Pedals & Petals, formerly Bike & Hike Festival for Life, has been a valuable fundraiser for Grand Rapids Right to Life for 43 years.

This family-friendly day at the park includes a tasty picnic lunch and great opportunities to support life. Make an impact by collecting pledges and then biking or walking the path. Participants who raise funds can earn gift cards of their choosing to Michigan’s Adventure, Whitecaps baseball, Craig’s Cruisers, and Celebration! Cinema.

Beautiful spring flowers and shrubs will be available for those who want to get a head-start on their landscaping or purchase a fabulouse gift for Mother’s Day.

Everyone is encouraged to wear a prolife T-shirt, to bring a friend, and to enjoy a day of fun and fellowship.

Money raised will support local prolife educational outreach.

Saturday • May 7 • 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Johnson Park • 2600 Wilson Avenue • Walker
www.grrtl.org/pedals

Billboards Evoke Critical Thinking

To educate and engage the community, Grand Rapids Right to Life is placing six thought-provoking billboards around the city for the entire year.

To reach as many people as possible, the billboards will change locations monthly. Every week each billboard will be viewed nearly 38,000 times, allowing the prolife message to be seen almost one million times each month.

Sponsor a Billboard
$800 One Month • $200 One Week • $25 One Day
To sponsor a billboard visit www.grrtl.org/LiveIt

Did You Know . . .

A $20 donation helps Grand Rapids Right to Life place 5,500 online ads to direct women facing a crisis pregnancy to local pregnancy care centers.

These digital ads have been seen more than 3.3 million times in the last year.

This prolife outreach effort is literally saving lives right here in Grand Rapids.
It was a pleasant surprise when I recently ran into a long lost friend. We chatted as though the years had not slipped past us. She talked about her husband, described her new home-based business, and gushed over a small granddaughter.

Our conversation drifted to when we could get together. She asked for my phone number, immediately entered it in her cell phone, and sent me a text so that I would have her contact information, too.

Before saying good-bye, she asked where I worked. I happily told her about Grand Rapids Right to Life. It was almost imperceptible, but her body stiffened, her smile faded, and our conversation came to an end.

Later that day, I responded to her text and proposed a time to get together. No answer.

A couple of weeks later I texted her again and simply wished her a happy day. No answer.

I can ruminate, but I may never know why her behavior changed once she realized I was prolife. Perhaps she is post-abortive. Maybe she is culpable in another person’s decision to have an abortion. Quite likely she has embraced the propaganda that a woman has the right to kill the child in her womb.

Whatever the reason, it’s a sad reminder that the abortion issue remains divisive among friends, family members, and even in churches.

Moments like this embolden me about our noble cause … that of defending the human rights of the voiceless, the defenseless, and the most vulnerable in our society.

To volunteer, complete the online form at www.grrtl.org/volunteer

Spring into Life

This year Spring into Life will feature musician and speaker Eric Genuis. Eric’s music has taken him all over the world. From Hollywood to Slovakia, from Dallas to Toronto, he has wowed and inspired audiences with his lively performances and moving compositions.

His live shows consist of stories, humor, and audience interaction. Guests can expect to feel a range of emotions during this immersive experience.

Spring into Life offers a cash bar, delicious dinner, and a time to gather and grow the prolife movement in new and exciting ways.

Tuesday • April 26 • 6:30 PM • $30 Per Person
Noto’s Old World Italian Dining • 6600 - 28th Street SE • Grand Rapids
www.grrtl.org/spring

IN MEMORY OF:
Catherine Hope French
Patricia Wiersma
Daniel K. Gerke, Sr.
Darlene Gerke
Rev. Eugene Golas
Gary & Mary Ann Mancewicz
Marge Hager
Kurt & Catherine VanderHyde
Janice Sue Hamilton
Bruce & Barb Raver
Norbert Kloska
Rosalie McCormick
Rita Littell
Diana Cheslek
Edward T. McCormick, Jr.
Rosalie McCormick
Dennis Nugent
Mary Nugent
Josephine Sarullo
Rich & Bonnie Erickson
Kathy Faron
Beverly Feuerstein
Michael & Caterina Holt
Beverly Lake
Linck Insurance Agency
Pete & Sally Pallas
John & Carol Reilly
Jacqueline Russo
Mr. & Mrs. Salvatore Saputo
Steve & Sue Schuitema
Larry & Mary Taylor
Mary Theodore
Harold & Kay Woodard
Victoria Woodard
William Schafer
Ruth Tafel
Doug Siekman
Bev Siekman
Ron Stevens
Marvin VanHeuvelen
Sister Arlene Williams, R.S.M.
Diana Cheslek

IN HONOR OF:
John & Rose Kent
Tom Stream
Jimmy, Ben, and Angela Sowle
Ann Sowle
Decline to Sign: Petition Seeks to Expand Abortion

Groups including the ACLU and Planned Parenthood are working on adding an unlimited abortion amendment to the Michigan Constitution. They hope to collect 425,059 signatures to put this amendment on the ballot in November.

