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Dubuque County
Right To Life, Inc.
www.dcrtl.org

L.  F. E. TIME

Life is for Everyone

March 2020



Volume 23, Number 3

Mark your calendar!

Dubuque County Right to Life's 28th annual
L.I.F.E. Dinner will be Friday, May 1st, 2020



Kristan Hawkins has always been a passionate advocate for the unborn. She is a Christian, wife, mother, and anti-abortion grassroots activist, author, and speaker. She was hired in 2006 to launch Students for Life of America's full-time operation. Students for Life exists to abolish abortion by transforming our culture by recruiting, training, and mobilizing this pro-life generation, which are the direct targets of today's abortion industry.

She graduated from Bethany College in 2005, summa cum laude, with a Bachelor's in Political Science having already jumped into the pro-life community by founding pro-life groups in both her high school and college campuses. After college, she served at the Republican National Committee and as a presidential appointee in the George W. Bush administration at the Department of Health and Human Services. She was recruited to lead Students for Life in 2006. Since then she has taken a small group of a few dozen student pro-life groups scattered around the nation, and, alongside her incredible team, has multiplied that number to over 1,200 organized Students for Life chapters in all fifty states. She recently served on then-candidate Donald Trump's Pro-Life Advisory Council.

She is the author of *Courageous: Students Abolishing Abortion in this Lifetime*. She has interviewed on Fox News, CNN, MSNBC, the Today Show, CBS, ABC, and HBO and has recently received the title "One of the 4 worst anti-abortion misinformers" by Media Matters, a title that she is very proud of. Kristan regularly speaks at pro-life conventions and events across the United States including many college campuses like Yale, Harvard, Dartmouth, and UC-Berkeley. She has done this all while being a wife to her high school sweetheart (Jonathan), raising her four children (Gunner, Bear, Maverick, and Gracie), and, in her free time, raising awareness for cystic fibrosis, a disease her son, Gunner, and daughter, Gracie, suffer from.

Since launching Students for Life, the pro-life generation has been given a voice, and they are using that voice to demand the end of the injustice of abortion.

Please see page 7 for a

L.  F. E. Dinner "Sponsor a Student" Opportunity

March 2020

Volume 23, Number 3
Published Monthly

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Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. is a non-profit, non-sectarian, education organization dedicated to preserving and fostering respect for human life from conception to natural death. We educate the public about the dangers of abortion, euthanasia and infanticide.



February	
Wednesday, 26 th	Lenten Pro-Life Prayer Campaign Begins & the 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil Begins
Friday, 28 th	Pro-life t-shirt design contest submission deadline
March	
Monday, 2 nd	Iowa Prayer Rally for Life, Iowa State Capital, 11am-3pm
Thursday, 5 th	Membership Event; UNPROTECTED: A Pope, the Pill, and the Perils of Sexual Chaos , DCRTL Office, 12:00pm-1:30pm <u>and</u> 6:00pm-7:30pm
Wednesday, 11 th	Mime for Life Training Sign-Up Deadline
Friday, 13 th	High School Scholarship Application Deadline
Tuesday, 17 th	Trip to Cedar Rapids for the 40 Days for Life! 8:15am- 2:30pm
Thursday, 19 th	Board of Director’s Meeting
Saturday, 21 st	World Down Syndrome Day
Saturday, 21 st	Mime for Life Training , St. Columbkille Catholic Church, 12pm-5pm, Performance at 5:30pm
Saturday, 21 st	2 nd Annual Community Wellness Expo, Five Flags Center, 10am-4pm
Saturday, 21 st	Chelsey’s Dream Foundation Seminar, National Motorcycle Museum, 8am-2pm
Wednesday, 25 th	Mass for the Unborn , Church of the Nativity, 6:25pm Rosary, 7:00pm Mass
Tuesday, 31 st	Volunteer Opportunity: LIFE Dinner Center Piece Creation Day, DCRTL Office, 3pm
April	
Thursday, 2 nd	Membership Event: Meet the Staff of DCRTL, DCRTL Office, 6pm-7pm
Friday, 3 rd	National Pro-Life T-Shirt Day!
Sunday, 5 th	40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil Ends
Thursday, 9 th	Lenten Pro-Life Prayer Campaign Ends
Friday, 10 th	Baby Shower for McKenna! DCRTL, 12pm-1pm
Saturday, 11 th	High School Scholarship Speech Presentations, DCRTL Office, 9am-12pm
Sunday, 12 th	Happy Easter!
Thursday, 16 th	Board of Director’s Meeting
Sunday, 19 th	Easter Egg Hunt & Crafts, St. Columbkille Catholic Church Green Space, 3pm – 4pm
Monday, 20 th	Deadline to RSVP for the LIFE Dinner
Friday, May 1	DCRTL’s 28 th Annual LIFE Dinner, Grand River Center, 5:00pm

