



# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

February 2025

Editor & Writer: Jim Burke

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We welcome newcomers to our  
events and meetings

Donate Here

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

## Shaking Things Up

We had some vacancies on our board of directors for a while, but in the past month, we welcomed Ruth Callahan to our board. A few months earlier, Vanessa Milliman joined our board to fill a different vacancy. We now have a full board, again.

This past month had tons of pro-life news. Things are changing rather quickly. We also have some events coming up. It's still important to pray for a culture of life and an end to abortion, including in Cedar Rapids. Things are moving in the right direction, but if we sit back and relax, then things can easily go back the other way. When that happens, even worse things tend to happen. Please help us shake things up and really bolster the culture of life!

Of particular interest is the Culture of Life Dinner in Iowa City. This is one of my favorite events each year that we don't organize. Imagine if more women had better reproductive health care. This event raises funds to train more people to provide reproductive health care that is moral and effective. **Let's show up in great numbers to show our support for the culture of life in Iowa City!**

# Upcoming Events

**First Mondays**  
7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

## CFLI Board Meetings (1<sup>st</sup> Mondays)

Get involved in our organization!

**Where:** Contact us.

**More:** [coalitionforlife@gmail.com](mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com)

**Tue, Feb 18**  
6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

## Abortion Survivors Video Showing

ACCW presents Face to Face Abortion (abortionists and survivors)

**Where:** St. Matthew Church, Kearn Hall (lower level)

2310 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

**More:** [coalitionforlife@gmail.com](mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com)

**Sun, Mar 2**  
2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

## 40 Days for Life Kick-off Rally

Learn about abortion pill reversal and how to help pregnant mothers

**Where:** Radiant Clinic

3705 River Ridge Dr NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

**More:** <https://www.40daysforlife.com/cedarrapids>

**Mar 5 – Apr 13**  
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:** <https://www.40daysforlife.com/cedarrapids>

**Sat, Mar 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:** <https://stwenc-ic.com/ways-to-get-involved/kofc/culture-of-life>

**Sun, Apr 13**  
5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

## 40 Days for Life Closing 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:** <https://www.40daysforlife.com/cedarrapids>



# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

## Coming Soon!

### **Abortion Survivors Video Event**

It's always amazing to hear the stories of people who survived being aborted and are born alive. There is a video featuring multiple abortion survivors that will be shown on Tuesday, February 18 at 6 pm at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, in Kearn Hall on the lower level.

The video also includes people who have provided abortions in the past. This and some other videos like it came out recently, and they are very interesting. They pull together two groups of people and they talk about issues like abortion. We get to hear about how it affected the women and the abortionists.

After the video, there will be a question-and-answer session with a representative from Bridgehaven. They will collect disposable diapers and wipes for Bridgehaven. This is an opportunity to donate such items, if you wish. The event is organized by the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW).

### **40 Days for Life**

We will kick off our 40 Days for Life on Sunday, March 2 at 2:30 pm. The location is different this time. We will kick off our 40 days at the Radiant Clinic.

Join us for an afternoon of hope and a presentation for the spring prayer campaign. Linda is a representative from Birthright who will speak about helping pregnant mothers at this event. Doctor Don Nelson also works with Bridgehaven, and he will share about Abortion Pill Reversal.

Far too many people think our job is done, since they see Planned Parenthood's entrance boarded up, and pro-life progress is being made in politics. But abortion is still legal in Iowa. The local Planned Parenthood is not boarded up to close forever. Planned Parenthood had foundation issues, and they gutted the building to renovate it to improve the layout and modernize. They still intend to reopen after their expensive repairs and renovations.

We need prayer more than ever, and we need to see this to completion!

### **Culture of Life Dinner**

Each year, there's a great dinner in Iowa City to raise money to provide training to people who seek to become doctors or practitioners in NaProTechnology. Over the years, I've heard too many stories about women who had conditions that were easy to treat, but reproductive health providers failed them.

NaProTechnology addresses the root causes of many reproductive issues, rather than masking them. It's extremely effective. I still remember hearing about someone who kept having miscarriages, and multiple doctors suggested IVF, which addresses conception, not keeping a pregnancy going. A NaPro professional discovered they just needed more vitamin B!

