



NOW, MORE THAN EVER, *let's March for Life*



..... BY PAUL STARK

JANUARY 22 marks the 49th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, the devastating ruling that wiped away laws protecting unborn children nationwide and has led to the deaths of more than 62 million babies. **This year's anniversary arrives at a time when the Court is reconsidering the Roe decision in a major new abortion case** (see article on this page).

It's never been more important to speak out for those who have no voice. The annual MCCL March for Life will take place at 12 noon on Saturday, Jan. 22, on the state Capitol grounds in St. Paul, and will be followed at 12:30 with a brief program on the Capitol steps.

A remembrance and call for change

At the 2022 March for Life, we will commemorate the tens of millions of lives that have been lost and the women and men who have been wounded. We will call for an end to Roe v. Wade, a grave injustice and a constitutional catastrophe. **We will send the message that both unborn children and their mothers deserve**

protection, support, and love—that all human beings, no matter their age or their size, have human rights. And we will tell the world that we won't stop working until everyone is protected.

Please join us for this special event and lend your voice on behalf of those who need us. Pro-life signs will be available; you are also free to bring your own. Some groups and churches rent buses for transportation to the March; unfortunately, MCCL cannot maintain a list of these buses. **In the case of bad weather, please check the MCCL website at mccl.org or call us at 612-825-6831 for updates.**

Come and bring others

This Jan. 22, let's march together for life. Be sure to bring pro-life friends, family members, church members, or others with you. **More information about the March—including a promotional flier—is available online at mccl.org/march or by contacting MCCL.**

We'll see you at the March for Life! **MCCL**

Supreme Court takes up direct challenge to Roe v. Wade

Court also dealing with Texas heartbeat law

..... BY PAUL STARK

MULTIPLE ABORTION-RELATED cases have come before the U.S. Supreme Court in recent weeks, thrusting the abortion issue and the future of Roe v. Wade into the national spotlight.

Two cases involve a Texas law that protects unborn children after their heartbeat can be detected. **Another case, this one involving a Mississippi measure, presents the Court with an opportunity to reconsider and, if it chooses, reverse the 1973 decision that eliminated laws protecting unborn children across the country.**

..... **SUPREME COURT** continued on **PAGE 6**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



On Jan. 22, join us to send a message at the start of a big year

BY LEO LALONDE

FROM 1973 through 2020, an estimated 62.5 million unborn babies died from abortion in the United States. Almost 670,000 died here in Minnesota.

These aren't just numbers on a page. These are human beings like us. And they are gone because of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, which made abortion-on-demand the law of the land.

The problems with Roe v. Wade

There have always been two major problems with Roe. First, it's unconstitutional. It claims that the Constitution (specifically the 14th Amendment) requires abortion even though it nowhere does. In fact, at about the same time states were ratifying the 14th Amendment, many of those same states were enacting laws protecting unborn children from abortion!

Roe is a legally absurd decision that took from the American people the ability to protect babies in the womb. That's why America has one of the most extreme abortion policies in the world.

The second, and more important, problem with Roe is that it unjustly excludes a whole class of innocent human beings from the basic protection of the law. So many

have been killed as a result. So many mothers and fathers and families have been hurt.

Join us at this important time

This Jan. 22 is the 49th anniversary of Roe, and we will gather in St. Paul for the MCCL March for Life (see page 1). I strongly encourage you to join us! **We will remember the lives lost, call for change, and look forward to the day when Roe is done with.**

That day could be sooner rather than later. The Supreme Court is now considering a case, Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, that explicitly challenges Roe (see page 1). We don't know whether the Court will use this case to finally overturn Roe and allow states to once again determine their own abortion policies. God willing, it will, and many lives will be saved as a result.

Unfortunately, the battle over abortion will continue regardless—especially in Minnesota, where a state court ruling will still, for the time being, mandate abortion-on-demand (see page 4)—and **the pro-life movement must be ready and energized to share the pro-life message, to support women, and to pass protective laws.** This is an exciting time to be part of an extraordinarily important movement.

