

focus & life

2026 Annual Benefit Dinner

Life.
The
Other
Choice.



May 14, 2026

Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner & Program at 6:30 p.m.

**Kalamazoo First
Assembly of God Church**

5550 Oakland Dr
Portage, MI 49024

Reservations

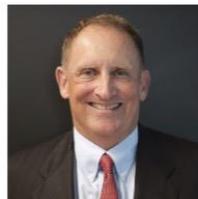
\$25 Student/Disabled
\$50 Individual
\$400 Table of 8

More Information

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Prof. William Wagner

special guest speaker

Professor William Wagner currently serves as President and Chairman of Salt & Light Global as well as President of the Great Lakes Justice Center (GLJC). He holds the academic rank of Distinguished Professor Emeritus. Professor Wagner is an internationally recognized expert in constitutional law and good governance. He and the GLJC authored an amicus curiae brief on behalf of Right to Life of Michigan calling for the overturn of *Roe v. Wade* in a 2019 case before the U.S. Supreme Court. He also authored written testimony, evidence, and briefs in such forums as the Swedish Supreme Court, the U.S. Congress, and the U.K. Parliament. He has further addressed many executive, legislative, parliamentary, and judicial audiences throughout the world, and presented at various diplomatic forums including the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Scan the QR code to register online.



Four pro-life actions by Trump in 2nd term

(condensed from article in [LifeNews.com](https://www.life.com))

As 2026 begins, President Trump will have four policies that will promote the pro-life movement—initiatives that will help to save lives.

1. At the March for Life in late January, Vice president J.D. Vance told the crowd that the White House plans to expand the Mexico City policy that prevents U.S. funding of foreign organizations that perform abortions. Mexico City, first announced by President Reagan in the 1980s, has been a political football since then, reinstated or scrapped depending on who occupied the White House. President Biden removed the policy on his first day in office in 2021. Trump reinstated it on day one of his new term as president.

2. The Dept. of Health & Human Services announced they are taking action to enforce the conscience rights protections of health care and insurance providers by pursuing action against states that force health care providers to commit or refer for abortions against their religious and moral values. DHHS's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has several rules protecting medical and insurance providers from being discriminated against based on their conscience and religious values in receiving federal funding. In particular, DHHS may be looking into Illinois and its governor, J.B. Pritzker. The pro-abortion governor has long targeted pregnancy care centers, require health insurance policies to cover abortion, and mandate abortion pills on college campuses.

3. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) released a public notice announcing their intent to reduce or altogether end their funding of scientific research that uses human fetal tissue. These studies often use the remains of aborted babies, from which abortion vendors make a heavy profit. The NIH is exploring new ways to conduct biomedical research that does not use the bodies of slaughtered preborn babies.

4. The US is officially withdrawn from the World Health Organization (WHO). President Trump

announced his plan to withdraw from the WHO in January, 2025. Trump decided on this policy “due to the organization’s mishandling of the COVID pandemic that arose out of Wuhan, China, it’s failure to adopt urgently needed reforms, and its inability to demonstrate independence from the inappropriate political influence of WHO member states,” according to the DHHS press release. Students for Life Action has spoken out against the life-threatening policies of the WHO, including its dangerous guidance to self-manage chemical abortion pills that cause 1 in 10 women who take them to have serious medical complications. WHO lists abortion as an “essential health care” service with aims to expand abortion globally, even cosponsoring a group that’s sole purpose is to push abortion into more communities.

VA committee blocks bill to legalize assisted suicide

Pro-life and pro-family groups have had little to cheer about since Gov. Abigail Spanberger took over as the state’s chief executive in January. She is pursuing a very pro-abortion agenda, aided by pro-abortion majorities in both House and Senate. However, on February 5, the Virginia Senate Education and Health Committee voted 8-7 to reject a bill that would have legalized physician-assisted suicide for terminally ill patients. This action negated an earlier vote by a subcommittee that had approved the measure. Two Democrats broke ranks and joined Republicans to defeat the bill. Thanks to Spanberger and her allies in the legislature, Virginia is poised to present an abortion rights referendum to voters this fall to enshrine abortion in the state constitution. We may not win every battle, but at least on the matter of assisted suicide, it seems that we have won this round.

