



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

August 2022

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

Donate Here

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

Lots Going On!

We have an event coming up on the 10th of September that I've wanted us to have for several years. You can sign up at the same site where the Donate Here link on this page points you to. That link is to the left and down. We have had a few dozen people sign up for this, and I'm getting really excited about it!

We have an event the next day to memorialize the lives lost to abortion over the years. Later in September, we will begin the fall 40 Days for Life. And October brings with it the Life Chain! We ask that churches and groups register with us before the event so we can assign your group to a block. By doing this far enough in advance, we can let you know the block for your group so your participants will have a chance to know where to go.

We have lots of things going on within a 1-month time period. We hope you can participate in some of these events.

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: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Sat, Sept 10
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Equipped for Life Seminar

Learn to defend the pro-life position effectively and change minds!

Where: St. Patrick's Parish Center

120 5th St NW, Cedar Rapids, IA

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

Sun, Sept 11
1 p.m. start time

National Day of Remembrance of Aborted Babies

Memorialize more than 60 million lives lost, and kick off 40 Days!

Where: Murdoch-Linwood Cemetery, by Memorial for the Unborn

520 Wilson Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA

More: coalitionforlife@gmail.com

Sept 28 – Nov 6
1-hour time slots
24 hours/day

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://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/cedar-rapids/>

Sat, Sep 30
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

A Night with Bridgehaven

Join Bridgehaven for their annual fundraising gala!

Where: DoubleTree Cedar Rapids Convention Complex

350 1st Avenue Northeast, Cedar Rapids, IA

More info:

<https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrsync/event/home.php?e=19040>

Sun, Oct 2
2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

National Life Chain

Spread the pro-life message in as long of a chain as possible!

Where: St. Matthew's Church for kick-off, then sidewalk along 1st Ave

2310 First Ave NE, Cedar Rapids, IA

More info: <http://lifechain.net>

Sat, Oct 15
Save the Date!

Culture of Life Dinner in Solon

Hear great speakers while raising funds for moral healthcare training!

Where: St. Mary Hall of St. Mary Church

1749 Racine Ave NE, Solon, IA

More info: <http://www.solonstmary.org/culture-of-life-events.html>



Pro-Life Seminar

Equipped for Life:

A Fresh Approach to Conversations About Abortion

At ERI, we believe that you can have productive dialogues about abortion. Through a combination of conversational strategies and quality arguments, we can bring people's walls down and actually change hearts and minds.

➤ **WHEN:**
9AM - 2PM, September 10, 2022

➤ **WHERE:**
St. Patrick's Parish Center
120 5th St. NW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
52405

REGISTER NOW:

coalition-for-life-of-iowa.square.site



LABOR DAY SALE!

\$10 before Labor Day, \$15 afterward
Students: \$7 before Labor Day, \$10 afterward



An event of Equal Rights Institute
Sponsored by Coalition for Life of Iowa

We are nearing the day we will have Emily from the Equal Rights Institute (ERI) provide a seminar that will provide the best boost to our members' ability to change minds about abortion. The seminar is on Saturday, September 10th from 9 AM until 2 PM at St. Patrick's Parish Center. We hope you will take the time to learn these skills. We are covering the cost of the speaker, and only ask you to cover the cost of the food.

Many people struggle to defend the pro-life position in a way that convinces others to change their stance. Some people assume the people they will argue with most are people who are flatly opposed to the pro-life position. However, roughly half of people are somewhere in between the two sides. With very little training, as long as the training is top-notch training, you can convert many minds on the issue.

There are people who have learned how to make good arguments from

ERI courses and events who never imagined themselves discussing the issue with others, much less changing the minds of the people they spoke with. Yet, some of those people get the most excited to use what they learned! Sometimes we remain silent when we aren't equipped with what it takes to handle the situation at hand. Once we learn, it can be a game changer! It takes a bit of effort. Yes, it's a 5-hour event. But what's five hours in the course of the year ahead? Can you spare that on this one Saturday so you can gain skills and practice before going back into the world and bringing a change for the better?

When I was in college, I knew some arguments, but they weren't as effective as I thought. In my

personal life, away from pro-life matters, some people have compared me to a robot. It's hard to change minds when people don't see a caring human being. The content from ERI made a huge difference.