So much is ahead

As we look forward to the year ahead, there is so much on the line (see page 5). MCCL's pro-life educational events—including our upcoming Student Day at the Capitol in March (see page 7)—will help inform, persuade, and equip Minnesotans. **The election process starts with precinct caucuses on Feb. 1 (see page 5) and leads to the General Election on Nov. 8, when the pivotal governor's race will be on the ballot.** The Supreme Court will likely hand down its decision in the Dobbs case in late June.

But it all begins on Jan. 22 at the state Capitol. Please come, and bring your friends. We will march for life, for women, and for human rights—and say to the world that **the injustice of Roe must, at long last, come to an end.** **MCCL**

Thanks for maximizing your support for life!

Thank you to all the donors and friends who participated in MCCL's Give to the Max Day matching gift challenge. **MCCL welcomed many new members and met our goal!** We also finished in the top 10 among intermediate-sized non-profit organizations.

MCCL is grateful to everyone who stepped up to help bolster our upcoming pro-life programs after a busy summer of pro-life outreach.

Missed Give to the Max Day?

You can still participate in this season of giving: Visit mccl.org/donate or call 612-825-6831 to make your year-end, tax-deductible gift, or use the coupon on page 7.

Thank you for your faithful support! **MCCL**



Find, connect with MCCL on social media

SOCIAL MEDIA is a growing avenue of pro-life outreach for MCCL, and it's a great way for you to stay informed and connected with us—and to share our information with your own friends, family, and acquaintances.

Find us on Facebook (facebook.com/mnprolife), Twitter (@MCCL_org), and Instagram (@MCCL_org), and bookmark our mccl.org website too!



pro-life update

BY PAUL STARK

THE HYDE Amendment, a longstanding pro-life measure that prevents most federal taxpayer funding of abortion, continues to be on the line as Congress debates spending bills.

In late July, the House passed appropriations bills that don't include Hyde protections to stop those funds from paying for abortions. The House and Senate haven't yet agreed on this annual government funding, though, and have passed temporary continuing resolutions that keep the government running and maintain current funding restrictions (including the Hyde Amendment).

Meanwhile, in November, the House also passed a massive spending bill, the "Build Back Better" reconciliation bill, that doesn't include protections to prevent those dollars from supporting abortion in a number of ways. Among other things, the bill would mandate abortion funding in Affordable Care Act plans in 2024 in states that have not expanded Medicaid.

Minnesota Reps. Angie Craig, Dean Phillips, Betty McCollum, and Ilhan Omar all voted for the abortion-expanding bill, while Reps. Jim Hagedorn, Tom Emmer, Michelle Fischbach, and Pete Stauber voted against.



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MCCL was incorporated in June 1968 under the Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation Act for the purpose of engaging in educational, charitable, scientific and literary activities and projects. These include, but are not limited to the following:

1. To improve and further personal and social responsibility for human life.
2. To foster and increase protection of the right to life of mother and child.
3. To inform the public on abortion and related subjects.
4. To foster high standards of medical care in the state of Minnesota.
5. To promote and encourage assistance in the care and rearing of children with birth defects.
6. To promote enlightened care and assistance to mother and child in crisis pregnancies.
7. To cause to be published and to distribute treatises, articles, addresses, reports and other publications on any or all subjects related to those above.

From MCCL Articles of Incorporation

Nothing in this Newspaper, except paid advertising, should be construed as supporting or opposing any candidate for public office.

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Abortion funding at stake in Congress

Please contact Sens. Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith and urge them to oppose any spending bill that doesn't include Hyde Amendment protections against abortion funding. (Contact information is listed on the back of this newsletter.) **Lives are at stake, and taxpayers shouldn't be required to pay for elective abortions.**

compared to 619,591 abortions in 2018. **The CDC numbers reflect general trends but are considered incomplete because a few states, including California, do not report data.**

"The pro-life movement is encouraged that abortions have been reduced by 50 percent since 1980," said National Right to Life President Carol Tobias. "The slight uptick in numbers found in this most recent report means that pro-lifers will work even harder to protect innocent unborn lives and their mothers."

Abortion groups go after Minnesota pregnancy centers

In late October, a number of abortion advocacy groups, including Gender Justice, issued a "report" smearing the work of pro-life pregnancy care centers. The groups specifically targeted centers in Minnesota and called for an end to Minnesota's Positive Alternatives law, which provides grants to life-affirming programs that help women and children.

