



Life Matters

Discussing life matters,
because life matters

May 2024

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

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

Unusually Busy June

The Cedar Rapids Planned Parenthood remains closed, but their best shot at opening again is just a month away. This is a time we need to remain prayerful and vigilant. As I've said before, it's easier to keep a place closed than to close an abortion provider.

We are just weeks away from bringing a busload of pro-lifers to Des Moines for the Iowa March for Life. If you haven't registered, please do so using links on the next page of this newsletter.

We plan to have a booth at the Linn County Fair for one day of the fair. If you are there on Friday, June 28th, swing by and say hello.

The Iowa Supreme Court should make some rulings in the month ahead, which could make a serious impact on the abortion industry and the pro-life movement. Please pray more than ever for a good outcome.

June is usually a month when we can catch our breath and/or start planning events for the fall. But this year, it seems busier than usual.

In one of my articles this month, I try to point out just how small of a gap there can be between people who do good and those who do evil. This can also show how easy it can be for people to be misled in life. But it can bring hope to those who turn to evil to find good.

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

Sat, Jun 22
9:15 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Iowa March for Life (Bus Available)

We are offering a bus trip to the Iowa March for Life; stay tuned!

Where: Iowa Capitol (times include bus travel to/from Des Moines)
Des Moines, IA

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

Fri, Jun 28
Save the Date

Linn County Fair: Community Day

We hope to have a table/booth at this year's fair; stay tuned.

Where: Linn County Fairgrounds
Central City, IA

More info: Coming Soon



Iowa March for Life

On June 22nd Iowans will march at the Iowa Capitol to commemorate the 2nd anniversary of the Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade. We would like to make it as easy for as many people as possible to attend. The cost to take the bus is \$20 per person with a maximum of \$75 per family. To sign up, go to <https://coalition-for-life-of-iowa.square.site>



For questions contact Sue Martinek at 319-270-0054 or by email at susjmar@aol.com **The deadline to sign up is Friday, May 31.**

If you would like to drive yourself and meet us at the capitol that day, please feel free to do so. The Coalition For Life of Iowa is one of the sponsors and organizers of this event. lifeiowa.org



Closer Than We Think

The typical person tends to have a false belief when making a comparison of themselves versus people who commit grave evils, such as mass murderers, abortionists, and others who cause grave harms to many people. The belief is that we could never be like those evil people; those people are monsters. History and experiments suggest that the typical person can become those people who we may think we would never become. This is why we need persistence in promoting the value and dignity of human life.

A growing number of people are listening to what Jordan Peterson has to say. As a psychologist, Jordan had an interest in the holocaust, Auschwitz in particular, and specifically the people who enabled and took part in the killing that occurred there. As he looked into the subject, he countered a

book entitled, “Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland”.

The book explains how ordinary men were asked to do something morally bad. They were merely asked, and explicitly told that they did NOT have to do it. Although a few men stepped away, refusing to do the evil deeds, MOST of the men engaged in the evil. They engaged in more evil with time. When asked why they didn’t say no in the first place, they said that they couldn’t leave their fellow men to do the terrible things, alone. People had stepped away, but no one thought to suggest that they ALL leave.

A few years ago, the movie Unplanned came out. The movie showed the gradual involvement of Abby Johnson in the abortion industry, including participating in one. She intended to do good things, but was quickly led to think

she was doing good through her work.

Back in the 1960s, the Stanley Milgram conducted experiments where people believed they were causing increasingly painful electric shocks to a person they could not see. The shouts of pain were evident, however. The participants in the study were told to keep going, or the experiment would be invalid. No one was being shocked, but EVERY participant pushed the button to unleash 300 Volts on a victim, while roughly 2/3rds of them went up to 450 Volts—lethal levels!

People assume they are immune from carrying out such evils, but it appears we are all closer than we think. This is why it’s important to promote the value of human life at all times. While colleges focus on science and technology, they often neglect ethics, and it’s negatively affecting our society. 🌱



Government Update

Iowa

We continue to wait for any news about Iowa's Heartbeat Law. The court rules on cases through the month of June. The month ahead is a month we need to pray extra hard for a good ruling.

Iowa still allows abortions up to 20 weeks of pregnancy. The vast majority of abortions are performed prior to that point, so the law that's currently enforced provides very minimal protection. Most abortions are performed near the time the heartbeat is detected, but roughly 1/3 of abortions are performed prior to the heartbeat is detected. Thus, if the Heartbeat Law could go into effect, it would greatly reduce the profits of the abortion industry.

It might also allow Nebraska lawmakers renewed motivation to pass a similar law in their state. They nearly passed such a law last year, but ended up passing a law allowing roughly double the number of weeks of gestation. As already mentioned, since most abortions happen much closer to the time heartbeats are detected, most

abortions are still allowed in Nebraska.

Iowa Primary Election

The Iowa Primaries are coming up on Tuesday, June 4. Primaries can show the level of support of candidates. It is good to participate in each part of the political process.

Minnesota

Minnesota was very close to putting an Equal Rights Amendment to their state constitution that would have provided a stronger justification for their courts to claim abortion was constitutional. But they ended their session without passing the bill. They depended on every pro-abortion lawmaker, and one of them had some legal charges to face. That was enough to keep her from being able to provide the needed vote to pass the bill that would have put the ultimate vote onto their ballot.

Missouri

Missouri's governor signed into law a bill that cut funding to Planned Parenthood. The organization will

not receive Medicaid funding. Missouri is the fourth state to approach it in this way. Iowa had a different approach to cut Medicaid funding to Planned Parenthood several years ago.

Louisiana

Louisiana's governor signed into law a bill that classified abortion drugs as controlled substances. If someone attempts to get a woman to take an abortion pill without knowing she is taking one, this will make it easier to charge the offender with a more significant crime. Prescriptions are required for the abortion pills in order to possess them.

General

With states having more freedom to protect the most fundamental of all human rights, while still having a federal government that gets in the way of that goal, we find many approaches arising. This is one of the great things about freedom.

Pray for the protection of human life throughout the states. 🙏

Pro-Life Challenge



Please pray for God to work in the lives of 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!



Iowa March for Life

The Iowa March for Life is coming up in a few weeks! Join us as we provide a bus ride to and from the march!

We will hear our state Attorney General speak. She is responsible for defending against the challenges to our state's pro-life laws. When the previous Attorney General had the chance to defend pro-life laws, he seemed reluctant to do it, and an agreement was worked out for pro-life lawyers to defend our state's laws. It's refreshing to have an Attorney General who defends our laws when the abortion industry fights against the protections for human life.

Hope Miller will speak about "Changing the Culture". She is a younger voice in the movement, and can help us with changing the culture.

We will also hear from legislator Luana Stoltenberg. She has spoken at one of our local events. Luana is a true advocate for the pro-life cause!

Bishop Joensen is a Catholic bishop who will also speak at the event. The

Church has been a strong voice in defense of human life, and the bishop has things to share with us.

We originally thought we would have our own march for life in June, instead of January, since the overturning of Roe means more at this time. When we heard about the event in Des Moines, it made more sense to try to join into their event. That's why we decided to book a charter bus to Des Moines for the march.

We are subsidizing the cost so we can ensure that anyone who wants to go can go. We have discounts for families that are factored in when you place the order online. We want you to join us if you can. If you don't already have plans for that day, make plans...with us...with pro-lifers from around the state.

Abortion is still legal in Iowa, and there is still plenty to do to protect life. As mentioned earlier in this newsletter, we also need to instill the respect for the sanctity of human life throughout all stages even when the laws protect life. 🌱

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Coalition for Life of Iowa

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