conducting the required 22 hour volunteer training course late in October. We can always use some extra volunteers in both Houlton and the Presque Isle area.

The theme of this newsletter is "What are you doing for the cause of life?" There are many ways you can demonstrate your support for life. In this edition of "Life Topics" you will hear some creative ways in which people have stepped up, and surprised us by raising funds for the PCC. This has been such an encouragement to us. We continue to covet your prayers and your willingness to support us in the community by your presence with us on the frontlines saying, "Here I am. I believe "All life is Worthy." Together we will make a difference. Jesus said, **"I have come that they might have life and have it more abundantly."** **John 10:10**

Again, I would like to express how thankful we are for your financial support. God's grace, mercy and peace be with you and your family.

*God Bless!  
Christie*

**ATTENTION YOUTH LEADERS AND TEENS!** We have a Teen Survivor Retreat that we would love to conduct at your church. This program is designed to equip teens with the skills and resources necessary to maintain sexual purity and gain "immunity" from today's sexual pressures. Some of the topics we discuss are: Life Goals & Dreams, Drugs & Alcohol, Components of Good Character, Facts on Youth & Media, STD Statistics & Facts, Refusal Skills, Creative Dates & Safe Boundaries. We are able to tailor fit this program to accommodate your time and needs. Call to schedule this very valuable and critically needed weekend packed with fun, adventure, fellowship, and more!



## WORKING FOR "THE CAUSE OF LIFE"!

### HOULTON'S MIDNIGHT MADNESS

On Friday evening, June 30th, Midnight Madness took place in downtown Houlton. The Military Street Baptist Church set up a dunking booth at Market Square and for three and a half hours, people paid one dollar for three baseballs to try to dunk someone in the "cold" water. Adults and older children volunteered to be the "dunkees". We saw some excellent pitching arms go to work. If you were successful, you got an extra ball and many got that extra one much to the delight of the bystanders who were cheering people on. Thanks to Bill Goetsch and Mim Nichols as their labors brought in \$227 for the Pregnancy Care Center.

### PERHAM BAPTIST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It is always amazing to see how God uses people of all ages to help in His work. The Pregnancy Care Center of Aroostook was blessed by the children of the Vacation Bible School at the Perham Baptist Church. This year the children made the PCC their mission project during their week of V.B.S. Every day the children learned about the services offered at the PCC. As the children learned of the needs of the clients who come to the center, they began giving. Each day it was exciting to see the amount growing. One little boy even went home and told his mom he needed money to help buy things for the babies and when she offered him some money, he said that he had his own money and he used all the money in his piggy bank. By the end of the week, the total money given was \$349.54! In addition to the financial support, the children also took one day during the week and made blankets during the craft time to donate to the PCC. It has been very encouraging to see how God stirs young hearts to do His work. May these young people continue in God's great and perfect ways.-Cindy Houston, P.I. PCC Volunteer



### HOULTON CONCERT TO BENEFIT THE PCC

On Friday, August 4th, the Heart of Praise held an outdoor concert at the amphitheater in Houlton. Pete and Rick Holmes along with Brian Hovey raised \$558 which was given to the PCC.

### YOU NEVER KNOW . . .

You may be "working" for the Cause of Life without knowing it, or when you least expect it. Here are excerpts from a note attached to the windshield of an automobile belonging to the spouse of a PCC Board Member (unbeknownst to the young mother-to-be).

"I wanted to thank you. I am 17 and pregnant and on my way to school one day. I was wondering what to do. I was really thinking about abortion because I was scared. As that thought came to mind, I walked past your car and happen to look over and saw your bumper sticker "Abortion Stops a Beating Heart". . . I believe God was talking to me through that sticker and I also believe I will never think about it again. I'm going to keep my baby and I'm not that scared anymore. Thank you so much for helping me make the best choice of my life, signed, God bless, A Very Happy Mother-to-Be."

One of the joys of being a volunteer at the PCC is having the pleasure of giving Layette sets to new moms. Most of the recipients are very pleased. A father that came in to pick up the layette was overwhelmed. It was the first time I had met him, so when I came out with a clothes basket full of baby items, he was stunned and asked if that was all for them? I said yes and I also told him we give out another one at 18-24 months. He asked why we do this because he had never heard of such a thing. It felt great to plant a seed in building relationships. He asked if we could visit his girlfriend in the hospital and said she would love it. It's great to realize when this Dad thinks of the PCC-he'll think of love, generosity and care. Now that is one great perk to volunteer here. -Cindy Callnan, Houlton PCC Volunteer

# Future Events

## 4th Annual Fundraising Banquet

This special fundraiser, which is designed to raise a large percentage of the annual budget for both the Presque Isle and Houlton Centers, will be held on Thursday, October 12th. This year's featured speaker will be Linda Dodge, who is frequently heard on WHCF radio and is the Administrator of the Shepherd Godparent Home in Bangor. Our banquet goal is \$35,000. Our annual budget for both centers is \$90,000. We have received \$47,000 so far this year through fundraisers and individual donations. It is our goal to have enough Table Sponsors to take care of all the expenses of the banquet so the money raised that evening will go towards the dinner goal. If you are interested in being a Table Sponsor for the Banquet with a gift of \$150 or greater, or if you are interested in attending the Banquet, please contact Christie at 764-0022 or 227-4024 for more details.

