



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

August 2014

Editor: Jim Burke

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, CFLI Board Meeting
Sept 9

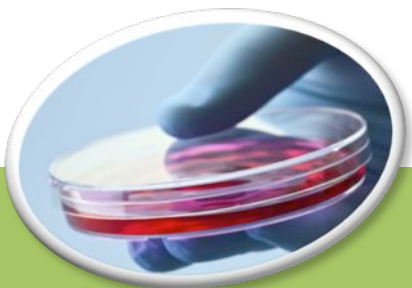
Tuesday, CFLI Work Meeting
August 23

Wednesday, 40 Days for Life Begins
Sept 24

October Respect Life Month

Sunday, National Life Chain
Oct 5

**We welcome newcomers
to our meetings**



Full Board

After last month's election of board members, we still had one vacancy on our board of directors. We were grateful when Rich Brandt attended our August board meeting, and that he indicated an interest in joining our board.

We knew of his past involvement in our pro-life activities, and we welcomed him to our board. He will fill the remaining year that remained after Aaron's resignation. So this fills our board.

With a full board, we are ready to guide the Coalition for Life of Iowa through the year ahead to fulfill our mission.

- Coalition for Life of Iowa Board

Another Abortion Avoided!

We express our gratitude to everyone who prays, because we know the power of prayer. The results of these prayers continue to stack up.

During the weekly Friday prayer time (1 p.m.) of one of our several year-round prayer groups, a woman approached. She thanked



those praying for doing what they do. She had been pro-choice for many years. But a few years ago, she was pregnant.

She chose life, and now has a 3 year old child who she clearly loves very much. Thank you all! We may never hear about the full effect we have on people. It's nice to hear about cases like this, even years after the fact. Please notify us whenever you learn of things like this. We love to report great news!

40 Days for Life: Starting Soon!

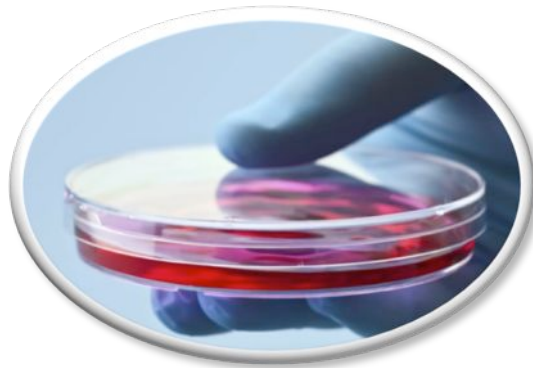
There is less than a month before we begin 40 Days for Life! In our continuing effort to have the greatest effect with what we have, we are looking at new methods of getting people involved. With that in mind, we will take a break from our annual door hanger distribution effort, and we plan to replace it with other things.

In addition to our efforts, we ask that you invite friends to join us in this effort. We also strive to prepare people for the things that can arise while one is on the sidewalk. Stay tuned for updates on possible training sessions.

The 40 days begins on Wednesday, September 24th. Join us!



Stem-Cell Research



The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) ice bucket challenge has spread across social networking sites like Facebook. The challenge originally used a clever combination to ensure it would reach the most people quickly.

People who accept the challenge record a video of themselves doing a few things. First, they say who nominated them. Then they nominate at least two other people. Then, they either donate money to the ALS Association, or they pour a bucket of ice water on their head. Once nominated, you have 24 hours to complete the challenge.

The videos go viral quickly. The nominating process ensures that it spreads to a large audience quickly, since it should reach at least twice as many people every 24 hours or less. Many people don't like the idea of

being doused with ice cold water, so that creates the incentive to donate.

Granted, people eventually donated and poured water on themselves.

The ALS Association raised millions of dollars in a few days. Their goals are good. They want to find a cure for ALS, which is a medical condition in which most people are given two to four years to live once they are diagnosed. ALS is also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. World-renowned physicist Stephen Hawking has lived several decades with ALS, and is perhaps the most famous person who has the degenerative condition.

