



Heartbeat

HeartReach
Pregnancy Center

April
2008

Why Walk for Life?

"The Walk for Life is a sign of Spring," says a lovely woman from our Church. It's looked forward to just as the returning, cheerful robins and fragrant new leaves popping out on the trees are. Her husband walks and also volunteers his needed and appreciated EMT services. Their 4 sons walk. Two of them were carried their first year by their mom- in the womb, and happily counted among our numbers from Glacier View Bible Church. The other 2 were both 3 months old on their

first Walk. One of their young sons, when he heard about the Baby Bottle Campaign, was so moved by where the money was going, to help save the lives of Babies, he emptied his entire bank and gave it all.

Why does **Glacier View Bible Church** Walk for Life?

We Walk to publicly support life... the life of the unborn, the life of the mother and the lives of families affected by every birth. Now that we have our own children, we walk to show them how much we value the life

that God has given each one and to show the world that we LOVE LIFE!

All ages, from the womb into the 70s, Walk for Life to support the wonderful ministry of HeartReach Pregnancy Center- supporting the message of Love and Hope in Jesus.

We have many adopted kids and adults in our church, and so we Walk for Life to celebrate their lives and the courageous birth mothers who gave them life and gave us our beautiful children.

Many in our church Walk for Life as an extension of their ministry to HeartReach Pregnancy Center as HOPE-line counselors, providers of hand made quilts, baby clothes, formula and diapers.

We walk to testify that we identify with God and the life He creates. All are precious in His sight, from the moment of conception.

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For you have rescued me from death; you have kept my feet from slipping. So now I can walk in your presence, O God, in your life-giving light.

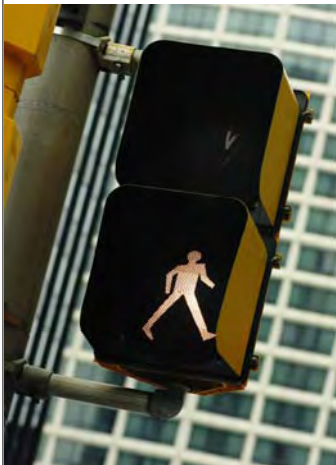
Walk for Life

May 17, 2008

Registration begins at
10:30 am
Walk begins at
11:00 am

Wasilla High School
Football Field

Contact Christy to register
christy@heartreachalaska.com





Walk for LIFE 2008 *Fearfully & Wonderfully Made*

Put on your walking shoes ☺

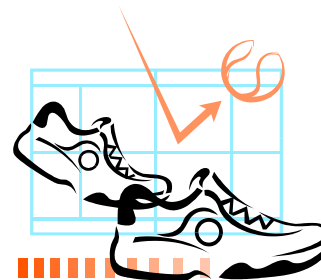
Yes, folks, it's that time of year again. Plans are underway to host the 17th annual Walk for Life and we want YOU to be a part of it.

This should be another wonderful year of fun, food and fellowship.

We are encouraging the youth to get involved this year and are challenging them to participate. Some churches are having contests within their church to see who can raise the most money and which class can have the most people walk.

This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and we are counting on YOU to help make this our most successful Walk.

Earn a free Walk for Life T-shirt by bringing in at least \$100.00 in sponsors.



Grab a friend or a family member and join us for a day of fun come rain or shine. (Pray for shine)!

Sponsorship forms are available at HPC or through your Church Rep.

Contact Christy Pinkerton for more information, 373-3456 or christy@heartreachalaska.com

RECEPTIONISTS NEEDED

Our lobby needs your smile!

We're looking for women who love to smile, who can answer the phone with joy, and who know what it means to give a word of encouragement. If this is you, we would love to have you join our volunteer staff as a receptionist.

Commitment: Two or more mornings or afternoons a month would make all the difference in the world.

Experience: Oh yes, it will be a great experience, both for you, and for all who come in our door!

Benefits: All snacks are divided equally among all staff members!