"Despite frequent attacks from the abortion industry, pregnancy care centers provide loving support for women, their children, and their families," said MCCL Executive Director Scott Fischbach. "These care centers offer women practical assistance and real alternatives to abortion that they don't get elsewhere. Countless women have benefited from these programs."

MCCL



CDC reports slight abortion increase nationally

In November, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released its annual "Abortion Surveillance Report" for the year 2019. Based on data submitted by state health departments, the CDC reported 629,898 abortions in 2019

DID YOU KNOW? A COURT DECISION HAS LED TO 95,000 TAX-FUNDED ABORTIONS IN MINNESOTA

Ruling in 1995 claimed a right to abortion in Minnesota Constitution

BY PAUL STARK

MOST PEOPLE have heard of Roe v. Wade. Not many have heard of Doe v. Gomez.

That's the Minnesota state Supreme Court ruling handed down 26 years ago on Dec. 15, 1995. The devastation caused by that decision continues today.

In Doe v. Gomez, the Court falsely claimed that the Minnesota Constitution includes a right to abortion. **Gomez also requires public funding of abortion for women receiving state assistance—something not required at the national level under Roe v. Wade.** (The pro-life Hyde Amendment prohibits most federal funding of abortion.)

Tax-funded abortions increase

The harm of Gomez, then, is twofold. First, Minnesota taxpayers fund elective abortions through Minnesota's Medicaid program. Abortion practitioners

have increasingly exploited this funding to perform more and more abortions on low-income women.

In 2019 alone, taxpayers reimbursed abortion practitioners more than \$1 million for 4,463 abortions—a record high. Since the 1995 ruling, taxpayers have paid about \$28 million to bankroll the destruction of about 95,000 unborn children.

"The Court imposed abortion funding on the basis of an erroneous and implausible reading of the Minnesota Constitution," says MCCL Executive Director Scott Fischbach. "It's long past time that this finally stops. Killing unborn children isn't a public good."

Court-imposed abortion

The second harm of Gomez is that even if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns Roe v. Wade (thereby allowing states to determine their own abortion

policies), the **Doe v. Gomez decision still requires a policy of abortion-on-demand here in Minnesota.**

"Doe v. Gomez is an ongoing obstacle to substantial protection for unborn children and their mothers," says Fischbach. "That's why we're committed to reversing it. To do so, though, we need a Minnesota Supreme Court that is willing. And that requires a pro-life governor to appoint good justices to the Court."

Over the years, MCCL has worked to challenge Gomez through legislation while raising public awareness of the problem. **In 2011 and 2017, MCCL helped pass bills that would prohibit taxpayer funding of abortion, but both were vetoed by the governor.** **MCCL**



Women deserve better than abortion

While MCCL will continue our efforts to raise awareness of tax-funded abortion and to end it by changing the law, we also want to offer hope and assistance to women and families. They deserve so much better than government-funded abortion.

Contribute to MCCL's Choose Life Drive and help women in need

DECEMBER 15, 2021, marks the 26th anniversary of the horrendous Minnesota Supreme Court ruling that imposed taxpayer funding of abortion in Minnesota (see article on this page). **Abortion practitioners use this government money to market "free" abortions to low-income women.**

What can we do to stop it?

That's why, for the second consecutive year, MCCL is holding a Choose Life Drive through the end of December. **We're collecting baby items to then distribute to pro-life pregnancy care centers serving women in the Twin Cities area and across Minnesota.**

You can contribute! Donate baby clothing, blankets, diapers, wipes, formula, and other items that mothers need most. These items will directly aid women experiencing unplanned pregnancies.

How to participate

The easiest way to contribute is to order needed items from MCCL's Amazon registry so that they can be shipped straight to our office. **You can find the registry linked on our website at mccl.org/chooselife.**

If you live in the Twin Cities area, you may also stop by the MCCL state office in Minneapolis and leave supplies in our office entryway. You may call beforehand, or just come during regular office hours!

