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# Michigan Nurses For Life

1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G • Troy, Michigan 48084

August 2006

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*“An educational group for prolife nurses”*

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## What's Up with MNFL?

Here is the latest edition of the Michigan Nurses for Life newsletter. What's that you say? It doesn't look like the others. Well, that's true, but there is a really good reason. There are changes in store for MNFL and until we get them ironed out, we thought we would give you a kind of “bare bones” newsletter and reflect our new efforts in the next one.

In order for MNFL to continue to be a professional prolife nursing organization we simply must grow. In order to grow we must attract new members, young, old, active and retired. We have contacted a specialist in strategic planning to increase membership and improve effectiveness.

So, while we are learning how to do these things, our newsletter is a little shorter than usual. Any of you who are interested in helping us with goal setting and implementation are more than welcome—let me say that again, MORE than welcome to give us a call at the office and we can bring you up to speed on where we are and what we are planning to do.

Love Life!

Diane Trombley

President, Michigan Nurses For Life

Office: 248.816.8489 / Email: [info@mnfl.org](mailto:info@mnfl.org)

## 2006 Meetings

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**September 12, 2006 7:00 - 9:00 PM**

**Building Bridges**

**Between Ethics Committees and Nursing**

**Speaker: Ann K. Suziedelis, PhD,**

Vice President, Mission & Ethics,

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, Pontiac, Michigan

*“I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do.” Edward Everett Hale*

**November 14, 2006 7:00 - 9:00 PM**

**Palliative Care: When the Doctor Can Do No More**

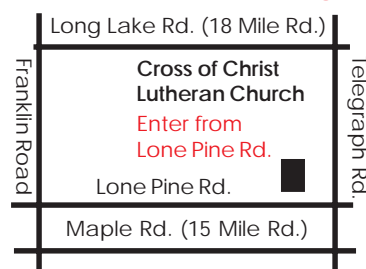
**Speaker: Peg Nelson, RN, MSN**

Nurse Practitioner, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, Pontiac, Michigan

(see page 2 for details)

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### Location of MNFL Meetings:



Michigan Nurses for Life Meetings are held at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Bloomfield Hills, on the northwest corner of Lone Pine and Telegraph.

**Meeting Fees:** General public admission free. MNFL member \$5; MNFL non-member \$10.

2.0 CEUs are offered at each meeting attended.

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## September Meeting: Nursing and Ethics

Ann K. Suziedelis, VP of Mission and Ethics at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital, Pontiac, Michigan, will speak at the September 12 meeting of Michigan Nurses for Life. Her topic will be “Building Bridges between Ethics Committees and Nursing”. She will discuss common ethical issues that concern nurses in clinical settings, explain why nurses are wary about speaking out on these issues and outline practical ways that ethics



committees and nurses can effectively work together to address these problems.

Ann holds a PhD in Health Care Ethics from St. Louis University; her doctoral research was in the area of minors and health care decision-making.

Student nurses and the general public are invited to attend at no cost.

## Wesley Smith Speaks at MNFL Spring Seminar

On Saturday, April 8, 2006, Wesley Smith, attorney and author, spoke at the San Marino Club in Troy about "Futile Care Theory: The Duty to Die". He addressed the basic question, "Does human life have intrinsic value just because it's human". He explored the "medical futility" policies of some hospitals, where doctors can decide---even against family wishes---to discontinue life supporting care when there is no perceived quality of life or chance for recovery. He also discussed the "duty to die" concept when disabled persons lose their "personhood and become a perceived burden; then, killing them can sometimes be considered an "acceptable" answer to human suffering.

Attorney, Charles Kleinbrook, discussed the importance of creating a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care (DPOA-HC) that reflects your personal philosophy and respect for life. Copies should be distributed to family and health care providers. Michigan law allows you to designate a patient advocate to make health care decisions on your behalf should you be unable to make decisions for yourself.

## REMINDER!



Email: [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov) or call 202.456.1111 to thank President Bush for his veto of the federal stem cell bill. He continues to refuse to let human embryos become a commodity for research. Adult stem cells are providing treatments and cures for disease without the sacrifice of human life.

## With Prayers and Sympathy

On July 22, 2006 it was with great sadness that Norv Trombley, husband of Diane, died after a brief battle with cancer. Norv was very supportive of Diane's pro-life leadership with MNFL and RTL-LIFESPAN. Our prayers and sympathy continue to be with Diane and her family during this difficult time.

Memorial donations to MNFL received from:

Phyllis Sullivan  
Linda Seng



## Nursing Scholarship

The National Association of Pro-Life Nurses will award a \$1000 scholarship, paid directly to the school selected by the applicant, to any student enrolled in an accredited school of nursing for the 2006-2007 school year. Criteria includes the student's essay, academic achievements, leadership abilities and pro-life activities. The application must be completed and returned to NAPN by October 15, 2006. For more information, please call Michigan Nurses for Life at 248.816.8489

## Peg Nelson at November Meeting

Peg Nelson, RN, MSN and nurse practitioner at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, Pontiac, Michigan, heads the Supportive Care program which deals with pain relief and end-of-life management. For the past 26 years, she has helped create a culture of improving comfort and quality of care for patients with chronic pain and end-stage illness. She will speak to MNFL on "Palliative Care: When the Doctor Can Do No More". A former ICU nurse, she now heads a program called "No One Dies Alone", made up of over 40 volunteers who volunteer to be with patients during their last moments of life. Every floor at the hospital has a comfort cart that includes music, a CD player, a Bible and homemade blankets.

Nursing students, hospice workers and the general public are welcome to attend at no charge.



...in the upcoming  
November  
Election!

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## 2006 Pro-life Events

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**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2006**  
**RTL-LIFESPAN Legislative Breakfast**  
9 AM - 12 Noon  
Burton Manor  
27777 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia  
For information, call 248.478.8878

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2006**  
**Life Chain - 2:30 - 3:30 PM**  
Be a witness to the unborn by showing your presence.  
Call RTL-LIFESPAN at 248.478.8878 for locations or information.

***"The Pro-Life Movement will succeed only to the extent that Pro-Life people are willing to be inconvenienced."***

*Douglas R. Scott, Bad Choices: A Look Inside Planned Parenthood*