Platinum (\$500)	Bronze (\$150)	Contributors	
Center Transport, Inc.	Cushman's Embroidery	Greg Blackstone	Carroll's Auto Sales
	Duncan - Graves Funeral Home	Chester M. Kearney	Dead River
Gold (\$350)	MMG Insurance Co	F.A. Peabody	Gary's Home Appliance
Sargeant Trucking	Northeastland Hotel	Kofstad Agency	Mars Hill Pharmacy
	Pancsofar's Bridal Shop	McCluskey's RV	
Silver (\$250)	Ray's Corner Variety		
Graves Shop N'Save	Scovil Building Supply		



Christmas is Coming!!!! I know it seems early to be thinking about Christmas, but we need to start now to provide for a very special outreach. In December, we have a Christmas party for our clients and their families. Some have told us that this is the only party they attend during the Holiday Season. We provide refreshments, a Christmas story relating to the TRUE meaning of Christmas, a craft for the children and each family and their child goes home with a gift bag. If you would like to be a part of this exciting outreach, we have listed below the items needed for the gift bags.



<u>Boys/Girls</u>	<u>Toys</u>	<u>Men/Women</u>
Boys Sleepers (2T-4T)	Stickers	Razors, Deodorant
Boys Shirts (2-4)	Trucks	Toothpaste, Brushes
Boys Pants (12Mo-4T)	Dolls	Body Lotion, Soap
Hats ( All sizes)	Yo-yos	Small Pictur Frames
Socks (All Sizes)	Play Dough	Potholders, Dishcloths
Mittens (Med-Lg)	Fun Pads	Ink Pens
Boys/Girls Outfits (0 -4T)	Crayons	After Shave
Dresses (12Mo-4T)	Pencils	Wallets
Girls Pajamas (0-4T)		Flashlights



## WFL Houlton a Resounding Success!!!



Houlton's Annual Walk for Life was held on Saturday, September 9th. There were over 100 enthusiastic walkers. There was a contagious spirit of enthusiasm as men, women, boys, girls, families and individuals young and old gathered together to walk for the "cause of life". It was evident this PCC event was a Community event involving many local businesses who became involved in donating prizes, food for lunch, and even sponsored walkers. We were excited to see at least 13 churches involved. The final result that day was \$10,169.57! We are grateful for the community spirit of the Houlton people and to God for the way he blessed all of our efforts. The top 2 walkers raising the most funds for ages 6-11 was Julia Bentley with \$210 and Hannah & Kayla Wentz with \$142.57. The top 2 walkers for ages 12-17 was Jessica Lee with \$240 and Victoria Lee with \$157. The top 2 walkers for adults was Kathy Ledger with \$3,215 and Peg Luciani with \$2,231! The top 2 Groups raising the most was The Griffin Family with \$255 and East Hodgdon Church with \$200! We want you to know we appreciate and value every individual who participated in this event to make it a memorable day in raising funds for the "cause of life".

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## Care-Net News

Care Net Mission Statement: Care Net is a Christian ministry assisting and promoting the evangelistic, pro-life work of pregnancy centers in North America.

In 2005, Care-Net Centers increased from 850 to 950, and now there are currently 975 centers in the US and Canada.

In 2005, center staff members helped lead more than 14,000 people to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior!

You can learn more about this International organization with which we are affiliated by logging on to:  
[www.care-net.org](http://www.care-net.org).

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## National Sanctity of Human Life Day, 2006 (Excerpts from A Proclamation by the President of the U.S. of America)

"Our Nation was founded on the belief that every human being has rights, dignity, and value. On National Sanctity of Human Life Day, we underscore our commitment to building a culture of life where all individuals are welcomed in life and protected in law.

America is making great strides in our efforts to protect human life. One of my first actions as President was to sign an order banning the use of taxpayer money on programs that promote abortion overseas. Over the past 5 years, I also have been proud to sign into law the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, and a ban on partial-birth abortion. In addition, my Administration continues to fund abstinence and adoption programs and numerous faith-based and community initiatives that support these efforts.

When we seek to advance science and improve our lives, we must always preserve human dignity and remember that human life is a gift from our Creator. We must not sanction the creation of life only to destroy it. America must pursue the tremendous possibilities of medicine and research and at the same time remain an ethical and compassionate society.

National Sanctity of Human Life Day is an opportunity to strengthen our resolve in creating a society where every life has meaning and our most vulnerable members are protected and defended including unborn children, the sick and dying, and persons with disabilities and birth defects. This is an ideal that appeals to the noblest and most generous instincts within us, and this is the America we will achieve by working together." *George W. Bush*

Make plans now to join us in January as we "Line Up for Life" on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. This is a day we set aside to pray and fast recognizing the value of life. We want to emphasize this precious day that comes and goes so quickly. We are inviting all pro-life people who are willing and able to come out and join us in demonstrating your support for life by holding a sign with a positive message and praying silently for our communities, for wounded mothers, fathers, and families of the aborted, and that God's standards and values would be that of our nation. Look for more details in the next edition of "Life Topics."