



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

May 2015

Editor: Jim Burke

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**We welcome newcomers
to our meetings and
events**

Summertime!

After our Father-Son Cookout on Father's Day weekend, things slow down for a while. While some people catch their breath, others will begin plans for activities we plan to have in fall.

This is the best time of year to join us in planning activities. We don't have the rush we have at certain other times of year.

The Coalition for Life of Iowa defends the sanctity of human life from conception throughout all stages with prayer, education, and raising awareness. We continue to seek and implement proven methods of achieving that mission as effectively as possible.

Would you like to join us? If so, contact us anytime!

- Coalition for Life of Iowa Board

Upcoming Events

TUE
May 26

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 info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

TUE
Jun 9

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

FRI
Jun 19

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Father-Son Grill-Out

Join us at this year's Father's Day weekend Grill-Out!
Where: Bever Pavilion, Bever Park
2700 Bever Park Trail, Cedar Rapids, IA
More information: http://lifeiowa.org/Fathers_Day.html

TUE
Jun 23

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 info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

TUE
Jul 14

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

CFLI Annual 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

Our Annual Meeting is the meeting where we elect our board members and executive board members for the year ahead. We also perform the normal duties of our monthly board meetings.

If you are interested in joining our board, please contact us. Even if you only want to help, we'd love to hear from you!



Life Series: Women’s Health

We discussed women’s health in our recent Life Series educational event. One of the primary topics included Natural Procreative Technology (NaProTechnology). It resulted from Natural Family Planning (NFP). To avoid confusion, NFP is not the same as the calendar method of avoiding pregnancy.

By applying a combination of

medical science with moral guidance, NaProTechnology has achieved remarkable advancements, far beyond what most doctors offer:

- 2x – 3x more successful than in-vitro fertilization (IVF)
- 79% effective at achieving successful pregnancy after recurring miscarriages
- 95% effective at treating Pre-Menstrual Syndrome (PMS)

- 95% effective at treating Post-Partum Depression; results occur within hours
- 50% reduction in premature births
- 75% reduction in the hysterectomy rate

Doctors often treat women with birth control, IVF, anti-depressants, and other things that don’t treat underlying issues and aren’t as effective.

Father-Son Grill-Out!

Join us for a Father-Son Grill-Out! We will host the event from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Bever Pavilion in Bever Park on Friday, June 19th. That’s the Friday of Father’s Day weekend.

There is no cost to attend this event. The event will have plenty of food and fun! The meal includes hamburgers, side items, and drinks. It would help if you brought lawn chairs, in case we exceed the capacity of the pavilion.

Last year we had the Father-Daughter Dance. We wanted to have an event for fathers

and sons this year. We expect to kick off Father’s Day weekend right. Join us!





Updates on Court Cases & Bills

Iowa

Nothing has changed in Iowa regarding pro-life legislation this month, and time is running out.

We still await a ruling from the Iowa Supreme Court regarding webcam abortion. They heard the case on March 11, and webcam abortions continue to remain legal and available in Iowa until the ruling is issued. This ruling could make or break webcam abortions in Iowa, and thus greatly affect Planned Parenthood.

HF573 passed out of the Iowa House, but the Iowa Senate has not acted on the bill. It's unlikely that the Senate will bring the bill up for consideration without pressure from constituents,

since at least half of the Senate opposes the bill. 78% of abortion-minded women choose not to abort after seeing an ultrasound. This bill could greatly reduce the number of abortions in Iowa by requiring women to have a chance to view the ultrasound. They aren't forced to view it, and the ultrasounds are already routinely performed.

Federal

HR7 remains as it was last month. It passed the House, but has not been brought up in the Senate. The bill is the **No Taxpayer Funding for Abortions Act**. The Senate referred it to the Committee on Finance. HR36 passed the House, but has not been brought up

in the Senate. This is the **Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act**. If it passes the Senate, it will likely receive a veto by the President. This bill has brought out the views of candidates on both sides of the issue.

Other News

A mother was attacked in Colorado. Her unborn child was cut out of her and died. Planned Parenthood didn't want to protect women or the mother's choice to keep her child. Their lobbying efforts killed the bill that would make such things illegal. They withdrew their support for a Colorado lawmaker who supports abortion, because she opposed this bill.



12th week of development

©Life Issues Institute

Stages of Life: Weeks 9 - 12



Author: Dr. Monica Minjeur

Welcome to the 3rd month of pregnancy! During this month, the developing baby grows to a whopping 2 inches long and weighs in at about $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce.

Many of the final crucial organs form this month, marking another critical stage of development. The tiny earlobes complete their formation and eyelids fuse over the eyes to protect them during the rest of development.

Tooth buds are in place beneath gum tissue and tiny taste buds are forming on the tongue. The developing fetus starts to practice swallowing amniotic fluids; these movements will help with breathing in the future.

During this month, growth of the internal organs is very rapid, causing the intestines to temporarily protrude into the umbilical cord to complete their growth. They will later twist and return back into the abdominal cavity. Development of the liver continues and begins to produce bile and the kidneys begin to filter and produce urine.

Around week 10, final hardening of the bones occurs and the wrist, ankle, elbow, and knee joints are intact as points to bend the limbs. Fingers and toes separate and are no longer webbed. Reflexes and muscles are also developing

and by the end of week 12, baby can close their fingers, curl their toes, and clench their eye muscles.

The baby will also move in response to external pushing on the mother's abdomen, though she will not be able to feel the movements.

This is generally the time when expectant parents will get to see their little one for the first time via ultrasound, which generally happens around week 10. The heartbeat is visible as well as the placenta, the head, trunk and developing limbs. If twins (or more!) are developing, this is the first time parents discover this exciting surprise.

Pro-Life Challenge



Attend Father-Son Grill-Out!

In the month of June, honor fathers while having a great time at our Father-Son Grill-Out!



Spread the Word

Invite friends to attend the Father-Son Grill-Out! The more, the merrier!



Culture of Life Dinner

The Knights of Columbus in Iowa City raised money for Creighton Model Grant recipients at their Culture of Life Dinner in early May. The Creighton Model brought forth the NaProTechnology mentioned earlier in this newsletter.

The culture of death attacks from many fronts. It frequently attacks fertility, and people now struggle to have children. The advent of birth control and contraception led to predictions within the religious community of legalized abortion and many other problems. The Supreme Court's ruling on Roe v. Wade even cited failed contraception as a reason why abortion was necessary in society.

We could keep fighting each new battle the culture of death wages. But unless we get to the

root of the problems, the battles will take much longer. That's not to say we don't deal with new issues that come up.

The Knights of Columbus make it easier for people to learn and apply NaProTechnology in order to bring an amazing combination of true reproductive health treatments to women across Iowa.

The dinner featured several speakers, including Monica Minjeur, D.O., who writes the "Stages of Life" portion of our newsletter. There were inspiring stories of women helped by NaProTechnology.

Few doctors learn these techniques, since it's often mistaken as being the calendar method. We would love to see more medical professionals learn these methods.

CFLI Board

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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.

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Remember, Life Matters!

Request electronic copies by email: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Coalition for Life of Iowa

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