

Sanctity of Life

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court handed down a ruling that held a woman's right to an abortion fell within the right to privacy protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. The decision gave a woman total autonomy over the pregnancy during the first trimester and defined different levels of state interest for the second and third trimesters. As a result of that ruling over **50 million** abortions have been performed in the United States since 1973.

Our Judeo-Christian heritage teaches us the sanctity of human life. The Bible says in Genesis 1:27: "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." Having been made in the image of God means so much more than receiving certain abilities and attributes. It means we actually are the images of God. Without a doubt, human life is sacred! What a privilege!

At Hope Women's Center, we believe that all of human life is of inestimable worth and significance, including the life of the pre-born. Yet today, over 80 million people have participated in an abortion-related decision—including boyfriends, husbands, and parents. The scars of those decisions will remain forever with the family. Yet, God, in His infinite wisdom and love, is able to forgive. He cannot restore the aborted life, but He can give forgiveness that will meet each person at her point of need, and His sufficiency will abundantly supply. One way He often does that—in fact, the most common way—is through His people. And that is the primary purpose of Hope Women's Center.

This month, as you celebrate the Sanctity of Human Life, pray that God will change the society in which we live by changing the hearts of people to whom we minister. Pray for the families that have been affected by abortion decisions. And pray for the ministry of Hope Women's Center right here in Pickens County.

Baby Bottles

A big "THANK YOU!!!" to so many churches for being a part of our Baby Bottle campaign. We have received many bottles filled to the top with change. With these, an anonymous gift of \$3,000.00 and a love gift of \$1,000.00 and the proceeds from our golf tournament in June, we end our year in the best financial position we have been in. God has so richly blessed us through so many who see the need to support us as we assist others. God will multiply your gifts even as He multiplied the fish and loaves.

From the Director

GOD IS SO GOOD! As we minister under the leadership of our heavenly Father, we find that He cares for us and supplies our needs. This year we were able to assist 635 families. We had 11 babies born to our ladies, each of whom went through one-on-one counseling. While assisting these 635, we were able to witness to each one of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. We referred many for adoption and talked to others about abortion and abstinence. Thank you all so much for your prayers and support as we continue to minister to the needs of the young girls and women all around us. May God bless you for caring. Judy.

On Going Needs

Hope Women's Center tries to provide anything a baby up to the age of 24 months might need. As with any "family" our stock frequently needs to be replaced and often our needs vary. Right now we are in need of diapers, especially sizes 3,4 and 5. We can never get enough wipes, baby lotion, powder, shampoo or baby oil. We are totally out of baby gowns and our supply of newborn sleepers is very low. We have had quite a few calls for warm coats and sweaters, particularly sizes 12 to 24 months. We know that girls' baby clothes are always cuter, but we do have quite a few baby boys that we also need to help. Baby furniture, such as cribs (with all the parts), bassinets, high chairs and strollers are always welcomed and we would appreciate more of the

pink, blue and white baby Bibles to give to our new families.

We strive to serve God by giving Him our best at Hope Women's Center—spiritually, physically and emotionally. When the women/girls come through our doors, we want to furnish them and their babies with the best items possible. Thank you for helping us to do this. Your donations are what keep us ready and able to supply needs for families here in Pickens County.

New Volunteers

We are so blessed to have two new volunteer counselors. Joyce Hunter and Gail Porter have become a great asset to our counseling ministry. Both love the Lord and have a heart for the young mommies and babies we assist daily. Welcome Joyce and Gail! We love you very much and are so proud to have you as a part of our ministry.

If anyone else is looking for a way to serve the Lord and would be interested in becoming a volunteer counselor at Hope Women's Center, simply call us for all the details. We are always in need of help.

Hope Women's Center Web Site

Hope Women's Center has a web site: www.yourservant.com/hope. Included on the web site are needs, past and current newsletters, contact information and a brief history of the Center. If you are interested in helping at the Center as a volunteer, check our web site for more information.

Did You Know...

- ☞ You can change and save lives simply by volunteering, giving and praying?
- ☞ That over 60% of women choose abortion because they are not being supported by the father and/or parents?
- ☞ That you can help support young women in crisis pregnancies through your local Pregnancy Care Center such as Hope Women's Center?
- ☞ That telling others about why you are pro-life can save a life in the future?
- ☞ That getting out there and helping a woman in crisis speaks much louder than just saying you are pro-life?

Unity Bible Fellowship Support

God has sent us a great group of families from the Unity Bible Fellowship Class of Rock Springs Baptist Church. They descended on Hope Women's Center one weekend and feverishly worked at cleaning carpets, washing windows, repairing our sign, doing yard work, painting and generally sprucing up the building and yard. Additionally, they purchased window blinds for the whole Center. Then they prepared gift bags for our girls and women for Christmas. There were enough bags that we will be able to continue giving them out in the New Year. They also supplied us with baby formula and other baby items. But this was not a one-time thing. The class has adopted us as their class mission. God is using this class to assist in all we do here at HWC. We have grown to love and appreciate each one of them. We know God will abundantly bless them for this outpouring of love to HWC and to the women we minister to. "God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love you have shown Him in serving the saints, as you still do." Heb. 6:10

Someone told my Mommy, that I didn't
have to die,

Someone reassured her, and it made my
Mommy cry,

Someone said that babies are a blessing
from above,

Someone cared to listen, and it filled her
heart with love,

Someone helped my Mommy, when her
thoughts were running wild,

And that very special someone...Saved
this very happy child.

Psalm 139:13-16 - For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.