

2240 W SOUTH AIRPORT ROAD, SUITE A \*\* MAIL TO: PO BOX 5416 \* TRAVERSE CITY, MI \* 49696-5416

PH: 231-946-9469 \* E-MAIL: [office@gtartl.com](mailto:office@gtartl.com) \* WEB: [www.gtartl.com](http://www.gtartl.com)

## **YOUR Membership Matters!**

### **JUST A REMINDER...**

We are standing strong against the relentless forces that devalue life, but we can't do it without you. If you're not a member yet, we invite you to join the team and we welcome you. If you're already a member, we invite you to renew your support. There's never been a more crucial time to be united in this fight, and we appreciate you more than you know. The new membership year starts on July 1st. Don't delay, contact us today!

## **Congratulations to Laura Durocher!!**

Laura is the winner of the GTARTL 2020 Outstanding Pro-Life Youth Award has gone on to win First Place in the STATEWIDE Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund Outstanding Pro-life Youth Award for 2020!! Laura is a senior at St. Francis High School in Traverse City. Now President of St. Francis' Teens for Life, she has been active in the group throughout high school. She has been involved locally in Life Chain, getting donations for the Pregnancy Care Center, praying in front of Planned Parenthood, helping at the Right to Life booth at the NW Michigan Fair and attending the Focus on Life Dinner. She attended Right to Life sponsored Legislative Day in Lansing and Marched for Life in Washington DC twice. Laura credits her passion to a teacher whose personal pro-life witness and integrity of life inspired her to take action. She plans to attend the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in the fall and looks forward to spreading the pro-life message there. Well done, Laura! We're so proud! See an excerpt from her winning essay at <https://rtl.org/youth-award-2020/>



## **2020 Robert DeVol Pro-Life Oratory Contest Winners!**



1st Place – Olivia



2nd Place - Joseph



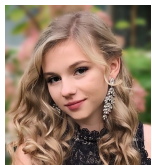
3rd Place– Naomi

### **First Place \$250: Olivia Ludka, St. Francis Junior**

Olivia will have the honor of competing in the Right to Life of Michigan state-wide contest...YOU GO GIRL!!

### **Second Place \$150: Joseph Leggett, St. Mary School Sophomore**

### **Third Place \$100: Naomi Saneda, Ordo Amoris Classical Freshman.**



Rachel



Athena

### **Honorable Mentions:**

Rachel Dunphey, St. Francis Sophomore  
Athena Gillespie, St. Francis Senior.

It wasn't even close to what you could call an ordinary Oratory Contest. Far from it. For a while, we weren't even sure it could happen. With schools closed and a stay-at-home mandate, there was a lot of last minute planning and adjusting to do. It was a challenge, but the contest went on. Students, safe in their homes, gave their speeches in front of their computers or smartphones, while others watched on theirs through the marvel of technology. Giving a speech into a camera is a lot different from speaking to a live audience, and our contestants rose to the challenge. They did an outstanding job in spite of it. Kudos to our judges, who also had to adjust to "being together" alone, and to Wendy Fulton, our Teens for Life Coordinator, who pulled it all together.

Our congratulations for a job well done! You are all amazing!

# OUR MESSAGE ON BILLBOARDS!

## THANK YOU AREA CHURCHES

(and Two Anonymous Donors)  
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE  
2020 BILLBOARD PROJECT

Bible Baptist Church  
Carmelite Monastery  
Christ Church  
Christ the King Church  
Cornerstone Assembly of God  
East Bay Calvary Church  
Faith Reformed Church  
Fellowship Church  
Garfield Country Church  
Grawn Bible Methodist Church  
Holy Rosary Church  
Immaculate Conception Church  
Leelanau Christian Fellowship  
Mt. Zion Family Worship Center  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Sacred Heart Church  
St. Ann Church  
St. Francis Church  
St. Mary Church Lake Leelanau  
St. Michael Church - Suttons Bay  
St. Patrick Church  
St. Philip Neri Church  
St. Wenceslaus

