



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

March 2023

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

Donate Here

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

Things of Note

40 Days for Life comes to an end this weekend. Please join us for our closing rally on Sunday!

I'm realizing that some of the news and videos I see online could be of interest to people who read our newsletter. I'm going to try to figure out a better way to include them into future newsletters. But I'll use some of this page for that purpose this time.

The Equal Rights Institute has a podcast and makes videos for YouTube. They provide us our pro-life apologetics training. Their recent podcast episode/video is part 2 of 2 with a particular guest. It seemed well worth listening to. It's not focused on apologetics, but has lots of good subject matter in it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Sp5g9Ut5T8>

Local radio station KMMK used Facebook Live to talk with the speaker we had at our latest Cedar Rapids March for Life.

<https://www.facebook.com/KMMK88.7FM/videos/160749596808466>

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

Feb 22 – Apr 2
1-hour time slots
each 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>

Fri, Apr 14
4 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Bridgehaven's 40th Anniversary

Celebrate Bridgehaven serving women for 40 years!

Where: DoubleTree Exhibition Hall 1st Floor

350 1st Avenue Northeast, Cedar Rapids, IA

More info: <https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/home.php?e=24589>

Sat, Apr 29
5 p.m. start

Culture of Life Dinner

Raise funds and learn the best kept secret in reproductive healthcare!

Where: St. Wenceslaus Parish Hall

618 E Davenport St, Iowa City, IA

More info: <https://stwenc-ic.com/ways-to-get-involved/kofc/culture-of-life>



Pharmacies and Abortion

With major pharmacies announcing their intention to carry abortion pills back in January, things continue to get interesting. As previously reported in last month's newsletter, Walgreens recognized the financial and legal risks of carrying abortion pills in Kansas, since they were informed that would be illegal there. They operate in jurisdictions that impose serious consequences when they engage in illegal behavior, so their reaction makes sense. They quickly backed down to say they would only provide the abortion drugs where they could do so legally. They also claimed to have some issues with supplying enough of the drug to various places.

In response to Walgreens stepping back from offering abortions everywhere, the governor of California retaliated against the company. He cancelled a \$54 million contract with Walgreens. He insisted that Walgreens must

violate the laws of nearly half of the nation, in states where he had no authority. The idea that women might have reduced access to abortion bothered him, despite the fact that pharmacies have NEVER been able to provide the drug in the past. So he's getting upset about Walgreens doing the responsible thing by NOT trying to provide something that has never before been provided, and would be illegal to do so.

New York's governor couldn't allow the California governor to look bad all by himself. So she contacted Walgreens, CVS, and Rite Aid to see if they would make sure to provide the abortion drugs to kill children and some mothers in her state. It's not clear how they responded. But since New York has previously had elected officials make clear that pro-life people are not welcome in their state, I would assume the pharmacies would gladly sell the drugs in that state.

Rite Aid is smaller than the other two, so there hasn't been as much attention on them.

CVS has remained remarkably silent. Although pro-lifers will continue to boycott them as long as CVS remains unchanged in their position. However, we know how abortion advocates cause serious harm to those who turn their back on them. Just look at how the Susan G. Komen breast cancer organization was nearly destroyed when they announced that they would stop funding Planned Parenthood. They gave in to the extortion and quickly gave Planned Parenthood.

Since CVS hasn't provided the drugs, yet, it's not like we will see them stop carrying a product that's currently available. If they choose to be law abiding, as I expect they will, it won't be clear without an announcement. Yet, if they say anything new, they may suffer. 🍷



Government Update

Iowa

Iowa's Heartbeat Law awaits an appeal in April. We hope to have a ruling in June or July.

Other pro-life laws have been proposed. However, some lawmakers would prefer to allow the state courts to rule on the Heartbeat Law before altering the laws regarding abortion. There could be various reasons for this. But one that stands out to me is that if any of the law that's involved in the heartbeat law, then lawyers trying to strike down the heartbeat law could try to get the case dismissed, since the laws would no longer be in effect as they were when passed. Then, they could challenge the new laws immediately, and we wouldn't have good laws in effect while waiting for that to take effect.

But, if laws are passed that don't alter the parts of law that the heartbeat law dealt with, then there could still be benefit in passing pro-life laws.

Texas/National

A Texas judge could prohibit the sale of abortion pills nationally. U.S. District Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk is now at the center of the abortion issue as he considers this case against the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

There is more to this than many people consider. Yes, abortion pills cause most of the abortions today. If all abortions committed by taking pills could be eliminated, that could greatly affect the number of abortions committed each year.

However, Abby Johnson pointed out something that we should also keep in mind. It's not the full set of pills at stake here. It's just the first of two drugs. Abortions have been performed elsewhere by only using the second drug. There are more complications using that approach. However, the current drugs were used in an off-label way. And we know the "safe, legal, and rare" slogan evolved into "safe, legal, and accessible".

I have previously made the argument that the priorities are in reverse order. When legal abortion was threatened, many abortion providers and advocates made it clear they would make sure knowledge on how to do one's own abortion were made known. Even if it wasn't legal, they would resort to making it accessible, even though it wouldn't be deemed safe. That's the priority.

The first drug starves the child of what keeps the child alive. The separation of the placenta from the womb ensures that. The second drug causes contractions to expel what is usually a dead baby at that point. Only taking the second drug leads to the body trying to expel a living child. It's effectively inducing labor while the child is too premature to survive.

So, if one drug ends up no longer being allowed, they could end up resorting to more dangerous approaches. Still, RU-486 was wrongly approved without the normal medical research and rigor that other drugs go through. 🇺🇸

Pro-Life Challenge



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

Jenifer (pro-lifer in remission);
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!



Coalition at Events

We have a table at several events in the area throughout the year, and do so year after year. Yet, I have been negligent in mentioning that in past issues of our newsletter.

One of the ways people learn about our group arises from moments when they encounter our table at events. Some people are reading this newsletter because they expressed interest at one of these tables.

Several of our board members have helped at these tables throughout the years. Sue Martinek is not in the picture, but she has done a great deal to make these tables work over the years. Mary and Lisa appear in the photo. This photo was taken at the Catholic Men's Conference that was in Cedar Rapids this month.

The table of information and promotional items often show up at monthly events, plus some other annual events. If there are any events where you think it would be worth having our table at, please let us know!

In the past, we have had the table at some religious events, where we tend to have more people who may be on our side (or so we would hope). But we've also had the tables at some public events, often at women's conferences. Each environment brings about its own approach, benefits, and challenges.

We are looking into expanding into some additional events that are more public. This could allow people to make use of the pro-life apologetics training we've provided in the past. It also allows us to reach new pro-lifers. If you are interested in using your pro-life apologetic skills, please let us know! If you aren't comfortable, yet, but you want to participate in some way, there are ways you can help without being on the spot.

We have some ideas of events and hope to have things worked out in the near future. But we welcome suggestions, since we don't know about every event that takes place in the area. 🙏

CFLI Board

Jean Biermann
Jim Burke (President)
Mary Cherion (Secretary)
Rick Delagardelle
Lisa Gignac (Vice President)
Sue Martinek
Brian Saunders
Melissa Schechinger (Treasurer)
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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.

We welcome advertisers for a reasonable price.

Remember, Life Matters!

Coalition for Life of Iowa

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Request electronic copies by email: coalitionforlife@gmail.com