



PURPOSE

By Jasmine Bower, Patient Services Assistant

It is humbling and eye-opening to look back and recognize how God has been preparing Pregnancy Care Center to be led forward in new and exciting ways. Sometimes, as a staff, we laugh about how God has been keeping us on our toes, never letting us get too settled or comfortable! Some days can be a complete whirlwind of surprises: blessings, challenges and unknowns. And, while it's easy to rejoice when we see how the Lord is blessing us, not every surprise is exciting at first glance. But it is so comforting to know that all things are in His control – this is His ministry, after-all! If I had to choose one word to tie together all that I've seen God do this year at PCC, it would be purpose. We firmly believe that

God is clearly moving us forward in big and beautiful ways, even if the details sometimes take us by surprise. God sees, knows and is already prepared for what He is asking us to do. And it is by His grace that He will see His plan carried out. We know that He doesn't need us – but we are grateful that He asks us to be willing to trust and obey, that we might be a part of this beautiful story.

“Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.” - Proverbs 19:21

This fall, we are seeing God move in big ways. In order to fulfill His detailed purpose, we are excited to say that He has brought four new staff members to PCC! It is an honor to introduce them to you, and we cannot wait to see what God does through them (learn all about our newest team members on page 2)!



WHAT ABOUT PCC MAKES YOU EXCITED?

Where do I start...I am ecstatic to be able to give back to the community, while helping women and families who are possibly in an unfamiliar or scary time in their lives. I'm hoping to be able to make a positive impact in their lives while showing love and support that hopefully will be remembered for years to come.

WHAT ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Family is my passion, we try very hard to spend as much time creating memories together as possible. Life goes by too fast, and everyone is always so busy, I try to slow down and cherish every minute we are together. After living away from family for 11 years you realize how quickly time goes by, and I want to make the most of the time I have with each of them.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY! I have a wonderful husband of 14 years, Jonathan, and two children: Ayva who is 13 and Landon who is 11. We also have a cat who my daughter has named "Mr. Whiskers" that we all love to spoil.

DO YOU HAVE A WEIRD/RANDOM TALENT OR SKILL? Not really weird, but helpful I guess. I went to cosmetology school while in high school, so I still have my cosmetology license. I still like to try new hair styles and enjoy doing hair for weddings and special occasions. It's also handy for kids' cuts.

WHAT'S SOMETHING MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU? I am one of the many "pumpkin spice" obsessed people out there. I look forward to September every year so I can get my first pumpkin spice latte, eat pumpkin spice cake and whatever other amazing things they come up with that are pumpkin flavored this season.



HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR ROLE AT PCC?

I will head up and lead the Men's Ministry for fathers who come into the clinic and need guidance after finding out they are going to be a father!

WHAT ABOUT PCC MAKES YOU EXCITED?

I have always looked forward to being a dad! So when I became a father myself, it has been one of the most fulfilling and challenging callings I have ever received, but rewarding and satisfying everyday. I am very excited to share this love for fathering with young men and to share with them the lessons God has shown me in my walk as a father. This truly is the highest calling you can receive as a man.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY! My wife and I have been married for 9 years. We were both home schooled and high school sweethearts. We have four kids total. Our son, Lewis, is 6 years old and loves dinosaurs and Legos. Our daughter, Alice, is a princess everyday and loves everything to be sparkly and pink! We have a daughter and a son waiting for us in Heaven and look forward to seeing them when the Lord calls us home.

DO YOU HAVE A WEIRD/RANDOM TALENT OR SKILL? Many people don't know that I can juggle and ride a unicycle. I grew up juggling for kids' birthday parties and rode my unicycle in many parades every year.

WHAT'S SOMETHING MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU? I have an obsession with books. I aim to read 50-60 books every year.



WHAT ABOUT PCC MAKES YOU EXCITED?

The fact that PCC is a Christian organization excites me. It's a rare opportunity to work with an organization that has the same values that you do. A place where you can share about Christ freely in a loving way. I want everyone to know that I am a follower of Jesus Christ and am thankful everyday for His grace and mercy.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY! My husband, Scott, and I got married in 2007. We have two kids; Braden (7) is into basketball, fishing and anything Dad does. Kaylee (5) loves anything active or adventurous, princesses and anything Mom does. We also have an 11-year-old dog, Cooper.

WHAT ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT? I am passionate about coming alongside fellow mothers and doing life together. Helping women and mothers feel known and loved, event planning and organizing also bring me great joy!