## Katie Donahue Wins TfL Billboard Contest!



Katie Donahue

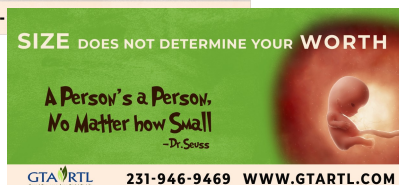
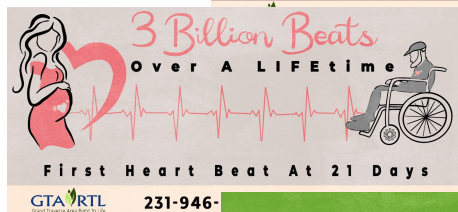
Congratulations to Katie Donahue, whose fresh and timely billboard design (below), won her a cash prize and the honor of having her design displayed on a local billboard for a month for all to see!

Katie is avidly pro-life. She is a Junior at St. Francis High School where she is a member of Teens for Life. Katie attended the March for Life in Washington DC this year, and has recently co-founded "The Beauty of Life," a non-profit whose purpose is to provide meals for mothers in need in the Grand Traverse Area.

The GTA Teens for Life contest, which ended February 14th, was open to students from ages 13-19 and challenged them to create and submit a positive, pro-life billboard design.



Katie's Winning Billboard



Keep your eyes open as you're driving around - you never know where one of our billboards will **pop up!**

We even had one in Benzie County recently!

The more you support this effort, the more we can do. Just write **BILLBOARD** on your Donation or visit [GTARTL.com](http://GTARTL.com) and donate today!



# FOCUS ON LIFE EVENT - September 28, 2020

## An Evening with Mike Huckabee



In case you were wondering...

YES, we are planning to have our dinner at the Grand Traverse Resort! And, as an exciting addition, we will also be live-streaming the event! We will be announcing updates on our Facebook and Instagram pages as well as on our website. We will also send updates by email, so make sure we have your email address!



Facebook

Of course you can always call the office, 946-9469 or email [Office@gtartl.com](mailto:Office@gtartl.com) for updates

### Surrendering the Secret

- Mary C. Jackowski

A passion on our hearts at GTARTL has been for the post abortive community. Many, struggle for years with repressed memories, guilt, shame, and depression. Most women feel they are not allowed to talk about their abortion experience, especially in

church. The truth is many women who have had an abortion suffer from symptoms of post-abortion grief and trauma. Most often, neither the medical community nor the church understands abortion as a risk factor in a woman's physical, spiritual or emotional health. If you feel you have never completely healed or recovered from an abortion experience, or that a past abortion may be affecting your current quality of life, then Surrendering the Secret (STS) by Pat Layton is for you.

I helped co-lead a Surrendering the Secret (STS) Bible Study last September at New Hope Church, we had 3 women sign-up and 1 that finished. We tried to start another STS group in TC in October 2019, but had no sign-ups for the class. I have to admit, at first I was discouraged...but I know that Satan would love for me to get discouraged and drop this whole thing. But that is NOT an OPTION. So, January 14<sup>th</sup>, we had an STS group of 2 women that met at Bayview Church in TC and they both completed the 8-week course!! I felt very privileged to get to know and walk alongside these brave women as we embarked on this healing journey together. They expressed to me how important they thought this Bible Study was and that we need to have this in our community. They were so thankful for all the supplies that were provided to them for free. GTARTL was able to do that because of our generous donors like you! The cost for one woman is \$25. If you would like to donate to help provide supplies just write "STS" in the memo on your check or give on our website at: [GTARTL.com](http://GTARTL.com) and select "STS" in the drop-down menu.

