

St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral Joins Forces to Save the Unborn



St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral in Allison Park, PA, is focusing its efforts on a critically important mission--to be a voice for the unborn child. Are you aware that....

- an unborn child is murdered every 34 seconds in the US?
- 21% of all pregnancies in the US end in abortion?
- one out of every 3 women will have an abortion during her lifetime?
- 25% of women who had an abortion reported attending church weekly and 11% reported attending church monthly?
- 51% of women agree that churches do not have a ministry prepared to discuss options during an unplanned pregnancy?

[Source: CareNet Top 40 Abortion Statistics, 2017]

In short, our society, including those who call themselves Christians, has increasingly become numb to the barbaric act of killing babies. Although this has now become a political issue, our voice for the sanctity of life must be heard!

The Cathedral has partnered with the Women's Choice Network (WCN), an organization that **helps abortion-vulnerable women to CHOOSE LIFE**. The word "choice" means "choice for LIFE". Since 1985, WCN Centers have provided life-affirming pregnancy services to thousands of families in Pittsburgh. In 2009, the Centers re-organized as Women's Choice Network with a vision to offer these services in neighborhoods with greatest need. There are currently four centers in our area: **Oakland, Monroeville Mall, North Side, and Wexford**. All of WCN's services are offered to families at no charge because of the generous gifts from individuals and churches. WCN is not funded by any State or Federal dollars. They rely on local partners such as churches to help them give hope to a new generation.

WCN has saved well over 5,000 babies from being aborted. The Network has had a 45% increase over last year as of the end of May 2017:

- increase in the number of appointments - 1056 so far this year
- increase in the number of new clients - 464 so far this year

- increase in the number of lives saved - 133 so far this year

St. Alexander Nevsky, under the spiritual guidance of His Eminence Melchisedek and Archpriest Michael Senyo, became involved with WCN three years ago through the outreach work of the Cathedral's Parish Growth Committee. Work with WCN has included:

- collection and donation of baby clothing, bath time items, and gift cards;
- sponsoring of the Baby Bottle Campaign to collect money;
- sponsoring a Cathedral work crew to make repairs to the North Side center;
- putting together "New Baby" and "New Mom" bags for newborns and their mothers;
- joining the WCN prayer chain by praying for women and men who are facing a pregnancy decision; and
- serving as an underwriter of the WCN Annual Fall Fundraiser Banquet, the primary means of earning funds to enable the organization to operate.

The Cathedral is currently involved in the Church Initiative Program in which 14 parishioners are completing the "Making Life Disciples" training to learn how to minister to the needs of abortion-vulnerable women and men who are in need of our support.

We urge other parishes to join us in the fight to save the unborn child.

Communicate with Father Michael (frsen@yahoo.com) or Eileen Glisan (glisan@iup.edu) to obtain additional information and WCN contact information.

Also, see the WCN website: <http://mypregnancycenter.org/wordpress/>.

We are the unborn child's only hope!

