



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

October 2022

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

Donate Here

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

Will You March for Life?

Let's make the Marches for Life in January the greatest, ever! If you want to attend the march in Washington D.C., Pulse Advocates for Life (formerly Iowans for Life) has organized bus rides and hotels to and from the event for many years. It is just \$400. The march is on Friday, January 20th. The bus departs two days prior and arrives back in Iowa two days after the march (Wednesday through Sunday).

Sign up for the National March for Life at:

<https://give.cornerstone.cc/iowansforlife+march>

I just signed up. The deadline to ensure spots on a bus is **November 1st**. After that, they can take additional registrations until every bus is full. I'm not certain about where the nearest bus will pick people up. If we don't get enough people from Cedar Rapids, it might be a place like Iowa City; but we will see. Dubuque County Right to Life also has options for the same price.

The Cedar Rapids march will occur on January 21st, and we want that to continue to grow. Anyone taking the bus ride to Washington D.C. won't make the local march. This year's marches mark 50 full years since the Roe vs. Wade ruling, and the first since the Dobbs ruling overturned Roe. So every march will be epic.

Upcoming Events

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://www.40daysforlife.com/cedarrapids>

Sun, Nov 6
5 – 7 p.m.

40 Days for Life Finale Rally

Join us to conclude our 40 days of prayer and fasting!

Where: Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood
3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA;
then Godfather's Pizza at 3647 1st Ave SE

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

Sat, Nov 19
5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

The Stars are Brightly Shining – Pro-life Christmas Gala

This is Pulse Advocates for Life (formerly Iowans for Life)'s gala!

Where: Meadows Ballroom
1 Prairie Meadows Dr., Altoona, IA

More info: <https://givebutter.com/pulsegala>

Jan 20 & 21, 2023
Save the Dates!

2023 Marches for Life ~ Save the Dates!

The national March for Life is Friday, January 20, 2023

Sign up now: <https://give.cornerstone.cc/iowansforlife+march>

The Cedar Rapids March for Life is Saturday, January 21, 2023

Come to the 40 Days for Life closing rally on Sunday, November 6th. We pray outside PP at 5 pm and enjoy pizza at Godfather's Pizza at 6 pm and usually end around 7 pm. We would love to see you there.

We recommend parking at the Town & Country Shopping Center parking lot for those who are able. That frees up parking on the streets near Planned Parenthood.



Lila Rose on Dr. Phil

Lila Rose appeared twice on the Dr. Phil show this past month. It was nice to hear perspectives on both sides. The first of the two episodes led me to personally lower my rating of Doctor Phil's ability to be impartial and run his show well.

It may have helped to have Lila interact exclusively with the people brought in on a video screen, just to hear the pro-life take on a situation where there had been an issue during pregnancy. Another option could have allowed the kind of discussion that took place, but without the lead-in story. Phil would eventually make his position known, and it fell in line with allowing abortion. Thus, the couple on the main screen, two pro-abortion advocates, and Phil (the moderator) were on one side of the issue, and Lila sat alone on the other side, other than a lawmaker who was also on a video that was brought in later.

The audience members who spoke up in the first episode were clearly

also opposed to Lila's view, and even said things that sounded closed-minded at times. They also talked over Lila while she was talking. Later, Phil was talking and Lila had grown used to people talking over each other, and she interrupted at times, since it was the only way to offset the huge imbalance of perspectives. Phil sounded like the psychologist he is by saying he didn't interrupt her, and concluded that she must not want people to hear what he had to say. That was not a fair conclusion.

When Lila asserted that there is a consensus among scientists about when human life begins, Phil claimed there was no such consensus. No one had detailed citations on hand, but Lila mentioned the 96% figure that suggests consensus. Phil knew of a few papers that suggested there were other views out there. By the end of the first episode, one could conclude that a few papers could easily be from those among the 4%. However, near the end of the

second episode, he pointed out that the survey Lila mentioned wasn't very scientific, since over 90% of the scientists asked didn't provide an answer to that particular question, so the percentage was based on the much smaller subset. Indeed, it's hard to get good information from such a survey.