On Mother's Day I reached out to these ladies and wished them a Happy Mother's Day. The one expressed this Mother's Day was more special for her because of the healing in her heart because of our class together. This is a life changing Bible Study! STS is a study designed to bring women together who understand the need for seeking peace with the past and desire a better understanding of God's plan for making the most painful losses of our past work for His glory!

We have an STS packet for Pastors that explains the Bible Study and has informational brochures that can be put in the lobbies and counseling rooms of your church. Please let us know if you would like information on the Bible Study and we can drop off information at your church or send it to you in the mail or even via e-mail. I would love to share my story and passion for this vital ministry with you!

There is a confidential sign-up form on our website [GTARTL.com/Other Resources/Post Abortive Help](http://GTARTL.com/Other Resources/Post Abortive Help). If you would like more information please feel free to contact me directly at [Mary@GTARTL.com](mailto:Mary@GTARTL.com) All inquiries are confidential.



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## **A Note from our Director**

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### **This Covid-19 Storm and How it has Affected Us**

This year has been tumultuous for so many, including your Grand Traverse Right to Life Office. Many of you are wondering how has this affected our office and our endeavor to protect LIFE. I would like to take a few moments to share with you what has been going on here. Our staff is blessed to be able to work from home remotely, and I have been able to social distance myself from everyone as I am the only one at the office and the doors are locked from the public. So thankful to our Lord as we know many have not been able to work.

This time has been difficult to say the least. We have rescheduled our May 21<sup>st</sup> Golf Benefit to July 30<sup>th</sup>. (please be praying for this event as it is what helps us keep our doors open!). Our yearly Mother's and Father's Day Fundraisers and the NW MI Fair have been cancelled. We are praying for our September 28<sup>th</sup> Focus on Life Dinner. This is an educational outreach and we have Mike Huckabee scheduled to speak. We are planning on a live event as well as an online event. So please stay tuned for updates on this.

Everywhere around us, there has been a heaviness... that is so hard to describe. I say that to say this... I think the heaviness that we are feeling is just the reality of being in uncharted waters....You see God calls us into deep waters....He does not want us to stand in the safety of the shore. But He wants us to trust Him and know that He is with us in these deep waters we are all experiencing. Please remember that our boat is sturdy and our crew is apt and God commands the winds and the waves.... In my own life and businesses, I have had, I have weathered some pretty bad storms...I am always reminded of a quote by Louisa May Alcott that reads: "I am not afraid of storms, for I am learning how to sail my ship" May this storm teach us all how to better sail this ship that God has entrusted us with...that He would use this storm to help us work together better. To help us unite. When sailing and the winds are forceful and you have to reef in the sail it can be difficult to do....but when you reef it in correctly you can maintain control of the boat in heavy weather and it can be a boat saving and lifesaving procedure. May we all take a moment and remember that God is in control and He has assembled this team for such a time as this and I am so thankful for the rough waters as we learn to better sail our ship.

Please consider partnering with us and becoming one of our Crew Members to help us weather this storm. Help us reef in the sail so that we can continue to work together to save LIVES from Conception to Natural Death.

Mark 4:35-41 New Living Translation (NLT) Jesus Calms the Storm <sup>35</sup> As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross to the other side of the lake." <sup>36</sup> So they took Jesus in the boat and started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed). <sup>37</sup> But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with water. <sup>38</sup> Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, "Teacher, don't you care that we're going to drown?" When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. <sup>40</sup> Then he asked them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" <sup>41</sup> The disciples were absolutely terrified. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "Even the wind and waves obey him!"

**Hmmm.... A Calm Jesus..... Panicked Disciples.....**

**A Powerful Storm.....Disciples Faith Tested....**

**Jesus Commands: "Silence! Be Still!"**

Please prayerfully consider how you may be able to help us through this storm. See the insert on ways that you can help. **But Please Pray!! God is in control and "Even the wind and waves obey him!"**

More of HIM, less of me,

Mary C. Jackowski, Director of Operations

## LIFE LINKS MOVED TO JULY 30th



Life Links Golf Outing was originally scheduled for May 21st.....but Covid-19 has affected us all. So we have re-scheduled our Golf Benefit for July 30th at the Grand Traverse Resort, Wolverine Course. What does that mean for us.....

