



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

January 2022

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

Donate Here

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

Starting 2022

We will have our annual Cedar Rapids March for Life on the anniversary date of the devastating Roe vs. Wade ruling. In the month of March, we will begin our spring 40 Days for Life.

Just like last month, we recognize yet another pro-life voice who died very recently. Jim Sedlak died in January. He helped get Planned Parenthood out of many schools.

Regarding future newsletters, it is my hope to continue the shorter newsletters that match the length of those from many years ago. It makes it easier to get monthly content out. But I am hoping to add some special editions that can dig more deeply into certain topics. That way, newsletters can focus on major activities and news, while other informative content can come out as certain topics make sense to release, and as time permits to work on such content.

- Jim Burke

Upcoming Events

Second Tuesdays
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CFLI Board Meetings (2nd Tuesdays)

Get involved in our organization!

Where: Contact us.

More info: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Fri, Jan 21

National March for Life (in Washington D.C.)

Sat, Jan 22

9 a.m. – 12 noon

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

Mar 2 – Apr 10
1-hour time slots

40 Days for Life ~ Prayer Vigil

Join us in praying for an end to abortion in a peaceful prayer vigil!

Where: Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood

3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA

More info: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/cedarrapids>



March for Life

Cedar Rapids

The next Cedar Rapids March for Life will take place on Saturday, January 22, 2022 (this Saturday) from 9 AM until about 12 noon. We are pleased to bring back an indoor component with a reception following the outdoor march. We didn't have an indoor component last year, due to COVID restrictions.

Join us as we March for Life and Equality in the Womb on January 22. We will meet at St. Matthews (2310 1st Ave NE) around 9 AM; we can meet in Kern Hall on the lower level of the church. Then we will head out to the First Avenue parking lot by 9:15 AM. We will have signs available for your use as we march to Planned Parenthood (3425 1st Ave SE). Once there, we will pray and witness for an end to abortion.

The return march starts at 10:30 back to St. Matthew. In the lower level of the church (Kern Hall), we will warm up by eating some

delicious chili and have a rally from 11:10-11:40 featuring Bernie Hayes.

Those who are unable to march may drive to and from Planned Parenthood and St. Matthew parish. Another option is to join the Adoration and Rosary that will be led by the Archdiocesan Council of Women (ACCW) at St. Matthews church from 9:30-10:30.

We will collect disposable diapers, wipes, and newborn clothes for distribution to Bridgehaven and Birthright for families that are in need of them.

As always, please dress for the weather, since this activity occurs in winter. After a few days of cold weather, the temperatures should warm up a bit for our march, but dress for the weather, regardless. The length of the march is exactly one mile each way.

National

The National March for Life will take place on Friday, January 21.

Activities occur throughout the day. There is a rally in the morning and the march occurs around midday on East Coast time.

The main events get televised on EWTN television each year. The other media coverage used to be sparse, at best. Then the few bits of coverage were so deceptive or ignorant of the march that it was almost worse than ignoring it. A few years ago, President Trump called the media out on their lack of reporting on the largest annual march in Washington D.C. After that, the media started to cover it a bit more than in the past. Time will tell how they will report on it this year and in years to come.

Some people hope this will be the last year they need the National March for Life. But it's critical to realize that even if Roe v. Wade gets overturned, many extreme states have already codified Roe into law. Many people and organizations will fight for decades to come to restore abortion. So we must march...for life! 🇺🇸



Government Update

National

Please pray about the Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization case until the U.S. Supreme Court rules on it. Then, please pray for the rest of the coming year. We will need serious prayer. We want the best preparations beforehand, the justices to hear the best arguments, and the most justice in the ruling that they will work on through June. Many outcomes (good or bad) can lead to even more need for prayer.

Texas

After the U.S. Supreme Court let the Texas law stand that allows anyone to report an abortion that takes place beyond a certain gestational period, the 5th Circuit Court sent the case to the Texas Supreme Court for a clarification. The U.S. Supreme Court opposed an abortion industry’s request a second time. The Dobbs case may get resolved before the Texas case, and thus might set a precedent that could affect the Texas case.

Iowa

The Iowa Caucuses are on Monday, February 7th, 2022. People gather in precincts to choose who will represent their precinct in their local party. They also choose who will serve on the platform committee. Many times, this is as easy as simply volunteering. One can also sign up to go to the next level of party conventions.

Another thing that happens at a caucus is the proposal of party planks for the party platform. Parties usually don’t like having large numbers of planks, especially on any one subject. But if there are a small number of well-written planks, and if the same planks are proposed in many of the precincts, then it’s much easier to see those planks make it into the official party platform at the county, state, and national levels.

Please participate in your precinct’s caucus. It provides good experience. It’s also the first caucus after redistricting took place, so precincts WILL change.

Europe

French president Emmanuel Macron is calling for the European Union (EU) charter of rights to include what he calls a “right to abortion”. This was just a recent statement he made, and hasn’t been acted upon, yet. Interestingly enough, France passed a law that makes it possible for parents of miscarried or aborted children to enter the first and last name of their aborted child into the registry books.

Lawmakers do try to clarify that recognizing the parents as parents and having children registered doesn’t imply or bring with it any legal rights for the children.

These same lawmakers are trying to push to expand legal abortion in France from the 12-week threshold to 14 weeks. This also helps put in context the extreme nature of abortion in the U.S., since Mississippi trying to decrease legal abortion to a 15-week limit is “extreme” and led to the landmark Dobbs case. 🇺🇸

Pro-Life Challenge



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!



Jim Sedlak

We mourn the death of Jim Sedlak who died on January 10, 2022 at the age of 78. Jim worked hard for many years exposing the evils of the abortion industry. One his major accomplishments includes helping numerous organizations get Planned Parenthood out of their school systems.

Abby Johnson was once quoted as saying, "When I worked at Planned Parenthood, their greatest threat was one humble man named Jim Sedlak. They were terrified of him."

Jim worked tirelessly at revealing the numerous problems with Planned Parenthood. He also knew the practical methods that worked in one community after another to convince schools to break ties with Planned Parenthood.

He spent more than 40 years doing pro-life work. The effect he had on Planned Parenthood and on communities in many parts of our nation was immense. We hope the American Life League (ALL) continues to continue his hard work and further his legacy by building on

his data, methods, and accomplishments.

With so many things to tackle in the pro-life movement, we always have to discern where to focus our precious resources of time and money.

Although some effort has been made to try to counter Planned Parenthood's involvement in schools throughout our area, much more could be done. We can rest assured that the ALL organization wouldn't just drop the work he has done, so we're sure resources will continue to be available.

Countering the indoctrination of the next generation that otherwise gets pumped full of pro-abortion worldviews is important. This is why it's important for each of us to do what we can to do things throughout each year to defend the right to life. Who will be the next Jim Sedlak? Who will step up at the local level to do things like he did? Let us hope it's not just one person.

The photo is from the American Life League's website (all.org).

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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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