



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

April 2021

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We welcome newcomers to our
events and meetings

Donate Here

<https://coalition-for-life-of-iowa.square.site/>

Building Up

We're coming up on some fundraisers for our organization and others. Please help out the pro-life movement however you can. Funds build up our ability to make pro-life successes.

The political situation is looking a bit grim at a federal level. Things at the state level are making us want to see lawmakers bring things to conclusion and not drop the ball at the last minute. It's important to build up a good group of lawmakers and judges and to build up laws that are just.

As we approach summer, we get into that time of the year when we begin planning and preparing for events that happen later in the year. If you are interested in helping out, this is a good time to see how you can apply your skills and talents to benefit a good cause. Are you willing to build up the pro-life cause?

- Coalition for Life of Iowa's Board of Directors

Upcoming Events

Second Tuesdays

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Fourth Tuesdays

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CFLI Board Meetings (2nd Tuesdays)
& CFLI Working Meetings (4th Tuesdays)

Get involved in our organization!

Where: Contact us.

More info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Sat, May 1

9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Bridgehaven's In Her Shoes 5k Fun Run/Walk

Walk to raise money for the local pregnancy resource center!

Where: Noelridge Park.

More info: <http://bit.ly/ihs2021-register>

Sat/Sun, May 8-9 **After Mass/Services**

Real Roses for Moms

Real roses honor mothers while we accept donations for pro-life

Where: Participating local churches.

More info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

We are planning more events.

Care to join our planning efforts?



Fundraising

Bridgehaven

Bridgehaven has moved to a new location on the NE corner of Edgewood Road NE and Glass Road NE. They are starting to offer tours again for people who [sign up using their online form](#).

Bridgehaven has grown a great deal over the years, and a change of location was due. Their old location put them close to the colleges in the Cedar Rapids area. Their new location is closer to more of the high schools, and it's on more significant roads. Bridgehaven has helped women and men for many years and continues to grow.

Information about the event is available at the following link. Since the event happens so soon after this issue comes out, there might not be time to sign up. They require you to schedule your time, due to COVID considerations. But one can always donate to good causes, even if the event has passed by the time you see this.

<http://bit.ly/ihs2021-register>

Coalition for Life of Iowa

Our own organization will once again offer real, long-stemmed roses for mothers on Mother's Day weekend. We make them available at participating churches, and they should be available after Masses/services.

Current conditions have led to higher prices for the roses. The prices for roses in stores will almost certainly be higher than usual, as well. If you usually give \$1, we would strongly encourage you to give more, or it will be difficult to break even.

People can give whether or not they take a rose. Roses can go to any woman one wishes to honor. We recognize that many women are unable to have children. Others may become mothers in the future, but might be serving others in ways similar to what mothers do. Some women are not just mothers, but grandmothers or great grandmothers. There are many

things women can be, and we offer these just as examples.

This is our primary fundraiser, and last year, we weren't able to do this, because churches were either not having Masses/services or were very restrictive of activities, and there was so much uncertainty from one week to the next about what could be done.

We will reach out to some new churches this year. We love to make these roses available. They will all be red roses this year. It's wonderful to watch people light up with joy when they get a rose for their mothers, and we see it many more times when we observe people who are with their mothers and present the rose to her.

Please help us make this a success this year. If you get a chance to pick up a rose and offer a donation, your donation will help us do many of the pro-life things we do, while you can get a nice gift for your mother, wife, grandmother, etc. ☺



Government Update

National

In addition to the changes to foreign policies that enabled our taxpayer funds to go to fund abortions in other countries, some of the domestic policies are changing.

One change will allow our tax dollars to pay for research that uses the tissues harvested from the victims of abortion. It was only a few years ago that there were efforts to hide Planned Parenthood's involvement in profiting from supplying such materials. The more serious concern of vivisection (the cutting open of living children to harvest organs) was one of the key reasons I believe they felt it necessary to keep those videos from seeing the light of day. Between the corrupt judge hearing the cases that charge the people who tried to reveal those serious offenses and the way the current administration defends and supports the abortion industry every opportunity possible, it's unlikely justice will be served in such matters.

Abortion pills can now be distributed through the mail, at least during the COVID situation. The head of ACOG considered it safe, even though it kills children whenever it works, and could kill any women with undiagnosed ectopic pregnancies.

It's also looking like Title X funding might indirectly fund abortions in the near future.

New Mexico Assisted Suicide

New Mexico just signed into law a bill that denies the dignity of people near the end of their lives. Assisted suicide will be legal in that state.

Argentina's Twist

Late last year, Argentina legalized abortion. In April, one of the radical pro-abortion leaders sought an abortion. Maria de Valle Gonzalez considered it a "dream" to get an abortion. It turned out to be fatal for her. She died from the "safe, legal abortion". It's leading people there to consider informing women of the potential risks of abortion.

Iowa

The Life Amendment only has a short time to pass before this year's session ends. It passed the Iowa Senate, but it was amended since the Iowa House passed it. So, it will go back to the Iowa House for consideration.

The amendment changed the bill's text to say:

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa to protect life by declaring that the Constitution of the State of Iowa shall not be construed to recognize, grant, or secure a right to abortion or to require the public funding of abortion.

So far, the state senators and representatives from Linn County have voted on party lines. This means that only one Linn County Senator and one Linn County Representative voted in favor of the amendment, both represent a rural part of Linn County. 🇺🇸



Abortion vs. Other Issues

Earlier this year, I was invited to a gathering of people who were discussing topics like the dignity of human life, which would include the subject of abortion. I could have given a presentation, but chose to interact in a more conversational way. In preparation for the discussion, I came up with an analogy I hadn't made before.