New York governor signs assisted suicide law

The push for physician assisted suicide, while blocked in Virginia, is still advancing across the United States. On February 6, New York governor

Kathy Hochul signed the Medical Aid in Dying Act. The bill allows mentally competent, terminally ill adults with less than six months to live to request life-ending drugs from doctors. The law will take effect in six months. Pro-lifers have argued that the Act fails to protect people with disabilities from being pressured into suicide instead of receiving care. Currently there are now 12 states that have enacted suicide assist laws: California, Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington. There are 13 more states seriously considering Death with Dignity bills or referendums: Arizona, Connecticut, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Virginia. As noted in this newsletter, VA's attempt may no longer be in play.

Florida Heartbeat Law saves lives!

In a powerful affirmation of Florida's commitment to protecting the unborn, new state data shows that abortions performed in Florida clinics have plummeted by almost half since the implementation of the state's six-week heartbeat protection law. According to the *Tampa Bay Times*, utilizing data from the Agency of Health Care Administration, "Just over 44,200 abortions were provided by Florida clinics last year, the fewest for more than a decade and a 46 percent drop from 2022 when more than 82,000 terminations were recorded." This dramatic decline is no accident. Florida's law, which halted abortions once a heartbeat is detected, has clearly made a difference. Fewer babies are losing their lives in Florida, and that is cause for celebration.

Good News! TX to stop mail-order abortion pills

On February 6, a new Texas law took effect—the Woman and Child Protection Act. This law becomes the strongest law in the country to crack down on the sale of mail-order abortion pills mifepristone and misoprostal—the two drugs responsible for about 65

percent of all abortions. It allows state residents to sue companies and activists who illegally kill unborn babies, even if the perpetrators live in other states. Before the law, abortion zealots trafficked some 19,000 orders of abortion drugs into Texas annually. It is estimated that ten percent of all women taking these drugs end up in the emergency room. The law imposes a stiff penalty: anyone who breaks the law can face a \$100,000 lawsuit for each violation.

PP may have committed \$88 million in COVID fraud

Katie Brown Xavios, [LifeNews.com](https://www.life.com)

Last week, President Trump's Small Business Administration sent letters to 38 Planned Parenthood affiliates asking for proof that they were eligible for the Paycheck Protection Program, also known as the COVID-19 relief program.

In 2021, STOPP founder Jim Sedlak explained that the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, passed by President Biden, specifically set aside million of dollars for "family planning services."

Sedlak followed this with a reminder that under the Trump administration in 2020, Planned Parenthood affiliates were able to sneak away with \$88 million in PPP loans, even though they were not eligible. He explained, "Although not allowed, remember that the last PPP was specifically written to exclude Planned Parenthood, yet PP managed to get approximately \$88 million in PPP loans anyway. Efforts by members of Congress to get Washington bureaucrats to get the money back have not been successful."

Finally, it would seem that PP might be held accountable for this abuse of fraud. *The Daily Signal* reported last week that because of each affiliate's connection to PP Federation of America, they violated the "less-than-500" employee qualification for PPP loans. According to *The Daily Signal*, PP chapters that fail to supply the documentation requested by the SBA may be deemed ineligible for the loan and the subsequent forgiveness granted by President Biden and his administration.

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Ever wondered how we got here?

Kalamazoo Right to Life would like to announce that our former president (and current vice president) Rob Karrer has recently published a book: *The Flowering of the Rose: A History of the Pro-Life Movement, 1966-2024*, a lay-man's account of the movement's entire 60 years. It chronicles the key events and players along with court cases and legislation. It also includes influential leaders from the pro-abortion camp who set the table for abortion rights in the pre-*Roe* era. The monumental *Dobbs* decision that overturned *Roe v. Wade* and sent the issue back to the states is featured prominently. It is social and political history, covering presidential politics as it relates to pro-life issues. The book is available on Amazon or through other book sellers. Rob will sell copies at the Focus on Life Dinner on May 14. *The Flowering of the Rose* is a great educational tool for those wanting to learn more about the movement's rich and multi-layered history.