**Warmer Weather and the course will be in much better shape!!!**

**GOD IS GOOD!!**

So please be in prayer for this very important fundraiser, which helps us keep our doors open so that we can protect the precious gift of LIFE from conception to natural death. We do this through Sponsorship and/or signing up to play golf!

This helps GTARTL to reach out and spread the Pro-Life Message to our local and surrounding community.

We are also getting the teens involved this year! If you know a teen that likes to golf or would like to help out with the event, please have them contact our Teens for Life Coordinator, Wendy Fulton at [GTATeensForLife@Gmail.com](mailto:GTATeensForLife@Gmail.com)

To be a Sponsor for this event or Sign-Up to golf please visit our website: [GTARTL.com/life-links-golf-outing](http://GTARTL.com/life-links-golf-outing) or email [Office@GTARTL.com](mailto:Office@GTARTL.com)



### WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER PASTOR MATT MABEY!

Please welcome Pastor Matt Mabey as he joins the Right to Life governing board. He currently serves as transitional pastor at First Christian Church in Traverse City. His engagement with right to life concerns began early in his ministry in writing and teaching through the local church. Pastor Matt enjoys intellectual pursuits, and looks forward to assisting with Right to life projects and serving behind the scenes in a variety of capacities. He and his wife Dvorah (newly married May 16th) oversee Canvas of Christ Ministries, seeking to provide restoration and recovery for broken relationships through the power of the Holy Spirit and application of God's word. Dvorah is a certified personal trainer and licensed life coach, while Matthew studies, collects and appraises art, antiques and collectibles. They both enjoy hiking and discovering God's natural world.



### PROGRESS ON DISMEMBERMENT BAN

After a long pause, the Bureau of Elections (BOE) has pulled a sample of 500 of our petitions and is validating - comparing names to the state's qualified voter list etc. They will determine whether we have enough valid signatures and send their recommendation to the Board of Canvassers who will vote and if they approve, will send to the Legislature for a vote. A majority vote in both the House and Senate will pass the ban into law and the Governor cannot veto it. Right to Life of Michigan and our attorney will be closely watching and participating in this whole process. The BOE has set June 1st as the deadline for any challenges to our signatures. A challenge from Planned Parenthood is expected. Please pray for the success of this effort, and stay up-to-date on our Facebook page.



### THANK YOU

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #13958  
FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFT  
TO SUPPORT LIFE





Grand Traverse Area Right to Life

2240 W South Airport Road Suite A  
Traverse City MI 49684

Mail to: PO Box 5416  
Traverse City MI 49696-5416

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ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Traverse City, MI  
Permit No. 339

**Dedicated to the preservation of all human life from fertilization to natural death**

Phone: 231-946-9469  
Email: [office@gtartl.com](mailto:office@gtartl.com)  
Web: [www.gtartl.com](http://www.gtartl.com)

**ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**

## You Can Help Now

## Mark Your Calendar



**May 25** Memorial Day (closed)  
**July 30** Life Links Golf Outing  
**Aug 9-15** Northwestern Michigan Fair  
**Sept 28** Focus on Life Event

## Local Contacts

### GTARTL Board of Directors

Dana Olm (President), Patrick McIntyre (Vice President), Neil Witkowski (Treasurer), Mary Jo Piché (Secretary), Donna Daciuk, Mary Lingaur, Pastor Matt Mabey, Lisa Miller, Pete Miller, Jozell Rexroat, Fr. Mitchel Roman, & at-large member: Pastor Paul Silbor

### Office Staff

Mary Jackowski - Director of Operations  
Bonnie Comfort - Administrative Assistant  
Mary Ann Korson - Bookkeeper