Despite the good goals for the ALS Association, people have raised several concerns, including morality issues that pertain to the respect for human life. The ALS Association supports Embryonic Stem Cell Research (ESCR.)

Unlike most other forms of research, ESCR destroys human life whenever it is performed. The embryonic cells are also less mature and harder to control. So every study results in tumors, random body parts, etc. NO cures have resulted from ESCR. Even after California approved millions of dollars for stem cell research, with a focus on ESCR, most of the money went to non-ESCR research. Scientists knew Adult Stem Cell Research (ASCR) had more hope than ESCR.

Continued on next page

Stem Cell Research (continued)

Continued from prior page

Over the years, the media has touted the numerous cures and treatments stem cell research offers, and often leaves out the distinction that the moral opposition is almost always against ESCR and not ASCR. It is ASCR that has provided all of the stem cell cures and treatments, and concern over the morality of ASCR doesn't come up, because it doesn't destroy life.

Pro-lifers usually want to see ASCR succeed in

finding even more cures. We are fortunate to live so close to an organization that supports ASCR and avoids any immoral forms



of experimentation. This organization is the John Paul II Medical Research Institute (JP2MRI), which is based in Iowa City.

JP2MRI has gained lots of attention from the ice bucket challenge as well. Their website continues to experience heavy traffic. They made the local news. They have been mentioned in various pro-life and religious-based publications across the country. If you donate as part of the ALS ice bucket challenge, we encourage you to donate to organizations like the JP2MRI. Their website:

<http://www.jp2mri.org>

Photos taken from a video on the [jp2mri.org](http://www.jp2mri.org) website

Webcam Abortion Ruling

In 2008, news broke that Planned Parenthood had developed a new method of distributing abortion pills that could bring abortions to any community. In the years that followed, Planned Parenthood spread this delivery method across Iowa, where it was developed.

Cedar Rapids began performing abortions in 2012. Last fall, we reported that the Iowa Board of Medicine established rules that effectively banned webcam abortions. But Planned Parenthood appealed the rule, and a judge issued a stay on enforcing the ban.



Continued on next page

Pro-Life Challenge



Join us for our 40 Days for Life activities. Anyone can pray



Invite Friends to Get Involved with 40 Days for Life

It always helps to have friends and family with you when you pray. It's safer, more interesting, and could save lives and help parents avoid lifetimes of regret. Invite others to join in the work that led to a growing number of saved lives!

Webcam Abortion Ruling

Continued from prior page

As we reported last month, the Cedar Rapids facility discontinued webcam abortions last month. But that did little to stop webcam abortions throughout Iowa.

The news this month made pro-lifers cheer across Iowa. A judge ruled in favor of the Iowa Board of Medicine's ban.

The ruling acknowledged their authority and that they acted appropriately within that authority. It also cited a few concerns the judge had regarding the board's actions. But that only shows that the judge factored that into the decision.

Abortion supporters want to treat this case as if the judge were biased or extreme. But this is one of a few cases where judges have ruled in favor of webcam abortion bans.

Planned Parenthood has already said they would fight this ruling. The ruling was made on August 19th, and Planned Parenthood has



30 days to discontinue performing webcam abortions, unless another stay is issued.

We are hopeful that this could lead to a great reduction in the number of abortions in Iowa. As our past newsletters and website have covered in more detail, webcam abortions are bad for both mother and child. The RU-486 pills have harmed thousands of women already. We want the harm it causes to end.



CFLI Board

Rich Brandt
Jim Burke (President)
Mary Cherion
Sue Martinek
Tim Mason (Vice President)
Pat Semelroth
Steve Speirs
Bonnie Yount (Secretary)
Russell Yount (Treasurer)



Spread the Word!

Do you know other pro-life people who 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.

We welcome advertisers for a reasonable price.

Remember, Life Matters!

Request electronic copies by email: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Coalition for Life of Iowa

P.O. Box 864
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406