 *Welcome, Tina!* Tina Hasken joins the staff at DCRTL with diverse experience working directly with community members on community building initiatives and positive life experiences. She is excited to bring her recruitment, hospitality, and relationship building skills from United Way and Holy Family Catholic Schools to DCRTL to help increase engagement and exposure to the true value of Life in her day to day functions. Tina has been married to Glenn for nearly 30 years, has three beautiful children, and is entering the next stage of life as a grandparent this summer.



A Note From Ashley Stackis, Executive Director

We have a couple of busy months approaching as you can probably tell by the full calendar. Many great educational, volunteer, fellowship and family friendly events. Please especially mark your calendars for **Friday, May 1st, 2020** to join us at our 28th annual LIFE Dinner, it will be a very special evening, one that I always look forward to. I hope you look forward to it, too!

Last month I mentioned how DCRTL sponsored a Chastity Book Reading Club at Loras College for 30 women and 20 men. Well, the word is getting out and the women are so hungry for the TRUTH, that they've had more interest than they expected. I found out they've been finding extra books at local libraries, buying them cheap around town, until they can find no more and have come back to DCRTL looking for MORE books! So many women want to join – who wouldn't be interested in learning how to find your soulmate without losing your soul?! So awesome! God is good! And so yes (of course!), we ordered them more books – 20 more – and we can't wait to share the students' reflections once they complete the book. Stay tuned!

The future of the pro-life movement is in good hands, I'm so impressed with pro-life college students by their courage and strength. I received an email yesterday from Sophia Schuster, who received a scholarship from DCRTL when she graduated from Beckman Catholic High School last year. Here's what she emailed me:

"Good morning Ashley! I have some awesome news! This morning I submitted the application for a UNI students for life club at UNI! If and when we get approved we will start changing hearts and minds and advocating for life!! I can't wait to see where God takes this!

*God bless!
Sophia Schuster"*

I'm nearly in tears – I'm SO proud of her and ALL of the pro-life students out there who stand up for their beliefs, and who want to change hearts and save lives. With their determination, we will see the day that abortion is truly seen as the evil that it is, not just by us, but by EVERYONE.

Thank you for your support, and the support of all of these students. Because of you, they're changing the world. They're changing the narrative on LIFE. They're saving lives.

Yours in the service of LIFE,
Ash

UNPROTECTED: A Pope, the Pill, and the Perils of Sexual Chaos

We will have two showings of **UNPROTECTED: A Pope, the Pill, and the Perils of Sexual Chaos**, on Thursday, March 5th over the lunch and the dinner hours. This movie is appropriate for ages high school and older. **Highly recommended for young adults and all parents!** A discussion period will follow for those interested. We will order Jimmy John's for all who show up, both are free events – please join us, we'd love to have you!

Lunch & Movie: UNPROTECTED: A Pope, the Pill, and the Perils of Sexual Chaos

Thursday, March 5th
Dubuque County Right to Life Office (2205 Carter Road, Dubuque)
12:00pm-1:30pm

Membership Event: UNPROTECTED: A Pope, the Pill, and the Perils of Sexual Chaos

Thursday, March 5th
Dubuque County Right to Life Office (2205 Carter Road, Dubuque)
6:00pm-7:30pm



UNPROTECTED: A Pope, the Pill, and the Perils of Sexual Chaos

How did the culture become so toxic for women? Learn the surprising answer and inspiring solution in this powerful film!

The sexual revolution flaunted the empty promise of sexual freedom, so-called stronger marriages, the control of unwanted pregnancies and more opportunities for women to advance in the workplace. Did all this sexual license provide authentic freedom?

The documentary **UNPROTECTED: A Pope, the Pill, and the Perils of Sexual Chaos** sheds light on the history of the sexual revolution, the moral decline of the West and a broken generation rife with sexual woundedness, fractured marriages and overall moral bankruptcy. Pope Paul VI in his prophetic 50-year-old encyclical *Humanae Vitae* warned the Church about these issues. **UNPROTECTED** explores *Humanae Vitae*, a central focus of the documentary, which exposes the breakdown of the family, perversion of human sexuality, the rampant use of birth control and abortion on demand.