### Teens for Life Coordinator

Wendy Fulton

### Michigan Representative:

Barbi Aumiller (989) 731-4756

## Open Doors Dedications

1-Jan	Mr & Mrs Leonard Ritola	In Honor of our Blessed Mother
2-Jan	Pat Roebke	In Memory of Skip Roebke
6-Jan	Viola M. Panks	In Memory of Tom Panks
19-Jan	Dave & Bernadette Dzwik	Happy Birthday Andrew!
19-Jan	Margaret Smedley	Thank You for My Life
24-Jan	Steve & Lou Laske	For our Children and Grandchildren
8-Feb	Steve & Lou Laske	For our Children and Grandchildren
13-Feb	Dave & Bernadette Dzwik	Happy Birthday Casey!
14-Feb	Katelynn Mae Colmus	For My Sister, Kerstin Marie Colmus. I miss you and love you.
14-Feb	Margaret Smedley	In Memory of My Special Valentine, John
14-Feb	Rose Reinbold	Unending tears & broken hearts love & miss you each day 'Schweetie' My Precious Granddaughter Kerstin Marie Colmus.
16-Feb	Mr & Mrs Leonard Ritola	Happy Birthday Andy and Haley!
20-Feb	Walter J. Kraimer	Happy Birthday Inge!
8-Mar	Dave & Bernadette Dzwik	Happy Birthday Dave & Lukas!
17-Mar	Katelynn Mae Colmus	For My Sister, Kerstin Marie Colmus. I miss you and love you.
17-Mar	Rose Reinbold	Unending tears & broken hearts love & miss you each day "Schweetie" My Precious Granddaughter Kerstin Marie Colmus.
17-Mar	Carli Anderson	Kerstin Marie Colmus - We are deeply loving and missing you until we see you again.
27-Mar	Pat Roebke	Happy Birthday to my Sister, JoAnn Leffel
29-Mar	Mr & Mrs Leonard Ritola	Happy Birthday Eli and Juliette!

### Donations in Memory of Manon Hart

Lee & Lusetta Farber, John & Jane Babrick, Howard & Mary Ann Heading, Henry & Renee Jones, Rosanne K. Roman D.V.M., Daniel & Dawn Uitvlugt, and David & Veronica Wolfe.

### Donations in Memory of Ruth Francis

Gene & Lydia Francis, Fred & Carolyn Gendron and J. Greer Johnson.

## 2020 LOCAL DONORS

Michael J. Bolan, Christ the King Children's Ministry, Sandra Derman, Jeannette A. Feeheley, Jeff & Shelly Grant, Paula Hofmeister, Lawrence & Barbara Holly, Ted & Mary Hooker, Immanuel Lutheran Church – Leland, Jade Tool, Daniel & Paula Korson, Jason Koyish, Dr. Carl & Diane Madion, Mike & Robin McGrath, Joel & MaryBeth Myler, Francis & Evelyn Tenbusch, and the anonymous donor of 100 custom-printed T-shirts for Teens for Life.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR NEW OR RENEWED MEMBERSHIP!

Agnes McWethy, Marie Schaub, Walter J. Kraimer, Ken & Diane Neyer, Stuart & Velvet Whittaker, Phyllis L. Babel, Patricia Beckwith, Viola Panks, Robert & Terri Shoemaker, Morris & Dorothy Kolarik, Dan & Luanne Lautner, Michael & Deborah Riness, Margaret Smedley, John L. Hartl, Jason & Suzanne Allen & Gordon & Mary Boomer.

*Thank you for your formal membership in Grand Traverse Area Right to Life.  
We also deeply appreciate your previous support and donations to our cause.*

We are so  
grateful

to all of you for your  
gifts and support in  
the cause of LIFE!

You are making it possible for us to keep our doors open and to keep fighting the Pro-Life battle.

