# LiteHacts

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Hour of Reflection ---JANUARY 20TH---

JOIN US IN STANDING UP FOR LIFE!

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South Dakota Right to Life is a non-profit, non-denominational organization whose philosophy is that all innocent human life is inviolable and is to be guaranteed protection from conception until natural death.

# President's Column

Continuing to Build a Pro-Life South Dakota By: Dr. Fred Deutsch



January 22, 2019, will mark 46 years of Roe v. Wade. Forty-six years of abortion on demand. Forty-six years in which over 60 million lives have been lost, including tens of thousands of South Dakotans.

Legendary basketball coach John Wooden once said, "It's the little details that are vital. Little things make big things happen." For South Dakota pro-lifers, this means taking actions that may seem small, but when added together over time, build momentum to saves lives. They hasten the day when our culture once again respects all human life, not just the planned and the perfect. Every person can make an enormous difference. As we begin the new year, please consider ways you can help.

A simple way is to make sure you are a member of South Dakota Right to Life. For just \$30 a year, or \$50 for you and your spouse, your membership will go a long way to help us communicate our life-saving message to more people. Life-saving differences begin any time someone joins South Dakota Right to Life.

A second way is by helping us spread the word. Maybe it's something simple like wearing the precious feet pin on your lapel -- when someone asks what it is, explain that the pin shows the size of a baby's feet ten weeks after conception. Or maybe it's something like carrying the sonogram picture of your unborn baby or grandbaby around and showing it to someone you meet. Or maybe it's writing a letter to the editor. The list goes on. There are so many ways we can make another person think about the humanity of the unborn child. Life-saving differences begin any time someone speaks up for life.

A third way is by attending meetings of your local RTL chapter. Don't have a RTL chapter in your area? Let's pray together about starting one! Life-saving differences begin anywhere a Right to Life chapter is started.

Fourth, participate in our major statewide functions. Follow upcoming events on our website https://www.sdrighttolife.org/. Life-saving differences begin any time pro-lifers gather.

Fifth, make a special New Years contribution to SDRTL. Your contribution of \$100, \$250, or \$500 will allow us to jump start the year. Or, if you are able, please prayerfully consider making a larger contribution — \$1,000, \$2,500, or even at the \$5,000 level. We know that our enemies have endless coffers to peddle their false and deadly message to the American public.

May God continue to richly bless you and your loved ones for all your work on behalf of His most defenseless children.

# Pro-Life Aspirations for the New Year

### Message from our Executive Director

By: Dale Bartscher

Sometime ago I was encouraged to 'Aspire to Inspire before I Expire'. That was some wonderful advice! Today it is my aspiration, as your South Dakota Right to Life Executive Director, to do everything in my power, and by God's grace, to champion LIFE from conception to natural death across South Dakota and beyond.

It's January 2019 and during this time of transition from the old to a new year, many take this as an opportunity to reflect upon their lives and their decisions over the past year. They will then come up with resolutions that will steer them in the direction of meeting certain goals during the new year. A new year can serve as a new aspiration in STEPPING IT UP in areas where we have become too comfortable.

As our country embarks upon the 46th anniversary of legalized abortion, what a great time for us, the South Dakota pro-life community, to reaffirm our commitment to spreading the message of life and truth to a dark world.

SDRTL is recognized as the state's flagship of the pro-life movement as we work through legislation and education to protect innocent human life from abortion, infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and related issues. This role gives us an opportunity and a responsibility to make a difference. Many post-abortive women tell us that if just *one* person would have encouraged them not to abort, they would have chosen life for their baby. I am asking pro-life minded South Dakotans to join me in ASPIRING to...."Be The One" – as we share our amazing Pro-Life Facts and our pro-life Position with LOVE and GRACE to a world in desperate need of both.