This Christmas season, let's support women and babies in need. Thank you for your participation in this life-affirming program! **MCCL**



Mark your calendars: Here's what's coming up in 2022

THE YEAR 2022 promises to be an extremely important and consequential one for the pro-life movement. Here are some of the dates to keep an eye on—and ways you can get engaged to help make a difference.

| | | |
|---------------------|--|---|
| January 22 | MCCL March for Life | <i>Be sure to join us at the Capitol to speak out for the voiceless. (See page 1.)</i> |
| January 31 | Legislative session begins | <i>MCCL will advocate for pro-life legislation at the state Legislature, and you can help by contacting your own lawmakers. We will keep you abreast of these legislative efforts.</i> |
| February 1 | Precinct caucuses | <i>Get involved early in the political process and help choose pro-life delegates. (See article on this page.)</i> |
| March 10, 23 | MCCL Student Day at the Capitol | <i>Encourage students in grades 7-12 to participate in this unique pro-life experience. (See page 7.)</i> |
| May 8 | MCCL Mother's Day Project | <i>This annual fundraiser is a great way for MCCL chapters and churches to honor moms and support pro-life work. More information will be made available as the event approaches.</i> |
| June | Dobbs decision | <i>The U.S. Supreme Court is likely to decide the fate of Roe v. Wade in its Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health ruling in late June. (See page 1.)</i> |
| Summer | MCCL fair outreach | <i>We will need volunteers to staff our pro-life educational booths at county fairs all over the state, as well as at the State Fair!</i> |
| August 7-10 | MCCL Life Leadership Camp | <i>You can help promote this pro-life summer camp for high school students. It trains and equips the next generation of pro-life leaders.</i> |
| August 9 | Primary Election Day | <i>Make sure to vote to help determine which candidates will appear on the ballot in November.</i> |
| Sept. - Oct. | MCCL Fall Tour | <i>Our informational pro-life presentations in cities and towns across the state will update you ahead of the fall elections.</i> |
| October | Minnesota court ruling | <i>The Ramsey County District Court is expected to hand down a decision on a challenge to most of Minnesota's pro-life laws. The ruling could have major implications for pro-life legislation in Minnesota.</i> |
| November 8 | General Election Day | <i>On the ballot will be state legislative and Congressional races, as well as the governor's race. The election results will determine whether or not pro-life bills can be passed and signed into law in Minnesota.</i> |

As we move forward into 2022, please stay tuned to this newsletter, and follow MCCL on social media and our website (mccl.org). **We'll keep you informed about all of these events and the ways you can partner with us to save lives!** **MCCL**

This election, get involved early: Attend your precinct caucus

GENERAL ELECTION DAY is on Nov. 8, but the truth is that crucial decisions will be made long before then. **You can make a bigger difference for life by getting involved early in the political process.** It all starts with the precinct caucuses on Tuesday, Feb. 1.

What are caucuses?

Precinct caucuses are local meetings run by political parties. Anyone may participate if they live in the precinct, are eligible to vote in 2022, and generally agree with the principles of the party hosting the meeting.

At your caucus, you will have the opportunity to select delegates who will then endorse state and federal candidates at future party conventions. Pro-life delegates are necessary in order for the party to endorse pro-life candidates!

By attending the caucus, you can support delegates who prioritize the protection and support of unborn children and their mothers. Better yet, you can be a delegate yourself! **Becoming a delegate or alternate should be your top priority at your caucus.**

Only a small percentage of citizens attend precinct caucuses, which means your participation can have a substantial impact on which candidates are endorsed—and, eventually, which public policies are enacted.

Proposing resolutions

Your caucus will also offer you the chance to propose resolutions that could later become part of your party's platform. Changes to a platform, however, are very difficult to make.

If your party platform is not already pro-life, you may consider proposing resolutions if you think there is a chance of passage. Any caucus participant may propose a resolution; be sure to bring one or more print copies with you. If passed by the caucus, your resolution will be forwarded for consideration by the resolutions committee of the county or legislative district convention.

Here are two sample resolutions you may use:

1. **"Be it resolved** that we oppose the use of taxpayer funds to pay for elective abortion."
2. **"Be it resolved** that we oppose all attempts to legalize assisted suicide in Minnesota."

A huge opportunity

The 2022 elections are a huge opportunity for pro-life Minnesotans to make a lifesaving difference. But it begins with attending precinct caucuses on Feb. 1 and electing pro-life delegates!

