



# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

October 2018

Editor: Jim Burke

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We welcome newcomers  
to our meetings and  
events

## Busy Month

This month has been full of prayer! We've had people praying during 40 Days for Life; praying for protection for our nation, lawmakers, and judges; praying during the National Life Chain; etc.

The media has mostly ignored a movie in the top 10 box office movies for multiple weekends, while social media bans ads for that same movie that reveals what happens when we fail to bring to light the evil that happens in the world.

Elections are coming, and it's important to be informed before you vote. Many residents of Linn County received a sample of a ballot, but that is not a real ballot. You can request an absentee ballot or vote in person. If we don't vote when things appear to go our way, things will swing back the other way and times can be rough for pro-life matters.

Many members are looking to help out a bit more. We welcome the help!

# Upcoming Events

|  |   |
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|  |   |
| <p><b>Sept 26 – Nov 4</b><br/>                 1-hour time slots<br/>                 24 hours/day</p> | <p><b>40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil</b><br/>                 Join us in praying for an end to abortion in a peaceful prayer vigil!<br/> <b>Where:</b> Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood<br/>                 3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA<br/> <b>More info:</b> <a href="https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/cedar-rapids/">https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/cedar-rapids/</a></p> |
| <p><b>Sun, Nov 4</b><br/>                 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.</p>  | <p><b>40 Days for Life Finale Rally</b><br/>                 Join us to conclude our 40 days of prayer and fasting!<br/> <b>Where:</b> Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood<br/>                 3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA<br/> <b>More info:</b> <a href="https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/cedar-rapids/">https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/cedar-rapids/</a></p>                |
| <p><b>Second Tuesdays</b><br/>                 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p>                                  | <p><b>CFLI Board Meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays)</b><br/>                 Get involved in the decisions that guide our organization!<br/> <b>Where:</b> St. Patrick’s Common Grounds Coffee Shop<br/>                 120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA<br/> <b>More info:</b> <a href="mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com">coalitionforlife@gmail.com</a></p>   |
| <p><b>Fourth Tuesdays</b><br/>                 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p>                                  | <p><b>CFLI Working Meeting (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays)</b><br/>                 Get involved in planning the activities for our organization!<br/> <b>Where:</b> St. Patrick’s Common Grounds Coffee Shop<br/>                 120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA<br/> <b>More info:</b> <a href="mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com">coalitionforlife@gmail.com</a></p>  |
|  |   |



DEAN CAIN SARAH JANE MORRIS NICK SEARCY MICHAEL BEACH EARL BILLINGS

**GOSNELL**

THE TRIAL OF AMERICA'S BIGGEST SERIAL KILLER

## Gosnell Movie

The Gosnell movie came out this month. The media almost completely ignored it, and yet it still spent multiple weekends in the box office top 10. Even on opening weekend, it managed to make more than \$1 million while it was in far fewer theaters than almost all other films in the top 10.

The media ignored it like they ignored the Gosnell trial itself. The movie teaches us what happens when people let their bias override what is best. Pennsylvania would have performed periodic inspections, but their governor ordered the health department not to inspect abortion providers.

Even if the typical abortionist might not be as bad as Gosnell, treating abortionists as if they could do no wrong/evil by prohibiting inspections allowed the horrors Gosnell inflicted on women and children. Iowa does

not inspect ANY abortion providers (Planned Parenthood nor the Emma Goldman Clinic). So we have a similar risk here.

When the media didn't want to report on a man who was accused of multiple murders just because he was an abortionist, it further enabled such injustice. It's no wonder they repeated their ignoring of the case in the form of the movie.

Imagine if there were pregnancy resource centers that led to the deaths of women or children. If such centers existed, we should all call them out on it and seek to make right any injustice that occurs.

The movie avoided graphic imagery. The verbal descriptions that combine with the rather tame visuals are what really make the strong

impact, along with the sequence of discovery of the crimes committed.

The filmmakers chose to part from their normal documentary style and portray it as a factual drama. They did an amazing job.

The film does not go into the reasons why Gosnell was only tried on a few cases of murder. There was a concern that adding more than one hundred murders to the crime rate would create a blemish on Philadelphia.

The law-abiding abortionist says she performed 30,000 abortions in the movie, but really performed 40,000. The moviemakers aimed to make it more believable. If abortion advocates don't like the Gosnell movie, then just imagine if they hadn't toned so much down!



## Government Update: Crazy Month

### Supreme Court

Justice Kavanaugh was confirmed to the US Supreme Court after a remarkable confirmation hearing. It was a close vote in the Senate, but he was confirmed with a 50-to-48 vote.

