



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

February 2024

Editor & Writer: Jim Burke

Contents

- Page 2 Upcoming Events
- Page 3 Major PP Updates
- Page 4 Government Update
- Page 5 U of Iowa Event

We welcome newcomers to our
events and meetings

Donate Here

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

Bearing Fruit

With the local Planned Parenthood still temporarily closed and recent news of the abortion site in Des Moines closing, we are seeing the fruits of many years of commitment to pro-life activities. We continue to pray for a long-term closing, rather than just the temporary closing of the local Planned Parenthood site. We also see continued growth of real reproductive healthcare in the area.

As we enter into Lent, this could be a great year to fast from something significant and replace it with godly practices and praying for the protection of life and the end of abortion in Iowa, Cedar Rapids used to have an independent abortion provider for many years. As we were planning to begin praying for 40 days in churches back in 2008, before we began formally participating in 40 Days for Life, that abortion business lost their lease. We prayed heavily during the year or so that followed. The abortionist kept looking to open a new site here or there.

Of all the things, the 2008 flood that caused so much destruction in town also made things even harder for the abortionist, who was old enough to retire. After many obstacles, that abortionist gave up. We have seen pro-life successes here before. We see fruit even today. Let us build off the successes and stay strong in the year ahead!

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 14 – Mar 24
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>

Mon, Feb 26
6:30 p.m. Doors open
7 p.m. Start

DEI and Abortion:

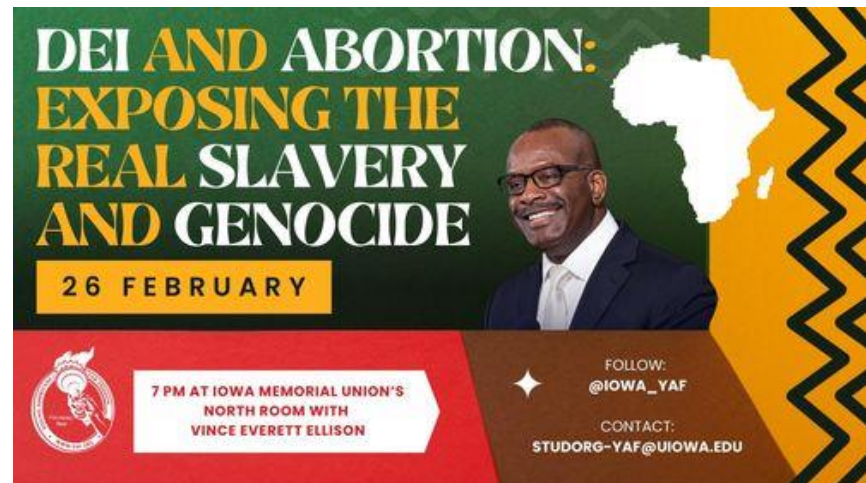
Exposing the Real Slavery and Genocide

Vince Everett Ellison takes on serious issues at the University of Iowa.

Where: Iowa Memorial Union's North Room

125 N Madison St, Iowa City, IA

More info: studorg-yaf@uiowa.edu



Sun, Mar 24
5 - 7 p.m.

40 Days for Life Finale

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>



Major PP Updates

Planned Parenthood's surgical abortion site in Des Moines has permanently closed. The business is consolidating sites, again. That leaves two referral sites in Des Moines, which will further consolidate, soon. The site in Urbandale will close after the other remaining site in Des Moines is expanded later this year so they can resume abortions at that time.

Within a year or so, every Planned Parenthood in the state will perform abortions in some form. The Cedar Rapids site remains temporarily closed. If it reopens, it WILL bring abortions back to Cedar Rapids. It is critical that we step up efforts to keep it closed. It's like running a long race. If you slow down near the end, you could give up the victory. If you try even harder near the end, you have the best chance of success!

Planned Parenthood is also dealing with the loss of one of their abortionists. Deborah Turner was one of their abortionists, and she died, recently. She was not their main abortionist, but it's not easy to find people who are willing to kill children for money. So losing her should make it harder for them to perform as many surgical abortions for a while.

It has been rather amazing to track the progress of the past 13 years. In 2011, Planned Parenthood had 27 sites in Iowa. At that time, they announced their plan to open 6 new sites in Iowa. Those sites never materialized—the plan was aborted. In the time since then, dozens of sites closed.