When I found out I changed the stance of someone from my grade where I grew up, that really motivated me to want others to learn how to do this. Sure, holding signs can do some good. But how many times have you changed your stance on a serious matter because of a sign? But what if someone you knew gave you good reasons for their own position, and could address your concerns? If approached with the right attitude, THAT is how we can transform a culture! Join us on September 10th. Register today! 🌱



Government Update

This year has been intense. After roughly half a century of states having little to no ability to enforce laws protecting lives of children in the womb, the U.S. Supreme Court handed that power back to the states, districts, and territories. This has lots of states scrambling to take on this responsibility once again.

Some states have laws or constitutions that already protect lives. Some states have the opposite. Some states want to change from whatever side they are on.

California provides a rather interesting case. It's already a fairly permissive state when it comes to abortion, and thus not very protective of the right to life. They aren't as permissive with abortion as New York or Illinois...yet. They have a constitutional amendment that will appear on their ballots this year. It seeks to provide a constitutional right to abortion. When one considers what their state already allows, the difference this will make is to allow abortions up to birth, rather than up to a few

months prior. Late-term abortions are the main difference.

When a poll asked Californians about where they stand on this amendment, the vast majority supported it. The SAME poll asked Californians whether they supported late-term abortions, and the vast majority of them OPPOSED that.

Most people don't want to think about the abortion issue, and it has serious consequences—deadly consequences. If people knew that what was being voted on in that state was something that would only change things in a way that they oppose, they should vote against it. But it's very likely to pass out of ignorance and clever wording to make it appear favorable.

Societies fail when people don't stand up for what is right and oppose what is wrong. When people get conditioned to ignore or avoid serious matters, and then vote based on things that sound good, but cause harm, things get worse.

We are approaching the time of year when employers tend to have their employees sign up for next year's benefits. Although this is less about government, it extends out from what I just said about things going on half a nation away from us.

Does your employer's health insurance cover elective abortions? Is there a way to opt out of that, or does one have to find other insurance or health share programs? If it is covered, have you voiced your concerns to the human resources or similar part of the company to make clear that elective abortions should NOT be covered? Do you know how to communicate this in a way that will be considered?

What about abortion travel? One of the area's largest employers made it clear to employees that they would interpret the benefit to travel to a specialist as something that could apply for reproductive health in the wake of the Dobbs decision. Employers should not force people to pay for travel to kill the children of your co-workers! 🙄

Pro-Life Challenge



Please pray for God to work in the lives people, in particular:

Jenifer (pro-lifer with health issues);
Çantana (pro-lifer);
Central Minnesota's PP sites; 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!



Lifemark Movie

Five years ago, I attended the National Right to Life Convention when it was in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They tend to show a movie of some sort at that event. That year, it was a short film called, "I lived on Parker Avenue". It plays for 30 minutes and is freely available to watch at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pxu6DEPOkw>

It was a documentary about someone who always knew he was adopted, but came to discover his birthmother almost had an abortion that would have killed him. The documentary followed him as he went to meet his birthparents and other family.

Earlier this year, news broke that a feature-length movie called Lifemark will tell the story as a drama. I've seen other pairs of movies that came out both as a documentary and as a drama, and I've rather enjoyed both movies in such cases. I'm hopeful that this will turn out as nicely as others I've seen. Some of the real-life family members appear in this new film in other roles.

The documentary included his adoptive family and his birthparents, who had since separated. He had a rather unexpected discovery when he found out he had a full sister. I say full because she was born to the same two parents, and she was still with her birthmother.

The documentary included the dynamics that result from the mother's concern about whether her son would forgive her for almost killing him, and the dynamics of birth families and adoptive families. They also visit the building where he nearly died from an abortion, although it was no longer an abortion site. It was very touching, and it was great to see a short film explore these perspectives.

I'm hopeful that the upcoming drama will tell the story in a more immersive way. Viewers may recognize Kirk Cameron, who sought to make this movie a reality. The creators also created War Room and Fireproof.

This movie comes to theaters on Friday, September 9th. It should remain in theaters through September 15th. 🍿

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Remember, Life Matters!

Coalition for Life of Iowa

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