



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

August 2016

Editor: Jim Burke

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

Time to Step Up!

We made no changes to our leadership in our annual meeting. We have a time of stability in our organization. From this foundation, we want to grow.

Our 40 Days for Life effort will extend its hours. Our bus to the Midwest March for Life should have more people than ever in January. We have made some plans to execute in the months ahead. Will you join us?

We can continue to do what we've done before without additional help. But it's hard to transform a culture that way. We can do more things. We can reach more people. We can have a greater impact on society if you take some time to discern how you can help share the pro-life message. Everyone has different talents and skills. Each event requires a combination of things. So there's a place for everyone to contribute in an honorable way.

We have helped train many of you to make solid pro-life arguments. We may gain access to additional resources very soon.

- Coalition for Life of Iowa Board

Upcoming Events

<p>Tue, Sep 13 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Tue, Oct 11 Tue, Nov 8 Tue, Dec 13 (tentative)</p>	<p>CFLI Board Meeting (2nd Tuesdays) 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</p>
<p>Tue, Sep 27 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.</p>	<p>40 Days for Life Kick-off Rally Join us to kick off what we hope will be our biggest prayer activity! Where: Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood 3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA More info: https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/cedar-rapids/</p>
<p>Tue, Sep 27 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Tue, Oct 25 Tue, Nov 22 Tue, Dec 27 (tentative)</p>	<p>CFLI Working Meeting (4th Tuesdays) 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</p>
<p>Sep 28 – Nov 6 24 hours / day</p>	<p>40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil Join us to kick off what we hope will be our biggest prayer activity! Where: Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood 3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA More info: https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/cedar-rapids/</p>
<p>Sat, Oct 1</p>	<p>Bridgehaven's "In Her Shoes 5K Fun Run & Walk"</p>
<p>Sun, Oct 2</p>	<p>National Life Chain</p>
<p>Fri, Oct 7</p>	<p>Going Natural Conference</p>
<p>Sat, Oct 8</p>	<p>NFP/NaProTechnology Event</p>
<p>Thurs, Oct 13 — 2017 —</p>	<p>Iowans for Life Annual Fundraiser featuring Tim Staples</p>
<p>Tue, Jan 10</p>	<p>CFLI Board Meeting</p>
<p>Sat, Jan 14</p>	<p>Midwest March for Life in Des Moines, IA Featuring Kristin Hawkins from Students for Life</p>
<p>Tue, Jan 24</p>	<p>CFLI Working Meeting</p>
<p>Fri, Jan 27</p>	<p>National March for Life in Washington, D.C.</p>
<p>Mar 25-26</p>	<p>Scott Klusendorf in Iowa City</p>



40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

40 Days for Life Upgrade!

Every 40 Days for Life leader commits to trying to fill at least 12 hours each day for the prayer vigil. The effort is what matters. If some vigil hours remain open, it's acceptable, but not ideal.

But they highly encourage 24-hour prayer vigils. I've wanted us to upgrade to 24 hours, but never committed to it before. This fall we will switch to a round-the-clock prayer vigil. We don't want to limit the times when you pray.

Most people prefer to pray while Planned Parenthood is open, and that time is critical for helping women who might need our help or who see us and change their minds. Some people like the rush hours and lunch times, since more traffic means more visibility of our message. All of this is great, and I prefer to fill those hours

first. It's also great seeing people being the instruments of God's mercy.

It's important to recognize the power of God. If we think we are doing it all, and that's why we need to be seen or present when Planned Parenthood is open, then we're doing it wrong. We want to flood Planned Parenthood with prayers. Evil doesn't linger long where people of faith maintain constant prayer.

We always encourage praying in groups of at least two. During the night, this is even more important. Nighttime shifts should always have at least two people present, and at least one person should be a male for safety purposes.

We plan to promote 40 Days for Life more than we have in recent years. It's our goal to

get more churches involved.

The team who coordinates 40 Days for Life is growing. We are training the team to maximize the effectiveness.

I have wanted to have some resources available at the prayer vigil site, but I never made it happen. I'm going to try to get some useful resources on site this fall.

I'm more excited about this fall's 40 Days for Life campaign than any other since our first one. Please start inviting friends and family to join you. You might start by simply saying that you participate. Sometime later, you might ask them to join you. Most people don't just stand outside of Planned Parenthood based upon a clip in a church bulletin.



Government Update

Government audits of Planned Parenthood aren't a frequent occurrence. They avoid significant scrutiny by lobbying for little to no regulation. The state auditor in Wisconsin recently released a report. The report revealed that up to two-thirds of all Medicaid payments to Planned Parenthood facilities in Wisconsin involved fraud!

Before delving deeper into yet another case of Planned Parenthood's fraudulent activities, it's important to draw attention to Florida. A federal judge permanently blocked parts of Florida law that prohibited funding directed toward organizations using the funds at abortion facilities. Planned Parenthood didn't like losing out on \$500,000, so they challenged the laws. The law also aimed to review medical records at facilities that otherwise go without significant, if any inspections or audits.

Back to Wisconsin

About half of the Wisconsin funds went to eight facilities. They involved fraud and inappropriate billing practices. Planned Parenthood was the worst offender, and operated five of the eight facilities.

The most common violations:

- No prescription
- Prescription not signed by a valid prescriber
- Quantity billed does not match prescription quantity
- Quantity billed does not match quantity dispensed
- No proof of prescription being dispensed
- Reimbursement in excess of amount permitted by the sliding fee scale
- Inaccurately "up-coding" visits to obtain a higher reimbursement rate
- Reimbursement for a duplicative drug that was not medically necessary

Let's combine these recent news items. We have abortion providers engaged in serious levels of fraud. We also have judges who refuse to allow states to eliminate funding of abortion providers.