Many people try to make the right to life no more important than matters of the quality of life. They often think the pro-life movement is very political compared to other social issues. It is hard for people to understand why it's so important to protect life from direct threats when there are so many other issues to deal with.

Many past things I've said would still apply if one wanted to argue about it. But I got to thinking about how the issues we deal with compare to dealing with matters like hunger and poverty. Imagine you're in a vehicle on the road, and it comes to a stop at an intersection. You see a person who is hungry and

poor. This person begs for money (or food).

First, I'm not here to suggest we don't help that person. I know there are disagreements on the best approach to help. Second, I'm not advocating for what I'm about to say. Imagine if the laws of the land were different. What if lawmakers had been convinced that we could reduce poverty by reducing by force the number of people who are poor? They don't want suffering, but in a misguided way, some lawmakers felt it was merciful to allow people to take the lives of those who are begging. There would be no legal consequence for your actions if you killed the beggar. [Please take a moment and pause to imagine how messed up that kind of world would be.]

Now imagine that in some cities, you could end up in jail not for killing the person, but for offering them help. [Please take a moment and pause to imagine grave injustice for people who are in serious need, too.]

Such a world would reflect very seriously messed up concepts of charity. Yet, look at abortion. Because of challenges in the lives of some people, or the suffering that people think might result if killing wasn't a legal option, we allow the killing of not just children, but innocent children. Not only are they innocent children, but the people who authorize the killing are the parents of the children. Sometimes this is coerced, and sometimes one parent coerces the other parent.

Bubble zones in some cities have made it illegal to help others in ways that could avoid the unnecessary loss of life. There are cities where one must have an approved kitchen to feed more than some number of people, and this is often justified as health codes similar to what restaurants face. People can intend something good, or they could simply use other parts of law to achieve the result. But with abortion, it's widespread that we allow people to kill with no legal consequence, for just about any reason. Outlawing helping people is unacceptable. 🌱



PP's Reflection of Sanger

Very recently, the head of Planned Parenthood chose to write a letter for publication in a major newspaper in our country. With the extra focus on race in the past year, this letter was going to address some of the concerns many pro-lifers have previously claimed regarding the founder of Planned Parenthood being racist.

Pro-lifers have made the claims with evidence to back up the claims for many years. Planned Parenthood and the media have done plenty to try to convince people that Margaret Sanger was not racist and that the claims are false, despite the evidence. Sometimes they would be correct when some fine detail is not 100% perfect.

The odd thing about this letter is that it confirmed the evidence. After decades of people trying to avoid admitting that pro-lifers had valid evidence, it was acknowledged as true.

One would expect the board of Planned Parenthood to want to oust

their leader. But for now, it might not end that way.

The timing was very unusual, since it was right around the time the trial would come to an end regarding the police officer in the Minneapolis area who was tried for murder and manslaughter of a black man. On a side note, the simple way I kept murder and manslaughter separated in my mind was that murder required intent, and manslaughter did not, and had other details to it. But when the verdict was pronounced and I heard that one of the charges was unintentional murder and the other murder charge was of a degree that lacked a requirement of intent, it made me realize that different states could have very different definitions of something as grave as murder.

Anyway, with racial tensions high, this letter admitted the facts regarding Margaret Sanger's past. But then the letter tried to say that we don't know her heart, and Planned Parenthood would continue to do the things they've been doing.

People tend to judge others by the fruits of their actions. A national leader could want their nation to come out of harsh circumstances, but if they resort to killing millions of people to accomplish that goal, we look upon that in a harsh way.

Admittedly, there are some quotes that pro-lifers have used to suggest she was racist, where the phrases could be interpreted a different way. But her ties to the Eugenic movement and a wide variety of other things that have now been acknowledged as true seem to make defending Sanger a much tougher task.

Planned Parenthood has distanced themselves in recent years by taking Sanger's name off of a New York site that bore her name. Now this letter creates a bit more distance.

Yet, when we look at the way Planned Parenthood will continue to use things like poverty to justify their presence near and targeting of minority populations. The results of their actions leads to large-scale killing of minorities. 🌐

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);
Northern Minnesota's PP sites; a good start for UNI Students for Life; lawmakers & judges

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!



Sign Vandalism

Sometime after the daylight hours of Good Friday and the next morning, one of our mobile signs was vandalized. We maintain a few signs that allow us to place pro-life messages outside of churches and other places where people would like to host the sign for a while. We like when the signs are located on roads with lots of visibility.

This sign was in a very visible place at the time of the vandalism. Someone noticed the vandalism and reported it to the church. Someone on staff at the church where the sign was vandalized cleaned up the sign. We were able to get the sign back out in very little time.

We are grateful for the person who reported the incident and the volunteer who pulled the sign to a place where it could be cleaned. We are grateful for the church staff who cleaned up the sign so well. Both sides had vandalism, and the other side was not appropriate to share in this newsletter. We had some great volunteers who manage the schedule for where the sign will be, and they were able to make sure that sign was

out again in short order. We are grateful for all of these people and the things they did.

It's a shame that this would happen during the time when people remember the death of Jesus, his time preaching to those who had already died, and in the time of anticipation of the resurrection. These are the highest holy days of the year, and someone had to disrespect the life-affirming messages that help people see the dignity inherent in each human life.

The incident is not surprising. Evil attacks life and good things all the time, and especially at times when people should focus the most upon God. Evil wants our attention.

It shows us that we have plenty of work ahead of us. We have hearts to touch and minds to enlighten with the Truth. We pray for people who need conversion. Sometimes it's in the form of people who work for the abortion industry. Sometimes it's in the form of those who cause us harm or who cause harm to our attempts to reach others with life-affirming messages. 🙏

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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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