

Dear friends of Vital Signs Ministries,

February 2025

Well, we have most certainly “marched” into the new year with enthusiasm and purpose. Indeed, January saw us finishing the Yuletide with both our 12th Night and Epiphany dinner parties; enduring cold mornings of prayer outside the abortion business; a celebratory breakfast in Lincoln with state pro-life leaders and half of Nebraska’s state legislators; conducting our Sunday afternoon church services at Aksarben Village Senior Living; being interviewed by Toni Clarke for a Bott Radio program; assembled a lot of pro-life material for a huge group of teens



going to the March for Life in D.C.; writing letters and blog posts (we draw your attention to “Why A Pro-Life Witness Outside Abortion Businesses?” and “Making Inauguration Day Personal”); and presenting a full slate of “When Swing Was King” shows; and yes, as you’ve already guessed it, joining in the annual March for Life in Washington D.C.

1) This year’s March drew one of the largest crowds ever. At least 150,000. 2) The lineup of speakers on the scene was over-the-top exceptional: Vice-President J.D. Vance, House Speaker Mike Johnson, Governor



Ron DeSantis, Senator John Thune, Rep. Chris Smith, Lila Rose, and more. And yes, via tape, because he was in Air Force One on his way to California, President Donald Trump. 3) The spiritual character of the

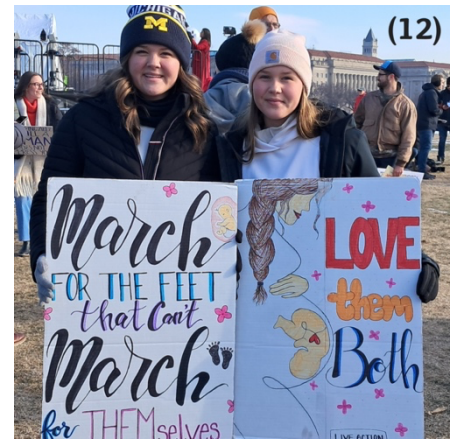
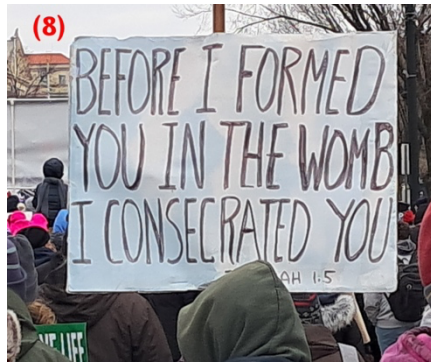
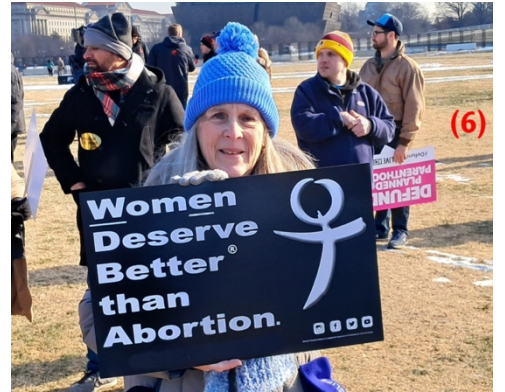
program and the marchers were of a more intense, more focused, more spiritual quality than any March for Life we’ve ever attended. The Name of the Lord Jesus Christ was spoken with courage and joy over and over, beginning with the Christian band Unspoken who kicked off the event and then with almost every single person addressing the massive, youth-heavy crowd.

We know that you all appreciate that the pro-life activism of Vital Signs Ministries has always been centered in Jesus -- both in our motivation and our methods. Therefore, we are delighted to tell you that the March for Life exemplified how the national pro-life movement has “grown up” since our initial involvement 40 (plus) years ago and it is now more of an unabashedly Christ-centered movement than ever before. May God only increase that zeal in the challenging days ahead.

I want to tell you a few specific stories about the March but, before that, let me mention three extremely important actions that actually occurred outside the March itself. The first two items came on Thursday night when President Trump announced he had pardoned all 23 people whom the Biden administration had thrown in prison for peaceful protests outside abortion mills. He then went further to promise that his administration would never use FACE (the Freedom of Access to Clinics Entrances Act) to prosecute peaceful pro-life advocates. Terrific news! (Note also that Texas Congressman Chip Roy has already introduced legislation to repeal FACE entirely. From the Nebraska delegation, only Adrian Smith has signed on as a cosponsor. Where are you Don Bacon and Mike Flood?) And then right after the March, we learned that the President (while in route to California) had once again put into place the Mexico City policy which stops tax dollars going to International Planned Parenthood and any other nation, NGOs, or “charity” that performs or encourages abortion. Again, wonderful news. However, Mr. President, among the outstanding needs that remain is your ending ALL funds to Planned Parenthood ASAP. Yes, most certainly, we want the defunding of NPR, PBS, the U.N., and other leftist miscreants. But P.P. is the most dastardly of all. Let’s get on with it!

