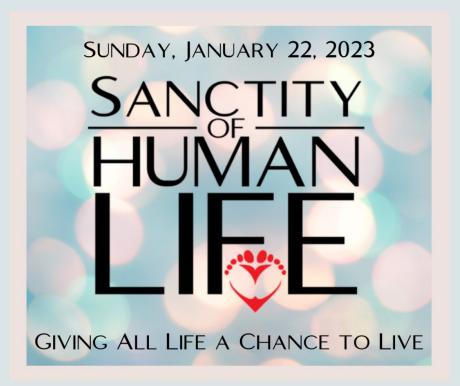


From pre-born children to aging adults, individuals with special needs or orphans, each person is fearfully and wonderfully made by God. He is the Creator of all life and has entrusted creation to us, commanding us to be good stewards of all He has made. Therefore, we hold a great responsibility to protect life and uphold the value of life at every stage, from the moment of conception through natural death. As the body of Christ, we must continue to be a beacon of light and hope in the darkness that surrounds life issues.

The June 2022 decision of the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade did not end the fight for life. While Arkansas has been named "the most pro-life state" by Americans United for Life, other states are promoting the availability of abortions, even promising to pay for travel expenses and the abortion. Abortion proponents are communicating to the vulnerable that help is no longer available to them, increasing the hopelessness of those in crisis, as nearly half of all pregnancies are reported as "unplanned."



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God clearly calls His church to "rescue those being led away to death" (Prov. 24:11). How can you and your church continue to champion life?

*Communicate the truth of God's Word regarding the value of life. Teach your church God's love for every life, while offering the life-giving forgiveness found at the Cross for those who have chosen abortion in the past.

*Meet physical needs. Almost half of women who have had an abortion are below the poverty line. They felt like they could not afford another child. Benevolent ministries such as a food pantry, clothing distribution, or Christian Women Job Corps can help alleviate the stress

*Support your local Pregnancy Care Center. Pregnancy Care Centers across Arkansas provide help to women with an unexpected or unwanted pregnancy. There are twenty-five centers that receive funding through Arkansas Baptists giving to the Dixie Jackson State Missions Offering. These centers provide physical, emotional, and spiritual support for women in crisis. While encouraging a mother to choose life, volunteers also begin a relationship with each woman to support them through the pregnancy and the many "firsts" that come after a child's birth. Parenting classes are very popular at each center, and the centers are always looking for more volunteers.

In the past year, the Pregnancy Care Centers supported by the ABSC reported

- 21.486 clients served
- 114 professions of faith
- 651 babies saved from abortion

*Serve as an advocate. Through the Arkansas Baptist Children & Family Ministries, advocates are trained and supported volunteers help build a healthy support system around at-risk families and teach them 7 Areas of Stability. Learn how to be an advocate at https://arkansasfamilies.org/family-care-volunteer.

*Pray for women who find themselves in a circumstance they feel there is no way out. "Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field" (Matt. 9:38), the harvest field of women, men, and families in crisis. Pray, too, that our government officials will be contenders for life.

As Arkansas Baptists, we remain committed to the sanctity of human life and encourage each church and individual to discover how he/she can champion life.

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