



An Orthodox Christian Initiative

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Be the Salt of the Earth!

“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.” Matt 5:13

The Gospel gives us His Words. His Love. His Mercy. His Truth. He has given us THE SALT he speaks of. But if we hide those things from those who live among us, how can this precious gift, His Salt, season and change the world? It cannot. So what good is our faith? “... to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men”? God forbid!

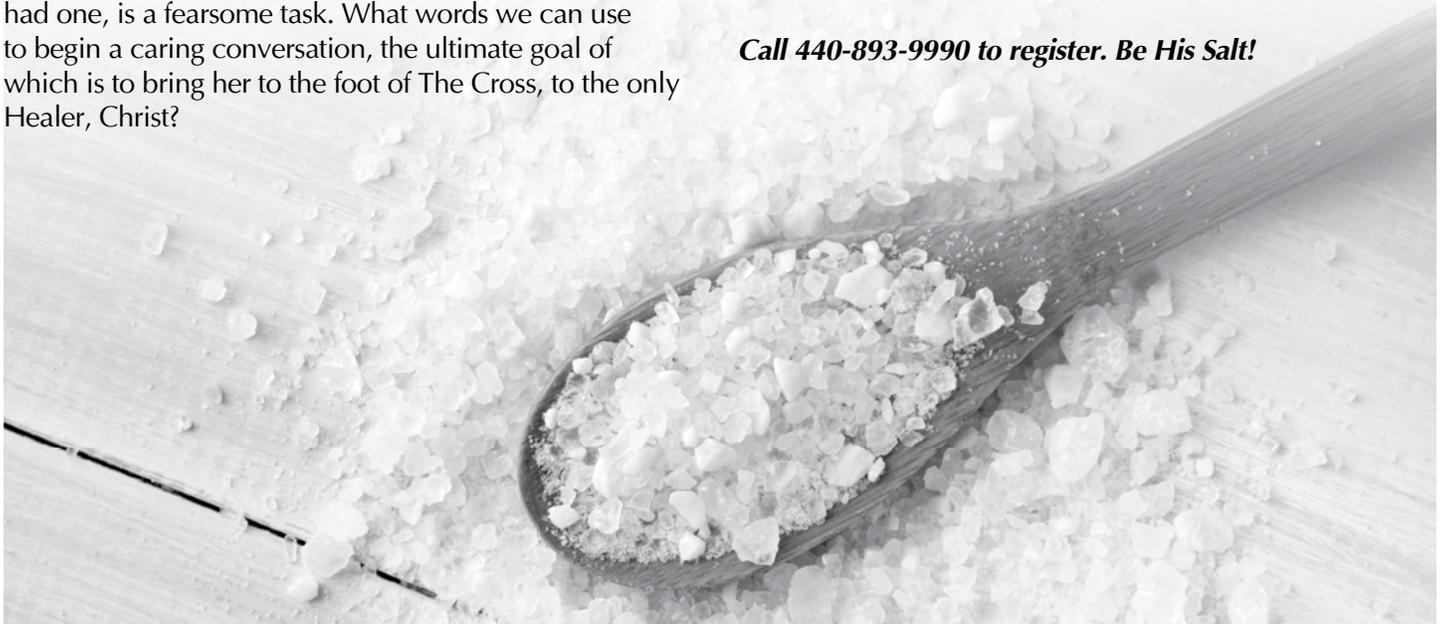
It is sad to say that many who come to ZOE have never had a single person, parent or otherwise, on whom they could depend. No one who offered to stand with them, stare down the enemy and honestly share Christ's love with them. Women seeking abortion feel abandoned and alone, often traumatized by a past dominated by pain and abuse, with no hope whatsoever for a brighter tomorrow. Reader, you can change that.

Speaking to a woman considering abortion, or having had one, is a fearsome task. What words we can use to begin a caring conversation, the ultimate goal of which is to bring her to the foot of The Cross, to the only Healer, Christ?

To bring us to an understanding of how we can do this, we have scheduled a Day of Volunteer Enrichment and Renewal. Whether you have considered volunteering in the past, or are already actively volunteering, we ask you to set aside Saturday, September 15th from 9:00 to 4:00, to join us at ZOE House, 5454 State Road, in Parma, OH. We promise you will come away with the tools and confidence to do more to season the world around us with His love. Take this opportunity to get involved, make a difference in the world we live in.

