



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

March 2015

Editor: Jim Burke

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**We welcome newcomers
to our meetings**

Newsletter Changes

This issue is larger than our past newsletters. We will enhance the newsletter a little each month for a few months.

We plan to provide more dedicated space in the newsletter for a variety of pro-life subjects. We will make sure to include space for reporting past events, while announcing upcoming events more concisely. The events of other organizations will appear when we are aware of them as long as we have room to include them. Current event topics and guest columns will also appear in the newsletter with more space than usual. We will also include information about stages of life and pro-life apologetics.

- Coalition for Life of Iowa Board

Upcoming Events

WED
Feb 18

SUN
Mar 29

7 a.m. – 7 p.m. daily

40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil

Join us in praying for an end to abortion!

Where: Sidewalk outside of Planned Parenthood
3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA

More information: http://lifeiowa.org/40_Days_for_Life.html

TUE
Mar 24

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CFLI Working Meeting

Get involved in planning the activities for our organization!

Where: St. Patrick's Common Grounds Coffee Shop
120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA

More information: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

WED
Mar 25

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Feast of the Annunciation Mass

Join the Catholic mass celebrating the conception of our Lord!
Rosary begins at 6:35 p.m.

Where: St. Wenceslaus Church
1224 5th St SE, Cedar Rapids, IA

More information: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

SUN
Mar 29

5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

40 Days for Life Closing Rally

Join us in closing the 40 Days for Life with prayer and pizza!

Where: Outside of Planned Parenthood (3425 1st Ave SE)
Godfather's Pizza (3647 1st Ave SE)

More information: http://lifeiowa.org/40_Days_for_Life.html

TUE
Apr 14

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

CFLI Board Meeting

Get involved in the decisions that guide our organization!

Where: St. Patrick's Common Grounds Coffee Shop
120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA

More information: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

3-Parent Embryos

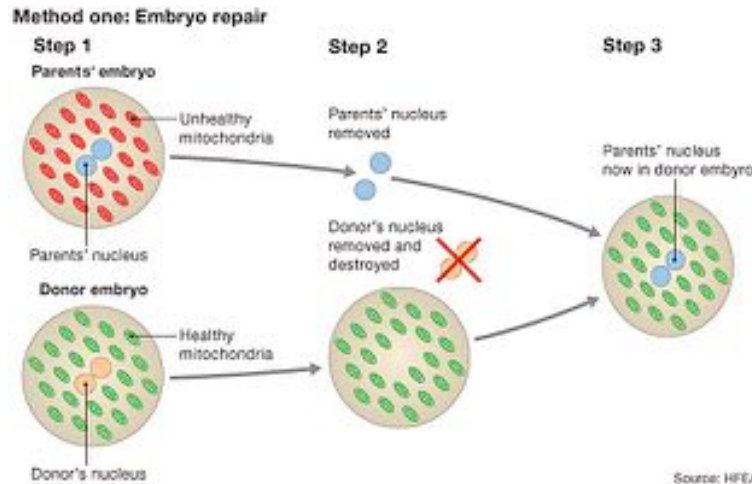
The UK has approved 3-parent embryos. The stated goal aims to treat children who would otherwise struggle with very bad conditions arising from genetic disorders in the mitochondrial DNA. Mitochondria provide energy within each of the cells in our bodies. They have their own DNA, almost all of which come from the mother. It's distinct from the DNA in the nucleus of the cell.

We described only one of the two methods in our November newsletter last year. But both methods raise ethical concerns.

Embryo Repair

Some people refer to the first method as “embryo repair.” After conceiving a child with the unhealthy mitochondria, the DNA from the nucleus is removed and implanted into a donor embryo that has had its nucleus removed. The nucleus from the donor embryo is destroyed, as is the embryo from the couple who sought the treatment of their

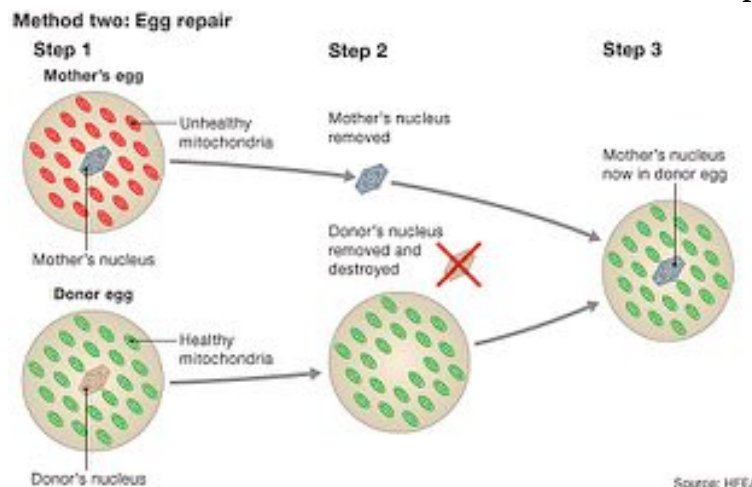
child. The only part of the newly formed embryo that came from their child is the tiny nucleus. The fact that two embryos existed at the beginning and only one exists



at the end shows that life was lost. The resulting embryo is a hybrid resulting from three different people. One parent will almost certainly not retain parental rights.

