

# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

July 2013



Editor: Jim Burke

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting  
Aug 13

Tuesday, CFLI Work Meeting  
Aug 27

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting  
Sept 10

**We welcome newcomers  
to our meetings**

## Can You Help?

As we continue to reach new people with the pro-life message, it helps to have a growing number of people helping organize activities and manage some of the other things we do.

For instance, if you or someone you know is pro-life and has skills to manage a web site, we could use a webmaster. We could also use people to help coordinate 40 Days for Life. We aren't expecting anyone to do everything for any single activity. But people that are willing to join the planning teams can help us out immensely.

Please contact us at [coalitionforlife@gmail.com](mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com) if you can help out.



Prayer Flash Mobs

Dozens Turn Out

# Coalition Election Results



Our annual board of directors and officer election results are in. Our officers remained the same.

President: Sue Martinek  
Vice President: Jim Burke  
Treasurer: Marty Lammers  
Secretary: Aaron LaGrange

We saw some changes in our board of directors. We typically elect three members each year. But this year, a few members resigned or didn't seek reelection.

One was co-founder Mary Daley, who has served on the board since its inception. Another was Bill Brennan, who brought insightful leadership to the

organization, and once served as the vice president. Finally, Jennifer Minney brought some fresh ideas to the board.

Marty Lammers and Mary Cherion won reelection, and are joined by Tim Mason, Bonnie Yount, and Russell Yount. The new board members bring great new skills and perspectives.

## Upcoming Activities and Events



In the middle of summer, we find ourselves planning events for fall. We will once again host 40 Days for Life outside the Cedar Rapids Planned Parenthood abortion facility. We will also host Life Chain on the first Sunday of October.

Last spring, the local Planned Parenthood reduced their hours significantly. We also discovered that abortions on women that live in Linn County dropped by over 37% in just 3 years! We want to continue that trend. Please invite others to join you as a prayer partner.

If anyone is interested in attending the March for

Life in Washington D.C. this January, contact us. The march will occur on a Wednesday this year, which means we should depart on a Monday and return on a Friday.

We are also starting to plan our next round of educational activities. We will keep you posted with our activities.

## Prayer Flash Mobs

For the last few months, we've been organizing prayer flash mobs. Each time, we grow in numbers, and several dozen people show up to pray.

Some people don't realize we continue to pray one hour most days of the week year-round. After attending a prayer flash mob, they realize they can come back more often.

Some people get used to praying on a certain day or at a certain time. By getting involved even once at a different time on a different day, some people have seen how different things can be. For instance, people praying on Mondays that showed up

on a Tuesday saw how much more business Planned Parenthood (PP) does on Tuesdays or Wednesdays see how much less business they do on Fridays.

In July, we met on a Friday. Based on a count of participants and an estimate of the number of clients PP had that day, we believe we had roughly twice as many participants as PP had clients!

We try to provide participants with additional pro-life resources. Come join us next time! We'd love to see you out there!

### Dozens Turn Out





# Crossroads Pro-Life: Northern Walkers



By Jim Burke

The Northern Walkers from Crossroads Pro-Life Walk Across America passed north of us, in Minnesota and other neighboring states in July. I caught up with them in southern Minnesota.

They invited me to walk with them for a little bit. Their vehicle moves two miles at a time, and then it picks up a group of walkers, as they walk in relay style. Each pair of walkers prays during each leg of their walk, typically



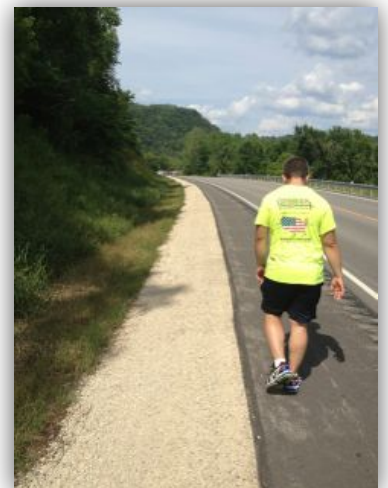
praying the rosary. They wave at vehicles as they pass by.

In joining them for some walking, I experienced the feeling one gets when they see the van ahead, marking the end of that leg.

When I returned after meeting these inspiring young adults, I found out one of our other members saw them up in

Minneapolis. They stay in major cities each weekend. They walk until they reach Washington D.C. in mid-August.

For years, I've wanted to meet some of the walkers, and it was wonderful to meet them, no matter how brief it was. I just wish I had remembered that I intentionally packed better shoes for the walk.



## Pro-Life Challenge



### Offer to Help

Please offer to help us organize some of our activities. Summer is our prime time for planning future events. We can use a wide range of abilities so we can continue to grow. We like helping others, and with your help, we can do even more!



### Recruit Helpers

Whether or not you are able to help, we welcome help from anyone you now what wants to help advance the pro-life movement. Help us recruit helpers.

## Prayer Requests

Please pray for the people in our community. We pray that we reach them with our message. We also pray that they are open to our message.

Anyone who has prayed outside of Planned Parenthood usually hears from at least some people who have had some experience with abortion that hasn't healed. The anger we hear often arises from that pain.

Let us pray that they heal. We hope people find the programs that can lead them to healing.

For people who haven't seen us out there, we pray that more people pass by and see us praying and hear our peaceful

messages. This community has far more people in it that have heard little from us.

Please pray that this fall, we grow the number of participants in our activities. This is one of the ways we can reach more people. Pray that current participants invite others, and that new people find their way to our activities.

Please pray that the people in this community find alternatives to abortion. We should always affirm life, and not give in to the hopelessness of killing.





## Spread the Word!

Do you know other pro-life people that might like to subscribe to this newsletter?

- Tell them about it
- Forward a copy to them
- Print a copy to hand to friends

Do you have ideas you want discussed in future issues? Contact us with your suggestion. We may consider including your article if you prefer to write your own.

Did you spot some issues with this newsletter that really bug you? Then perhaps you'd like to help edit it. Contact us to see how you can help.

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