Allow us to offer you the link to an e-book, “10 Things Not to Do When a Woman Tells You She Wants an Abortion”, CareNet 10 Things not to Do.pdf. Please print it, read it, and prepare yourself to be the salt of the earth to our sisters and brothers in Christ. It is time for us to season the world around us.

Call 440-893-9990 to register. Be His Salt!



Dr. Jeanette Molsek Grand Benefactress to ZOE for Life!



We would like to introduce you to Jeanette Molsek, D.O., of Hudson, OH. In her private practice in Hudson, she had referred patients to ZOE for Life! for assistance. These were single moms who found themselves in difficult situations, trying to provide a safe and healthy environment for their children while keeping their heads above water financially.

One woman was about to quit college during her last semester because of the stresses she and her baby were facing. Dr. Molsek referred her to ZOE House in Parma, and the woman was so encouraged by the care and support she received that she went on to graduate from college and is now pursuing her law degree.

When Dr. Molsek left private practice last year to establish University Hospitals Portage Family Health and Addiction Services in Streetsboro, OH, she donated all her office furniture and equipment from her former practice to ZOE for Life! We were thrilled to find the beautifully appointed office available to us, so of course we committed to take everything!

With heartfelt thanks to Jim Myers of Saints Constantine and Helen Cathedral in Cleveland Heights, OH, and his company, Summit Moving and Storage of Akron, OH, and their professional (and strong!) staff, the move cost absolutely nothing and

Dr. Molsek and Jim Myers (and crew) of Summit Moving and Storage

went off without a hitch.

“As the time came for me to transition from my private medical practice, I realized I had medical equipment, furniture and office supplies that needed a good home,” Dr. Molsek said. “I remembered that ZOE for Life! had once put out a request for shelving, so I contacted them and was delighted to learn that they could put everything I had to good use.”

“I had referred a few women to ZOE for Life! and they described in detail the crucial difference it had made in their lives,” Dr. Molsek said. “I have always been a strong pro-life advocate, and I could not have been more filled with love as I watched everything from my former office find a new home.”

Not only were ZOE House and ZOE Women’s Center happy recipients of Dr. Molsek’s generosity, but also St. Herman’s House of Hospitality for Men in Cleveland, OH, which plans open a clinic, and FOCUS North America in Pittsburgh, PA., as well.

Dr. Molsek is an open hearted, loving and demonstratively caring woman. One could not hope to find a stronger promoter of life, or a better physician. May He bless her and her beautiful family abundantly!



ZOE Women’s Center - From Dream to Reality

The Lord is truly amazing. He took a group of women, with hearts full of love for those struggling with an unplanned pregnancy, and created ZOE for Life! For more than 20 years, we have served literally thousands of women and men of all backgrounds from across the country, reaching out to offer them support during, and after the birth of their children. Admittedly, that is not always the outcome they choose, but we have cared for them in that event as well.

ZOE Women’s Center presents new opportunities and ministries to support women and offer them information every woman should have access to. The ultrasound technology is only a small portion of the caring environment we are working to create.

In June, volunteer Tessie Lekas and I were fortunate enough to attend CareNet training at Pregnancy Choices in Canton, OH. The depth and breadth of
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Welcome, Lisa Palivoda!



ZOE for Life! is truly excited to present our Executive Director of ZOE Women's Center, Lisa Palivoda.

Lisa grew up in Hammond, Indiana, and completed a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Purdue University (Calumet Campus) there as well. She moved to Ohio in

1986 shortly before she married her husband, Jack, in 1987. They have four grown children – 3 girls and 1 boy. Lisa converted to Orthodoxy from Catholicism in 1991. Over the years Lisa has taught Sunday School, served on Parish Council, participated in various outreach ministries, and currently serves as Treasurer at St. Matthew the Evangelist Antiochian Church, in North Royalton, OH.