However, if one were to ask scientists to justify when biological human life began, the number should remain very close to 100%. Many may have been silent because they figured it could be used regarding the abortion issue. However, the basic criteria (grows, metabolizes, etc.) used to identify living beings clearly favors life at conception.

What Lila realized later and those of us who took ERI's Equipped for Life course tended to figure out quickly was that Phil spoke about personhood, which is a philosophical point (and can't be scientific) where there is disagreement. 🤝



Government Update

Elections are coming up on Tuesday, November 8th. We have enjoyed several years of pro-life majorities in the Iowa House and Senate. This year presents a few challenges. Redistricting has changed the boundaries of districts, so every Senate seat is up for election, rather than just half of them. As usual, every House seat is up for election. The governor's seat is also up for election, as it is every four years. Thus, we get to elect lawmakers for the entire set of legislative and executive offices. This comes at a time when abortion advocates are fired up from the overturning of Roe and an Iowa case one week earlier. Both rulings declared that the respective level of government's constitution does NOT recognize a right to abortion.

This means this election is critical to preserving the status quo regarding abortion, rather than losing ground to those who want to institute laws to permit abortion through birth for any reason. If we can preserve a pro-life majority in Iowa, it will allow Iowa to take

additional steps to protect the most fundamental human right we have—the right to life.

The Protect Life Amendment is NOT on the ballot, because it needs to be approved to go onto the ballot by the lawmakers that will be voted on in this election. If we don't maintain pro-life majorities, then the amendment could be doomed. With a pro-life majority, we could vote on the amendment in a year or two.

At the federal level, Iowa has one Senate seat up for election and every House seat. At the federal level, we've experienced a couple of years that are the opposite of Iowa's state government. The President and the majority of lawmakers in the Senate and House presently support abortion. Most of Iowa's federal lawmakers have voted pro-life, although one stands opposed. We are not a political organization, so we won't get into names.

In Iowa, we also get to vote for the retention of judges. We have been

blessed with a supreme court that has ruled in favor of life. It's good to inform oneself about judges before voting.

Inform yourself about every race on the ballot. Get other pro-lifers out to vote. If we don't turn out this time, the pendulum of pro-life progress will swing back the other way and create a bigger mess to deal with in the future.

In other news, our governor asked for the Heartbeat Law that was enacted a few years ago to be enforceable. A hearing took place on October 28th, and now we await the ruling. If that goes in a favorable direction, then human life would be protected when a heartbeat is detected.

Other states have some important measures on their ballots. In particular, Michigan and California will vote on the abortion issue. It's possible for both states to defend life, but it will take a significant effort. Failure to do so will codify abortion into constitutions and law that goes beyond Roe. 🇺🇸

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!



October Wrap-up

Bridgheaven had a successful gala that achieved its fundraising goal. It was a wonderful evening.

Once again, we lined 1st Avenue with pro-life messages while we prayed as part of this year's Life Chain. With the overturning of Roe earlier this year, and emotions strong, it made sense to have more people per block and not stretch as far. We also had a police officer patrolling the route throughout the event as a precaution. We had a great turnout on a day with warm weather. Many people saw the pro-life messages we brought into the general public's view.

Leah Jacobson spoke at two events. The first was the Culture of Life Dinner. The second was a special event in Iowa City where she spoke about the history of feminism. Both events were great and allowed people to learn a great deal.

At the Culture of Life dinner, they announced that they raised \$1,815. Soon after that, someone from the Knights of Columbus announced that their organization was donating \$500,

which is presumably in addition to the other total.

The other event was not a fundraiser. It is nice to hear someone speak without being asked for money. The subject matter covered sides of history that many people don't know much about. Even prohibition (of alcohol) came up. Many people don't know how feminism and prohibition relate, but Leah covered that point among many others.

40 Days for Life continues through the full month of October. It will end on the first Sunday of November. It's important to have people praying, regardless of where they pray. Praying onsite outside of Planned Parenthood provides additional benefits beyond that of prayer. The physical presence of people holding pro-life signs has led to multiple saved lives over the years in Cedar Rapids. It provides a chance to be a sign for women who need a nudge in the right direction.

Come to the closing rally on Sunday, November 6th. We pray outside PP at 5 pm and enjoy pizza at 6 pm. 🍕

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