This could be a great opportunity to gain that needed experience in the workplace. If you are looking for a possible internship, we might be able to help each other. Computer knowledge helpful.

Contact Kristi 373-3456 or kristi@heartreachalaska.com



- * A pleasant demeanor on the telephone (can they "see" your smile through the phone line?)
- * A friendly face (our countenance speaks volumes)
- * The ability and desire to listen
- * A heart for Jesus Christ and a desire to reflect Him while serving Him.
- * If this is you...contact us!



April is Volunteer Appreciation Month



Jan Mitchell, Mike Rodriguez, Kendra Lacroix, Gay Petro-Stroup, Carol Rich, Rebecca Dargis, Carolyn Kuch, Michelle Dobson, Joyce Moropoulos, & Saundra Hutchins.

Not pictured: Jeanette Dusseau, Judith Carmony, Glory Green, Sharlene Hammod, Kristen Clouse, & Judy Lewis.

Plus numerous others who help occasionally.

For just a moment we want to say Thank You

Ours is a world of complaints, isn't it?

For instance, when is the last time someone called a waiter or waitress over and said, "Hey, I just wanted to tell you that you've got great service and great food here!"

Or, how often does a school principal have a parent call and say, "My child is doing wonderfully well in school, and I just thought that you needed to know how much I appreciate your work!"

Instead, we see airlines measuring success by having the fewest number of complaints, don't we? After all, why count compliments when there are so few?

Our turn for compliments

We decided that this month, we will turn the tables on society—and pass out our list of thank yous. So in this space, we want to say thank you to all of you who faithfully volunteer with us at HeartReach Pregnancy Center.

Thank you, because you could be spending your time elsewhere. You could be relaxing, watching TV, taking a walk, shopping—or who knows what.

Instead however, you chose to be an encourager

for someone who is struggling with a crisis pregnancy—or for someone concerned about the possibility. You chose to make a difference. You chose someone else over yourself.

There are times when we all need time to ourselves, but you've made it a point to take a portion of your life and pour it into someone else.

Our financial supporters keep us moving forward

We can't let this issue go by without also thanking our financial supporters. Like our volunteers, you had to make a choice. For some of you, it means that a luxury item will wait until next year.

For others, it may mean sacrificing a dinner out at a nice restaurant. Regardless of *what* you've given up to be a major part of this ministry, the fact is that you too, chose to sacrifice.

And to you, we want to let you know that you have our heartfelt gratitude.

To all of you who are a part of the HeartReach Pregnancy Center family, we're thankful. Together, we've got a lot to be thankful for.



Let's remember the forgotten mom this year

On Mother's Day, there may not be a card, because no one will know exactly what to say. Her child will be giving someone else a card, while perhaps also remembering her – yet she may never know.

She is the silent mother who made perhaps the greatest sacrifice of all. She took the harder road, placing her child in an adoptive home. She knew it was best, but her heart and her soul still cry out, asking her "why" during the dark times in her life.

Perhaps she has moved on, even married, and maybe has children of her own. But regardless of her current circumstances, she still remembers the little one she knew she had to relinquish to another.

Each year on her child's birthday she remembers, and every Mother's Day, her heart has a sense of emptiness – for the one from whom she sometimes longs to hear the word, "Mommy."

We believe in adoption here at HeartReach Pregnancy Center.. It is, in the clearest sense of the word, a selfless choice.

If anyone ever wonders aloud, "How could someone do that?" they simply do not understand the courage and the love that it takes to say, "You mean so much to me that I want you to have the very best."

Moses' mother, Samuel's mother – they both knew what it was like. The Bible records little of their heartbreak over a child given to someone else, but it was there. They must have hurt. They were real people.

And with Mother's Day here, perhaps we ought to pause and remember in prayer those who chose what was for them "the best," over what might have been easier choices.