Many people believe this could provide a pro-life majority in the court. Justice is important. Justices should not be seen as pro-life or pro-choice. Ideally, justices would seek to interpret the law as it is written, while seeking justice for all.

The abortion issue has introduced spiritual darkness into the law. Even in the Roe vs. Wade ruling, the term ‘penumbra’ was used, since the ‘right’ to abortion is not clearly stated. A penumbra is a partial shadow—darkness. Abortion remains legal as long as a majority of the justices on

the court are willing to read into the law something not clearly stated. Like pro-lifers seeking a personhood amendment, pro-choicers lack support to amend the Constitution to enshrine abortion in the Constitution. As long as it’s not there, we will see major clashes in confirmation hearings for future appointments to the court. When the court is near a tipping point, that’s when we expect the most action.

People don’t like to lose power. So when the abortion industry sees the chance to lose power, they will fight hard. People made death threats, rape threats, and all sorts of horrible threats and actions. Likewise, people who feel powerless, like many of them felt after the last election, they sometimes lash out violently to acquire power. Avoid violence.

### Elections

We don’t endorse candidates. Political Action Committees (PACs) like the Iowa PAC for Life do that kind of thing, and many of them have made endorsements and voter guides. We focus on non-political activities.

They have made endorsements and have created a voter guide for most of the statewide offices and the senate and house candidates for state legislative positions. County and judicial retention votes are not in their voter guide.

It’s important to vote. Inform yourself about whom you are voting for. We should never support intrinsic evils, such as abortion. In some cases, you may choose not to vote for anyone running. You may leave spots with no vote. Just don’t forget to go vote!



## National Life Chain

The National Life Chain was another success this year! We had lots of proliferators praying and holding signs along First Avenue starting in front of Planned Parenthood.

We traditionally formed the chain on the first Sunday of October, but there was a conflicting prayer activity that day that we figured many of our members would want to attend. The recommended alternate date was the last Sunday in October.

As it turned out, the first Sunday had some rain. But the alternate date had lots of

wind. We weren't sure how many people would come with such strong winds, but so many of you showed up! It was great to see so many of you.

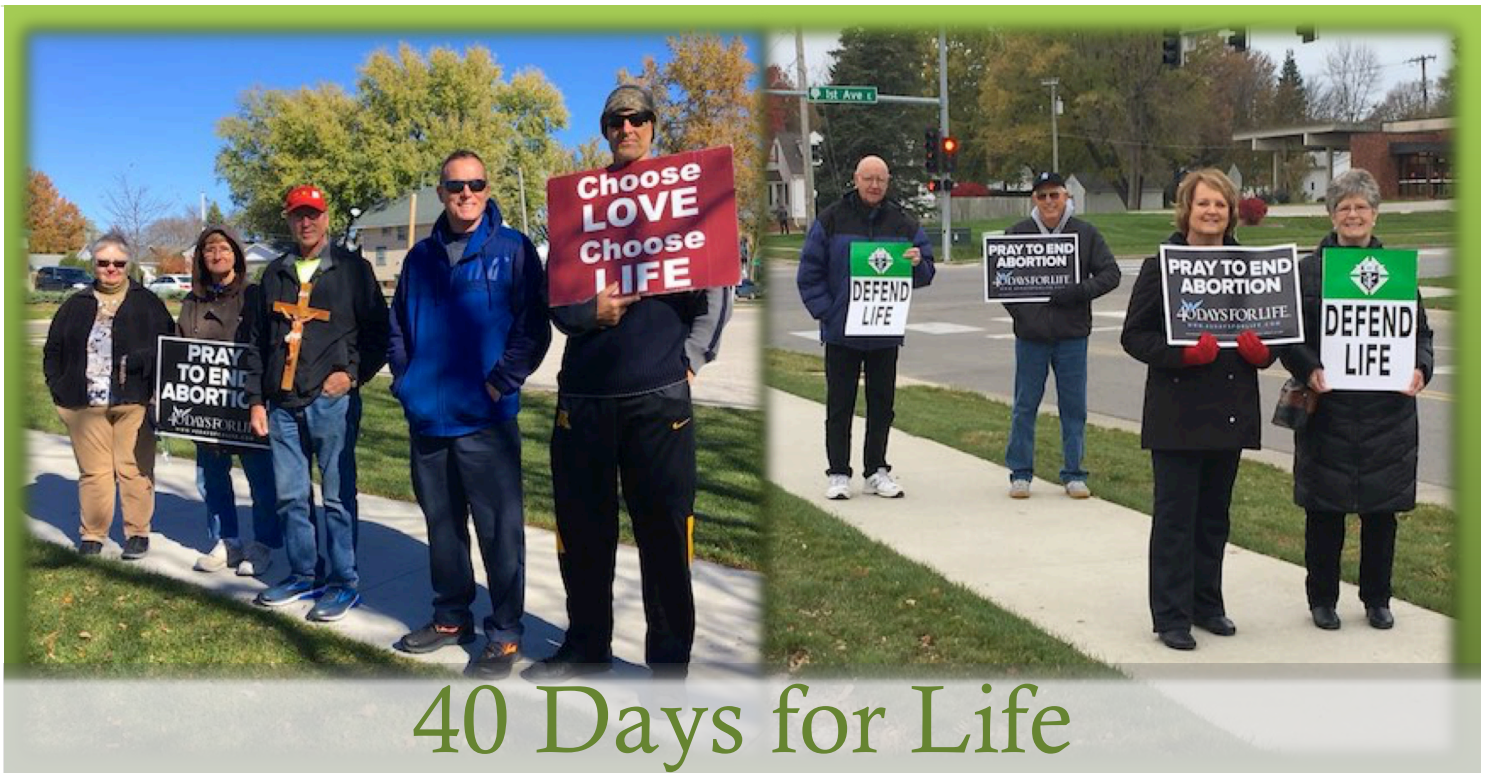
We started with some music, thanks to Steph. We said some prayers and announced the upcoming 40 Days for Life Finale Rally. Then there was more music before we spread out to pray.