You can find the location of your caucus on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.mn.us (select "Elections & Voting") or by calling 1-877-600-VOTE (8683). MCCL

A Gift FOR LIFE

YOU CAN HONOR LOVED ONES

by making a contribution in another person's name to advance the cause of life. Your gift to MCCL's Tribute and Memorial Program will enable MCCL to continue and/or expand our vital pro-life efforts on behalf of unborn children and other defenseless human beings.

MCCL will send an acknowledgment card to the honored person or to the family of the deceased (without indicating the specific amount given) and a postcard to the donor to confirm receipt of the gift. Donors who wish to have their remembrances published in MCCL News may note a request for publication at the time of the donation.

Contributions are deductible as charitable giving for income tax purposes.

Your contribution is sincerely appreciated.

THANK YOU!

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E-mail Address _____

SUPREME COURT continued from PAGE 1 · · · · ·

"No one knows how the Supreme Court will rule," says MCCL Executive Director Scott Fischbach. "But we are very hopeful that the justices will move in the right direction. **All human beings, including unborn children and their mothers, have human rights and deserve protection and compassion under the law.** Contrary to Roe v. Wade, absolutely nothing in the Constitution prevents states from recognizing and safeguarding those human rights."

Texas law saves lives

The Texas law went into effect on Sept. 1, and the Supreme Court, at least temporarily, declined to block it. The law's unique enforcement mechanism—private citizens can bring civil suits against those involved in illegal abortions (excluding the mothers)—made it difficult to preemptively challenge in court, despite Supreme Court precedents that require abortion-on-demand. Two cases then made their way back to the Court. **One concerns whether abortion practitioners can sue to block the Texas law; the other is about whether the Biden administration's Justice Department can intervene to try to stop it.**

The Court heard both Texas cases on an expedited timetable in early November. As this newsletter goes to press, the Court has not yet issued rulings. Regardless of its fate, however, the Texas law has already saved thousands of unborn lives over the last few months.

Dobbs case challenges Roe

The other case, Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, is a challenge to a Mississippi law that protects unborn children after 15 weeks—earlier than the Court has allowed protection in the past. It is likely to have more far-reaching consequences than either Texas case. **Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch is directly asking the Court to reverse**

Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood v. Casey (a 1992 decision that reaffirmed but modified Roe), putting the question of Roe and Casey—and whether the Constitution includes a right to abortion, as those decisions falsely claimed—squarely before the justices for the first time in decades.

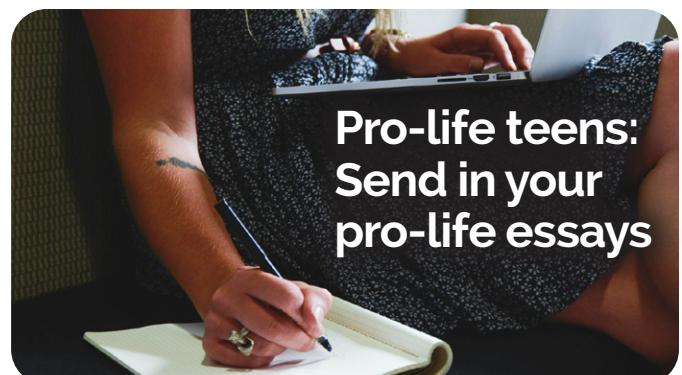
The Court could take any one of various routes. It could reaffirm Roe and strike down the Mississippi law; it could overturn Roe and uphold the Mississippi law; or it could find some third option, such as one that upholds the law while modifying but not fully overturning Roe.

The Court heard oral arguments in the Dobbs case on Dec. 1 and is expected to deliver its ruling next June.

Minnesota faces obstacle

If the Dobbs decision does fully overturn Roe v. Wade, states will be free to determine their own abortion policies, and many will provide substantial legal protection for unborn children. In Minnesota, however, an additional obstacle will remain. **A 1995 Minnesota Supreme Court ruling, Doe v. Gomez, claimed that our state Constitution includes a right to abortion (see page 4).** This erroneous ruling would require abortion-on-demand in Minnesota even if the U.S. Supreme Court no longer imposes it at the national level.

"We need a Minnesota Supreme Court that will overturn Doe v. Gomez, and to get there, we need a pro-life governor who will appoint good justices to the Court," says Fischbach. **No matter what happens in the upcoming Texas and Mississippi cases, we will continue working to defend unborn children and empower women here in Minnesota.** No member of the human family should be excluded from the equal protection of the law, and no woman should ever feel like abortion is the only option." **MCCL**



**Pro-life teens:
Send in your
pro-life essays**

Minnesota winners!