Lisa pursued an Associates Degree in Applied Science to earn a Certificate in Medical Coding. Although medical coding proved to be challenging and rewarding work, it was not part of God's plan. Wishing to pursue work for the church, God led her to a faith-based pregnancy center in a neighboring community where she held an administrative role and trained in healing ministry.

From there the Lord led her to focus on ZOE for Life! She has taken courses in formational prayer and women's spiritual healing and has completed Levels I and II certifications for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (cgsusa.org). All of these will serve as a foundation for helping women in crisis pregnancy situations and healing from past spiritual wounds.

Lisa credits her spiritual blessings from Our Loving Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to intercessory prayer from the Theotokos and other Saints she has encountered through reading and through the veneration of relics of such Saints as St. Mary of Egypt, St. John Maximovich, the Holy Innocents, St. Nektarios, as well as from her spiritual family at St. Matthew's, Holy Trinity in Parma, OH, and ZOE for Life! to name a few. She has been blessed by the spiritual lessons through Bible study and guest lecturers, such as Fr. Demitri Carellas and Fr. John Behr. Lisa has her own soul-healing story which will be accessible from the ZOE for Life! website in the coming weeks.

The Lord could not have provided a more perfect instrument than Lisa to direct and guide the ministry of ZOE Women's Center. We are immensely grateful to have her at its helm, and look forward eagerly to how He will lead us forward.

Feast of the Annunciation, Fish Feast!

March 25, 2018 was the date for the Second Annual Fish Feast hosted by St. Michael Archangel Orthodox Church, in Cotuit, MA. \$2,000.00 were raised to



benefit ZOE Women's Center! St. Michael is a small parish, but businesspeople from the area donated fish, rice, vegetables and all the trimmings, to underwrite the cost of the meal. Tickets were sold; children set up the room, even including floral centerpieces! They helped the Women's Group serve the meals, and it was all hands on deck in the kitchen!

The event couldn't have run more smoothly thanks to the leadership of Kh. Elyssa Kjendal and Jourdan Clough, but it was truly a parish wide event in every sense. Entire families enjoyed a delicious meal in the company of parish friends, and learned about ZOE Women's Center.



Thank you so much for supporting us again this year with your Annunciation Fish Feast! May the fruits of your labor be blessed, along with your tender hearts.



Join Our Bottles for Babies Campaign

We want to send you a baby bottle, and ask you to fill it with loose change. What could be simpler? Simply empty your change into the bottle every day. When it is full, take it to the bank and send the cash to ZOE. Reuse and repeat! Contact Despina at despina@mavrakisfamily.com.



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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The primary goal of ZOE for Life! is to preserve the life of the unborn child. We recognize that every soul consecrated by God is a gift to be cherished. ZOE for Life! helps pregnant women in distress who need confidential emotional and spiritual support to encourage them to choose life for their unborn child; assists Orthodox Christians seeking to adopt; and provides life-affirming resources and an Orthodox Christian education program for Pure Living/Abstinence.

ZOE Women's Center - From Dream to Reality cont.

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the training were amazing, enlightening, and highly charged, emotionally. It was such a blessing to be there, and to begin to plumb the depths of damage from which so many women suffer, the results of which can easily affect them their whole lives long. Many of these women come to ZOE House as a direct result of these injuries that few even attempt to help them with. We confess to you humbly our ignorance of the complexity of issues these women have been grappling with. The damage they have suffered has stunted their self-image, destroyed their relationships with others, and most urgently, has often obliterated their relationship with Our Father.

At ZOE Women's Center, we are hoping to be able to reach out to women with His Divine Love in our hands. It is a fearful task, however, and specialized training and resources will be needed. New

programing is being developed to enable us to network expectant parents with others walking a similar path; for healing from the myriad kinds of neglect and abuse women may have suffered, as well as abortions; for healing sexual brokenness that has affected women for so many years; for good parenting skills and nutrition for families on a limited income. There is so much work to be done, but by initiating each conversation with His Love, His Prayers, and His Mercy, nothing is impossible.

May Almighty God bless you abundantly for all you offer us. ZOE would not be where it is today without your love and support. (If you would like your donation to be restricted for use to only ZOE House, or only ZOE Women's Center, please make a notation in the memo section of your check.)