



ABOVE & BEYOND

By Joanna Law, Marketing Director

Coming out of a year that was so uncertain, heavy, and dark at times, God has allowed us to witness both Him and our supporters go FAR above and beyond what we ever expected or thought would be possible.

Financial giving was outstanding in 2020! In a year that we expected donations to be way down because of so much economic uncertainty, many of you gave more than ever before, and we can't possibly thank you enough for your sacrifice and generosity. Through your gifts, support, and faithful prayers, God got so many patients through some of their darkest days. Your gifts are the only thing that kept our doors open this year.

Material donations, such as baby and maternity supplies, were through the roof! Even during lockdown, you made it possible to provide families with curbside pickup to receive the supplies needed to care for their families. These gifts were a lifeline for many!

Baby Bottle Boomerang was a HUGE success, even after postponing this spring event to the fall, and having fewer churches participate. More details on page 4.

Your gifts accomplished INCREDIBLE things last year, and this newsletter is a celebration of that. I pray the reports within this newsletter bring your heart joy!



NEW ULTRASOUND MACHINE

By Joanna Law, Marketing Director

On December 21st, 2020, in a snowy, cold parking lot, the Knights of Columbus Council #13958 St. Francis of Assisi Parish came to Pregnancy Care Center, and presented us a check for over \$17,000 to purchase a new ultrasound machine!

“This year’s goal of raising \$15,000 was to purchase an ultrasound machine for the TC Pregnancy Care Center and WE DID THAT! KC Supreme will match 50% of the approximate \$30,000 machine cost. A big goal, but we did it to help support the Center and their good work.” -The Knights of Columbus, Council #13958

We are so blessed by the passion and commitment these men have shown. In the midst of a pandemic, they have worked above and beyond to raise the money needed through their annual Golf-a-thon and then pursue the process of getting their gift matched by the Knights of Columbus Charities.

On January 19th, 2021 our new ultrasound machine arrived! We still can’t get over how incredible it is. The quality far exceeds any machine we’ve used before, and our patients are AMAZED at the image quality and the photos we can provide of their baby. These ultrasound appointments are the first introduction between mom, dad, and baby. Having a machine that shows so clearly the incredible development and humanity of their unborn child can help to give these women and men the courage to continue with their pregnancy. This gift is going to save the lives of at-risk babies, and spare the hearts of mothers and fathers, who would otherwise have to carry the pain and regret that abortion can bring. Praise God for this precious and powerful gift!





SECOND CHANCES

By Rhonda Wrede, Executive Director

Have you ever wanted a second chance to do the right thing?

Many women who have taken the abortion pill* experience regret and are looking for a second chance to make the right decision. Fortunately, there is an effective** process for reversing the abortion pill, called **Abortion Pill Reversal**.

The Abortion Pill Reversal procedure is designed to reverse the effects of the first abortion pill medication (mifepristone) before the second pill (misoprostol) is taken at home.

Pregnancy Care Center is so thrilled to partner with our Medical Director, Dr Peter Bump MD (OBGYN), in offering this second chance to choose life!

*The abortion pill — also referred to as medication abortion, chemical abortion, RU-486 or self-managed abortion — is usually used to reference the medications mifepristone and misoprostol taken in a two-step procedure to terminate the pregnancy of a developing baby within the first 10 weeks.

**According to the American Pregnancy Association, abortion pill reversal has a 62% success rate.

ELLE'S STORY

By Jasmine Bower, Patient Services Director

Recently, a young girl (we'll call Elle*) came to her ultrasound appointment, sadly, already decided on getting an abortion. She said that she realized an abortion would bring a lot of pain with it, but felt like she didn't have a choice. During her ultrasound, she actually stared at the ceiling so that she wouldn't catch a glimpse of her baby on the screen. Afterwards, I saw what I thought might be a slight glimmer of hope in some things she said... but she left saying that she hadn't changed her mind, and that she couldn't continue with her pregnancy.

When Elle left, I couldn't stop praying for her. I don't think I've cried more tears for any patient than I did for her. Fast forward almost two months - at this point, I hadn't heard from her and was fairly certain that she had had the abortion. Most of the time, we don't get to hear the end of the story, and it's pretty rare that a patient will go out of their way to update us. But this young girl did!