What we are seeing today, in every corner of society, is a "depreciation of human life". Together let us ASPIRE to encourage our friends and family members to take a higher road. The world needs the truth, and SDRTL needs your help. Please sign up TODAY as an Annual Member, A Life-Time Member or a one-time gift giver.

Be certain of this - as I travel the state as your 'Ambassador for Life' I am available to you and yours. I would cherish the opportunity of meeting with your community's RTL Chapter, Church or Civic Organization. Please contact me via my cell at 605-390-7319 or our work phone at 605-220-8678. I may also be reached by email at Dale.SDRTL@gmail.com. For more information on the SDRTL go to our website at www. sdrighttolife.org or find us on our Right to Life Facebook Page.



#### FRIENDS BE ASSURED THAT:

- We are winning pro-life battles in the State Courts, Circuit Courts, and the Surpreme Court of the United States
- We are winning the science. AND...
- We are winning the hearts and minds of reasonable, open-minded Americans.

Your prayerful and financial partnership at the beginning of this year is essential to building an enduring cultural transformation, one that values innocent human life from conception to natural death.

Friends, let us keep the momentum going in 2019 and let us never grow complacent when there are lives hanging in the balance. Let's continue to raise awareness and to make abolishing abortion, and protecting innocent human life, a priority. Let us look for new ways to get the message out. Let us commit to serving our Lord with fervor and may we never cease in our prayers and efforts to end abortion. It's a new year and the message remains the same: all human life is precious in the sight of God. Yours for Life!

# South Dakota Right To Life Heads to the Capitol

SDRTL is recognized as the state's flagship of the pro-life movement as we work through legislation and education to protect innocent human life from abortion, infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and related issues. Thus, we will have 'boots-on-the-ground' during the 94th 2019 SD Legislative Session in Pierre, SD (January 8 – March 13)!

Kansas Governor Sam
Brownback speaking at the 'NRLC 2012 Convention' rightly said:
"The place you change America isn't in Washington. It's in the states. ...
That's how we'll change the life debate. It will be at the state level.
Different states doing this, making very positive key changes until it can migrate to the federal level.
And a court case can get up to the Supreme Court and Roe v. Wade be overturned. Which will ultimately happen. We have to keep pushing at these state levels."

Knowing this to be true - Dale Bartscher, SDRTL's Executive Director, will serve as a registered lobbyist at the Capitol as we support appropriate legislation that helps protect the right to life of all defenseless human beings. Two of our SDRTL Board Members, Dr. Fred Deutsch



and Jon Hansen, who were recently elected, will serve in the South Dakota House of Representatives. Together this trio will serve our cause with distinction.

Currently the SDRTL's Legislative Committee is looking at Pro-Life Legislation to be submitted for the Legislature's consideration. Our Executive Director will be utilizing social media (Facebook, Twitter, Emails, Radio Interviews, etc.) and our website at www.sdrighttolife.org to keep you, our SD Right to Life

Partners, informed as to happenings at the Capitol during this Legislative Session.

Thus, SDRTL needs your prayerful and financial assistance. Please sign up TODAY as an Annual Member, A Life-Time Member, or a one-time gift giver. In doing so you are encouraging and supporting our presence for the 40-Days of this up and coming SD Legislative Session. Thank You!

## Notification of a Modest Increase in Membership Dues

By: Dale Bartscher

You know that old saying that the only two things in life that are certain are death and taxes? As any association professional knows, they left one thing off the list: dues increase. They're a fact of life in associations like SD Right to Life.

The SDRTL Board of Directors are writing you today concerning this modest increase in our membership dues structure. We respectfully offer this notification after much discussion and analysis of the fiscal needs of maintaining a strong association for the practice of defending and protecting the Sanctity of Life.

#### Why is SDRTL raising her Membership Dues?

It has been many years since our dues were last raised. As of September, 2018, the economic realities have caught up with us. While SDRTL has done a good job of keeping our costs down internally and giving you the best services, we can for your dollars, other factors are simply out of our control. Everyone's costs have gone up over the years. For SDRTL these include printing, insurance, postage, resources, travel and many others. We have done as much as we can to hold off a dues increase for some time but now it is a necessity.

