



# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

November 2022

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

Donate Here

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

## This Month

This month brought about a test that came in the form of elections. Our Government Update section goes into the details on how that turned out. For Iowa, it turned out fairly well. Yet, we know there will be a push to pass bills at the federal level while a trifecta of power remains.

We are preparing for the activities that will take place in the year ahead. We tend to avoid events during the holiday season that runs from Thanksgiving through Christmas.

For people who wish to donate to our organization as part of their year-end giving, we would gladly welcome donations. Donations made last year during this time period helped us to do something I had wanted us to do for several years. Thank you for those who donated in the past year.

# Upcoming Events

**Jan 20, 2023**  
Midday

## 2023 National March for Life

Some people attend, while others watch EWTN or online streams.  
**Where:** National Mall, Washington, D.C.

**Jan 21**  
10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

## 2023 Cedar Rapids March for Life

Bring the pro-life message to the streets of Cedar Rapids!  
**Where:** St. Matthew's Church to Planned Parenthood and back  
2310 First Ave NE to 3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA  
**More info:** [https://lifeiowa.org/March\\_for\\_Life.html](https://lifeiowa.org/March_for_Life.html)

**Feb 22 – Apr 2**  
1-hour time slots  
24 hours/day

## 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil

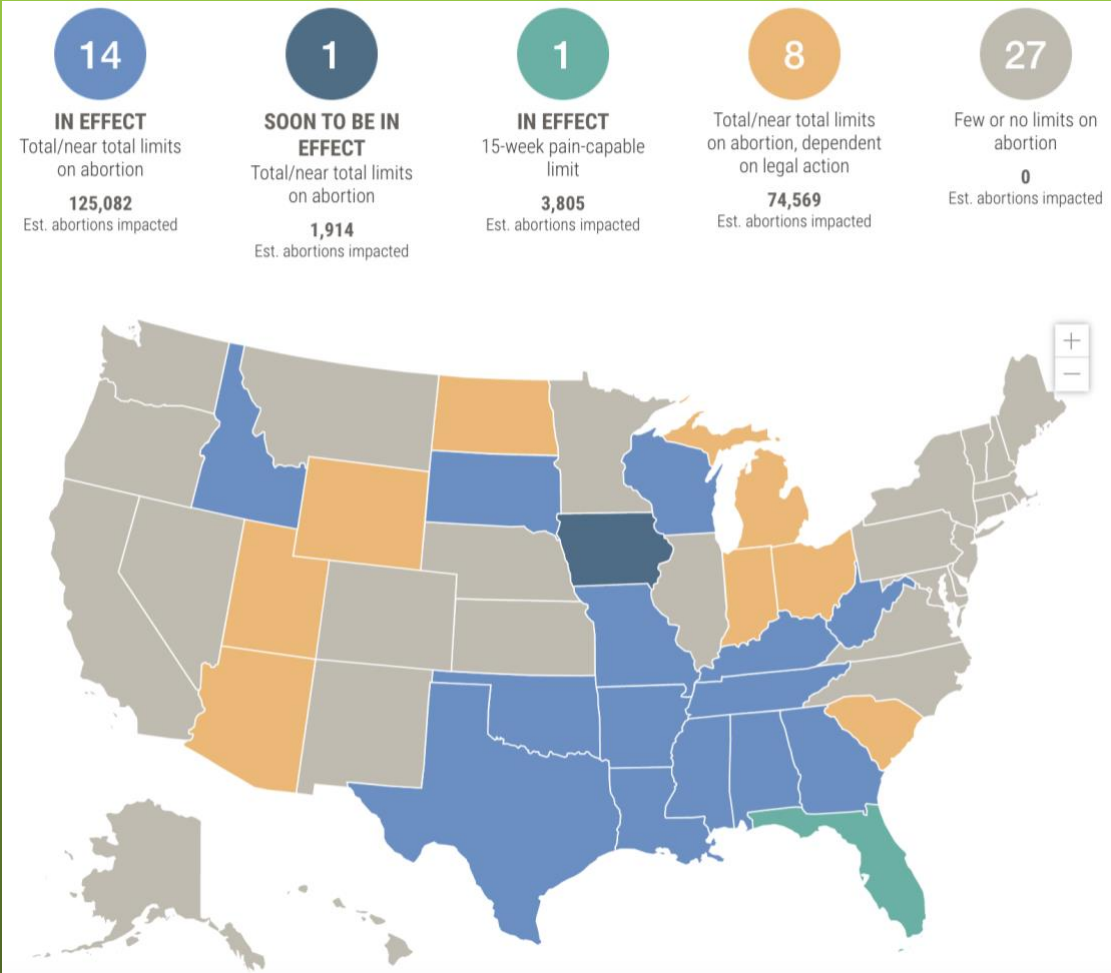
Join us in praying for an end to abortion in a peaceful prayer vigil!  
**Where:** Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood  
3425 First Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA  
**More info:** <https://www.40daysforlife.com/cedarrapids>

**Sun, Apr 2**  
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>

There may be a showing of the movie, October Baby (2011) in January or in the months ahead. We will keep you posted as details solidify.



