

#### MAY 2025 ISSUE

# Newsletter

## **DIRECTOR'S CORNER**

BY MARA SORENSON

This past June 24, 2025, marked the third anniversary of Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, the Supreme Court decision that overturned Roe v. Wade and ended nearly 50 years of federal protection for abortion. For millions in the pro-life movement, that day in 2022 was one of profound gratitude, answered prayers, and renewed purpose. It was a monumental step in restoring the right to life for the unborn — but it was never the finish line.

While we celebrate this anniversary with joy, we must also recognize the hard reality: our mission is far from over. Abortion is still legal in many states. In some states, including Minnesota, abortion laws are now more extreme than they were before Dobbs, including the legalization of late-term abortions.

The abortion industry is adapting. Chemical abortion pills are being distributed at record rates, often without adequate medical oversight. Mail-order abortions bypass state laws, putting women and unborn children at risk.

Hearts and minds still need changing. Legal victories must be paired with cultural transformation. We must continue to promote a culture of life where women and men facing unplanned pregnancies are supported, encouraged, and empowered to choose life.

God is still in control. While the battle to end abortion seems endless, and often impossible, we know that God still sits on His throne and sees it all. He is aware of every unborn life that is taken and He offers hope, healing and peace. He blesses our efforts and prayers to end abortion once and for all. continued page 2

## THIS ISSUE:

DIRECTOR'S CORNER Pages 1-2

PRAYER REQUESTS Page 2

THANK YOU KNIGHTS OF Columbus

Page 2

SUCCESS! THE 19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK

Page 3

COME VISIT US! OPEN HOUSE IN AUGUST

Page 3

FALL BANQUET & SILENT AUCTION COMING SOON Page 3





## **DIRECTOR'S CORNER** cont'd from page 1

As we mark this three-year anniversary, we renew our commitment to stand for life — not just in law, but in love. Our advocacy must always be paired with compassion. The men and women we see at the clinic every day feel loved, accepted and truly cared for by our amazing staff.

At First Choice Clinic, our goal is to foster communities where no woman feels abortion is her only option — and where every unborn child is welcomed and protected.

Let us press on with eyes fixed on the truth: that life is sacred, and worth defending — now and always.

"Do not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." — Galatians 6:9

In His Grace.

Mara Sovenson

**Executive Director** 

## IN MEMURIAM

Please contact us at

info@firstchoiceclinic.org if you are interested in giving in memory of a family member or loved one. 

## **Prayer Requests**

First Choice Clinic's team invites you to join us in prayer for the following:

- For all mothers to support the child's life when faced with an unexpected pregnancy.
- For all our clients, that their needs be provided for spiritually, physically, and emotionally.
- For the unborn, infants, and toddlers we serve, that they may be healthy and live in loving homes.
- For the staff members, that they may continue to serve with joy and service, as witnesses of the Lord.
- For new board members who will assist with the leadership and fundraising of the Clinic.
- For volunteers interested in assisting with our development needs.
- For increased financial and material donations to cover the growing needs of the organization.
- For elected representatives and legal support to continually support women, children, and families' needs above others.

## Thank you! Knights of Columbus

The top photo is the medical services room at First Choice Clinic, where our nurse manager provides care for women requesting ultrasounds or other needs.

Four Knights of Columbus councils are recognized for their support of covering the costs of the First Choice Clinic Ultrasound maintenance fees. Many thanks to the councils of Miesville, Cannon Falls, Red Wing, and Pine Island/Zumbrota. The ultrasound machine is the most important equipment located at the clinic.

Stop by our our open house on August 4<sup>th</sup> to see the room setup as shown in this photo!





The Red Wing Knights of Columbus hosted a Mother's Day breakfast fundraiser for First Choice Clinic at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Pictured in the lower photo at the event is, left, Breakfast Team Lead Steve Pfueger and Douglas Blakesley. Thank you to all who volunteered to support the breakfast and First Choice Clinic.

## Success! The 19th Annual 5K Run/Walk



A cool pleasant morning was the perfect temperature for runners and walkers who participated in the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Run/Walk in Red Wing MN on June 15, 2025. The 40 participants enjoyed the beautiful course on a Saturday morning followed by snacks and live music. Several children participated in the kids fun run. A highlight of the event was our first ever bike raffle. Two kids bikes with helmets went to families thrilled for the opportunity for their children. Thank you to our very generous and anonymous donor.

Many thanks to our event sponsors, you help make this possible!: Rockland Flooring, Forward Bank of Lake City, Edward Jones/Matt Theis, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Norwex/Pam Altendorf, and Red Wing Grain.

## Come visit us!

Come for a tour and meet with our Executive Director, staff and board members.

Please stop by!



### 2025 Fall Banquet & Silent Auction

October 2, 2025

ESTHER HIL

You won't want to miss this uplifting and encouraging event with our Executive Director, current clients, donors and board members!

LUNCHEON OR 6:30 PM DINNER Saint Joseph's Catholic Church Red Wing, MN RSVP online, via email, or call the clinic at 651-267-4357 www.friendsoffirstcholce.org/events info@firstcholceclinic.org

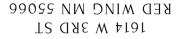
## Fall Banquet & Silent Auction is coming soon!

Do you or your business have silent auction items to donate? Please contact the office at info@firstchoiceclinic.org or call us at 651-267-4357.

Donate today!

NON-PROFIT ORG. RED WING MN RED WING MN Permit #133

Return Service Requested





## **OUR NEEDS**

- Diapers sizes 4-7
- Unscented wipes
- Diaper Rash Cream
- Boys Clothes 24 mos to 5T
- Toddler Shoes all sizes
- Gift Cards (Walmart, Target, Amazon)

Your generosity is greatly appreciated. All contributions are 100% tax deductible. New items will be accepted and can be dropped off at the clinic during normal business hours.





## **CLINIC HOURS**

- Tuesday 9 AM 7 PM
- Wednesday 9 AM 5 PM
- Thursday 9 AM 7 PM

We hope you had a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July



