



# Heartbeat

The beat of Students for Life at SLU

Volume 2, Issue 1, September 2008



## Upcoming Events

### *First SFL Meeting Of the Year*

Tuesday, Sept 2nd  
8:00 pm in Ritter 320

### *Homecoming Funnel Cakes*

September 26<sup>th</sup>

### *Respect Life Week*

October 5th-11th

## Students for Life Meetings

Meetings this year will be held Tuesdays at 8:00 pm in Ritter 320.



## *Welcome from SFL President*

*By Kevin Grillot*

Students for Life is back at SLU, and it feels great! With eagerness of return, we have stepped off into a very active year. The momentum of last year's accomplishments has set forth several great initiatives.

The Pregnant and Parenting Student Assistance Scholarship campaign will start this semester and has huge potential for success. This potential comes from the numerous fundraisers we do (funnel cakes, working at the Chaifetz Arena concession stands, etc.) coupled with the strong leadership we have in the scholarship committee. This first-ever student-initiated scholarship seeks to support future recipients so they do not have to choose between continuing their education and having their children.

As Students for Life continues to grow in numbers, we hope to also grow closer as a group. With the newly created position of Internal Vice President, filled by Matt Von Rueden, we hope to build friendships and have a great deal of fun. Even though we are experiencing record numbers in membership, we still deeply care as to why each member is pro-life. We will continue to explore the importance of one another's beliefs in life issues throughout the course of the year.

Finally, I would encourage everyone to be on the look-out for our 2008 Respect Life Week. The theme for this year focuses on the racial disparities of abortion. Through exploring this topic, we hope to draw exposure to the current state of the abortion business. Students for Life seeks to move beyond our personal limitations and welcome other perspectives into the week. To find out more, please join us at our meetings on Tuesdays at 8pm in Ritter 320 (across from the Busch Student Center).

*Education*

*Community*

*Support*

**PREGNANT & PARENTING STUDENT ASSISTANCE**

AN ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP BY STUDENTS FOR LIFE  
AT SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

**Campaign begins Fall '08!**

Contact: [sflscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:sflscholarship@gmail.com)

# Respect Life Week 2008

By Hannah Diamond

This coming October, Students for Life along with pro-life supporters throughout the nation will celebrate National Respect Life Month. During this month, Students for Life places special emphasis on the second week of October and celebrates Respect Life Week.



Throughout Respect Life Week, Students for Life members come together as an organization to sponsor and participate in various activities that vocalize our powerful pro-life message. In previous years, we have welcomed speakers from Missourians Against Human Cloning, Feminists for Life, and former St. Louis Archbishop Raymond Burke to share their expertise, experiences,

and profound message affirming the sanctity of life. A Cemetery of the Innocents constructed in the Quad provides a visual reminder of the staggering number of abortions performed daily, while stake signs lining campus walkways present abortion facts and statistics to educate students. Monetary donations are collected throughout the week by our very successful *Project Baby Bottle*. In previous years, this effort has raised over two hundred dollars for the local Pregnancy Resource Center. The week concludes with students participating in a service day at Our Lady's Inn, a local crisis pregnancy center, and the National Life Chain along Grand Boulevard.

This year's Respect Life Week theme will focus on the effects abortion has had on the African American community. Through prayer, dialogue, and outreach, Students for Life aims to "expose the relationship between abortion and racism in our contemporary society." We hope to have your support throughout this very important and exciting week!

## 40 Days for Life

By Katrina Becker

"40 Days for Life," one of the newest pro-life initiatives, begins its second nationwide campaign in just a few weeks, and it is drawing support from many prominent pro-life leaders. Such individuals as Norma McCorvey, the former "Roe" of Roe vs. Wade, Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, and Kristan Hawkins, executive director of Students for Life of America, are all endorsing the "40 Days for Life" campaign. This initiative is based on biblical incidents of individual and community transformation after 40 days, such as Noah and Moses, and founders are hoping for just that—transformation and change regarding abortion. "40 Days for Life" originated in Texas in

The fetal heartbeat  
begins at 5 weeks  
after conception  
-MedLine Plus

"Any effort of ours  
to save even a  
single life is  
worthwhile."  
-Bishop Austin  
Vaughan



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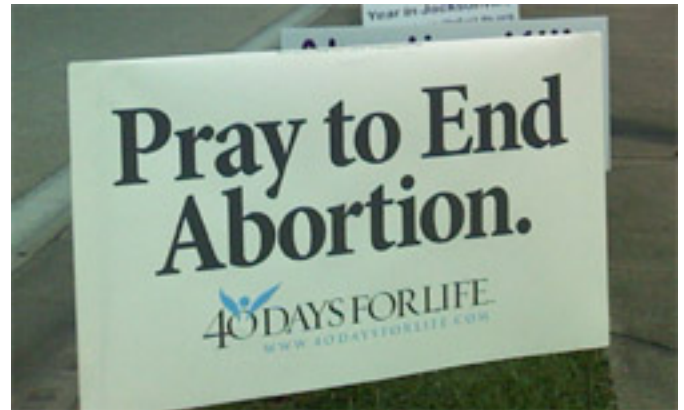
Students for Life  
Busch Student Center,  
MSC # 11  
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Visit Our Website at  
<http://pages.slu.edu/org/sfl>

"A Voice for the Voiceless"



2004, and last year it became a nationwide effort, including 33 states. This year's campaign, which runs from September 24 through November 4, will consist of campaigns at 173 locations. It has increased to include 45 states, two Canadian provinces, and Puerto Rico. There are three main components of "40 Days for Life": prayer/fasting (from anything, not necessarily food), constant vigil (meaning participants are outside the clinics 24/7 for the 40 days), and community outreach. Supporters report that previous "40 Days for Life" campaigns have had dramatic effects. More than 35,000 people have participated in prayer vigils at abortion clinics during previous years, and nationwide more than 500 abortions were avoided ([www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com)). Furthermore, two Planned Parenthood facilities stopped providing abortions, and another abortion clinic closed entirely after a local campaign. Shawn Carney, one of the original 2004 organizers, explains that, "We are the last hope for the baby and the first offer of forgiveness for the mother."



We hope you have enjoyed this issue of *Heartbeat*. If you have any comments or suggestions, or if there is anything you would like to see in future issues, please do not hesitate to contact us at [sfl@slu.edu](mailto:sfl@slu.edu).

### Volunteers over 21 needed!

Students for Life is looking for volunteers at least 21 years old to work when available at the Chaifetz Arena concession stands. Contact Kevin Grillot at [kgrillot@slu.edu](mailto:kgrillot@slu.edu) if interested.

### Our Mission:

*Students for Life is a fellowship committed to upholding the fundamental right to life on the campus of Saint Louis University. We follow the guidance of Catholic thought regarding the dignity of all human life from conception to natural death. The Jesuit Mission of Saint Louis University calls us to discern prayerful, intellectual and active means of building a culture of life that rejects the institution of abortion.*

Visit Our Website at <http://pages.slu.edu/org/sfl>

### Pregnant? Need Help?

The local Pregnancy Resource Center is within walking distance of SLU, at 4331 Lindell Blvd. Call them at 314-783-3040, or visit their website, [www.prcmo.net](http://www.prcmo.net).

FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. COMPASSIONATE.

### Contact Information

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