

The Pregnancy Care Center of New York

Newsletter

August 2023

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Pregnancy Care Center Mission:

Acknowledging that every human life begins at conception and is worthy of protection, the mission of the PCC of NY is to offer servant-hearted love, hope, and help to anyone considering abortion by presenting them with realistic alternatives and Christ-centered support through our life affirming network of counselors, churches, and individuals. Referrals for abortion will not be offered.

Executive Director's Message



Arlene Rutuelo

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*“Blessed are you, O LORD,
the God of Israel our Father,
forever and ever.*

*Yours, O LORD, is the greatness
and the power and the glory
and the victory and the majesty,
for all that is in the heavens and
in the earth is yours. Yours is
the kingdom, O LORD, and you
are exalted as head above all.*

*Both riches and honor come
from you, and you rule over all.
In your hand are power and might,
and in your hand it is to make
great and to give strength to all.
And now we thank you, our God,
and praise your glorious name.”*

1 Chronicles 29:10b-13

I challenge you to take a few moments right now to sit quietly and meditate on David's prayer and words of praise. Read them again, slowly. Your heart will be encouraged, as mine is! Praise the Lord with me for all that He is doing with the PCC, as you read all the updates in this newsletter.

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Run/Walk For Life



Pregnancy Care Center of NY



09.23.2023

10:00am-1:00pm

Franklin D. Roosevelt Boardwalk & Beach
Staten Island, NY 10305

Starting Point: near Miller Field, Softball Field #8



Scan the QR code to register. If you have any questions,
call us at 718-667-4357 or email info@pccofny.org



Board of Directors' Message

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16

This summer has been an opportunity for our Father to be glorified in Staten Island and around the world. As summertime goes, some board members traveled, while others remained. We are grateful for the chance to glimpse our humble part in God's big story, or reconciling the world to Himself. Some of these glimpses were local and more specifically tied to the work of the PCC, others were from afar as we connected, networked, and soaked in God's goodness and creation. Our desire is to walk in the good works the Lord has prepared for us, for His glory and for His name. May the Lord continue to knit us together as a board as we meet and serve the PCC.

Outreach Coordinator – Jessica Bocaya

Our eyes are still on baby Jason and his mom Stacey. This month, we had the opportunity to visit Jason, and through your generous donations we were able to bless him with clothing and diapers. One of the donors provided financial support as well. It was so wonderful to see Jason kicking his feet, playing with toys, and smiling! He is doing well and thriving! In the photograph, you can see how Jason has grown!



Stacey asked Darlene, the pastor's wife at International Christian Center, and I, if we could assist her with one request. Her desire is to bring baby Jason to the church. She is waiting for instructions from the doctor on how to transport Jason and she is also waiting on a mobile vent to be able to do so. She asked us if we would be available and willing to assist her with the equipment and transportation for baby Jason. She wants to come to the church and celebrate what the Lord has done for her and her family. We are excited and honored to help and be a part of this celebration! We praise God for what He has done, and is doing, as this miracle continues to unfold.

As the Executive Director of the PCC, it is my great honor to lead this incredible ministry on Staten Island, together with an active Board of Directors, two dedicated staff members, over 30 volunteers, 35 supporting churches, and **you!**

Our goal is to be unavoidable in every space abortion-minded women are present.

We want to reach them **FIRST**, before Planned Parenthood gets their evil hooks into these vulnerable young women. As our mission statement says, *"to help anyone considering abortion by presenting them with realistic alternatives and offer Christ-centered support."*

I ask for your continued prayers for the PCC, as we look for open doors and develop community partnerships on Staten Island.

We are trusting *the God of Israel our Father*, to bring advancement, direction, and favor as we praise and honor Him in all that we do with the PCC!

Be encouraged and stand with us as we plow forward!

In Christ,
Arlene

Featured Pastor's Corner (We will be highlighting a different pastor every month)



Pastor Benjamin Denny
 Gateway Church

A Biblical Perspective from the Heart of a Parent with a Special Needs Child

Life is a precious gift bestowed upon us by the Creator, and its intrinsic value lies not in our abilities or circumstances, but in our very existence. As a parent of a special needs child, I have been profoundly touched by the timeless wisdom found in the Bible, which has taught me to see the unique worth in every individual. I will share some brief thoughts on the value of life from a biblical standpoint, particularly through the lens of raising a special needs child.

