



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

July 2023

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We welcome newcomers to our
events and meetings

Donate Here

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

July Was Different

Our annual election maintained the same board members as we had this past year. We thank the members of our board for their continued dedication to the cause. So much of what we do involves their efforts. We also thank volunteers, because the work would be even harder without them, and we couldn't do as much without that support.

July is typically a calmer month. However, Iowa had a special session to address abortion. That put the subject back into the news. We also have some developments in a local source for reproductive health.

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

Sept 16
8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Lutherans for Life of Iowa Fall Conference
Come for the Issues as We Age Workshop!
Where: Bethany Lutheran Church
2202 Forest Dr SE, Cedar Rapids, IA
More info: Coming Soon

Sept 27 – Nov 5
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>

Sun, Oct 1
Save the Date

Life Chain in Cedar Rapids
Take to the streets and spread the pro-life message!
Where: 1st Ave, Cedar Rapids, IA (specific blocks coming soon)
More info: Coming Soon

Will you help us organize activities?
If so, please email us.



Evil Persists

Someone recently told me that it was harder to get some of the regular prayer partners out onto the sidewalk to pray. The reason that was given by some people reminds me of the misconception that many people had when Roe fell. In this case, it was the passage of the new Iowa Heartbeat law. It seems like the governor took care of things, so our job is over. But that is NOT the case.

Roe kept us from establishing laws that protect the full range of human lives, in particular at its earliest stages. When Roe fell, it didn't eliminate abortion. It just let us pass protective laws. It let us reach the STARTING LINE, not the finish line! What we had done for half a century was the training that is needed before the day of a race or competition.

States have begun passing protective laws, including Iowa. However, legal challenges happen.

Those can often last at least 1-3 years. If the law gets struck down, we still have lots of work to do. But even if it was upheld, abortion will still be legal, and we need to convert the hearts and minds of the people. Our organization isn't focused on the political side, or we would endorse candidates, recruit help to go into the community to help get those endorsed candidates elected, and otherwise promote candidates who are pro-life. But we don't do that, even if we would love it if more pro-lifers would help pro-life candidates in such ways.

Let's just imagine that a perfect pro-life bill was passed that protected all life in the womb, without exception. Let's say it made it through all legal challenges. Can we shut down and say mission accomplished? I would argue that the answer is no.

I posed a question to a group of pro-lifers who are planning an

event this fall. I pointed out that several people were there, so it should be easy to get lots of answers. Then I asked, "What evil used to exist that no longer exists today?" There was a pause. Then an answer or two, but then the realization that even those answers were wrong. The fact is that even if an evil diminishes for a while, every evil we've ever known appears to come back, sometimes with a vengeance. One might think concentration camps were evil and we don't see those today. Someone might point to the abortion sites and say those are the modern version. But there are Xinjiang internment camps in China, with human rights abuses against the Uyghurs.

When Roe vs. Wade spread abortion throughout our nation, pro-lifers fought for 50 years. Expect the same on the other side.

We must continue our efforts. 🙏



Government Update

Iowa

Iowa's Heartbeat Law was kept from being enforced back in June. The governor called a special legislative session that began (and ended) on Tuesday, July 11th.

The legislature aimed to pass an identical bill to the original Iowa Heartbeat Act, passed five years earlier. This was in response to the way the Iowa Supreme Court's justices who kept the Heartbeat Act from going into effect saying that they couldn't be sure if the present lawmakers would pass such a law if given the chance. Thus, they chose to keep things simple by passing the same bill. That took the least effort, which allowed it to run through the full process in a single day, since no amendments were passed.

The Iowa House passed it, first. The Iowa Senate passed it shortly after 11 p.m. The governor signed it into law on Friday that same week. The abortion industry plans to challenge the new law. They asked a judge to put a temporary injunction against the law's enforcement until such

time as the lawsuits against the law go through the full legal process. The judge took the weekend to provide a ruling, and had one by the following Monday. The injunction went into effect. The Iowa Supreme Court has made clear that the temporary injunction itself could be appealed. If that is appealed and if that prevails, then the law could be enforced while we wait for the law itself to go through the legal processes of courts and appeals.

Texas/National

U.S. District Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk ruled against the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in a case involving how they approved the RU-486 abortion pill. The U.S. Supreme Court has allowed the pills to be distributed while courts handle the appeals. Another district court judge made an opposite ruling, which now places the districts in conflict. That makes it easier for the U.S. Supreme Court to accept such a case.

Pray About Legal Challenges

There are seven states with legal challenges that could make a big difference if judges/justices end up siding with protecting life. The laws were passed to protect life, and it would help if people prayed for good outcomes.

If the pro-life side prevails in the states of Arizona, Utah, and/or Wyoming, then those states will provide full protections throughout pregnancy. If the pro-life side prevails in the states of Iowa, Ohio, South Carolina, and/or Florida, then those states will provide protections from the moment a heartbeat is detectable.

We have seen a win in Indiana. Therefore, Indiana can protect life throughout pregnancy.

The farther a woman must travel to get an abortion, the less likely she is to get an abortion. This seems intuitive, but is also backed up with statistics. Thus, the more states that add protections for life, the better the overall outcome will be. 🙏

Pro-Life Challenge



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

Çantana (pro-lifer); Rockford, IL abortion site; Central Minnesota's PP sites; UNI Students for Life; lawmakers & judges; for the Iowa heartbeat law to go into effect again

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!

Cycle Wisdom



hosted by
Dr. Monica
Minjeur

Reproductive Health

Dr. Monica Minjeur has taken some bold steps to bring more information about reproductive health to women, and to focus on treating reproductive issues. She decided to open up her own practice that specializes on reproductive health. She has also begun a podcast called, "Cycle Wisdom: Women's Health and Fertility" that began in recent weeks.

The new Radiant Clinic is located near Edgewood, just off Glass Road. That's also an easy walking distance from Bridgehaven. Since that building was previously used for medical purposes, it made it faster to prepare to start seeing patients as early as Monday, July 31st.

The following is a direct quote from her announcement of the podcast, prior to the link to the clinic.

As a physician specializing in women's health, I'm dedicated to empowering women on their reproductive journey, and this podcast is all about unraveling the mysteries of the female body and understanding our natural cycles.

Join me as we dive into the world of fertility awareness methods, explore valuable insights, expert advice, and discover how to harness the wisdom of our bodies. We will explore different approaches to understanding your menstrual cycle and making informed decisions about your reproductive health.

If you're interested in taking control of your fertility and gaining a deeper understanding of your body, be sure to subscribe to "Cycle Wisdom" on your favorite podcast platform (currently available on Apple Podcasts & Spotify or directly at its Buzzsprout page). Together, we'll journey towards women's health empowerment and embrace the wisdom within us.

Clinic: <https://radiantclinic.com>

Back to my commentary on this. It's great to see an increased focus on reproductive health that treats the underlying causes, rather than masking symptoms. The podcast will also help women gain more understanding of what so few people understand. 🌱

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