Elle contacted us to let us know that she has decided to keep her baby... oh, the tears of joy!!! For her, it had been a hard and slow process of adjusting mentally and emotionally to get her to the level of excitement that she is now at to bring her child into the world. She has people who are supporting her in her decision to parent, and we've assigned her a dresser, filled with newborn items for when her precious baby arrives!

While she was here, getting some maternity clothes, she asked if she could see the ultrasound photos that she chose to not take home with her at her first appointment. What a contrast... to watch her open the envelope and look at her baby's first pictures with delight, and

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For more information, see:
www.abortionpillreversal.com



HE SHINES THROUGH

By Maddy Klingelsmith, Medical Services Assistant

As I sat down to write this article and felt a sudden wave of inadequacy to express the deep and endless awe I feel in my heart, a song came through my headphones (I am an avid believer in music for concentration haha). This song came on, and the Lord gave me a medium through which to express my heart. The song is called “You’re the Only One” by Chris Renzema and the lyrics say this, “Though the earth may try to satisfy my heart, though the earth may try to tell me You’re not faithful, though the earth may try to blind me from Your goodness, You shine through, You shine through, You shine through.” In a time when all I want to do is escape 2020 and forget all that happened there. God. WAS. There. Just as much as He WILL be in 2021. Though the earth may try to come through in a deceiving way and pretend it can satisfy my heart, even if it comes through in a loud thundering way to try and scare me into believing God is not faithful, or whether the earth tries to literally be so distractingly dark and cruel that it believes it can blind me from God’s goodness. HE. SHINES. THROUGH. I cannot tell you how many times despite last year’s moments of very real tragedy, pain, division, and fear, the staff of PCC has also had literal moments of dancing giddily in the office seeing our God come through in ABUNDANCE for those whom His heart breaks for in this community. Not just what we have asked, not the bare minimum to keep us going, but ABOVE AND BEYOND MORE THAN WE COULD HAVE EVER EVEN ASKED FOR.

Baby Bottle Boomerang (BBB) is just one of the ways in which the Lord has proven that HE SHINES THROUGH!! When we as a staff had to make the difficult decision to change when to do BBB last year due to COVID-19, I was honestly discouraged and in my human fear I doubted that this event would be as fruitful as prior years. BBB is one of only two main fundraisers we do each year in order to raise the funds for the rest of

the year. We usually hold a banquet each spring as well, to share our hearts with you, and pray people see what God is doing here and feel called to partner in His work. Last year we were not able to hold our banquet. Knowing this, I admit I let doubt seep in that BBB would not be very “successful.” Not because I did not truly believe we have one of the most amazing and generous group of supporters to ever exist, but simply because I was looking at the world. I was letting the very real fears of “well people are hurting now, workers aren’t able to work, resources are becoming scarce, people’s capacity for generosity, though I’m sure very abundant in their hearts, will just not be able to be a reality with how things are looking.” I was letting the world try and tell me He isn’t faithful and that somehow the world and its monetary system is what really satisfies our needs, and I was letting the world throw a cloak over my eyes that there could be scarcity, but HE IS STILL GOOD. As if our God isn’t big enough, good enough, faithful enough to care for the whole world with all its pain and sorrows and still faithfully and abundantly care for our small community that also needs Him desperately. As if He was not the one all along who has been satisfying our hearts, 2020 and all its problems or not! As if He is not the one who has always been faithful even when we are not faced with opposition, as if He is not ALWAYS working for our good!! Oh, how naïve I was and still am in many ways of the all-encompassing, all-powerful, all-fervent love of our God.

Last year, like in the years past, the Lord knew, that to see Him shine through in my mind and heart, I needed a front row seat, again (oh what a forgetful creature I am). I had the immense joy of getting to listen on the other end of the phone as church after church, despite it all, said “yes” to participating in BBB. In 2020, we had close to 50 churches participate in BBB. Nearly 50 congregations that said “Yes, we will do what it takes to make it possible! We want to be a part of what God is doing ...

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG

FILL A BOTTLE = SAVE A LIFE

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR 2020 PARTICIPANTS!