Egg Repair

The other method is often called “egg repair.” This method does the same thing,



but at the stage where the eggs of the mother and a donor egg are involved. Thus, no embryos die. But this method creates Eugenic concerns. The genes and traits of the prospective child are deemed defective and not worthy of life, thus causing people to replace the DNA. This method does not treat the child, because the child does not exist yet. One might argue that the treatment treats the mother, but the egg doesn't affect the woman directly, and wouldn't have to be returned to her body. In no way is this treating a person. In order to have a child, the modified egg undergoes in-vitro fertilization (IVF). IVF rarely works with a single egg, so multiple eggs are used. In this case, that means several eggs undergo the egg repair. It's rare to have all of the fertilized eggs brought to term. Most remain frozen in suspended animation until their death.

Updates on Court Cases & Bills

To keep people informed on legislative activities, we provide updates on state and federal bills.



Iowa

On Wednesday, March 11, the Iowa Supreme Court heard arguments regarding webcam abortion. This case will ultimately decide whether webcam abortions continue to remain legal and available in Iowa.

HF58 became HF573 and passed out of the Iowa House 57-39, so it continues to the Iowa Senate. It adds a requirement to perform an ultrasound before abortions and allow women to see the ultrasound. Laws that require showing it, rather than merely offering to show it tend to fail constitutional challenges. But laws similar to this bill tend to survive.

Ultrasounds are credited with saving many lives, since at least 78% of abortion-minded women choose not to abort after seeing an ultrasound of their child. Ultrasounds are already common practice before abortions to determine the gestational age, which sets the price for the abortion. It's also similar to the standard practice of doctors showing patients an x-ray when dealing with broken bones.

HF65 did not make it out of committee, so the bill is effectively dead for this session. This is the so-called **Death with Dignity Act**. Some states go so far as to require doctors to lie about the cause of death.

Rather than list suicide or homicide, they require doctors to list the condition that led to the approval of the real cause of death.

SF55 did not make it out of committee, so the bill is effectively dead for this session. It aimed to prohibit funding of abortions from the Affordable Care Act.

Federal

HR7 passed the House, but has not been brought up in the Senate. The bill is the **No Taxpayer Funding for Abortions Act**.

HR36 remains in committee. This is the **Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act**.

Stages of Life: Weeks 1 - 4

We will begin tracking the stages of life of a child. We will match the timeline of Jesus. Since we celebrate the birth of



Jesus in December, we will cover the subject of conception this month, since it's nine months prior to birth.

Gestation is measured from the first day of a woman's menstruation. This occurs a couple of weeks before conception/fertilization. At the end of week 2, the ovary releases an egg.

Fertilization occurs during week 3. A single sperm swims up the Fallopian tube and enters the egg, and conception takes place. The resulting cell is called a zygote.

The zygote travels down the Fallopian tube. The zygote divides into multiple cells called a blastocyst.

The blastocyst reaches the uterus in week 4. It clings to the uterine wall. The thickened wall of the uterus provides the nourishment needed to grow.

In the Bible, we hear of the annunciation of our Lord. Catholics celebrate this on March 25th, exactly nine months before Christmas Day. During Mary's pregnancy, we see many parallels in the book of Luke 1 to the Ark of the Covenant. We know the Ark was treasured because it contained the tablets of the Ten Commandments or word/law, manna, and the rod of Aaron, the high priest. Within Mary is

Jesus, who was: the Word of God made flesh, the bread of life, and the eternal High Priest.

The parallels point us to the presence of Jesus within Mary's womb, and the value of life in the womb.

Examples of parallels include:

- Travel to Judea's hill country
2Sam 6:1-11 & Lk 1:39
- Dance/Leaping before the Ark
2Sam 6:14 & Lk 1:41
- "Who am I that the Ark/mother of my Lord should come to me?"
2Sam 6:9 & Lk 1:43
- Shouting before the Ark
2Sam 6:15 & Lk 1:42
- Ark remains in house for 3 months
2Sam 6:11 & Lk 1:56
- House blessed by presence of Ark
2Sam 6:11 & Lk 1:39-45
- Ark returns to Jerusalem
2Sam 6:12; 1Ki 8:9-11 & Lk 1:56; 2:21-22

Pro-Life Challenge



Attend Closing Rally

Attend the Closing Rally for 40 Days for Life!

Join others who prayed for an end to abortion. We offer pizza and drinks. It's a great way to end your hard efforts!



Invite Friends

Invite friends to join you in praying at our closing rally prayer vigil. They can join us for the meal afterward.

Reversing RU-486 Abortions

Webcam abortions use RU-486 to cause abortions. Webcam abortions only occur in Iowa and Minnesota. But RU-486 is prescribed throughout the United States. Some women regret starting an RU-486 abortion, and Dr. George Delgado has devised a protocol to reverse its effects. Dr. Delgado operates out of San Diego, CA. But his protocol is spreading throughout the nation.



Dr. George Delgado

The Women's Choice Center of the Quad Cities became the first pregnancy center in the Midwest to provide the reversal treatment. They began providing the treatment on November 17, 2014.

The materials for the treatment are expensive, so most doctors

won't carry it. It's great to see this treatment available in Iowa. More and more locations are carrying this treatment.



Dr. Karla Polasheck

Dr. Karla Polasheck is the WCC Medical Director. The WCC received a call during the first week they offered the protocol. The national www.abortionpillreversal.com website made the referral. Dr. Gregory McKernan at Vitae Family Care in Des Moines also offers the treatment.

If you ever encounter a woman who has taken RU-486 who might wish to reverse the abortion, please refer her to the website or the WCC. Although we will try to note any new providers, the website can connect women to the resources they need.

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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.

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Request electronic copies by email: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Coalition for Life of Iowa

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