Because the amendment is written so broadly, its impact on Michigan laws could be profound.

This amendment would create an unlimited right to abortion. Laws that would in any way infringe on a woman’s decision related to pregnancy would be struck down.

This amendment claims to allow late-term abortion bans after “fetal viability” but creates a broad “mental health” exception that would allow every abortion to continue. It redefines fetal viability, the point children can survive outside the womb, by labeling children not viable who would require significant medical care, such as every child in the neonatal intensive care unit.

This amendment ensures that anyone can help a woman exercise her right to abortion but does not specify whether this includes helping pregnant minor girls.

If the amendment is successful, almost every state law related to abortion could be rescinded. Laws that could be overturned include the ban on tax-funded abortions, the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban, the Born Alive Infant Protection Act, the parental consent requirement for children seeking abortions, the waiting period and informed consent requirements for women seeking abortions, the health and safety regulations for abortion facilities, and Michigan’s abortion ban, which was passed in 1846, slightly revised in 1931, and affirmed by Michigan voters in 1972.

It is vitally important for Michiganders to understand that this constitutional change would significantly harm women and the unborn.

Source: Right to Life of Michigan

Life in the 616

People are prolife for a variety of reasons, but Rev. Ray Paget will clarify how scripture compels individuals to support and defend life.

Rev. Paget proudly preaches the prolife message at Emmanuel Free Church in Spring Lake where he currently serves as pastor.

Life in the 616 offers an intimate opportunity for guests to share a cup of coffee and comfortably chat about a Biblical defense for the prolife stance.

Calendar of Events

High School Oratory Contest
Tuesday, March 8, at 6:30 PM
Grand Rapids Right to Life

Conference Book Advertising
Deadline: March 15
www.grrtl.org/advertise

40 Day for Life
Thursday, March 31
GRRTL Prayer Day at Vigil

DJ Zarnosky Life Leadership Award
Deadline: April 15
www.grrtl.org/leadership

Prolife T-Shirt Day
Tuesday, April 26
www.grrtl.org/store

Spring into Life
Tuesday, April 26, at 6:30 PM
www.grrtl.org/spring

Life in the 616
Thursday, April 28, at 4:00 PM
RSVP Required

Legislative Day
Tuesday, May 3, at 9:30 AM
Radisson Hotel, Lansing

Pedals & Petals
Saturday, May 7, at 11:00 AM
Johnson Park, Walker

Donate to the Holiday Auction
Auction Deadline: May 31
www.grrtl.org/auctiondonate

Prolife Golf Classic
Monday, June 6, at 9:00 AM
Pilgrim’s Run Golf Club, Pierson

GRAND RAPIDS RIGHT TO LIFE
protecting the precious gift of human life
2340 Porter Street SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49519
616-532-2300
info@grrtl.org • www.grrtl.org
Prolife Hero

Mary Alice Stanley: Remembering a woman of strength and character

Mary Stanley was passionate about her faith, her family, and the prolife movement. She was a loving mother, devoted grandmother, dedicated Catholic, and staunchly prolife.

Mary served on the board of Grand Rapids Right to Life for over 15 years. During that time she was instrumental in developing a Minority Outreach Committee, connecting with local pastors, and planning educational outreach opportunities to highlight the devastation of abortion on the African-American community. She helped plan a special evening with Alveda King, the niece of Martin Luther King, Jr. Mary knew the importance of voting prolife and encouraged others to do the same. She was unwavering in her conviction and promotion of the sanctity of human life.

Even after she retired from the board, Mary continued to give her time and talents as a volunteer. She lent her skills to the online newsletter Voices for Life as a writer and as an artist who created inspiring cartoons.

Mary was an astute listener, a compassionate friend, an amazing role model, and a beautiful woman of integrity. There is no doubt she is hearing the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant.”