



Pregnancy Center East newsletter

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Serving the Community Since 1982

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Selfless Love: An Adoption Story

I've made a lot of choices in my past that I'm not proud of. But one thing I know is that my past doesn't define who I am today.

Last year, I found myself pregnant with a fourth child. I was already working three jobs to support my three daughters. With no real help from the dad, what was I going to do?

He was pushing for an abortion. I knew from experience, that I couldn't go that route again. But I felt I had no other choice. I judged myself for being in this situation.

Then I heard a radio ad for PCE while driving my kids to school. I was skeptical that they could really help me, but I called them and set up an appointment. I met with Joanne, who was so kind and non-judgmental. Little did I know that she would become my support person throughout my pregnancy!

I had an ultrasound at PCE, and it shocked me to see a real baby moving on the screen.

Joanne told me about another option for my baby – adoption. Joanne and I walked down the hall and she introduced me to Sheryl, from Adoption Professionals. I found out that I could meet the couple and pick the



Julie with baby, Covey, before her adoption.

family for my baby. Sheryl gave me six books full of photos and descriptions of possible adoptive couples for me to take home and read.

One of these couples immediately jumped out at me as maybe “the ones.” I wanted a couple who already had kids, because I wanted brothers and sisters for my baby. They had three but were unable to have more. When the husband said, “Your child will never go a day without hearing, *I love you*,” I knew I just had to meet them.

I struggle with anxiety, so you can imagine how nervous I was to meet Katie and Brent. I wanted to find a reason not to like them, to turn around and run. It was super hard for me to admit to myself that another woman could do a better job of raising my baby than me.

But Katie was so sweet. She made me feel like they weren't just interested in my baby, but that they wanted to get to know me as a person.

We had lots of family meetings where my kids got to play with their kids. Lunches. Parks. I fell in love with them.

Growing up, I have never had a graduation party, a baby shower, a wedding reception, or any kind of celebration. They promised to “celebrate” her. Katie even went to an ultrasound appointment with me!

I asked Katie to be with me in the delivery room when I had the baby. I made sure that my beautiful little girl went straight into the arms of her adoptive mom. I got to hold her too. When it was time for me to say goodbye, it almost broke my heart. But I would do it over any day to make sure that my child has the very best. I know she is in the perfect home.

These days, we get all our kids together to play every month. Joanne from PCE checks in to see how I'm doing. I tell her that God orchestrated this whole thing. That I didn't lose a baby, that we gained a family. Joanne calls that my “selfless love.”

Julie, PCE Client

(See photo on page 3)

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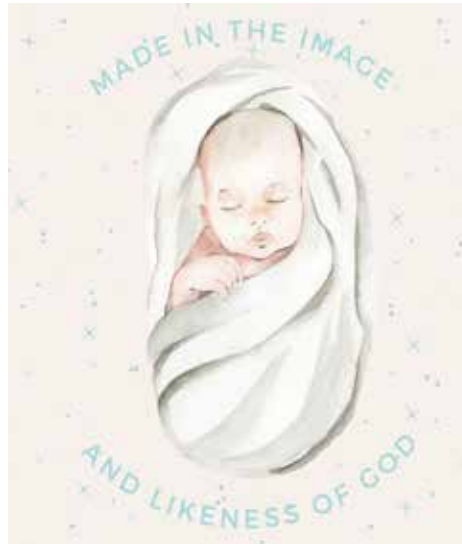
We had 116 golfers this year; that's a new record!

A big thanks to our Golf Fore Life Committee and all those who donated items, those who participated, and purchased raffle tickets. We'd also like to thank our dedicated volunteers, our generous sponsors, and our loyal benefactors for making the event a great success.

