



Leah's 2025 National Ride Recap Newsletter

Hi everyone! Here's a little bit about this summer's National Ride with my Biking for Babies Ohio West Team! The first day together we took the bikes to Bicycle One, a bicycle shop that made sure our team's bikes were ready for the National Ride. They did it all for free, and they stayed open till 11:30pm so they could get it all done! While we waited in the shop, we had so much fun! 😊



The next day we went to Mass and then we visited Women's Care Center in Columbus. This center was beautiful and the employee who gave us the tour was so warm and full of love toward the women who come there for help. It was beautiful.



The next morning our riders left for their first day of riding, followed by myself and our support crew in my parents' van! We arrived in Dayton later that day. That evening we had dinner with people from local pregnancy resource centers and exchanged stories and prayer intentions.

Next morning we left for Day 2. Both the riders and support crew faced some difficulties, but we enjoyed a beautiful sunrise and offered the difficulties to God, asking Him to help women facing difficulties in their pregnancies. We ended up finding joy in all things, and at the end of the day we got ice cream. Then we got to visit a beautiful maternity home! A past Biking for Babies missionary priest

actually offered Mass for us there too! Afterward, a few of our missionaries gave their testimonies about why they are biking for babies.



The next morning, our host saw us off and we began Day 3! We were able to stop at a church for lunch and got to spend some time in prayer. We faced a couple bike problems after that, but when we made it to our next host family's home, we were treated with a pool! So fun. Then we got to go to a Carmelite monastery for Mass!



The next morning, we were delayed from beginning to ride because of a thunderstorm. That day involved a lot of riding on gravel through cornfields, but our riders persevered all the way to the steel cross, where we met our next hosts! We went to Mass at a beautiful chapel in their Catholic hospital. Then we were taken to eat at Golden Corral where each of us gave our testimonies about what we're doing, why we're doing it and who we're doing it for. I really enjoyed getting to know my teammates in this way. Afterward, the Right to Life group of Effingham gave us a check for \$1,000.

Day 5 we had a crash, but it ended up okay. I had a lot of laughs with my teammate while he was required to ride in the van for a bit to make sure he was okay. At lunch time we got to meet some special people who offered to pray for us even though they themselves were going through a lot. No person we met during the Ride was an accident. At the end of Day 5, we had a holy hour with praise and worship by one of our support crew, had dinner and an event with the people of Carlinville, IL, and then led a rosary for them.

The next and last day of riding, there was an unexpected thunderstorm, so everyone piled into the van for a little while before continuing riding. The riders did amazing this day, as they always did. We ended up arriving to our destination before the other teams. After the other teams arrived, it was time to ride the last mile all together, amid much cheering and joy, to the Celebration of Life in St. Louis!! There we had dinner and heard a beautiful testimony from a young woman who a few years back was being pressured to have an abortion. She went to a pregnancy resource center that was partnered with Biking for Babies, and they told her that they would help her with whatever she needed. She was empowered to choose life, and with the help from the PRC, carried and gave birth to a beautiful son. This young woman was very emotional when she told this story, because she can't imagine life without her son. As we listened to this story, we thought, 'This is why we do this. This is why we biked, or helped people bike, 600 miles.' This was not just a bike ride. We were, and will continue to be, building a culture of love for Life—one where moms and families are empowered to do the hard thing of choosing life for their babies—one where the Cross of Christ, through which He conquered death, looking to the joy which lay before Him, is raised up and His Love proclaimed.



Thank you for partnering with me in this mission!!! I will be praying for you and your intentions. Thank you for praying for me, my teammates, and this mission! Your prayers and support are invaluable. We're also accepting financial support through September 20th. Please Google "Biking for Babies Leah McKee" to get to my Givebutter fundraising page where you may donate online. Checks may be mailed to Biking for Babies, PO Box 644, Saint Charles, MO 63302, with my name on the memo line. Thank you to those who have donated.

May God bless you!!

With love, in Christ,

Leah McKee