They took the harder road, knowing full well what they were giving up, and the pain of loss that would ensue. On Mother's Day, let's salute them as well – the silent mothers for whom there may be no cards.

Volunteer Training

June 5-7
Thursday, Friday,
6:30-9:30
& Saturday
9:00-6:00

**Positions available for men & women.
For details or to register contact Kim
373-3456 or
kim@heartreachalaska.com
Cost \$30 for materials**

Olive Tree Counseling and Ministries visits us at HeartReach...

We would like to thank Shelly Thomas from Olive Tree Counseling and Ministries for the time she donated to us. Shelly is a Christian Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who came to spend an hour with us during our April Volunteer Staff Meeting and shared some great information about their ministry that offers counseling, support groups, and retreats on specific topics for healing and relationship building. They are located on the Palmer/Wasilla Highway and have some great programs to offer our community. To learn more about them, call 745-6557.





Here comes the “recession,” but we’ve got a job to do

The stock market is suddenly shaky, federal jobs figures are falling and the media tells us we are in the midst of a mortgage meltdown. In addition, filling up a car with gas may soon take a home equity loan (oh, those are getting more expensive, too).

If that isn’t enough, the dollar is falling and grocery store prices are rising. It seems bad economic news is everywhere.

For a non-profit ministry like ours, some may tell us it is time for hand-wringing. Forgive us however, if we don’t start gnawing off our finger nails – for three reasons:

We know our God

The first reason we’re not fretting is because God is still on His throne. He hasn’t gone anywhere and the last time we checked, He is not challenged by economic conditions. Times may get tougher and our faith may be tested, but our trust is in Him, not the markets.

We know our people

Those who support us may be tested financially, but we know you. We know your hearts and we know your commitment. Regardless of what happens in the economy, we know you will do your best to remember us. That’s all we can ask and that’s all we need. If any ministry could be confident in its supporters, it is us.

In addition, we know there are those who will see any financial challenges we have and say, “We need to step in – now.” Thank you in advance; we know you are out there.

We know our mission

Today there are hurting women – and men – who need us. If we get caught up in whether we are facing a recession, we lose our focus.

Our focus is on reaching out with the hope of Christ to those who come in our door. When we do this, lives are saved. Quite honestly, we don’t have *time* to fret – we’ve got work to do.

Economic conditions will rise and fall, ebb and flow. But our mission – our commitment to impacting lives with hope – is constant.

We don’t know the future; that’s not our job. We do know however, that our trust is in God, our encouragement is our people and our calling is to press on with our mission. Recession? Maybe. Mission? Absolutely.



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Heartbeat is a publication of HeartReach Pregnancy Center of Wasilla AK. We hope that our newsletter will encourage and inform you of the latest news from HPC. This Center is a non-profit tax-deductible ministry. We depend on the Lord's provision and the faithful giving of the members of the Body of Christ.

HeartReach Pregnancy Center is affiliated with CareNet, Heartbeat International, & the North American Mission Board

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Many Walk for Life because it's exciting to be a part of this amazing ministry and what God is doing.

The Walk for Life is a very simple way to show support for the sanctity of life; it has become part of our spring routine that we plan around. It's not always easy to make the time, but it is worth it. I love the camaraderie. There's a dynamic about a large group of like-minded people showing support for a

cause that's more powerful than just writing a check

As the returning geese gather and fly back to Alaska, our Body here in the mountains

happily gathers together and celebrates Spring and Life~ and the One who brings those forth, by heading down the mountain into town to **Walk for Life**.

Lori Lee

Glacier View Bible Church

Sutton, AK 99674

746-0868

A little something back from Uncle Sam?

For most Americans a "tax rebate" check is coming in the mail this spring or summer. When these funds show up, why not consider **HeartReach Pregnancy Center** for a special gift?

Your investment in the lives of those we see will be just the stimulus package to touch hearts and save lives. That's a gift that will give the economy of **life** a boost this summer – and for years to come.

HeartReach Pregnancy Center

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