The Culture of Life Dinner is on Saturday, March 29 and starts at 5 pm. We'll hear from doctors, including Craig Cunningham and Monica Minjeur. I strongly encourage you to attend this fundraiser. You will learn quite a bit and support a great cause. A link to register (free) is in the Upcoming Events listing for this event. 🍷



## Government Update

### National

Donald Trump returned to the White House as President. He has made numerous executive orders and appointments that should advance the pro-life cause. In the first few weeks, there were double-digit numbers of pro-life actions taken. Unfortunately, the bill to protect survivors of abortion failed in the U.S. House. RFK Jr. was appointed to head the HHS. He has traditionally supported abortion, but his more recent public statements are closer to the pro-life stance than the pro-abortion stance, although not totally pro-life.

### Inter-State

An abortionist in New York has been indicted for mailing abortion pills illegally. In particular, there is an effort in Louisiana to seek the abortionist's extradition. A judge has ordered the abortionist to cease mailing abortion pills. Many abortion-friendly states try not to help pro-life efforts or laws in other states, so this will be interesting to watch.

### Canada

A pro-abortion group that funds abortions failed to get more government funding. This results in them losing at least 70% of their funding, which led them to admit that they may need to close up their operations.

### Michigan

After Michigan created a false right of abortion in their constitution, the expected challenges to pro-life protections in the law have now been made to dismantle things like waiting periods and informed consent. Imagine arguing that ensuring that people are informed before making a decision involving life and death is a bad thing and might now be unconstitutional!

### South Carolina

South Carolina is trying to work out some pro-life laws. Some could easily backfire, so we hope they legislate wisely. South Carolina is also the center of a matter where the U.S. Supreme Court may end up ruling on whether PP can be denied Medicaid funds.

### Georgia

There is a legal challenge to Georgia's Heartbeat Law. At least 19 states lend support in the form of an amicus brief.

### Iowa

We haven't seen significant movement in advancing pro-life bills this year, from what I can tell. There are some bills, but they are minor compared to what could be.

### Keep Praying

**Pray for the protection of human life throughout the states.** Pray for the closure of the businesses that kill for money. Pray for the protection of life to prevail in the legislative sessions across the country. Even when pro-lifers are in positions to set public policy, it's possible that others will prevent them from achieving good things. We need to pray and to contact lawmakers to let our voices be heard. 🙏



## Pro-Life Challenge



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

For people to prioritize the value of human life;  
Students for Life in Iowa;  
lawmakers & judges;  
religious leaders

## 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!



## So Much Happened

So much has happened in the past month that it's making me wonder how big of a newsletter I could write just for this month. It also looks like things could remain at a high pace in the future.

Some of us attended the March for Life in Iowa City. There was prayer, song, and even patriotic songs. A pair of bald eagles were soaring in the sky, with one circling around to eventually circling above us.

There was a March for Life in Washington D.C., where the Vice President spoke and the President addressed the crowds by video. There was also a prayer rally in Des Moines where Iowans joined for prayer.

On inauguration day, Cecile Richards died. She was the former CEO of PP when they were thriving. She resigned around the time claims of illegal activities of PP were becoming public. David Daleiden had released several videos providing some evidence of this, but the state of California went after David, rather than PP, led by then Attorney General Kamala Harris and Xavier

Becerra. In recent weeks, the charges against David have been dropped.

Planned Parenthood (PP) announced the closures of four sites in Illinois. Many Iowans go to Illinois for abortions. I focus on Minnesota, since it's part of the same affiliate as here. But PP claimed they had more business, and that led to the need to close sites. This suggests some financial problems. More business usually leads to expansion, not closures. One of the closures is in Chicago, and the other three run down the center of the state. The last of them should close by the end of March.

There are claims that infant mortality has gotten worse with pro-life laws. One of the issues they fail to consider is that the deaths of children in the womb weren't counted in the past when it came to early deaths. For the children who wouldn't survive long after birth, those now appear as infant deaths. Before, they would have counted as abortions, among the many other healthy children. Pro-life laws save lives. 🙏

**CFLI Board**

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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.

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*Remember, Life Matters!*

Request electronic copies by email: [coalitionforlife@gmail.com](mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com)

Coalition for Life of Iowa

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