



# Life Matters

Discussing life matters,  
because life matters

May 2026

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We welcome newcomers to our  
events and meetings

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

## Looking to the Future

Last month, I mentioned how our board is finalizing our goals. This month, we approved two goals, and we hope to finalize two more goals in the next few days. I said we had some enthusiasm. The goal with the most excitement is our goal to get a Safe Haven Baby Box in the Cedar Rapids area. When we narrowed our goals down to four, this was one of the goals. Within two days of our meeting, the local news covered the topic, not knowing of our developing goals. This helped us recognize some possible leads in the area—places where people had already discussed the possibility.

For the Iowa March for Life, we will NOT have a bus this year. You can still drive there or carpool with others who plan to attend.

**KEEP PRAYING! DO NOT STOP! I came to find out that this PP affiliate wants to bring abortions to St. Cloud, MN—please pray for pro-life victory, there!** We want PP to sell their Cedar Rapids site. But until then, we pray outside their gutted building. We will keep an eye on matters.

# Upcoming Events



<p><b>First Mondays</b> 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>CFLI Board Meetings (1<sup>st</sup> Mondays)</b> Get involved in our organization! <b>Where:</b> Contact us. <b>More:</b> <a href="mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com">coalitionforlife@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Wed, Jun 17</b> 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Planned Parenthood Fundraiser</b> Please pray during this time for an ineffective fundraiser. This is one of their main remaining connections to our area.</p>
<p><b>Sat, Jun 20</b> 12 noon – 3 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Iowa March for Life</b> Join pro-lifers from around the state for the state's March for Life! <b>Where:</b> Iowa Capitol Building 1006 E. Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50319 <b>More:</b> <a href="https://pulseforlife.org/event/iowa-march-for-life/">https://pulseforlife.org/event/iowa-march-for-life/</a></p>
<p><b>Sun, Jun 21</b> All Day</p>	<p><b>Father's Day</b></p>
<p><b>Fri, Jun 26</b> Opening – 2 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Linn County Fair: Community Day</b> We will have an information booth at this year's fair, again. <b>Where:</b> Linn County Fairgrounds Central City, IA <b>More info:</b> <a href="mailto:coalitionforlife@gmail.com">coalitionforlife@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Jul 16 - 18</b> 3-Day Event</p>	<p><b>Life Advocate Intensive (DCRTL)</b> Students and young adults can learn to defend life in public areas. <b>Where:</b> (See article later in this newsletter) Grand Rapids, MI <b>More info:</b> <a href="https://dctrl.org">https://dctrl.org</a></p>



## Birth Rates

Several decades of birth rate decline in our country and many other countries needs to stop. Alarmists repeatedly claimed we would starve and deplete our resources, but that never happens. More people innovate ways to support more people. But economies crash when populations decline. There's usually a lag of 40-50 years following the drop in the birth rates, because this is when people reach their prime spending years.

Long ago, couples needed large families. Children helped on family farms or other work. When people grew old, their children supported them. Many children would not reach adulthood.

Health improved, allowing more children to reach adulthood. Fewer people farm, there are now child labor laws, and there are various safety nets to make it easier to get by. Social Security tries to provide for people in their later years. These and many other things are reasons people don't feel as much of a need to have larger families.

When contraception was pushed in the 1930s, and more widely available a few decades later, this

also played a major role in birth rates. It would also lead to abortion. When contraception promises to prevent pregnancy and it happens anyway, abortion becomes the backup plan. Both of these made it possible for people to limit or actively decrease the size of their families, despite the moral issues.

Smartphones are now playing a major factor in birth rates. The birth rate dropped significantly following the introduction of the smartphone. As people connect remotely, and they stop spending as much time socializing and interacting in person, birth rates have plummeted.

There is also an interesting experiment from the late 1960s through early 1970s. Universe 25 was the 25<sup>th</sup> experiment involving lab mice in an attempt to achieve a utopia, and to see how mice would thrive in such an environment. Each of the prior 24 experiments had various issues, and all of them played out the same way—the extinction of the mice in the closed environment. Universe 25 provided a space capable of supporting several thousands of mice. It had

endless food and drink available, along with plenty of space to nest.

The population started with 4 male and 4 female mice. The population would double periodically. The peak population reached around 2200 mice. Despite having everything they needed, irrational behaviors began to occur. Popular feeding areas became even more popular, while others were neglected, despite still having plenty of food. Violence erupted between mice. Several of the female mice sought the highest nests.