## State of the States

After the overturning of Roe vs. Wade, many people have wondered what the situation is in the various states of our nation. The Susan B. Anthony List organization has created a map of the nation that is color-coded and is followed by a list of what the boundary is of the law regarding legal or illegal taking of life in the womb. That page is at: <https://sbaprofife.org/lifesavinglaws>

The states in blue outlaw most abortions, thus protecting the most lives. Yellow states may do so in the

future, but have lawsuits keeping laws from taking effect at this time. Iowa stands out because our Heartbeat Act has been argued in court and we await a ruling to allow it to go into effect like the other states in blue. Florida is the one green state that has a 15-week limit.

Gray states have few protections. Iowa was in that situation just half a decade or so ago. Nebraska is gray, but could enact laws that has already made LeRoy Carhart make plans to set up an abortion business

in Colorado. He has performed late-term abortions for many years, just across the border in Nebraska. At one point, he considered doing abortions in Iowa, since we had lax laws at the time. Pray that he retires, rather than moving his business.

In states like Minnesota, abortion advocates try to suggest that abortion needs to stay legal because they are the last hope for women seeking abortion in the upper Midwest. They overlook the entire state of Illinois. 🇺🇸



## Government Update

This year's election is taking a while to resolve. Some people expected a red wave, while others went to the polls for "Roe-ember" to vote in as many pro-abortion lawmakers as possible. For the most part, it seems like both sides were closely matched. Sadly, this suggests that it was a winning strategy to promote killing without legal consequence, which could lead to that being pushed even more in the future. Cultures die when they live out the culture of death. When it came to propositions, three states ratified extreme rights to abortion, and two states rejected reasonable pro-life measures.

Iowa fared better than many other states. Every lawmaker we send to Washington D.C. to represent us in the House or Senate is now pro-life! This is the first time since Roe vs. Wade, when it became clear where lawmakers stood on the issue at the federal level. The balance of power in the U.S. Senate depends on the Georgia run-off election again, like last time. Pro-lifers cannot attain a majority in the U.S. Senate. It


appears that a pro-life majority exists in the U.S. House.

Statewide offices went almost exclusively to pro-life candidates, except for the state auditor, who has been endorsed by Planned Parenthood. The two Iowa supreme court justices that ruled favorably on pro-life matters earlier this year were both retained by a 2-to-1 margin.

The Iowa House and Senate both appear to have a pro-life majority. Linn County's contribution to that remains relatively unchanged. Of the four senate districts with at least some territory within the county,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of those seats were pro-life, and the same number will be pro-life. Before redistricting, the county had 7 house districts, and it has 8 districts now. One of the seven was pro-life, and two of the eight are pro-life going forward. When looking at the regions covered by the new districts and identifying an incumbent for each based on their geography, 2 of the 8 were pro-life, and 2 of the 8 will be pro-life going

forward. So that's why this is considered relatively unchanged.

The states of California, Michigan, and Vermont all voted to amend their constitutions with similar verbiage to make abortion a right. It's so extreme that it could force the states to allow abortions throughout all stages of pregnancy up through birth, to pay for abortions, prevent inspections of abortion sites, prevent any parental involvement from notification to consent. Some suggest it could even allow the lethal neglect of children soon after birth, especially after a failed abortion.

Montana and Kentucky proposed pro-life laws, including one seeking to require care for children born alive. This can occur when there is a failed abortion, but this also covers premature births. Roughly 53% of Montana voters voted against this referendum. Thus, the state can permit lethal neglect of a newborn. Kentucky voted on an amendment similar to what pro-lifers in Iowa seek. That failed by 52% to 48%. 

## 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; for the Iowa heartbeat law to go into effect; for LeRoy Carhart to stop doing abortions

## 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!



## Gratitude

November is the month of Thanksgiving. It's a good time to look back through the past year and identify what we are grateful for.

Near the end of last year, we had some generous donors. Those of you who donated at that time gave enough to pay for the speaker who came to train us with pro-life apologetics earlier this year. It was the first time we had someone come to train us in such content, and it was great to see what was possible from your generosity.

We saw record turnout for our March for Life this past January. We were so grateful to see so many pro-lifers stand for life!

When June came around, we were grateful for the Iowa Supreme Court ruling that declared that abortion is not a right in the Iowa Constitution. We know future rulings could always flip it back the other way, but for now, Iowa law operates with the understanding that there is no right to abortion.

Just one week later, the U.S. Supreme Court made a similar ruling in the *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health* case that overturned the *Roe vs. Wade* and the *Planned Parenthood vs. Casey* precedents. The justices declared that abortion is not a right in the United States Constitution.

The *Dobbs* ruling allowed states to create and enforce public policies that protect human life throughout all stages, rather than being very limited prior to birth. The state ruling made it possible for Iowa to enforce more protections for life. The election maintained pro-life majorities in the Iowa House, Senate, and Governor's office. We are grateful that Iowa has a chance to pass more protective laws and hope lawmakers enact good laws.

Despite the failing Kentucky election result on a constitutional amendment similar to what Iowa is pushing for, it helps to know that if we can get a similar amendment onto the ballot in Iowa, we can't take it for granted that it will pass. We need to ensure people understand that it brings neutrality to the constitution, and isn't denying real rights. 🙏

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