We know that many have certain areas they would like to help with, so we have added more options to choose where your gift will be used. See "Other Opportunities to Help" on the reverse side of this sheet.

You are a vital part  
of the team. We

can't  
do it  
without  
you!



## OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

### Open Doors Sponsorship

Make a dedication to a loved one, living or deceased, or honor a special occasion and help keep our doors open. Recent sponsor names and dedications are on the reverse of this flyer.

Dedication Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication Reads: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication Reads: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication Reads: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Dedication Dates \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Matters!

Your membership in GTARTL gives you a dual membership with Right to Life of Michigan and contributes to statewide efforts in legislative, election and education efforts as well as supporting your local office. **Annual membership is from July 1st through June 30th**, but you **can** join at any time - please contact us with questions about pro-rated memberships.

#### 1 Year Membership July 1st-June 30th (Circle Type)

Business - \$500    Red Rose - \$200    Gold - \$100

Silver - \$50    Family - \$40    Single - \$20

Senior- \$15    Student - \$ 5

Membership Total: \_\_\_\_\_

### Other Opportunities to Help

Tell us what you'd like to do to help us support life.  
We will put your gift to work there!

Help Teens for Life Groups \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Surrendering the Secret: Post-abortive Bible Study  
Help buy course books for hurting women \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pro-Life Library \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Help buy a Billboard \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send your Pastor to the Focus Dinner \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other Use \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please **circle** method of payment:

CHECK (enclosed)

CREDIT CARD



Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Sponsorship: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Membership: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Donation: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

## **EVERYONE please complete:** (regardless of payment type)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



Grand Traverse Area Teens for Life are Pro-Life middle school; high school and college age student groups in Grand Traverse and Leelanau Counties committed to advancing the Pro-Life Movement through Connecting, Equipping, and Providing Service Opportunities.

The 2020 Baby of the Year is a fundraiser that benefits the educational activities of these Teens for Life groups.

For more information about joining or starting a Teens for Life Group or if you would like to donate to help this cause please contact our office at [Office@GTARTL.com](mailto:Office@GTARTL.com)



Grand Traverse Area Teens for Life  
PO Box 5416  
Traverse City, MI 49696  
[GTATeensForLife@gmail.com](mailto:GTATeensForLife@gmail.com)  
231.946.9469

# Grand Traverse Area 2020 Teens for Life Baby of the Year

## enter to Win



GTATFL Baby of the Year will be voted on at the  
2020 Focus on Life Dinner, Monday, September 28th.  
Five finalists will be selected from the entries received.  
Each finalist will receive 2 complimentary dinner tickets!  
To buy additional tickets call 231.946.9469  
or go to: GTARTL.com

### Entering is Easy and Free!!

- 1) Submit a photograph of your favorite baby, (that lives in the Grand Traverse or surrounding area) two years of age or younger.
- 2) A completed entry form (to the right).
- 3) Write the baby's story in 100 words or less.

Please email a digital photo in JPEG format to Office@GTARTL.com  
If you submit an actual photo it must be no larger than 5"x7". Put  
name and information on the back of the photo.  
Photos will not be returned.



## Lots of Prizes!!

### Clarabelle Gooden 2019 Baby of the Year

After almost 3 years and 2 miscarriages,  
little Clarabelle was born at 24 weeks  
and 6 days, weighing 1 lb 14 oz and  
measuring 12 inches.



Her parents were told that she had less  
than 25% chance of making it past  
72 hours. She spent 100 days at DeVos  
Children's Hospital and amazed the staff with her progress. She  
continues to exceed all expectations and now is a healthy 14+ pounds  
and 24 inches. **She's mom and dad's little miracle.**

### Entry Deadline September 2, 2020

Baby's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: (Must be 2 years old or younger) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Baby: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Entry Form To:  
Grand Traverse Area Teens for Life  
PO Box 5416, Traverse City, MI 49696-5416  
Email Photo Of Your Baby To: Office@gtartl.com