WHAT JOB DID YOU HAVE BEFORE COMING TO PCC? I have had many jobs before PCC including Catering Manager, Wedding Planner, Daycare Teacher, Bank Teller, among other volunteer positions. But the most important job I have is being a Mom. Being a Stay-at-Home Mom has allowed me to volunteer with Young Life, Mothers of Preschoolers and at my kids' school on the PTO Board.

DO YOU HAVE A WEIRD/RANDOM TALENT OR SKILL? To me it's not weird but I love to organize, sort, or clean anything. I have been told it's weird to like those things!



HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR ROLE AT PCC?

I will be taking over Sara Stargardt's job as Financial Secretary [following her retirement this November].

WHAT JOB DID YOU HAVE BEFORE COMING TO PCC?

For the past 15 years, I've worked at our church as both the Financial Manager and Administrative Assistant. I have recently reduced my time there so that I am only doing finances. I also do bookkeeping/payroll for 2 other businesses in TC.

WHAT ABOUT PCC MAKES YOU EXCITED?

I love that PCC's focus is on caring for the patient as a person, not simply about impacting the life of an unborn child.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY! I've been married to Anthony for almost 29 years. We have 3 sons & 1 daughter (in-law): AJ & Kim (live in Grand Rapids), Braden (sophomore at Calvin University), and Vince (8th grade at TC Christian). Anthony is the pastor at our church, Church of the Living God.

WHAT'S SOMETHING MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU? I'm a southern girl at heart, born & raised in Tallahassee, Florida.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING WHEN YOU'RE NOT AT WORK?

When I'm not working, and it's summer-time, you'll find me in the sun preferably somewhere by the water. In general, I like to spend time with my husband/family, meet a friend for coffee, read, cook and garden.

THE IMPACT OF ONE

In Loving Memory of Wesley Thomas Schaub

By Joanna Riness, Patient Services Director

After 22 years of marriage, Bill and Jen Schaub were enjoying life with their two teenagers, Harrison and Cecelia, assuming their baby days were long past. But in September of 2018, they got the surprise of their lives; Jen was pregnant!

A mixture of nerves and excitement, Bill and Jen began to share their news with friends and family and were met with overwhelming love and support. Everyone stepped in to help them prepare – throwing baby showers, sending gifts in the mail and making sure the Schaub family had everything they needed.



The Schaub Family: Harrison (19), Bill, Jen and Cece (16)

Throughout Jen's pregnancy, she had multiple checkups and ultrasounds that all showed a healthy baby boy. They named him Wesley Thomas. He was very active and displayed his fierce little personality, as Wesley didn't always cooperate with the ultrasound technician. He also showed off his sweet tooth and would turn it up a notch with flips and belly kicks whenever Jen ate ice cream.

At 37 weeks, three weeks before Jen's due date, Jen became dizzy and lightheaded in the middle of the night. They called an ambulance and rushed her to the hospital. Their doctor did an ultrasound right away and could not detect a heartbeat. They rushed Jen into the operating room for an emergency C-section.

On April 18, 2019, Wesley was delivered stillborn. After the delivery they had him baptized.

In the wake of unimaginable grief, the Schaub family reached out to us. In Wesley's obituary, they had asked friends and family to make donations to Pregnancy Care Center in Wesley's memory. They had also decided to donate all of Wesley's nursery items to be given as gifts, since they had been shown such generosity through gifts themselves.

I'll never forget the day Bill and Jen dropped off Wesley's things at PCC. We were at a loss for words as we worked together to unload the carefully selected crib, carseat, books and tiny clothes. We cried. It was a broken hallelujah. Mourning the loss of one precious child, as we prepared his things to welcome others into the world.

It has struck me time and time again since that day, how much of an impact one life can have. Wesley's life is evidence that our impact does not come from the things the world tells us. It doesn't come from our perfect health, independence, relationships, wealth, education, occupation or length of life. Wesley lived his entire earthly life in his Mother's womb, and yet... his impact on this world has been both profound and eternal.

God knew the number of Wesley's days long before he was created. The gifts given to the Schaub family to prepare for their own surprise, 'unplanned' baby, will now go to dozens of surprise, unplanned babies who've been saved from abortion. Wesley's life and legacy are changing the world, because his family is allowing God to use them.

Through the money donated in Wesley's honor, there has been enough to cover the cost of FOUR life-saving and life-changing appointments.

Wesley's crib and a number of smaller items will be going to a baby boy, the son of our patient *Hannah (you can read her story on the next page). After telling Hannah about the crib, she squealed with excitement and said, "Thank you so much! I am so excited! I wasn't excited in the beginning, but now I am. I just love him so much already!"

