



## Baby Bottle Boomerang

The Baby Bottle Boomerang is an ongoing fundraiser that can be done at any time throughout the year. We would love for your church group or organization to jump on board with us and give the BBB a try this year!

You decide on a date that works for your group, we bring you the baby bottles and you distribute them to your group. They collect coins, currency or checks to fill the bottles and then you return the filled bottles to Sav-A-Life.

It's a fundraising event that everyone can participate in-from the youngest child to the oldest adult!

Call us at (256)355-3828 today to learn more about the Baby Bottle Boomerang, reserve your date to get bottles and do a fundraising event for Sav-A-Life.

Our Director would love to come speak to your church and share more about what we do at Sav-A-Life and kick off your fundraiser!

Our Current President

Decatur Sav-A-Life was  
celebrating our 30th year!  
Founded in 1987

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Sav-A-Life Pregnancy Center, Decatur, AL  
801 Bradley Street, SW  
Fax: (256) 355-2667  
Phone: (256) 355-3828  
E-Mail: [pregnancycenter@bellsouth.net](mailto:pregnancycenter@bellsouth.net)  
[www.decaturpregnancy.com](http://www.decaturpregnancy.com)  
[www.sav-alife.org](http://www.sav-alife.org)

# SAV-A-LIFE NEWS

Sav-A-Life Pregnancy Center

SUMMER 2017



### Volunteer Spotlight...

This month's spotlight is on Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Moulton, Alabama. In August they began teaching the Finding Grace classes at their church for our clients that live closer to Lawrence County. Below is a word from Tina Hjelm, the driving force behind the satellite classes at PGBC...



*This August will be a year since a Satellite location was opened at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Moulton to serve clients in Lawrence County. After a GIC conference the ladies felt led to minister to young women in our area that needed Finding Grace classes but could not find transportation to get to Decatur. We have offered all classes but have had participation in Baby Care, Life's Healing Choices, Financial Peace and Save One. One of our most rewarding moments has been when a client was led to the Lord and 2 have started attending church regularly!! We look forward to seeing this ministry grow and working with the wonderful girls who have chosen life!!*

Pictured Back Row: Sonja Gibson, Linda Terry, Tina Hjelm.  
Front Row: Whitley Waters, Barbara Dutton.

Not pictured: Shellie Burkett, Cherrie Whitlow, Brandy Aldridge, Bonnie Waldrep, Abby Terry, Sherry Loosier.

### Sav-A-Life Memorial Garden

We have a vision at Sav-A-Life to build a memory garden in this area for the babies that we never got to hold in our arms. Mothers that have a miscarriage or that their babies never get to come home from the hospital have a hole in their heart that no one or nothing can ever fill. We had a mother that miscarried at 17 weeks but had no where to bury her baby. While trying to help her find a place to bury her precious baby we learned that if a baby passes before the 20 week mark that he or she is not even recognized as a baby but as medical waste. This bit of information stunned us and broke our hearts and we knew that we had to do something to give these grieving families a place to have a memorial and be able to visit their babies as they try to overcome this heartbreak. Our prayer is that someone will donate a plot of land to us so that we can start phase one of a memory garden for babies, similar to the National Memorial for the Unborn in Chattanooga, Tennessee. We have faith that God will provide this for our community just as He has always supplied our needs. Please join us in praying, that if this is God's will, that this vision can become a reality.



### We Now Own Our Building Debt Free!!!

As of May 2017, Sav-A-Life Pregnancy Center, Decatur now owns our building debt-free! Thank you to all of those who faithfully give to Sav-A-Life and made it possible for us to reach this goal! Now that the building is paid off, we will continue to do upgrades to the inside and outside of the building to make it inviting to all who walk into the Center. We have spent the past two years upgrading the inside of the building. Our goal this year is to give the outside a facelift. As I type this, we have a contractor working on painting the outside of the building. Once this is complete, we will be putting up new signs. These two projects were made possible by a donation from one of our faithful supporters.

## Meet Kristi, Our Office Coordinator...



Kristi works in our front office as Office Coordinator. She has been with Sav-A-Life for three and a half years. She started out as a volunteer in the clothes closet and then became an employee as the Closet Coordinator. After 2 years of working in the closet, Kristi moved up to the front office as Office Coordinator. Kristi does a great job at everything that she does and is an invaluable part of our family! She is not afraid to tackle anything...from tearing out cabinets, to replacing toilets, painting, appliance repair and anything else that needs to be done around here...Kristi will give it her best and usually figures it out and gets it done. Kristi has two grown children that are her pride and joy! Her daughter Heather is 22 and works at a local bank. Her son Phillip is 19 and will be a college sophomore this year at Marion Military Institute. Phillip is also a pitcher for the Marion Military Institute Tigers baseball team.

