

We have another illustrated LifeSharer letter for you this month but, amid the photos showing some of our January activities, we also drop in a quick review (in prose) plus a brief note from Claire answering the question, “**Why Do I Still March for Life?**” Let’s go...

Our January schedule began with the final Christmas season dinner parties. Remember, we celebrate through the whole 12 days. (**Photo 1** is from our final Christmas season party which we hold on Epiphany, January 6. Shown there are Claire, Karla, Barb, Kathy, me, our neighbor Shan, Tim, and John.) And, no surprise, we were quickly and deeply involved in all of our regular Vital Signs responsibilities: a full rota of our “When Swing Was King” shows, the Top 5 compiled and sent every weekend, the Sunday afternoon church services at Aksarben Village Senior Living (**Photo collage 2**), the regular correspondence and social media duties, “Santa runs” to ailing friends, our prayerful presence at the abortion business (**Photo 3** was from a recent Monday morning with John and us), and so on.

There were other tasks we had to deal with in January including several one-on-one meetings with pro-life colleagues, writing articles for a pro-life group that we network with, and a few doctor visits. Claire saw her dermatologist; I saw Keri for a pre-op physical; I had X-rays and a consultation with a foot and ankle specialist who gave me pretty good news -- except for prescribing a month of PT sessions; and I underwent my first cataract surgery. But in addition to all of the above, there were quite a few *very special* opportunities on our January calendar. Here they are:

1) Our attendance at the Nebraska Family Alliance breakfast in Lincoln. What a dynamic, consistent, and effective group of Christian activists serve with NFA and we’re blessed to support and serve alongside them.

2) Filmed interviews which will be used at the Assure Women’s Center annual fundraising banquet on April 2. That event is being described as **Assure’s 40th Birthday Party** and so these interviews have concerned the founding of the work (then the AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center) in 1986. At one of the interview sessions, we were joined by Chris and Barb in what was a particularly inspirational (and fun!) look back through time.

3) Our distinct honor of once again being part of the national March for Life in Washington, D.C. with visits to the offices of Nebraska’s Senators afterward.

**(Collage Photo 4 and Photos 5 & 6)**

4) Our participation on a very, very cold morning in Lincoln at the Walk for Life sponsored by our friends at Nebraska Right to Life. This event allowed us to show off our new banners -- thanks again, Paula! Indeed, a couple of those banners were featured on the front page of the Lincoln newspaper along with excellent responses from Claire to a reporter’s questions about her pro-life motivations. (**Photos 7 -14**)

By the way, **Photo 7** shows a bit of the crowd at the Walk for Life; **8** shows Kelly, Claire, Stephen, and Fran; **9** shows Barb, John, and Claire at the VSM booth; **10** is the photo used on the front page of the Lincoln newspaper with its caption mentioning John and I holding the banners; **11** is Mary, Rebecca, and Claire; **12** is Luke and Claire; **13** shows those new banners as well as Matt, Luke, John, Claire, and Eva; and **14** shows me holding my favorite offering from our literature booth (everything of which is always available for free), Randy Alcorn’s terrific book, *Why Pro-Life?*

And listing these last two events leads me right into the short essay which follows on page 3.

I hope you find Claire’s reflections moving and valuable. I certainly did.







## **“Why Do I Still March for Life?”**

It certainly couldn't be any clearer of how the Lord God sees the deliberate killing of preborn children. “For you created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.” (Psalm 139:13-16)

“Rescue those who are being taken away to death and those who are staggering to the slaughter; oh hold them back! If you say, ‘See, we did not know this,’ Does He who weighs the hearts not consider it? And does He Who watches over your soul not know it? And will He not repay a person according to his work?” (Proverbs 24:11-12)

Throughout our pro-life ministry (over 4 decades now), Denny and I have tried to promote a culture of life through many, many avenues -- sidewalk counseling; direct action; starting a pregnancy resource center and serving to assist and encourage those critical ministries; sponsoring all kinds of pro-life education activities and developing resources; letter-writing parties, our various ministries to the infirm and lonely; intercession; preaching; even Denny's novel, *The Christmas Room*. etc. Nevertheless, there is something special about the unique and dramatic witness of a pro-life March and I couldn't be more happy that we have been able to participate in many of these beautiful fellowships over the years. Many of those have been where we joined with hundreds of thousands in Washington, D.C – every year the largest human rights demonstration in the world! And we go every year to Lincoln for the Nebraska Right to Life's well-organized Walk for Life beginning at the State Capitol. We love being a part of such happenings!

Make no mistake, marching for life is a very important pro-life service. It is the noble company of serious pro-life advocates joining their hearts (and feet!) to bear witness to the surrounding culture the crucial, Bible-centered truth that human lives are sacred, precious, and deserving of our most careful protection. Indeed, life is precious from “the womb to the tomb.” These marches-for-life greatly energize the faithful, serving as memorable “sanity checks” and encouragements. They inspire participants; they challenge them to renew their dedication; they fuel their zeal for all of the other pro-life tasks they face in the days ahead.

Marches-for-life also teach the public that defending the sanctity of human life isn't a passing fad; pro-lifers have such firm convictions that they have staying power. In other words, we are not going away. The world will not drown out our cries for justice. And, to be sure, marches-for-life very effectively remind our local, state, and federal elected officials that there is strong and ongoing opposition to the murder of preborn boys and girls. We want protective laws. We want abortion profiteers like Planned Parenthood closed. And we do not want our tax dollars supporting abortionists in any way, in any degree.

Isn't it revealing that the marches-for-life have such remarkable turnouts, no matter the temperatures and no matter the liberal bias of the news coverage given the events -- if there is any at all! That's because we march for the babies, not for the media. We march for the Lord's sake, not for what might be popular in the latest Gallup poll. Our signs may sometimes change, the route we take may alter from year to year, but our motivation and message are timeless. We will stay the course, marching alongside the angels who, by the way, also love babies and justice and honoring the Lord of hosts by performing His will.

My pro-life activities are many and, by God's grace, I will continue in them until the Lord takes me home. And that includes my pleasure in marching for life. I'll do it as long as I'm able -- walking alongside so many other pro-life champions (young and old, different denominations) as together we give a voice for the voiceless in the matchless Name of their loving Creator, the Lord Jesus Christ.



