



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

November 2019

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Contents

- Page 2 Upcoming Events
Page 3 Billboard Contest
Page 4 Government Update
Page 5 2nd Vote
Page 6 The Good Doctor Scene
Page 7 Pro-Life Podcast

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

[Donate Here](#)

Thankful

We have Unplanned movie DVDs available for \$20 for anyone who wants one. We can also arrange to show the movie at your church or for other groups. Just contact us if you're interested.

We still have one board position open if anyone is interested in serving to help guide the local pro-life movement.

We are so thankful for all that our members have done this year. We've had so many of you sign up for the pro-life training courses. We've had so many people participate in: The Cedar Rapids March for Life, 40 Days for Life, National Life Chain, and other activities. We hope to see people take even more active roles in helping us do what we do and to invite others to join us in the year ahead. We plan to do even greater things next year, so we could use some help.

- Coalition for Life of Iowa's Board of Directors

Upcoming Events



<p>Second Tuesdays 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Fourth Tuesdays 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>CFLI Board Meetings (2nd Tuesdays) & CFLI Working Meetings (4th Tuesdays) Get involved in our organization! Where: St. Patrick’s Common Grounds Coffee Shop 120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA More info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com</p>
<p>~ 2020 ~</p>	
<p>Sun, Jan 12 2:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Luana Stoltenberg in Mount Vernon Listen to Luana’s abortion story before going to the March for Life events! Where: St. John the Baptist Church 212 - 7th St SE, Mount Vernon, IA More info: Coming soon</p>
<p>Sun, Jan 19 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. (plus other activities)</p>	<p>Cedar Rapids March for Life Bring the pro-life message to Cedar Rapids this January! Where: St. Matthew’s Church to Planned Parenthood and back 2310 First Ave NE to 3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA More info: http://lifeiowa.org/March_for_Life.html</p>

Billboard Contest

We have winners in this year's billboard contest, and we loved seeing so many great entries this year!

We learned some things from our prior billboard contest experiences. We originally intended to have a first, second, and third-place winner. But we had many ties last year. So, we changed the rules this year to allow us to simply pick the top three winners.

We had more than 200 entries from which to select the winning entries. The three winning entries appear on this page in no particular order.

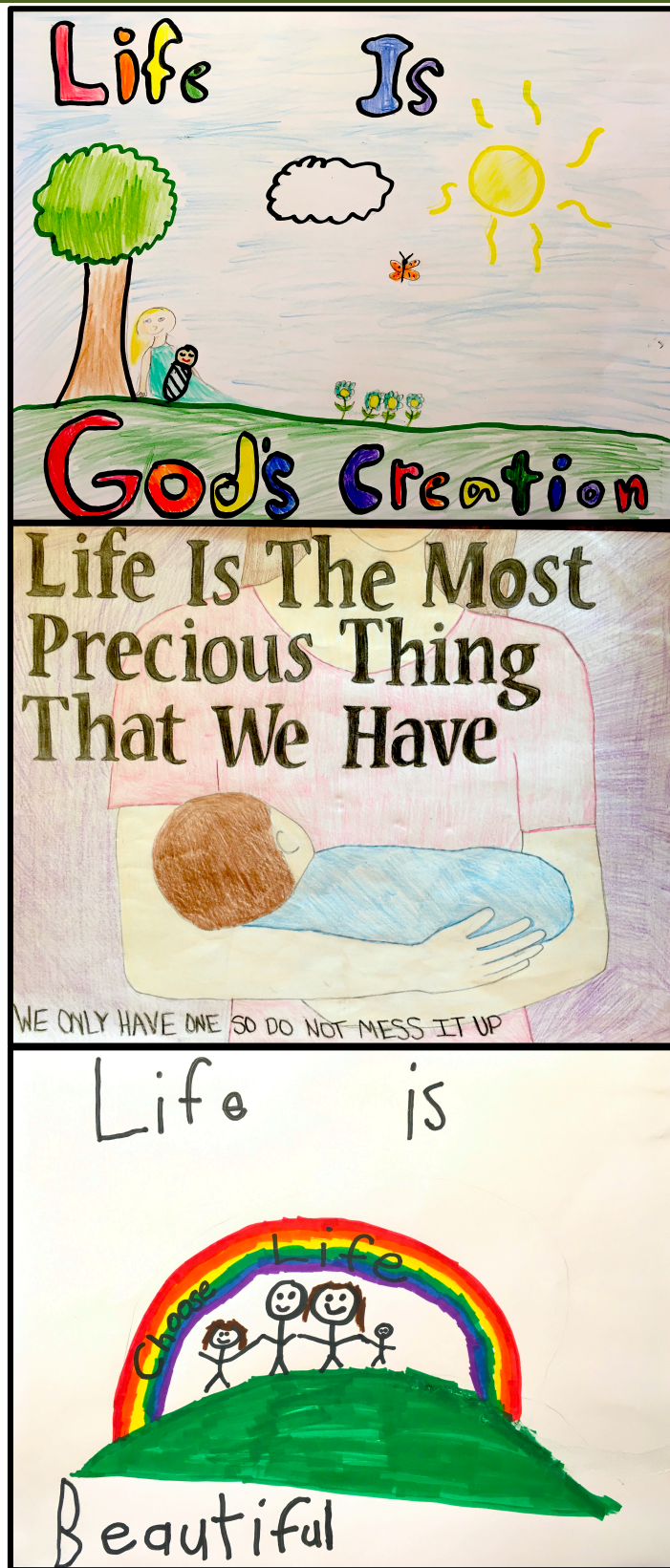
The winners of this year's contest are: Emma Manthe, Lillian Anctil, and JJ Freymark.

