



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

October 2015

Editor: Jim Burke

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We welcome newcomers
to our meetings and
events

Amazing Times!

Our rally to conclude this autumn's 40 Days for Life campaign should be even better than usual. We have many successes to report.

We are working together with other organizations to have a bus for transportation to the Washington D.C. March for Life in January. The initial deadline is rather soon.

We also have billboards in high-traffic areas of town. We are growing in visibility, which allows us to reach more people with the pro-life message.

We see so many opportunities to make progress. We could use your help!

- Coalition for Life of Iowa Board

Upcoming Events

Now - Sun, Nov 1

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 info: http://lifeiowa.org/40_Days_for_Life.html

Sun, Nov 1

5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

40 Days for Life Victory Rally

Join us in prayer for the first hour and conclude with pizza!

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

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

Tue, Nov 10

7 p.m. – 8:30 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 info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Tue, Nov 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 info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

**Don't miss out! November 1 is the
deadline to reserve your place on the
March for Life bus.**

**Registrations are accepted until
buses are full.**



Billboards are Up!

We mentioned some billboards in our last newsletter. They have been up for several weeks along 1st Avenue in Cedar Rapids. Both of them are visible

on the way from downtown Cedar Rapids when heading to Planned Parenthood.

The yellow sign is near Coe College. The blue sign is less

than half a mile south of Planned Parenthood.

We thank our generous donors who paid for these signs!



40 Days for Life: Prayer! No Matter What!

40 Days for Life is nearing an end for this year. Some leaders call the rally at the end the Closing Rally, while others call it a Victory Rally. We don't want to make it sound like anything closed, but we also want to make it clear that we have learned of great things this time. So I'm going to call it the Victory Rally.

Our Victory Rally will begin at 5 p.m. on Sunday, November 1 outside Planned Parenthood. At 6 p.m., we will go to the Godfather's Pizza in the nearby shopping center. We encourage you to park at the Town & Country Shopping Center that is one block north or on 35th St NE.

We experienced a very different campaign this time. We had great weather, but construction created new challenges. We heard about two children that live today because of our prayers. Our Victory Rally should include someone who will tell us more about this.



Government Update

Iowa PPH Funding

Several people have contacted Governor Branstad to ask him to end contracts with Planned Parenthood of the Heartland. People are also contacting their representatives and senators to achieve the same result. We will watch what happens in the months ahead. It's important to convey your thoughts on such matters to your lawmakers.

Concerns in California

California became a hotspot of activity this month. One law forces pregnancy resource centers to post information that would direct their clients to abortion providers. This draws to mind an analogy involving suicide. Imagine if suicide hotlines were forced to provide information to "help" suicidal people find the most effective ways to kill themselves. People should not be forced to promote evil.

But the suicide analogy leads to the other main story from California. Brittney Maynard gained national attention last year when she moved from California to Oregon so she could end her life through assisted suicide. More than half of states have bills planned for next year's sessions to try to achieve what Oregon

allowed. California recently passed it into law.

Words like "dignity" and "compassionate" are used, but terrible things result when assisted suicide is permitted. It denies our innate dignity as humans created in the likeness of God. It demands control. We often encounter people who believe that dependence on others seems to suggest that there is a lack of dignity.

Such laws draw fuzzy lines between valuing the lives of teens who seek suicide, and people later in life who seek suicide. It also gives into hopelessness and pessimism.

I watched a TED Talks video online about a new way to treat cancer that is being tested out. It was particularly effective against the kind of cancer Brittany had, but like anything under development, no assurances could be made. But side effects would be minimal, if any. I prefer seeking real solutions, rather than giving up through suicide.

The "assisted" part of suicide leads to more concerns. Pharmacists and doctors now become accomplices to the death of their clients. People deserve better than death. We can show our love by helping them live a good life.

Federal Actions

The House of Representatives continued hearings about Planned Parenthood and fetal organ/tissue trafficking.

We won a huge pro-life victory in October! Pro-Life members of the U.S. House voted 240-189 to defund most of Planned Parenthood's federal money next year. It also rolls back some of the most life-threatening aspects of Obamacare. [If your member of Congress was one of the 240 pro-life heroes, be sure to give your representative a big Thank You!](#)

The vote was on H.R. 3762, the Restoring Americans' Healthcare Freedom Reconciliation Act. Because this was a rare "budget reconciliation" bill, it cannot be filibustered when it goes to the U.S. Senate.