When mice reached a point of having no roles to fill, not needing to provide food or defend the family, a generation of mice arose with no ambition. They didn't fight. They didn't mate. They didn't really do much of anything. They just existed. After enough of them came to be, and their predecessors grew past child-bearing age, the colony's fate was sealed. No more mice were born, and they died of old age.

Many factors continue to destroy our birth rates. What might happen if AI takes most jobs, and people feel a lack of purpose? Socially, we need to foster a culture of life. 🌱



## Government Update

### National

More states are trying to combat the abortion pill in federal courts and in their state laws. The FDA continues to do very little about the abortion pill, and the Comstock Act remains unenforced elsewhere in the government. The U.S. Supreme Court is even allowing abortion pills to continue to be sent via the mail while lawsuits go through the courts. FDA commissioner Marty Makary has resigned, and his replacement seems more pro-life.

A proposed budget would defund abortion providers, including Planned Parenthood. It is just a proposed budget, and it's early in the process. Other news suggests defunding will not be in a reconciliation bill. Without action, abortion providers regain funding on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We have just over a month. If they regain funding for even a day, we expect them to grab all the funding they can.

There are serious concerns about whether a pro-life majority can remain in the U.S. House and/or Senate. This election is critical!

### Iowa

The governor has signed into law a bill to prohibit the distribution of abortion pills, unless the prescriber has met with the client in person. Earlier in this year's session, this was the bill thought to have the best odds of passing through the full legislature, and it did.

The life at conception bills did not make it through the legislative process. If the abortion pill law can be enforced effectively, then it provides the more significant benefit. But protecting life from conception remains a critical goal and priority.

There are always other laws we could pass which can benefit the cause for life, but may not directly address abortion. There are also other states of life and threats to life we may consider when it comes to passing future laws.

This is an election year when we will elect a new governor and U.S. senator. State and national happenings could swing votes. We encourage people to become active in the political process.

### Indiana

The Indiana Supreme Court rejected Planned Parenthood's challenge of their state's abortion law. This is good news, maintaining protection from conception.

### Utah (Active Abortion Case)

Utah has an abortion case addressing constitutionality. In this case, it could decide if life is protected from conception or not. Until the case works through the courts, abortion is allowed up to 18 weeks (most abortions are legal).

### Keep Praying

Pray for the protection of human life throughout the states. Pray for an end of the culture of death. Pray for the protection of life to prevail in governments in our nation and world. Pro-life lawmakers help, but don't always prevent them from achieving good things. We need to pray and to contact lawmakers to let our voices be heard. The abortion industry adapts. It's important to achieve results this year! 🙏

## 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; success for other pro-life groups

## 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!



## Pro-Life Bootcamp

The following is from the latest Dubuque County Right to Life (DCRTL) newsletter:

*(edits have been made with updated information)*

Dubuque County Right to Life is excited to announce a new, three-day pro-life bootcamp that combines pro-life apologetics training with conversational outreach to change hearts on abortion. This experience is open to **16–24-year-olds** who desire to make an impact for the pre-born.

Life Advocate Intensive Defender ~~Booteamp~~ will take place in Grand Rapids, MI ~~Cedar Rapids, IA~~ from **July 16<sup>th</sup> to July 18<sup>th</sup>**, plus a travel day on each side by bus from Dubuque. Over the course of these three days, you will learn from expert pro-life apologists to prepare you to respond to pro-choice arguments, and then be deployed into the streets of Cedar Rapids to have conversations with people about abortion.

Not only will you make an impact for the pre-born, but you'll also receive

the skills you need to advocate for them even after the weekend is over. If you want to make a difference for the pre-born this summer, you can register on the DCRTL website by going to the "Events" page under "Get Involved".

The early registration fee is ~~\$50~~ **\$59 for students and \$84 for young adults** if you sign up by June 12 ~~26<sup>th</sup>~~. The cost increases to ~~\$80~~ **\$74 for students and \$99 for young adults** after that, and the final day to register is July 6<sup>th</sup>. Invite your friends to become a life defender with you!

DCRTL took the initiative on this bootcamp, but we are working with them and promoting this great training event. We need more people to learn how to convey the pro-life position effectively, especially among teens and young adults. I wish I could have been trained by a program like this when I was in the age range designated for this event. Sign up now! 🙏

**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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