Emma Manthe from Trinity Lutheran created Life is God's Creation.

Lillian Anctil from Regis Middle School created Life is the Most Precious Thing That We Have.

JJ Freymark from Trinity Lutheran created Life is Beautiful.

Look for these designs to appear on billboards in the future!





Government Update

Federal Government

H.R. 962 is the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. There are still attempts to petition it out of committee, where it will otherwise die.

Goliath vs. David

The case against David Daleiden got interesting. One case reached a conclusion, while more than a dozen charges still remain for future trials.

As I mentioned last month, the judge has SERIOUS conflicts of interest. We know he helped found a Planned Parenthood, and yet didn't recuse himself from a case involving Planned Parenthood. Yet, I also pointed out that several concerns of fellow pro-lifers didn't seem all that bad to me from a legal perspective.

When the judge instructed the jurors of the trial, he told them he already found David guilty, and that they just had to figure out how

much in damages he should pay.

I admit I don't have a law degree, but I can't find anything that would allow what the judge did. I could be wrong. But it seems like this case could have a relatively easy appeal if justice is served.

David and his colleagues will go back to court to address some of the other charges against them in early December.

Missouri

It could take a few months before there is any verdict in the case regarding the Saint Louis Planned Parenthood. But as I predicted about the abortion provider, the judge was foolish to allow them to operate while the case remained without a verdict.

Based on their past track record, they were bound to have an emergency that would warrant calling 911 to resolve. Sure enough, that has happened. Clinics don't call 911 for minor issues,

since real clinics can resolve medical situations except for a few major situations. Planned Parenthood shows their lack of their ability to resolve the problems they cause or that happen on their premises. If anyone dies as a result of this, I wouldn't want to be the judge who let them operate without a license for all of these months. This could backfire for Planned Parenthood if the judge realizes that they do continue to have medical problems as was previously claimed.

Caucuses

We are still a few months away from the Iowa caucus, but it's good to plan ahead. The next caucus is on Monday, February 3, 2020. A caucus is where each political party takes in party platform planks from caucus-goers and a presidential preference poll also takes place.



2nd Vote

With so much shopping and spending taking place between Thanksgiving and the end of the year, it seemed important to us to make sure you had the tools to equip you to shop at businesses that rate well for moral matters. The 2nd Vote website and app provides rankings of companies on a variety of subjects. Their website is:

<https://www.2ndvote.com/>

If you want to jump straight to comparing companies or the search for companies, you can go to:

<https://www.2ndvote.com/company-scores/>

The concept of 2nd Vote is that we can vote with our dollars. If we regularly do business with morally good businesses, they can thrive, while the businesses we stop

supporting won't do as well.

It really helps if we write respectful letters to the companies we refuse to do business with. Boycotts don't work well if the businesses don't know why sales are down. They may try a variety of things to do better, while missing the underlying reason. If you ran a business and people stopped buying from you, wouldn't you want to know why? Once you'd know why, it would give you a fair opportunity to change or explain why you won't change.

It's not just retailers that get rated. American Express has the worst rating available, which is a score of 1. If you use their card to pay for something at Planned Parenthood (also rated a 1), you're compounding the harm. And if you paid the credit card with money from a Wells Fargo account (also rated a 1), you're

just adding to the harm.