Wesley's stroller, carseat and baby bottles went to a single mom, who also found out she was pregnant through an ultrasound at PCC. When we told her about the gifts, she was ecstatic! She told us, "without you guys I probably wouldn't be keeping my baby; I wouldn't have known what to do."

While nothing can lessen the deep loss of Wesley's passing, God is bringing blessings, beauty and PURPOSE in the midst of that loss. This we firmly believe: what the enemy intends for evil, God WILL use for good, if we are willing to give our grief, doubt and burden over to Him.

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."
-Romans 8:28

TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT IN HONOR OF WESLEY, SEE PAGE 4.

"Life is precious and we had Wesley for a very brief time, but he is part of our family and we will always love him."



HANNAH'S STORY | By Jasmine Bower, Patient Services Assistant



Just after getting a positive pregnancy test at home, *Hannah's boyfriend quickly exited the picture, leaving her in a fearful panic. As she shared with us pieces of her story over the phone, she explained that she honestly felt that abortion might truly be her best option.

After learning about the benefits of an ultrasound and all that PCC could offer her, Hannah scheduled an appointment. As we do for all our patients, as a staff, we prayed that the Lord would bring her to us for her appointment and that He would prepare her heart for what He planned to do.

As the time approached, we were disappointed when Hannah did not show up for her appointment. This sometimes happens - when it does, it is always hard. But we know that God is working where we cannot see, and we pray that He is still able to use us - even if it's only through one phone call.

A short time later, Hannah called us back, apologizing for missing her appointment! She said that she still would like to come in and asked if she could reschedule - we got her in as soon as we could! When Hannah came, she openly shared with us her anxieties and detailed some of the difficulties she was going through. She sobbed as she explained that, deep down, she wanted to parent, but she was scared. She felt entirely alone. She really wanted the ultrasound to tell her how far along she was, knowing that this would affect her decision of whether or not to carry to term.

When the image of the ultrasound came up on the screen, she was completely shocked! The ultrasound showed us a beautifully developed baby, squirming, kicking and waving, with an enthusiastic heartbeat. After sharing with her the estimated due date, Hannah exclaimed that this date had a special significance to her - and that she felt like maybe God was telling her that He didn't want her to abort. After the ultrasound, there were more tears, more fears expressed, but there was also so much hope.

We were able to encourage her, equip her with knowledge and tools, and pray with her before she left. Since then, God has given us some follow-up opportunities to bless her and give her practical referrals and resources. We

Hannah's Story Continued...

were also able to offer her a beautiful dresser full of newborn items and a gorgeous crib from a little boy named Wesley Schaub (read his story on the page prior, *The Impact of One*). More important than anything, God allowed us to emphasize how much He loves and values her, and how He is trustworthy. He has a good plan for her future and for the future of this child.

Please join us in asking the Lord to open more doors of opportunity for us and other Believers to minister to Hannah - that she may be strong throughout this pregnancy and reaffirmed and supported in her decision to carry her baby to term.

**To protect the identity of our patients, names have been changed.*

Q&A

How Is Pregnancy Care Center Different From Right To Life?

By Rhonda Watson, Executive Director

A question we often receive is, "How is PCC different from Right To Life?" Let's start with the similarities. Both organizations are essential in promoting the sanctity of human life and work sacrificially to accomplish this mission. PCC admires and appreciates the work that our local Grand Traverse Right To Life office endeavors to accomplish.

The differences: Since PCC and RTL are separate organizations, they are governed and funded in different ways, often through different sources. The most significant difference is in how we go about carrying out our mission. RTL's focus is to educate people on identified RTL issues and legislation and to promote and support pro-life candidates.

PCC's focus is to reach out to abortion-vulnerable women and men, providing support, education and professional medical services that will empower them to choose life for their unborn children and pro-abundant life for their families.

THE IMPACT OF YOU

By Joanna Riness, Patient Services Director

I am confident that I am not the only one who has been touched by the Schaub's story (see page 4, *The Impact of One*), and like me you may be wondering if there's anything that **YOU** can do.

Wesley, like many children in our area, was unplanned. But, while he and his parents were celebrated and supported throughout the pregnancy and their every need was provided by an outstanding support-system, there are so many women and men in our area who don't have this experience. Most unplanned pregnancies are seen as a threat and something to be 'taken care of' and very often, the parents do not have the love and support they need from their family or friends.

This is where **YOU** come in! By sponsoring a pregnancy test or ultrasound appointment, you are giving these women and men access to that love and support they so desperately need, in order to feel they can celebrate their baby and choose life. The appointment that **YOU** sponsor, gives them a safe place to learn about their pregnancy, in a place where children are celebrated and valued. Women and men in hard situations are served and shown the unconditional love of Jesus, through free medical care, material support and much needed resources.