As SDRTL looks to the future we stepped out on faith and hired a State Executive Director. This is a fulltime position which began on September 16, 2018. We also opened a SDRTL Headquarters in Rapid City and began paying a monthly rent fee on November 1, 2018. We are now funding our ED's travel across the state along with his occasional lodging and other expected expenses.

This step of increasing our Membership Dues allows us to continue giving you the level of personal service you have come to expect from SDRTL and will ensure that high-quality programs and services will continue for all members as we provide a unified voice that defends and protects the Sanctity of Life here in South Dakota.

#### When did the new rates take effect?

January 1, 2019

#### What will be the new rates?

- \$30 Annual (Individual) Unchanged from previous years.
- \$50 Annual (Couple) -- This is a 'new' category.
- \$300 Lifetime (Individual) Unchanged from previous years.
- \$500 Lifetime (Couple) This is a 'new' category.

#### How May I Donate or Become a Member?

You may donate and/or become a SDRTL Member on-line by going to www.sdrighttolife.org and click on 'Get Involved' and then 'Become a Member'. You may also mail in your check, with your Membership request, to: SDRTL, 1107 Mt. Rushmore Rd, Suite 1-B, Rapid City, SD 57701.

NOTE: Due to IRS regulations donations to SDRTL and the SDRTL PAC are not deductible. If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation, then please donate to the SDRTL Education Trust Fund. A donation may yet also be given "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" of a loved one upon request.

We are honored to have you partner with us. Your contribution of any amount will be deeply appreciated. It will be put to work immediately to help save the lives of South Dakota's unborn children and protect the lives of our defeseless sick and dying. Thank You!

#### 

# 2019 SDRTL Essay Contest

# The Blessing of Life

First Place Senior Division By: Hannah Vogel

Is it even possible for me to describe how it feels to wake up and feel my heart beating? My parents chose life for me, and I will forever be grateful for that. Knowing that God and my family wanted me brings me so much joy. However, realizing that some people don't support life causes me to question how people who are living in our beautiful world could want to deprive someone of that gift. Instead of taking innocent lives, they should realize that God has a plan for everyone—including babies in the womb.

One reason I am pro-life is because I know that abortion kills innocent babies. A baby's heart starts beating after 18 days in the womb, but the new human embryo comes into existence immediately when the egg and sperm join and the one-celled zygote is formed. After that, the baby begins to develop. Sadly, some people don't realize this. In 2014 there were over 650,000 abortions just in the United States. I believe that a life has begun right after conception, not just after a baby is born.

Second, my faith teaches me that life is a gift and abortion is wrong in every case. Often at my church we pray to end abortion and also for those mothers who are considering an abortion, that their eyes will be opened to the beauty of a human life. Just recently I participated in a Life Chain, where we held a peaceful protest against abortion. Our local Alpha Center provides a full range of services to men and women involved in an unexpected pregnancy, that they may receive support and care amidst their hardships. Although pregnancies can be hard and unexpected, women should come to know that there are beautiful blessings that come with being a mother.

I am also pro-life because babies are beautiful and I believe they have every right to live. When I know family friends who have just given birth, I am overjoyed to meet and hold their babies. Holding a baby in my arms reveals to me God's awe-some talent and creativity. Babies are masterpieces! Abortion kills our future, as some of the lives never lived could have been doctors, farmers, soldiers, or parents—all of which make the world a better place. Babies teach us so much about the wonders of life and people.

As James 1:17 states, "Every good and perfect gift is from above." Life is a gift from God. I pray fervently that people will realize how important it is to allow all babies to be born so that they, too, can enjoy our God-given world, and I also pray that there will be a day not far away when abortion is no longer legal. Can I describe how it feels to wake up? Truly, it is an amazing and special blessing to be alive.