## Welcome New Board Members

At our May board meeting we welcomed three new members to our Sav-A-Life Board. New members include Ken Blackwood, Daphne Baker and Ryland Wilson. Ken and his family spent several years doing mission work in China, he is now the Director of Missions & Ministry for the Morgan County Baptist Association. Daphne is an accountant and Ryland works in sales. They will be joining Larry Waye, Cindy Burns, Dr. Kathleen Dupper, Mark Ozbolt, Darrell Wates, Trevor Butcher and Dr. Misty Browning on our Board of Directors. We are so thankful for these volunteers that serve on our Board to help guide our ministry. We look forward to working with these new members and will miss those that will be rolling off of the board soon. Thank you all for all that you do for Sav-A-Life!

## Thank You Pre-born

Our Director, Veronna Keen, recently made a trip to the Pre-born Headquarters (formerly Mission:Pre-born) in Indianapolis, Indiana to receive a grant in the amount of \$7000.00. We received this grant due to having the highest percentage increase in our numbers for sharing the gospel with our clients! A representative from Mission:Pre-Born came to Sav-A-Life in 2016 and did a training session with our staff and volunteers for their program "The Invitation". "The Invitation" is a video program on sharing the gospel. It gives you instruction on how to boldly share the gospel in any situation. Mission:Pre-Born also offers on-line classes to help people feel more confident in sharing the gospel even in the most difficult situations. We are thankful for the opportunity to be a part of Mission:Pre-Born and to have been able to partake in this training.



Photo and post from Pre-Born's Facebook page:

*It was a blessing to have Veronna Keen from Sav-A-Life Pregnancy Center in Decatur, Alabama join us yesterday at headquarters to receive her award for The Invitation program.*

*Veronna saw a 520% increase in commitments to Christ in her Center in a 6 month period!*

## Workers Wanted – No Pay; Excellent Benefits!

Ms. Charle was already considering volunteer work when she heard about Sav-A-Life at her church. Believing it would be a good fit for her because it was a biblically based organization and because she felt she could relate to young women and the problems they might be facing she walked into Sav-A-Life and volunteered. Now Ms. Charle is an advocate, sharing the gospel of Christ with young women and counseling them on pregnancy, adoption, abortion and parenting. "Being a Sav-A-Life volunteer has changed my life, I am learning to understand people better and have learned that women are all the same in some way. Sav-A-Life has so much to offer – both practical and spiritual help. I wish everyone knew about this place," she shared.

Dictionary.com defines a volunteer as a person who performs a service willingly without pay. Volunteers offer themselves, their time and their energy pouring out love and dedication into the people they serve, all while expecting nothing in return. Many organizations, including Sav-A-Life, Decatur, could not carry out their mission without the help of their volunteers. At Sav-A-Life, Decatur the opportunities to serve include:

\*Advocates- Women willing to share the gospel and counsel young ladies on pregnancy, adoption, parenting and abortion

\*Baby Closet – Wash and dry used clothing donations, organize clothes into sizes, prepare layettes for clients

\*Cleaning of the Center – Groups needed for periodic deep cleaning and individuals needed for regular daily or weekly cleaning

\*Male Advocates – Men willing to share the gospel and counsel men on pregnancy, adoption, parenting and abortion

\*Teachers for Earn While You Learn Classes (Clients take these classes to earn baby items)- Suggested classes are Bible studies, Financial Peace, Dressing for Success or you can bring your own ideas to be considered

\*Fundraising Leaders – Organize fundraisers for Sav-A-Life directly or through your church or organization

\*Church Contact Person – Be the contact person for your church to organize speaking opportunities, fundraisers and volunteer opportunities

\*Other miscellaneous projects that arise – If you are looking for something different or have an idea to share you can call the center and discuss it. There are often new needs to be met!

The bible says in Proverbs 11:25, "Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered." Despite the worldly definition of "volunteer," we know that giving ourselves in service to others often enhances the life of the giver as much, if not more so, than that of the one they came to serve. Just like Ms. Charle, as a volunteer you will learn things about yourself and others that will help you to grow personally and spiritually as you help others to do the same. There is no service too small in the eyes of the Lord for everything done for the least of our brothers and sisters is also done for him (Matthew 25:40).

Sav-A-Life, Decatur has 2 full time and 4 part time employees on staff and relies heavily on volunteers. Won't you prayerfully consider any of the above opportunities for yourself or your group? Come and see what the Lord is up to at Sav-A-Life and join Him in His work. The benefits are paid in eternal rewards!

Kimberly Jones Vernetti

7/2/17

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' Acts 20:35 ESV