The best ratings are rated a 5. There are a few businesses rated that high, but not many. The higher the rating, the better it is to support. If you can use a business rated a 2.4 over a 1.2, that's at least better than using the business with the 1.2. If there aren't any higher ratings, then that might be your best option.

Let's try to commit to reducing the use of businesses rated with a score of 1. Let's try to do more to urge businesses to do the right thing in more areas.

We hope this helps with your Christmas shopping. Many of us will see businesses we do business with on the list with a very low rating. It can be hard to change, but let us stop supporting the culture of death. Note that 2nd Vote rates businesses on more subjects than just life.



The Good Doctor Scene (contains spoilers)

LifeNews.com posted an article about a recent episode of The Good Doctor. The ABC show has done very well in the past few years depicting a character who has autism who is in residency for becoming a doctor. The article is at:

<https://www.lifeneews.com/2019/11/05/the-good-doctor-has-pro-life-message-as-mom-fights-to-save-her-unborn-babys-life/>

The actor playing the character is not autistic, but the portrayal has drawn good reviews from communities of people who are affected by autism. It addresses some moral matters, as the medical profession often does.

The headline of the article claims the episode conveyed a pro-life message. I found the writing to straddle the issue beautifully, such that people on both sides of the

abortion issue might like it. The article is right that she chose life.

The episode aired on November 4, 2019 and was called “45-Degree Angle”. A woman faces a life-threatening condition while pregnant. The father of the child doesn’t want the child and wants the mother of the child to survive. So, he’s supportive of her having an abortion.

She points out that she’s the one who is pregnant, so it’s her decision. This is very much the pro-choice stance. It draws attention away from the child and focuses only on the opinion of the mother, rather than considering the rights and needs of everyone involved. Her stated view aligns every well with the “my body, my choice” rhetoric.

People who are really pro-choice should love this, despite her

choosing life for her child at the conclusion of her statement. Someone who is just pro-abortion would probably hate it, thinking she should choose abortion.

Here is your final warning before the spoilers.

The episode ends with something we see in various pro-life news articles. The child survives, just as the mother wanted. But a complication leads to the death of the mother. Her decision was heroic, but she didn’t survive. The father then finds himself with a child without its mother.

This scene remains in the hospital, so we don’t see what results after this point. The reason I think it’s crafted so well is that it allowed the woman to claim she had a choice, which makes the pro-choicers happy. And it affirmed the life of the child, making pro-lifers happy.

Pro-Life Challenge



Prayers

Please pray for God to work in the lives people.

In particular:

Jenifer (pro-lifer with health issues);

Çantana (pro-lifer);

St. Louis, MO PP;

Cedar Rapids, IA PP;

University of

Minnesota pro-life group

VOLUNTEER



Help Us!

Use your skills to help pro-life efforts, and invite friends and family to attend our events. Invite them to help us out. Many hands make for light work!

ERI
EQUAL
RIGHTS
INSTITUTE
PRESENTS

Equipped for Life

OFFICIAL COURSE PODCAST

Pro-Life Podcast

Many of our members signed up for the Equipped for Life course. Along with the course itself, they have podcast episodes with additional content. They have more than 50 episodes for course members, with an average duration of roughly an hour per episode.

Only 10% of the people who took the course went through the extra steps necessary to download the episodes to listen to them. So, the Equal Rights Institute decided to roll out most of the episodes to a publicly available podcast. This means all of you, and not just the people who signed up for the course will get to hear useful tips.

The course obviously has much better organized and complete content. But this is a good podcast. The episodes will start to roll out a few each week for several months.

The Equal Rights Institute went on a bit of a hiatus while they developed the Sidewalk Counseling Masterclass. They are starting to get

back to doing many of the things they did before that project. They used to produce a podcast episode every other week.

They have enough episodes to fill several months, and they can produce even more content. They have greatly improved the setup they have for recording podcasts and videos. So, they ought to be able to create more content even more quickly than before.

You may subscribe to the podcast at:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/equipped-for-life-podcast/id1485883460>

If you don't use Apple Podcasts, then just search for "Equipped for Life Podcast" and look for the logo at the top of this page.

Many podcast apps default to downloading the most recent episode. Note that this podcast was created with at least 39 episodes. You will want to step through the existing episodes!

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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.

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Coalition for Life of Iowa

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