Lots of Individual Donors

Bible Baptist

Christ Church

Christ the King

Church Of the Living God

East Bay Calvary

Eden Bible Church

Evergreen Bible Baptist Church

Garfield Country Church

Grace Lutheran Church

Grawn Bible Methodist Church

Holy Rosary Catholic Church

Honor Congregational Church

Immaculate Conception

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Inland Baptist Church

Interlochen Bible Church

Keswick United Methodist

Kewadin United Methodist

Kingsley United Methodist

LifePoint Bible Church

Living Hope Assembly of God

Long Lake Community Church

New Hope Community Church

Northport Covenant Church

People's Church

Pine Grove Church & Ministries

Redeemer Lutheran Church

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

Resurrection Life Church

Sacred Heart Church

Sojourn Church

St. Aloysius Catholic Church

St. Francis Catholic Church

St. Joseph Catholic Church

St. Mary of Lake Leelanau

St. Michael the Archangel Church

St. Patrick Catholic Church

St. Paul Lutheran Church

St. Philip Neri Church

St. Wenceslaus Church

Traverse City Journey Church

Trinity Lutheran Church

West Side Community Church

Williamsburg United Methodist

WLJN Christian Radio

Woodside Wesleyan

“HE SHINES THROUGH” CONTINUED...

here in whatever way we can!” How amazing is that? Thank you. Your participation and generosity have brought about the means for us to, quite literally stay open. Thank you does not begin to express the gratitude in our hearts. Through your amazing support we were able to raise \$52,372 this year! What?! That is almost the same amount that was raised in 2019 - a year when we were not experiencing a pandemic, when BBB was not at a different time of year than usual, when we were able to work without a problem, when we all were meeting in person for church, etc. You get my point. HE SHINED THROUGH YOU!!!!!! YOU went over and above this year to take care of those in need and it WORKED!!!

From the depths of my soul, I cannot tell you how many people the Lord will continue to impact in this com-

munity because of that. What an integral part of God’s testament to us as a staff, to me, it has been to see Him SHINE THROUGH YOU, proving again to us that it is HIM and always has been Him that satisfies, is faithful and is good!

So, God shined through for us in a million ways this year. He shined through when we were sitting in tears praying fervently for men and women in desperate situations, when we were working through COVID protocols to continue to provide resources for families who needed material supplies, while we were rejoicing over babies saved from death and moms and dads feeling for the first time ever that they as individuals have worth and are so loved. And through YOU, your generous hearts and firm belief that HE satisfies, He IS faithful, and He IS Good, no matter what, always. Thank you.



LYNDSAY'S STORY

By Jasmine Bower, Patient Services Director

I've been thinking a lot about a patient I'll call Lyndsay*. She comes in regularly, and her story (at least the parts that I have to share) doesn't really have your typical "the end" finish to it... not yet anyway. But her experience has been a growing one, with heaviness and beauty, and she is a perfect reminder of the importance of the unconditional, judgement-free love and support that our patients need and notice.

When Lyndsay first came to us, she was in an unplanned, very difficult pregnancy situation. She knew that she wanted an abortion and was honest enough to tell us that she questioned our center's integrity. She had watched a video that warned women to be on their guard at any pregnancy center and was told that, if she went to one, she would be lied to or manipulated. But when she met with one of our Patient Care Assistants (PCA), she was treated respectfully, with honesty, love, and without pressure. She allowed us to share with her about abortion and its long-term effects, adoption, and single parenting. She also opened up a little about some of her own self-esteem issues, and abortions she had had in the past. Before she left, the PCC team tried to assure her that we are here to listen, no matter what.

Sometime after her appointment, Lyndsay called PCC, crying. She had gone through with the abortion and wanted to come in to talk to someone. Her PCA sat down with her, listened to her heart, and gently pointed her in the direction of healing. Lyndsay was receptive, and that laid the foundation of a growing relationship.

A few years later, Lyndsay contacted us again. A lot had changed – she had gotten married and was now pregnant again. At her appointment, the ultrasound introduced her to her beautiful 10 week-old baby boy. She said, "I'm going to go through with it this time."

After giving birth to her precious son, Lyndsay continued to come back for support. We were able to help her with diapers, clothes, and a variety of baby supplies, and over the years, she has trusted us to help support her through motherhood. She has grown to a place where she knows that we are here to help her raise her (now) two children, and has also slowly opened up and allowed us to encourage her on a regular basis.

I can't help but be wowed when I think about how she first felt when she came to us, and how God has continued to work in her. There is such a contrast in the distrust that she had and the trust that has now been built. God has been able to use this trust to speak light into her life, and I know that this is not the end of the story.