## 2019 South Dakota Right to Life Essay Contest Winners

#### SENIOR DIVISION

1st Place Hannah Vogel- Madison

2nd Place Taylor VanHeuvelen-Emmetsburg, IA

3rd Place Dillion Talks- Gettysburg
4th Place Bennett Selfridge- Rapid City

5th Place Lincoln Stuwe- Hoven

#### JUNIOR DIVISION

1st Place Grace Weaver - Piedmont 2nd Place Bella Nelson - Sioux Falls

3rd Place Scarlet Grimshaw- Rapid City

4th Place Hailey Dekkers- Sioux Falls

5th Place Tom Solano- Rapid City

5th Place Hannah Kooistra-Tea

# 2010 Hour of Reflection ---JANUARY 20TH---

# THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

WHEN: Sunday, January 20, 2019

LOCATION: Capitol Rotunda, Pierre, SD (All times are CST)

12:15 p.m. Gather at the rear of the Capitol to pick-up Life Chain Signs for the 'Walk for Life'.

12:30 p.m. Life Chain 'Walk for Life' Begins

1:30 p.m. Group Photo on front steps of the Capitol at the end of the 'Walk for Life'

2:00 p.m. "Hour of Reflection" Program in Capitol Rotunda Second Floor



EMCEE Dale Bartscher



KEYNOTE SPEAKER ~Governor Kristi Noem~



NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE REPORT DR. PAT CASTLE

Also hear the Senior and Junior Division 'Right to Life Essay Contest' 1st Place Winners and music by 'Kingsway'.

3:00 p.m. Refreshments served on the first floor of the Capitol.

**NOTE:** The movie "GOSNELL" is showing January 18-24 at the State Theater in Pierre, SD.

# Tribute to Roger Hunt

By: Leslee Unruh



I want to share my unique relationship with Roger. Roger was a leader who never wanted to take credit for what he did. He was not afraid to be engaged in the battle for the heart and soul of America.

Before Roger ever ran for public office, he was a founding board member of the Alpha Center - a Pregnancy care center we started in Sioux Falls 35 years ago. Roger saw an opportunity to serve this

cause in big ways running for the SD Legislature. Once elected, Roger hit the ground running, developing relationships with legislators and the governor. In fact, he mentored our current Governor, Kristi Noem.

Roger had strong convictions, but with his kind demeanor he was able to communicate in ways that touched the hearts and common sense of his fellow legislators. Roger became known as a major leader in fighting for family value issues, and especially pro-life legislation. Roger was instrumental in sponsoring and passing more pro-life, and pro-family legislation than anyone in the history of SD legislature. But because of the efforts of Roger Hunt - South Dakota has won 6 different cases in the 8th Circuit Federal Court of Appeals.

I shall never forget when busloads of woman went to Roger's law office to picket and protest his stand for protecting woman and the unborn. The media was called to make a spectacle of Roger, but Roger never wavered. In Matthew 5:10 it says, "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is are the Kingdom of Heaven."

Roger sponsored legislation that will challenge and overturn Roe V Wade. This case has the potential to protect woman and save the lives of millions of babies. One man with trust is an army. One man with God is the majority. Roger was a dear friend and an example of a man committed to the eternal over the temporal. After all, at the end of all of our lives, only what's done for Christ will last.

I am confident that the Good Lord and millions of unborn children welcomed Roger at heavens gates and greeted our good friend with open arms and said, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

# New Headquarters for SDRTL

On Saturday, September 1, 2018, a host of SDRTL volunteers, young and older, met at the Pierre RTL Office and loaded up several vehicles for our BIG MOVE. Yes, SDRTL has a new home/headquarters as we are now located at: 1107 Mt. Rushmore Rd, Suite 1-B, Rapid City, SD 57701. Our office number remains the same: (605) 220-8678 and Dale Bartscher, our Executive Director may be reached on his mobile phone at: 605-390-7319, or via email at: Dale.SDRTL@gmail.com. Below are some pictures of the new office.