Some people prayed silently. Some people prayed by themselves out loud. Some people prayed with others out loud. And a few people prayed with

even more song. It's wonderful having so many ways people pray for an end to abortion and for life in general.

We are always looking to grow the chain. We would love to get more churches involved. If we could get the chain to spread from mall to mall again, that would be amazing. Are there churches you could help get involved in the National Life Chain?

Thanks again for everyone who came out to stand for life! The witness each of you provides people driving by is amazing!



## 40 Days for Life

We are nearing the end of the 40 Days for Life! Spend these last days not only in prayer, but reflecting upon the past 40 days. Did you have any moving or unique experiences? What did you think of the 40 Days for Life book?

If you haven't finished the book, you still have some time. Our 40 Days for Life Finale Rally starts at 5 pm outside the Cedar Rapids Planned Parenthood (PP) at 3425 First Ave SE. Since we don't park in the PP parking lot, and since street parking is very limited, we highly recommend parking in the Town & Country Shopping

Center's parking lot. Since we end with pizza at Godfather's Pizza, we'll be doing plenty of business at the shopping center to justify the parking. If you want to park on the streets, don't forget that 34<sup>th</sup> Street allows you to park just as close as 35<sup>th</sup>, while offering more spaces to park.

We will gather for prayer. We allow people to share their experiences. And we enjoy a meal together among friends. It's wonderful seeing everyone gathered together in the warmth, sharing a meal together. It's often cold or at least chilly outside, and it's darker than usual, due to the

extra hour we have this weekend. Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before doing anything on Sunday! Spend that extra time with us!

We accept a freewill donation at the event to help defray costs. But more than anything, we just love to gather to celebrate what each of us has done in the past 40 days, and what we've done as a group.

Please join us on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm. Even if you haven't joined us yet this fall, join us for that final hour of prayer!

## Pro-Life Challenge

## VOLUNTEER



## Help us out!

The pro-life movement is experiencing greater success than we've seen in the past several decades. But with success brings an even greater need for help. Please help us build a culture of life! Volunteer!



## Invite Friends!

Invite friends and family to attend our events. Invite them to help us out. There are many needs. The harvest is plenty; harvesters are few. Many hands make for light work!



## Opportunity to Help

Each year, many organizations make a push for donations near the end of the year. This gives people a chance to give as late as possible to minimize the time between their donation and the potential benefit as a tax refund.

A few years ago, some people in New York came up with "Giving Tuesday", which occurs on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Giving is a great thing, but the timing of that day is troubling. Rather than giving our firstfruits, it comes after people spend money on family and travel at Thanksgiving, gifts on Black Friday, more gifts on Small Business Saturday, and even more on Cyber Monday. To say whatever you have left after all of that is what is left to give on Giving Tuesday is

unfortunate. While giving is a good thing, we are thinking of encouraging giving on a different day. We will provide more details in the weeks ahead.

I personally love to give to good causes, and I love to encourage others to give to good causes, even if I'm not involved with them. I want to offer money as a matching donation. But I'd love to see others who are willing to donate at least \$100 so we have a base of donors to form a sizable match. That way, when the day comes to accept donations, we can tell people that their donations will be match with yours.

If you can't give that much, you can always donate on our giving day and have your donation matched.

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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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