Last year, four Minnesotans were among the winners: Abigail P. of Lino Lakes and Annamarie S. of Rochester in the senior division, along with Francesca Rose C. of St. Paul and Maggie C. of Andover in the junior division.

More information about the essay guidelines is available online at nrlc.org/students/essaycontest. MCCL

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Gifts to the MCCL Education Fund are 100% deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.



CONSIDER HELPING to ensure that MCCL's work to protect life continues with a special gift of stock or appreciated assets. Giving a gift to MCCL before year's end aids our lifesaving efforts and **may provide you significant financial advantages**.

Your assets can benefit MCCL

Your transferred gifts of stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other assets that have been held for more than one year benefit you in several ways:

- **You may deduct** the full current value from taxable income;
- **You are exempted** from paying the capital gains tax otherwise due on a sale of assets; and
- **You are ensured** that your dollars are used to their fullest extent by MCCL.

It is safe and easy to transfer securities electronically from your account directly to MCCL. Simply instruct your financial

advisor to transfer an asset to benefit MCCL before Jan. 1, 2022. Provide the following information for a direct transfer of assets, then contact MCCL to let us know that you have made this request.

Account Name: Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Education Fund, Inc.

DTC: #0164

Broker/Dealer: Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.

Account #: 1505-1254

Many MCCL contributors also choose to make a **year-end cash gift to our ongoing work**. Just fill out the coupon at left and return in the envelope, or donate online at mccl.org/donate.

Easy, effective giving

There are many opportunities to contribute to MCCL's lifesaving work—and they're all easy for you. Contact your financial advisor for more information about year-end giving, or call the MCCL state office at 612-825-6831.

Students: Join us at the Capitol to learn and lobby for life

STUDENT DAY at the Capitol will return! The annual event, one of MCCL's longest-running programs for young people, brings students to St. Paul for a day of pro-life education and political involvement. It was canceled last year because of the pandemic.

MCCL's 18th Student Day will be offered on both March 10 and March 23, 2022, due to limited space at the Capitol. Students can pick either day to attend.

Unique opportunity

The event is a unique opportunity for students in grades 7-12 to learn about and participate in the political process. The day begins with educational sessions that cover abortion, current pro-life legislation, the legislative process, how to lobby elected officials, and more.



In the afternoon, **most students are able to meet with their own legislators and lobby them to support pro-life legislation**. The students may also tour the Capitol and hear from pro-life elected officials.

You are invited

If you are a student in grades 7-12, we invite you to attend. If you know students who are that age (in your church, school, or community), please invite them to participate. Fliers are available at mccl.org/studentday or by calling 612-825-6831.

Will you help us promote this valuable day?

Register online

Students need to pre-register. **Learn more and register at our website or by calling our state office**. A nominal \$10 donation includes lunch.

The program starts at 9:30 a.m. each of the two days and runs until 2:00 p.m. The combined event is limited to 200 participants, so please register early to ensure a spot. **MCCL**



Inside: What's ahead for pro-lifers in the new year



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OCTOBER - DECEMBER
2021



Attend the MCCL March for Life at noon on Jan. 22 and speak out for unborn children and their mothers (see page 1).



Encourage students to participate in MCCL's Student Day at the Capitol on either March 10 or March 23 (see page 7).



Contribute baby supplies to MCCL's Choose Life Drive to help pregnant women in need (see page 4).



Plan to attend your Feb. 1 precinct caucus and get involved in the political process (see page 5).



Make a tax-deductible year-end donation to support MCCL's pro-life work (see page 7 or visit mccl.org/donate).



Connect with MCCL at mccl.org and on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to stay up-to-date with the latest pro-life news (see page 2).

Contact List

MINNESOTA

State Legislators
House: **651-296-2146**
Senate: **651-296-0504**
leg.mn.gov/leg/legislators

Governor Tim Walz
651-201-3400
mn.gov/governor/contact

Contact by email: rep.firstname.lastname@house.mn
sen.firstname.lastname@senate.mn

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Senator Amy Klobuchar
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