Thank you for not giving up in supporting Lyndsay over the years. Through all of her highs and lows, your faithfulness has shown her a picture of God's unchanging love for her through the "no matter what, we are here for you without judgment" kindness and help that she needs. I invite you to join us in praying for Lyndsay... I don't believe that God is done with her yet.

**Patient names have been changed to protect their privacy.*

2021

EVENT UPDATES

OUR BIGGEST STEP IN 30 YEARS!

Pregnancy Care Center has had the tremendous honor of hosting three incredible banquet fundraisers, and we were deeply saddened to have to cancel last year's event. There's something so special about having so many supporters in the same room - each from their own unique backgrounds, with individual opinions and personal stories - all gathering together in unity for the same cause, for God's glory. What a beautiful sight it is to see!

This year, we will still be hosting our annual fundraiser in May (save the date coming soon), but it will look a little different. With the COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings continuing to change so frequently, we realize that an in-person event isn't a wise decision this year. So, in its place, we'll be hosting our first virtual fundraising event!

We'll share more details in the weeks to come, but there will be opportunities to watch online, host a dinner and watch-party with friends at your own home, as well as the content of the event being shared in printed form via snail mail, so that those without internet access can still be involved!

While we are disappointed to not be gathering in person this year, there are some very positive aspects to hosting the event online. We're choosing to focus on and celebrate the blessings! Here are a few:

1. **INCREASED CAPACITY:** The annual spring banquet has sold out every year we've hosted it so far, only allowing for 350 guests at max capacity. These limitations have left many guests on a waiting list, and others having to miss the event all together, due to scheduling conflicts. Hosting the event online means that anyone who wants to can join the event, and those who are unavailable on the event day, can watch it at a later time, and share it with their friends!
2. **GREATER IMPACT:** With a virtual event allowing us to include a limitless number of people, we're praying that the impact of the event can be greater than ever before! God has already **BLOWN US AWAY** in 2021, with all of the ways He is providing for, not just our needs, but for ministry desires and dreams we've been praying for for years. He is laying out His plans so clearly to us, and we believe He is using this virtual event to raise the support needed to grow the effectiveness and reach of this ministry like never before.

Through His abundant blessings, we're gearing up for the **BIGGEST** steps we've taken in 30 years, and we are bursting at the seams to share every detail with you at this virtual event. Please pray for continued wisdom as we prepare.

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG

Baby Bottle Boomerang (BBB) will be taking place in September-October again! God is doing many new and incredible things at PCC (which will be announced at the virtual banquet in May), and a large amount of these things will be happening this spring-summer. So for this year at least, we're going to shift BBB to September-October again. We'll send out a mailing with all of the details closer to the event. If you have any questions regarding BBB, feel free to reach out! Call us at 231-929-3488.



ELLE'S STORY

CONTINUED...

remember the fear and panic she was experiencing during that first appointment. She kept thanking me and saying, "You were right." I don't know what it was that I said to her that was "right". But I do know that God works miracles, and He is the only One to receive glory. Even with all of our best efforts, Elle still left wanting an abortion. And then, when she was "out of our reach", God did the miracle in her.

I wish that you could know the full weight of what your prayers mean to us! Calling on God is our best, and really, only means of hope in this life-or-death work. Everything else, the ultrasound machine, the patient advocates, the education, resources and supplies, they're all tools for God to use how He chooses. I am so glad that He does choose to use this place and the loaves and fish that are offered. He uses your gifts, and He hears your prayers - thank you for being so faithful.

**Patient names have been changed to protect their privacy.*

LEARN MORE: WWW.FRIENDSOFPC.C.ORG



We are on all social media platforms
as **Friends of PCC.**

GENERAL INFO

Address: 121 South Garfield Ave.
Suite C, Traverse City, MI 49686

Office Hours: 10AM-2PM
Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday

**If You Wish to be Taken
Off of Our Mailing List:**

Please let us know by calling our office
at 231.929.3488 or by sending an email
to info@pregnancycarecenter.tc.org

WANT TO GIVE?

You can make a one-time donation or
sign up to be a monthly giver on our
website: www.friendsofpcc.org

You can also **use the enclosed
envelope** and mail it right to our office!