Okay, back to stories from the March...As you can imagine, we worked the crowd quite a bit, enjoying fellowship with fellow pro-lifers from around the country...and even from Korea! (See photo 13.) We would start the conversations with “I love your sign” or “What did you think of Gov. DeSantis?” or simply “Where y’all from?” We did this before and throughout the March, storing up inspiration for ourselves as well as ministering edification and encouragement to our pro-life colleagues. And yes, we had a blast doing it! Among the most memorable connections we made were the Korean students, group of teens from south Philadelphia (who got a big kick out of my appreciation of their area’s remarkable contributions to early rock ‘n roll – “Gosh, we don’t anybody who remembers Bobby Rydell or Frankie Avalon anymore!”), an older couple from New Jersey that we hung out with during the program speeches, school kids from Ohio and Kansas and Michigan, an adoptive mother from Georgia, a mother and her grown daughter who travelled from different parts of the country to be able to march for life together, and on and on.

Oh yes, there was also the older lady (my age or so) standing on my immediate right during the pre-March program. She had done fine for the first 3 hours but then suddenly fainted and started to keel over. With help from another fellow, we eased her down, got her water and a protein bar, and made her rest easy until she recovered. Well, she came around quickly. Maybe too quickly, for she demanded that we help her to her feet so she could see J.D. Vance in person when he came to the microphones! She was like a teenager...kinda’ like those back in the day who would have been passionate to see...Bobby Rydell and Frankie Avalon! (The text continues on page 4.)



There were two other meetings I'll not soon forget. One involved a mother and her 20 something son who I visited with as we were making the last, tough pull up Independence Avenue. Both deal with physical disabilities and walking (with the use of canes) is no easy chore. Nevertheless, they had braved that grueling course in its entirety (and have on several other Marches, I learned) because "We want to be a part of this huge call to America to turn away from the crime of abortion" and because "It makes a real message to our family about the importance of being pro-life." Father, bless them and thank You for the example they set for us.

And the last conversation I'll tell you about was my meeting 3 Jewish marchers. (See photo 9.) Claire and I had been walking behind them (an older couple and a younger guy) for a few blocks and, because they seemed "alone in the crowd," I wanted to catch up with them and try to start a conversation. Well, with the crush of the crowd, that took a while but it turned out to be a great blessing. They were really pleased that someone bothered to introduce themselves, compliment their signs, and thank them for making the effort to be part of this pro-life event. I spoke to them about Rabbi Yehuda Levin who had, in the past, concluded several March for Life programs by blowing the shofar. They were delighted that I brought up that memory for they knew Rabbi Levin and were able to give me news about his health. We also talked about Old Testament passages that emphasize God's prohibitions of shedding innocent blood and I told them I was using one of those Scripture passages in my sermon the following Sunday. That led to talk about our ministry to seniors, about our public pro-life witness on the streets, and then about their community's efforts to teach the Torah to young people and to serve the aged (Jews and Gentiles) in their neighborhood. It was definitely a highlight of the day. Lord, I thank You for sending me their way and please tend the seeds sown in those minutes we were together.

The March for Life ended at the Supreme Court building where Claire and I had a time of prayer together and then, though very tired and footsore, we decided to head on down to the Russell Senate Office Building where we visited the young staff workers of Senator Ricketts and Senator Fischer. We were actually pleased to find both Senators out of their offices for it meant they were already at the Capitol preparing for the dramatic vote coming later on Pete Hegseth's nomination for the Secretary of Defense. However, we enjoyed very much talking to "the kids," signed the visitors log, and made sure they would pass on our reminders of how critical was their respective Senators' support of the pro-life cause. And then began the long trek back to the subway and eventually to the hotel, dinner, and an early bedtime with a very early flight the next morning. What a day!

And so on we go. I will do the invocation at the Nebraska Right to Life Gala Banquet in just a couple of days. We will then man the Vital Signs literature booth the next day after, of course, participating in the Nebraska Walk for Life there in Lincoln. And then it's back to our regular ministry activities. But we will "stay the course" with renewed fervor and focus, thanks to our 2025 March for Life adventure, the pro-life moves of the new administration, and the knowledge that you, our faithful LifeSharer team, will continue to pray for us, encourage us, and serve beside us. Thank you all. Thank you over and over. Blessings in Christ Jesus...

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denny". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned at the bottom left of the page.