This is not a good combination. Imagine if you found out a business you dealt with on a regular basis was defrauding you of your hard-earned money. Now imagine if a judge prohibited you from cutting ties with the organization, and thus you would have to keep paying them money, even if there were better options available.

Make no mistake about the legal power of Planned Parenthood. They have powerful lawyers and political lobbyists. With such legal protection, we need serious prayer. We also encourage you to contact your lawmakers. And by all means, apply great scrutiny when voting this fall.



Bodies of Evidence

David Daleiden and the Center for Medical Progress (CMP) were not household names a little more than a year ago. But that changed when they released videos once each week for several months. The videos revealed Planned Parenthood's involvement in the trafficking of human baby body parts obtained from abortions.

Many abortion advocates claimed there was no reason to investigate Planned Parenthood. They accepted the claim that the videos were highly edited, although they were not. They failed to notice a few investigations that found evidence against Planned Parenthood. Besides the bias in the media, what might account for this tendency for people to not find out about the final outcomes? This was made known quite recently.

Billionaire George Soros is well known for funding abortion providers. When he found out about the horrors going on at Planned Parenthood, he decided to contribute at least \$1.5 million to protect the reputation of Planned Parenthood.

We also know Planned Parenthood and their supporters took David and the CMP to court. David's house was raided to find evidence against him. But David and the CMP were cleared of all charges, since they followed all applicable laws for undercover journalism.

We cannot afford to do nothing in the face of evil. Evil grows more powerful when left unchecked. This is why it's a critical time to engage the culture with solid pro-life arguments. We need to find the most effective ways to engage people we know.

We have a list of concerns about Planned Parenthood on a page on our website. It contains dozens of issues. The investigations by the CMP are among the issues, as are the cases of fraud we've previously reported.

http://lifeiowa.org/Say_No_to_PP.html

Although the primary argument against abortion is that it takes an innocent human life, it's useful to know of the dozens upon dozens of issues with Planned Parenthood. Their public relations and funding from various billionaires make it hard to blemish Planned Parenthood's image.

We want everyone to find ways to advance the pro-life cause locally. If you want a book that helps prepare you for defending the pro-life position, come to our events! We may have some additional training in the future. Let us reveal evil in the light of truth.



Tree of Death: Buds & Fruit

You probably thought our last issue had the last installment of the tree of death. But we only covered life in the womb and some aspects of reproductive health. But as Mother Teresa warned, “We must not be surprised when we hear of murders, of killings, of wars, of hatred. If a mother can kill her own child, what is left but for us to kill each other?” The womb is where life buds. When we allow life to be taken and abused in the womb, the buds of the tree of death quickly spread to all stages of life.

I grew up in a generation where we learned from the arguments given to justify abortion that killing family members is justified if it can improve the quality of life for the person making the decision or if it can avoid suffering of the victim.

It’s a terrible lesson that I would love to see as a TV ad to wake up the culture. With one generation wiping out about 1/3rd of the generation after them, the economy is much weaker than it should have been. When the baby boomer generation retires and healthcare costs make it difficult to continue caring for them, the younger generation might just apply the lesson they learned about ending life so others can live more comfortably. Of course they will only think they will live more comfortably. We know we foster love through caring for others.

Society must remember that we reap what we sow. We have already started to see the attempts and successes in some states to legalize assisted suicide.

Assisted suicide eventually turns into Euthanasia, where someone else inflicts the death. It also results in more suicides in people who start to believe suicide is an answer, because they see it demonstrated by people in worse situations.

Parents begin to recognize that it’s okay to kill their children up until birth, so why not soon after? Infanticide creeps into society. Mothers abandon children in dumpsters and bathrooms. We get an increase in deaths from neglect and guardian imposed death.

The homicides go up. I suspect governments facing such crimes are on higher alert and are more likely to inflict violence. The government imposes death upon the innocent. Of course we

Pro-Life Challenge



Pray for Growth

Please pray for more people to join our pro-life activities. Pray that you find opportunities to invite others to join in the activities. We aim to convert the culture, and we can't do that alone. Pray.



Pray for Help!

We know of someone who has evidence of local concerns regarding abortions from several years ago. The case needs our prayers and any legal assistance possible.



Tree (continued)

already see that in many cases of the death penalty. Things escalate as time progresses.

Some of those things escalate from other causes. But these other life issues contribute to them in a bad way. Like weeds or unwanted trees, the longer we allow this tree of death to grow, the worse it gets. We can't let the buds create fruit, because the fruit of a tree of death is more death. People keep coming up with more immoral things.

We've already identified some things that feed each other in a loop. Some problems are fed by multiple other problems, making them harder to eliminate. With more issues arising, we need to spring into action. We need to keep cutting off each new branch as it forms or grows. But a tree dies quickly when the roots are

cut off. Society has grown to love the roots of this problem. So we need a balanced approach.

We need to offer real care for people in their later stages of life. We need to offer the solutions to reproductive health issues. Women need to understand the harm that contraception unleashes.

We know very few doctors who know the truth about contraception. Even fewer know the benefits of NaProTechnology or natural family planning. We've heard of cases where parents facing miscarriage realized medical staff wasn't planning to treat their child with respect until the staff saw the love of the parents. We have lots of work to do! Join us!

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P.O. Box 864
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406