Created in God's Image

Genesis 1:27 states, *"So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them, male and female He created them."* This powerful verse reminds us that every human being, regardless of their abilities, challenges, or circumstances, carries the divine imprint of the Creator. As a parent, I am entrusted with the care of my children, recognizing that my child and all children are a reflection of God's image in this world.

Unconditional Love and Acceptance

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus emphasizes the importance of love and acceptance. He teaches us to *"love your neighbor as yourself"* (Matthew 22:39), leaving no room for prejudice or exclusion. Embracing a special needs child provides an opportunity to display unconditional love, showing us that worthiness is not determined by achievements or abilities but by the inherent value of life itself.

A Unique Purpose

Jeremiah 29:11 conveys an essential message: *"For I know the plans I have for you,"* declares the Lord, *"plan to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* Each life has a unique purpose in God's grand design. Their presence enriches the lives of those around them, teaching invaluable lessons in patience, compassion, and empathy.

Valuing Every Member of the Body

1 Corinthians 12:22-25 compares the body of Christ to the human body, highlighting the significance of each member: *"On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor."* This verse resonates deeply with me as a parent of special needs child, as it reinforces the idea that even the seemingly weaker members are indispensable and deserve special honor and care.

Teaching Unwavering Faith

Raising a special needs child often involves facing numerous challenges and uncertainties. However, the Bible encourages us to maintain unwavering faith in the face of adversity. Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as



“confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” This verse reminds me and all of us that, despite life’s trials, we can find strength and purpose through faith in God’s plan.

Compassion and Service

Jesus exemplified the essence of compassion and service during His time on earth. In Matthew 25:40, He said, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Caring for a special needs child has provided an opportunity for my family to live out this teaching, understanding that acts of love and kindness towards them reflect our devotion to the Creator.

In conclusion, raising a special needs child has illuminated the profound truth that life’s value is not determined by abilities, appearance, or achievements. Instead, the Bible teaches us that each life possesses inherent worth, being created in the image of God. Embracing this biblical perspective has enabled me, as a parent of a special needs child, to see their unique purpose, unconditional love, and the indelible impact they have on the lives of others. As you read this article, I pray that we all acknowledge the intrinsic value of life through this lens of faith.

Prayer Corner

Prayer Requests:

- ◆ Pray for three abortion-minded women who have come to our attention. Pray they would seek help from the pregnancy center and choose life.
- ◆ Pray for fruit from the outreaches in August that the Lord would connect us to new community partners and bring us new clients:
 - ~ Summer Blessings for Families – August 5, 2023
 - ~ Beacon Christian Community Annual Fitness and Wellness Fair – August 12, 2023
 - ~ Breastfeeding Celebration – August 16, 2023
- ◆ Pray for upcoming events:
 - ~ Run/Walk for Life – September 23, 2023
 - ~ Annual Flea Market – February 17, 2024
 - ~ Annual Gala – April 18, 2024
- ◆ Pray for Annabelle as she creates the content for our social media platforms
- ◆ Pray for new prayer request received on social media: “Pray for Katherine that she may be saved.” Katherine is a friend of one of our social media followers.

Praise Report:

- ◆ We praise God for new and faithful volunteers that have been supporting our outreach efforts.
- ◆ We praise God for donations received of much needed diapers.
- ◆ We praise God for our new database that is being customized to help us maintain seamless Communication and reporting for the PCC, our clients, partners, and churches.



- ☑ PCC will host a Walk/Run on September 23, 2023.
- ☑ Golf outing will be Saturday, October 21, 2023. More Information coming soon.
- ☑ Informational meeting and Volunteer Training will be Saturday, October 7th, 1-4pm, at Gateway Church. Email Arlene@pccofny.org if you are interested in attending.
- ☑ Save the Date: 23rd Annual Spring Gala, April 18, 2024

Food for thought:

“In the morning, O Lord, You will hear my voice; in the morning I will order my prayer to you and eagerly watch.” Psalm 5:3

As the Lord opens your eyes each morning – and it is He who does it -- just take a brief moment to pray before reaching for your smartphone!

~ Darrell B. Harrison

2023 Donations are Welcome

Another easy way to increase your donation is by asking if your employer offers matching contributions to charities. Your donation of \$100 can become \$200 at no cost to you.



You can donate by going to our website: <https://www.pccofny.org> or our App and go to DONATE. All donations are tax deductible. You can make a one-time gift or set up regular monthly support on our secure site. If you prefer send a check, please send to: PO Box 141128, SINY 10314.

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