As a concerned father of three girls, the film's writer and director, Don Johnson, traveled around the country to discover why the culture has become so toxic for women. Who (and what) has led to sexting pressure, the hookup culture, teenage depression and the #MeToo movement? Johnson found a surprising answer — and some hope for the future — by digging deeper into *Humanae Vitae*.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!

Dubuque County Right to Life awards up to \$10,000 worth of scholarships to graduating high school seniors who plan to attend college. A written speech, log of service hours, and a recommendation letter are required. Please go to www.dcrtl.org/scholarships for more information and to apply. The deadline to apply is Friday, March 13, 2020. Finalists must be available to participate in a speech presentation at the DCRTL office on the morning of Saturday, April 11, 2020. Contact Ashley Stackis for more information at 563.556.5960.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Trip to Cedar Rapids

When people are outside of an abortion clinic praying, the no-show rate increases to 75%. Will you join us?

Schedule for Tuesday, March 17th:

8:15am – Please arrive to the DCRTL office (2205 Carter Road, Dubuque)

8:30am – We will depart from the DCRTL office

10:00am – 12:00pm – Pray unceasingly outside of Planned Parenthood

12:15pm – Enjoy a nice lunch together

2:30pm – Arrive back in Dubuque (approximate time)

Please contact our office (563-556-5960) to sign up to join us on this journey. We are looking for volunteer drivers to assist us in this small pilgrimage as well as prayer warriors to join. If you would like to drive and/or join, please call to let us know so we have enough space for everyone in our caravan. Feel free to bring a foldable chair.

Please join us in standing up for life on **Tuesday, March 17th** to pray outside of Planned Parenthood in Cedar Rapids. Why on a Tuesday? Well, Tuesdays are their busiest days.

Not able to attend but still want to join in this initiative? Please remotely pray for the unborn during the two hours that we will be outside of Planned Parenthood. Thank you!

MIME for LIFE Training Retreat AND Performance

Attention Students! We are looking to get a Mime for Life troupe active in Dubuque once again! Are you interested or know anyone who may be interested? It's a phenomenal ministry that speaks volumes without saying a word.



We encourage you to get involved!

Date: Saturday, March 21

Time: 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Location: St. Columbkille Catholic Church

Cost: \$10.00/person which includes lunch and workshop. Scholarships are available.

Deadline to Sign Up: Wednesday, March 11

To RSVP, call DCRTL (563-556-5960) or email astackis@dcrtl.org

EVERYONE – Students will work very hard in an all-day training retreat, becoming familiar with the different roles in the *Mime for Life*, a phenomenal ministry that speaks volumes without saying a word. Towards the end of their retreat they will perform for anyone and everyone in the community. We ask that you please support these amazing students by attending!

Mime for Life Performance:

Saturday, March 21st

5:30PM – 6:00PM

St. Columbkille Church, Presentation Hall

DCRTL's Post Abortion Hope & Healing Program Information at the 2nd Annual Community Wellness Expo

Saturday, March 21st
Five Flags Center
10:00am - 4:00pm

DCRTL will have a booth with our **Post Abortion Hope & Healing Programs** at the upcoming 2nd Annual Community Wellness Expo! This is a FREE Family Friendly event with over 120 local businesses (including us, DCRTL!) offering a fun, hands-on and interactive day filled with activities, demonstrations, information and samples! The WELLNESS EXPO is devoted to showcasing local resources for improved health, medical care, wellness programs, healthy foods, green living, natural healing, financial security, safety, exercise, weight loss, beauty, fun and so much more! **Stop on by the DCRTL booth to say hello!**

Mass for the Unborn

Wednesday, March 25th
Church of the Nativity (1225 Alta Vista Street, Dubuque)
6:25pm Rosary, 7:00pm Mass



In honor of the **Feast of the Annunciation** and the **International Day of the Unborn Child**, Dubuque County Right to Life and the Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a *Mass for the Unborn*. This Mass will be held on Wednesday, March 25th (exactly nine months before Christmas) at Church of the Nativity in Dubuque. The evening will open at 6:25pm with a special pro-life Rosary lead by Sebastian Yaklin, the Financial Secretary for the KC Council #510. Then, Mass will follow at 7:00pm. The main celebrant will be Rev. Andy Upham, Pastor of Nativity. All area priests are invited to concelebrate. Following Mass, the Knights of Columbus Council #510 will serve cookies, juice, and water. **Please join us for this special evening.** Everyone is welcome!