You can make a life-altering impact by filling out the card included, or by giving online at: www.friendsofpcc.org/take-action

OUR NEW NEWSLETTER & VIDEO SCHEDULES

By Joanna Riness, Patient Services Director

God is doing new things at Pregnancy Care Center and giving us both the vision and resources to reach more abortion-vulnerable women and men than ever before.

With the many changes and upcoming projects, we've known that adjustments would need to be made to make room for all of the new things that God is doing. Our motto for our content moving forward is 'quality over quantity'.

Instead of producing an update video every month, we will release an update video each quarter.

As for the Newsletter, we will be sending out three a year, instead of four.

This will ensure that each newsletter and update video is loaded with the information that you care most about as a supporter. This will free up our media team to focus on reaching the most abortion-vulnerable women and men in our area and ultimately, saving lives!

We're excited to be on this journey with you and greatly appreciate your flexibility and grace as we navigate new waters. We could not do this work without you!



OUR BIGGEST YEAR EVER!!!

By Maddy KlingelSmith, Medical Services Assistant

WOW! We at PCC are so amazed by how God has been working in this community. We are not even finished counting and we have already been graciously gifted \$57,349.52! This is over \$3,000 more than our total for Baby Bottle Boomerang last year, which was \$53,652.18! It has been so inspiring to watch you, our community of donors, come together to make a difference for the women and men around you who are in need. I am astounded whenever I look at these little coins, that seem like such a small amount, and yet add up to whole ultrasound scans, pregnancy test appointments, and much needed baby pantry supplies. Because of these little coins, our community has a place where young women and men can go and receive all these things at no cost to themselves. Because of these little coins, women and men are being empowered to choose life for their children. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart and all of the PCC staff. We are continuously inspired by your generosity, passion, and commitment to seeing families in this community thrive.

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG
FILL A BOTTLE = SAVE A LIFE

THANK YOU TO ALLOF OUR 2019 PARTICIPANTS!

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Christ Church
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St. Wenceslaus Church
Sojourn Church
Traverse City Christian Church
The Journey, A Wesleyan Church
Trinity Lutheran Church
West Side Community Church
Williamsburg United Methodist
WLJN Christian Radio
Woodside Wesleyan

BANQUET GRAND TOTAL!!!

By Maddy KlingelSmith, Medical Services Assistant

As you can probably tell, this year we have been overflowing at Pregnancy Care Center. We have amazing new staff members, the BBB fundraiser was at a record high this year, and on top of that our banquet attendance and funds-raised were also off the charts! This year we raised just under \$80,000 through the At Our Core Banquet! It has been such an awe-inspiring experience to watch God out-do Himself time after time through you—our amazing community of donors.

At the banquet we shared the story of who we are and what we do, and how our existence as a center impacts the community that you live in. However, we also expressed and will forever continue to proclaim that God uses His people (YOU) as an army to rescue these families that are so in need of Him and what only He can offer. Thank you for answering His call to be a part of a rescuing army to those that He died to rescue.

A special thank you to all of our incredible 2019 Banquet Sponsors:

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SHOP YOUR COMMUNITY DAY

by **Natalie Bailey, Administrative Assistant**

On Saturday, November 9th, you have an opportunity to show some love to downtown TC merchants, get a head start on your holiday shopping, AND support our ministry with Shop Your Community Day. For every purchase you make at participating retailers, 15% will be donated to the non-profit of your choice. At checkout, let the cashier know that you would like your donation to go toward Pregnancy Care Center. Look for the shopping bag & balloons to identify the 66 local businesses that are taking part in this community-building event. Not only does your participation provide for us this year, but it helps us to remain on the list of eligible non-profits in years to come. So spread the word, bring a friend, and enjoy searching for those perfect Michigan-themed gifts or other treasures you can only find in our local stores.

WWW.FRIENDSOFPCC.ORG
OUR SUPPORTER WEBSITE



We are on all social media platforms
as **Friends of PCC.**

GENERAL INFO

Address: 121 South Garfield Ave.
Suite C, Traverse City, MI 49686

Office Hours: 10AM-2PM
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

**If You Wish to be Taken
Off of Our Mailing List:**

Please let us know by calling our office
at 231.929.3488 or by sending an email
to info@pregnancycentertertc.org

WANT TO GIVE?

You can make a **one time gift** or sign up
to be a **monthly Giver** on our website.
It's very simple and easy to do!

You can also **use the enclosed
envelope** and mail it right to our office!