Fellow Pro-life Friends of PCE:

Before I delve into the current “weeds of the world” in today’s Culture of Death, let’s return to our very core of WHY all of this matters. WHY do we defend the sanctity of human life? WHY do we reach out to serve parents considering abortion as well as to those who have suffered the loss of one or more children in abortion? WHY must we evangelize this to others, especially our children? WHY do we mentor, lovingly serve parents both before and after a child’s birth? WHY does all of this profoundly matter at the deepest level of our souls? U.S. Supreme Court Judge Clarence Thomas reminds us:

...we were asked (in school) ‘Why did God create you?’...to know, love and serve Him in this life and be happy with Him in the next. Through my many years of schooling and extensive reading I have yet to hear a better explanation of why we are here...it was the motivating truth and remains the central truth



in my life today. Because I am a child of God there is no force on this earth that can make me anything less than a man of equal dignity and worth...in God’s eyes we are all children of God...and on Judgement Day held accountable...” (Tocqueville Lecture 2021).

Imago Dei: We are “made in the image and

likeness of God”. Born and waiting to be born. This is WHY!

Good News:

The US Supreme Court declined to block Texas’s Heartbeat Act, protecting children from abortion after detecting a heartbeat, usually around 6 weeks, It is ushering in a wave of prolife legislation across the country, including Indiana’s reinstated ban on abortion by telemedicine.

The Supreme Court, Dec.1, considers a major abortion case, *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*: concerning a Mississippi law that bans nearly all abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy, presenting a direct challenge to *Roe v. Wade*.

The Weeds of the World:

The US House has passed the so-called Women’s Health Protection Act (9/24/21) which would codify the *Roe v. Wade* decision into federal law while eliminating hundreds of state pro-life laws. In U.S. history, this abomination is the largest abortion bill ever! Prayers!

This is WHY you and I support PCE!

God is good! **Jane Hoffman**, Board Trustee

Photo continued from front page.

Chastity Transcends Age



The virtue of chastity is important to our world now more than ever. As you may know, our Educators go into Catholic schools from grades 5 - high school.

Last year, our Educators learned that those being enlightened went beyond the students. Often the school’s staff members sit in on presentations. In 8th grade, our Educators have the class fill out a ‘Dating License Bureau’ at home entailing the

parent’s and the student’s rules for when they start dating. The next day our Educators verbally walk through a date with the class guided by chastity’s best tips, peppering in their personal testimonies, and the activity’s rules.

At the end of the year, a staff member approached our Educators sharing how this simple, yet profound, presentation helped her personal life. She finally took a stance on her indecision in ending a relationship once she heard the dignity and worth each person deserves and God’s

Purpose for Matrimony. Indeed, God’s Plan for how we live as men and women. Chastity transcends age.

Testimonies such as these show the true mission of our Chastity Education program. Our Educators, Emily Young FCPI and Elizabeth McKinney have begun jetting off to the schools. Let us pray that the students will have open hearts to hear God’s voice.



Covey with her new adoptive parents.



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Welcome New Mentoring Manager

Kurt Bonner comes to PCE upon retiring from General Electric after a 38-year engineering career in the aviation jet engine business. His last role at General Electric was a Consulting Engineer, where he spent much of his time “mentoring” young engineers.

Now, at PCE, Kurt leads the Men’s Mentoring program at PCE while also serving as the Facility Manager of the building. Kurt recalls, “I’ve always had a passion for Pro-life causes, but I never quite fit on the Justice side of the equation. My son once told me, “Dad, you need to stop talking about Pro-life issues, and do something about them.” So, when the opportunity came to serve on, what Laura Curran eloquently calls, the “Mercy” side of the equation, it was a perfect fit for me.”

As the leader of the Men’s Mentoring program, Kurt will both sustain and grow the Men’s Mentoring program through fellowship, continuing education, and training of new Men-



tors. These Mentors listen to, guide, encourage, and inspire fathers involved with untimely pregnancies, to identify, connect with, and achieve their God given desires to provide and protect their family.

Kurt is married to Mary Ellen. They have two children, and have five grandchildren with

another on the way. Kurt and Mary Ellen like to spend time with family, especially the grandchildren, travel, and hike together.

Kurt observes, “I find that I can apply much of the same skills and talents God gave me that I used throughout my engineering career in my work at PCE. But it is much easier to serve others here at PCE, because this ministry is what God wants me to do.”

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