Volunteer Opportunity!

Tuesday, March 31st
DCRTL Office (2205 Carter Road, Dubuque)
3:00pm



Please join us to help make the LIFE Dinner Center Pieces! Bring yourself, a friend, a hot glue gun if you have one, and your creativity! All other materials are provided. Thank you!

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2020 IOWA PRAYER RALLY FOR LIFE | IOWA STATE CAPITOL

Monday, March 2 from 11AM - 3PM

Join the Movement | 11AM - 3PM | Rotunda

Stop by the Iowa Coalition of Pro-Life Leaders tables to find out how you can join the effort to save both babies and mothers in Iowa!

Prayer Rally for Life | 12PM - 1PM | Rotunda

Hear from Iowa's pro-life leaders on the latest efforts to save babies' lives, hear from and encourage legislators who are standing up to defend life, and join local clergy in powerful prayer.

Invited Prayer Rally for Life Speakers: Governor Kim Reynolds, Senator Jake Chapman, Representative Steve Holt, and Restored by Grace Executive Director Laura Limmex.

Learn to Lobby | 1PM - 2PM | Room 315

To lobby is to seek to influence a politician or public official on an issue. And your voice matters! Work with veteran lobbyists on how to effectively lobby at the State Capitol.

Lobby Your Legislators | 2PM - 3PM

Encourage, pray for and work to influence your legislators to support pro-life legislation!

STRONGER TOGETHER

IOWA COALITION OF PRO-LIFE LEADERS | #SHESABABY



March 21st is celebrated around the world as World Down Syndrome Day! First observed in 2006, World Down Syndrome Day was placed on the 21st day of the 3rd month, to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome causing Down syndrome.

In some countries, the abortion rate for Down syndrome can be as high as 90% in the United Kingdom, 98% in Denmark and 100% in Iceland. In the United States, 67-85% of children who are diagnosed with Down syndrome in utero are aborted. In an effort to stop the discrimination against children with Down syndrome, many states have enacted legislation to prohibit the eugenic practice of Down syndrome discrimination abortion.

Join us to create a voice for advocating for the rights, inclusion and well-being of people with Down syndrome on March 21st. Each year the voice of people with Down syndrome, and those who live and work with them, grows louder.

Chelsey's Dream Foundation Seminar

Saturday, March 21st

National Motorcycle Museum (102 Chamber Drive, Anamosa, IA)

8am Registration, 8:30am-2:00pm Program

The Chelsey's Dream Foundation will again host national speaker, author and blogger **Mike Berry**. The seminar will focus on the following topics:

- Parenting multi-racial children
- Relating to Birth Families
- Teaching others proper adoption and foster care language
- The adoption process and what to expect
- Q & A panel with adoptive and foster families and a birth mother's perspective



Lunch will be provided and this seminar is free to attend, but registration is required. Register to Heidi_linden01@yahoo.com or text to 563-451-3775.



Mike & his wife, Kristin, have been married for 20 years and parents for 16. All 8 of their children joined their family through adoption. They fostered for 9 years and have had 23 children come through their doors. Their newest adventure is grandparenting. They are convinced that grandchildren are the greatest joy in this life!

L. . F. E. Dinner

"Sponsor a Student" Opportunity:

Please consider sponsoring a college student so they can attend the LIFE Dinner this year! Since our keynote speaker is Kristan Hawkins, the President of *Students for Life of America*, we are hoping to have several tables of college students join us for the event! In our effort to encourage college students to attend, please consider sponsoring a student, or several! Thank you!

_____ Yes, I will sponsor a student for \$25.00

_____ Yes, I will sponsor _____ # of students at \$25.00/each

_____ Yes, I will sponsor a table of 10 students for \$250.00

Your Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Please mail this form with your sponsorship donation to DCRTL, 2205 Carter Road, Dubuque, IA 52001.

Thank you SO much!!!