As of right now, the only sites not permanently closed include:

Sioux City, Ames, Urbandale (near Des Moines), Des Moines (Susan

Knapp site), Iowa City, and Cedar Rapids. For anyone who is counting, they only have 6 sites that aren't permanently closed in this state. Rather than opening 6 sites in the past 13 years, they closed all BUT 6 sites. Keep in mind that the local Planned Parenthood is one of those six, and it is at least temporarily closed, and it will likely remain that way for most of a year following their closing of the site.

As they close sites, they depend more heavily on remotely accessing clients via technology. The physical sites that remain tend to handle higher capacities of business. We cannot become complacent, thinking that their efforts to cut costs are only signs of pro-life victories. They are positive signs, but we still have work to do.

We hope true women's health can take root in Iowa as abortion sites close! Keep the trend going! 🙏



Government Update

Iowa

We continue to wait for any news about Iowa's Heartbeat Law after the Iowa Supreme Court has agreed to hear the appeal.

Minnesota

The Minnesota legislature has introduced a bill aiming to legalize assisted suicide this year. This past year, they stripped practically all protections for life and health for the child and mother in cases of abortion, making Minnesota radically pro-abortion in law. Now, they aim to do the same with matters at the end of life.

Sadly, the majority of people support this. They are won over by "death with dignity", even if killing denies our dignity. They don't want people to suffer or to be a burden. But they take away opportunities to love more deeply.

Pray About Constitutions/Votes

With abortion advocates bolstered by the outcome of the Ohio election, many states could face votes to amend their constitutions to

allow abortion in all cases, up through birth. Many of those could pass. This could undo many of the pro-life gains in recent years. Lies are often told, pro-abortion campaign funding tends to be 10x the pro-life campaign funding, and the wording is vague, which helps it pass. It's bad enough with a few lawmakers or judges inflict widespread allowance of killing, but when the people vote for it, this can cause grave harms.

Pray About Legal Challenges

There are several 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 and/or Florida, then those states will

provide protections from the moment a heartbeat is detectable.

Florida

Pro-abortion advocates have pushed to get a public vote on a constitutional amendment in Florida to make abortion a right. The matter has risen to their state supreme court.

The state argues that the ballot measure is too vague and doesn't provide enough information for people. The abortion advocates claim it is clear and provides as much information as other ballot measures have.

Justices on the bench seemed to recognize that it is inappropriate to put to a vote the killing of some group of people. More than one of the justices exhibited pro-life thinking and vocabulary. If the state would argue it on such grounds, it could have set this up for an appeal to the US Supreme Court, with a more definitive decision on whether abortion is ever allowable. The state didn't use the argument, though. 🙏

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!

DEI AND ABORTION: EXPOSING THE REAL SLAVERY AND GENOCIDE

26 FEBRUARY



7 PM AT IOWA MEMORIAL UNION'S
NORTH ROOM WITH
VINCE EVERETT ELLISON



U of Iowa

CONTACT:
STUDORG-YAF@UIOWA.EDU

The Iowa Young Americans for Freedom are hosting a speaker on Monday, February 26. Vince Everett Ellison will speak on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, along with Abortion. These issues tend to lead to great division between people.

Ellison is known for calling out lies and the methods used to divide and control people. He has been a former candidate for political office, an author, and has appeared on various TV programs.

Student organizations on the University of Iowa campus who stand for conservative values or otherwise seek the protection of the life of the innocent face opposition in all forms. Opposition has included physical, mental, and verbal attacks. People have been followed by those who insist on their views being the only views that are acceptable. With so many people using the term “bigot” nowadays, so few of them recognize when they are the people who meet the definition of that term.

The lecture will begin at 7 p.m. on February 26th in the Iowa Memorial

Union’s North Room with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. Ellison will have a Q&A feature following his lecture. The event is free and open to the public. They do not require tickets. There will also be time after the Q&A to have a brief meet and greet with Ellison.

The student group reached out to us to make sure we knew about this event. We thought it would be a good event to share with our members.

The head of their organization has spoken before a Congressional committee about free speech on campus, and how students aren’t treated fairly when they hold views like ours. Physical threats by people on the other side weren’t addressed.

She shared a video of that testimony with us. It’s the unacceptable handling of such matters that makes it critical that the University of Iowa students (and faculty) hear views different from their own.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d079seRQ1rA>

If you can make it, it should be a good event. 🍷

CFLI Board

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Remember, Life Matters!

Coalition for Life of Iowa

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Request electronic copies by email: coalitionforlife@gmail.com