That means it would require the support of only 51 Senators to pass, instead of the 60 votes required for most bills.

HR7 (No Taxpayer Funding for Abortions Act) still sits, waiting for the Senate to act.



March for Life: Washington D.C.

We invited members to attend the March for Life in Washington D.C. a few years ago, and we wanted to do it again this time. We will partner with Iowans for Life to coordinate the trip this time. Their deadline to ensure a spot on a bus is November 1. But we hope to fill an entire bus, and they accept registrations until all buses are full. But the sooner you sign-up, the better.

The March for Life trips usually take some portion of five days from beginning to end. We depart in the latter half of the first day, and arrive back midday on the fifth day. The great thing this year is that two of the days fall on the weekend. This means people only have to

take about two and a half days off of work or school in order to attend.

We spend most of a day on the bus each direction. The march itself is the middle day of the trip. The day after that is a free day for sight-seeing activities. Various other activities fill out the time to make for a great experience. Iowans for Life manages the buses from Xavier High School

and the majority of the state. We know many people are interested in this trip, and we can't wait!

The cost is \$375. Follow the link below for more information or to register. We'd love to see that bus fill up and do this every year!

<http://www.iowansforlife.org/march-for-life/>





32nd week of development

Stages of Life: Weeks 29 - 32



Author: Dr. Monica Minjeur

This month is more about growing in size, adding on additional layers of fat, muscle and tissue to prepare baby for the “outside” world. Baby will weigh in at around 4 pounds and measure almost 17 inches in length. Over the next few weeks, baby will continue to gain up to half of their birth weight!

Baby’s skeleton is continuing to develop and mature, taking around 200 milligrams of calcium and other vital nutrients from mother’s bloodstream daily. The head continues to grow bigger to accommodate the growing

brain. The amniotic fluid surrounding baby is about 24 ounces and peaks during this time. In the coming weeks, baby will take up more of the space in the womb as they grow and some of the amniotic fluid gets reabsorbed.

Baby’s eyesight continues to gain better clarity, although vision at birth will still only be about 20/400, allowing them to see clearly only a couple inches in front of their face. Some babies have a full head of hair by now, although some still just have peach fuzz covering their

crown. Fingernails and toenails have completely grown in and are protecting fully formed tips of digits.

Although not always the case, some mothers begin to experience Braxton-Hicks contractions during this time. These are sometimes also called “false labor”. It is the body’s way of preparing mother for the upcoming labor process. Baby’s position can still change quite frequently, but since baby is growing bigger, every shift in movement can be more noticeable than before.

Pro-Life Challenge



Attend 40 Days for Life Victory Rally

Join us at our 40 Days for Life Victory Rally!



Invite Others to the Rally!

Invite your friends and family to join us at the 40 Days for Life Victory Rally, even if it's their first time praying with our group!



Iowa Realty Vacates PP

Did we run out of ideas for images to headline this article? No. Just days after we started this fall's 40 Days for Life, we noticed that the Iowa Realty sign under Planned Parenthood's sign was gone. A sign on the door indicated that they moved out!

Planned Parenthood owns the building. So any business that occupies the other half of their building pays rent to Planned Parenthood. Rent payments add to their profits. Losing renters eliminates another source of income.

Bill Knapp founded Iowa Realty. The Planned Parenthood facility nearest to Drake University is named after Bill's wife, Susan Knapp. The commercial real estate portion of Iowa Realty has connections to Warren Buffet's Berkshire Hathaway. Warren

and Berkshire Hathaway have both been friends of Planned Parenthood. So when Iowa Realty moved in a few years ago, we saw how they were able to help Planned Parenthood without donating more money.

We know the staff of Iowa Realty didn't necessarily agree with the company's choice of location. Clients aren't always thrilled, either. Many people will find this move favorable, including us.

So don't be surprised if the parking lot looks empty compared to the last few years. Some construction crews park their vehicles in the lot. The continuing road construction in the area for the next few months could make it challenging for Planned Parenthood to find a business to lease the vacant space.

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- Tell them about it
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- 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

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