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March for Life 2020

"During this trip I saw more people in one place than I have in my whole life. It was an absolutely amazing experience to fight for the lives of the innocent and voiceless. The most amazing thing was seeing all of us (strangers) becoming one. We united and became one loud voice for all of the 61,000,000+ voices, and lives lost due to the terrible act of abortion. I will always remember and be so proud that I got to participate in the act of FIGHTING for life." – Abbey Gasper, 8th grader at Mazzuchelli Catholic Middle School



"I was so amazed and in awe of how many people feel so strongly about protecting life. I'm proud of how my daughter embraces the pro-life movement and I hope she carries that passion with her always. I enjoyed spending this time with my daughter and having many meaningful conversations about all we experienced and witnessed in D.C. I will encourage other youth to make this pilgrimage and deepen their respect for ALL life! Thanks DCRTL for making this experience possible!" –Anonymous Parent

In Memory Of:

- **Julia Brandenburg**, given by Dennis & Carol Schmitt
- **Sister Blanche Marie Haag, OSF**, given by Dan & Barb Nicholson, Dr. Virgil & Marian Bourek, David & Liz Cushman, and Dr. Jack & Laura Dolehide
- **Jerome Hauk**, given by Ron & Pat Donovan
- **Mary Kathryn Lassance**, given by Dr. Virgil & Marian Bourek
- **Melvin Lenz**, given by Tony & Janice Krapfl
- **Gregg Marolf**, given by Micki Marolf
- **Martha McDonald**, given by Dan & Barb Nicholson
- **Marvin Nickol**, given by Lois Taylor
- **Carol Pfeiler**, given by Louis Pfeiler
- **Gerry Ryan**, given by Ron & Pat Donovan
- **Dan (Hooks) Schmitt**, given by Dennis & Carol Schmitt
- **Florence Ternes**, given by Bill & Mary Mormann
- **Deceased Members of the Joe Ward Family**, given by Mary Ann Fangman

Memorials

When a gift is given in memory or in honor of a loved one, an acknowledgement card is sent to the person or family you designate. With gifts of \$250 or greater, their name is engraved on our memorial plaque which is displayed in our office. Simply send us, along with your gift, the name of the person you are honoring and the name and address of the family to whom you'd like the acknowledgement sent. We'll be happy to send out cards.

Special Thanks

- Thank you Diane Fasselius for donating a case of bottled water!
- Thank you Karen Gravel for your donation of diapers!
- Thank you Tom & Ruth Becker for letting us borrow your crockpots to serve food at the February Membership Event!
- Thank you Carol Griffin Arling for baking cookies for the February Membership Event!
- Thank you to the students, parents, and members who joined us for the February Membership Event to hear about the March for Life Pilgrimage to Washington DC!
- Thank you John & Colleen Myers for the donation of diapers!
- Thank you to Stephanie, a student at Emmaus Bible College, for volunteering at our office on a weekly basis!
- Thank you to Sarah Seele, a student at Loras College, for volunteering at our office on a weekly basis!

Please *spiritually* adopt an unborn baby.

Participants in the Spiritual Adoption program pledge to pray for 40 weeks, from March 25-December 25, for the safety of an unborn baby, especially one in danger of abortion. While this child remains unknown to us, God knows him or her. During the 40 weeks, you will receive updates on the development of the child right here in this section of the monthly newsletter! We hope that you will participate in this program and please also pray this as a family – what a beautiful way to share the sanctity of life with your children!

Jesus came to earth not on Christmas Day, but nine months earlier with Mary's miraculous pregnancy. Thus the nine month period of prayer beginning March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation, until December 25, Christmas.

Simply cut out the below prayer card and place it somewhere that will remind you to pray every day for your spiritually adopted baby.



- Your prayers for the mission of Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc.
- Scholarship entries from high school seniors
- Stamps and toilet paper
- Mark your calendar for the LIFE Dinner: Friday, May 1st

IOWA CONSTITUTION  **UPDATE**
AMENDMENT

To update you all, as of February 14th, the Iowa Protect Life Amendment has:

- ✓ Passed out of the Iowa Senate Judiciary Committee
- ✓ Passed out of the Iowa House Judiciary Committee
- ✓ Passed the full Iowa Senate

The Amendment still needs to pass the full House. House Democrats have requested a public hearing, which could happen before the end of February.

Contact your legislators and tell them your opinion on this amendment.

We will let you know when the public hearing is scheduled as soon as we hear. This is a long process. If the Protect Life Amendment passes in this legislative session it will need to pass again next year before a vote by the people of Iowa.

Iowans for Life has more information at this link: <https://www.iowansforlife.org/2020/02/protect-life-amendment-passes-senate/>



Dubuque County
Right To Life, Inc.

2205 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa 52001

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Dubuque County Right to Life's
28th Annual L.I.F.E. Dinner
Friday, May 1, 2020
We look forward to seeing you there!