# CHAPTER FEATURE

Sioux Falls Right to Life

By: Nancy Cutshall

We are excited to announce a new Sioux Falls Right to Life chapter starting this January. Meetings will be held at **4301 W 57th St. in the conference room at Donegal Pointe.** They will typically be on the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30pm. All are welcome and we would love to have many hearts and minds working together for Life here in Sioux Falls. The group has elected as their President, Shane Oien, Treasurer David Cutshall and Secretary Nancy Cutshall.

On February 16th we are having a DVD training from Olivia Gans Turner titled, "When they say, you say." This is some excellent training, and all are welcome to attend. We are currently compiling our list of activities and events for 2019. We plan to participate in the Hour of

Reflection and Life chain in Pierre on January 20th and in the local awareness group by walking to Planned Parenthood from Sioux Falls First church on January 22nd. For more information about Sioux Falls Right to Life and to keep updated on information and events going on in the area, please visit our website **siouxfallsrighttolife.life**. If you want to learn more or have questions our email is **RightToLifeSF@gmail.com** 

Sioux Falls is the largest city in the state and has the only Planned Parenthood in South Dakota. Please consider joining us and helping us make a positive impact for life here in this town. We look forward to locking arms together and making a different in life, from conception to natural death.

# 2018 SD Right to Life Convention

By: Lisa Ulmer

The 2018 SD Right to Life Convention was held at St. George Parish in Hartford, SD and hosted by Hartford-Humboldt Right to Life. Approximately 170 pro-lifers gathered from around the state for a day of camaraderie and inspiration. National speakers Dr. Pat Castle, Leslee Unruh, and Sue Thayer shared personal testimony. Vendors also showcased their life-supporting causes and non-profit centers. SDRTL honored Leslee Unruh and Brock Greenfield as 2018 Humanitarians of the Year.

Attendees had the opportunity to meet candidates, shop the silent auction, and exchange ideas. The annual convention serves as a means to rally our mem-



bers and invite others. Whether involved with 40 Days for Life, RTL member, speaker, candidate, or volunteer, we ALL have a role to play as we "stir the conversation" and stand together. Hartford-Humboldt RTL would like to say "thank you" to all who attended and those who volunteered at or sponsored the event in any way. We are excited to announce that nexts year convention will be hosted by Hot Springs Area Right to Life on September 21, 2019 in Hot Springs, SD. Please consider joining us for another educational and inspiring day.



#### For Donations of \$50 or More

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Thank You!!

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Nancy Duenwald's 70th Birthday.....submitted by Betsy and Scott Madsen



Follow us on Facebook- South Dakota Right to Life / Follow us on Twitter @SDRTL Don't forget to check out our new website www.sdRightToLife.org

# Upcoming Events

Jan. 8- March 13 - SDRTL Lobbying at the 2019 SD Legislative Session

Jan. 18-24 - GOSNELL THE MOVIE playing at the State Theatre (Pierre, SD)

Jan. 20 - Sanctity of Life Hour of Reflection Capitol Events (Pierre, SD)

Jan. 27- Black Hills Area 'Roe v Wade Observance' at St. Terese Little Flower Catholic Church

March 1-2 - SDRTL Display at The Northern Plains Evangelistic Association Leadership Conference (Spearfish,SD)

March 29-31 - SDRTL Booth at The Black Hills Home Builders Show at Rapid City Rushmore Plaza Civic Center

April 8-10 - SDRTL Display at The Assembly of God South Dakota District Conference (Rapid City, SD)

April 18 - Dale Bartscher to Emcee the 'Faith and Hope Community Breakfast' (Rapid City, SD)

July 5-6 - National Right to Life Convention (Charleston, SC)

Sept. 21 - SDRTL State Convention (Hot Springs, SD)