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Deborah Cooney  
Right To Life...  www.dcrtl.com



L.  F. E. TIME

Life is for Everyone

August 2021

Volume 24, Number 8

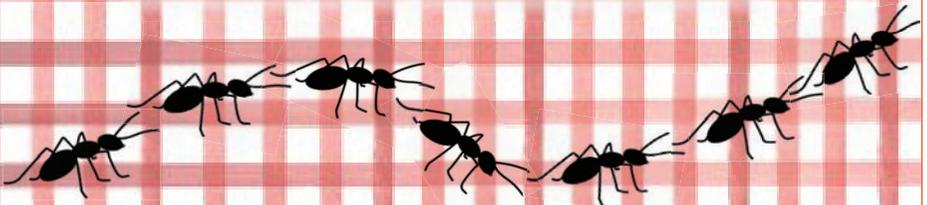
# Membership PICNIC

**Thursday, August 5th from 6-8pm**  
**Wagner Pavilion in Asbury Park**

Please join us for our annual membership picnic! Sandwiches, chips, fruit, cookies, and bottled water will be provided, as well as table service. Please feel free to bring your own beverage if you'd like! We look forward to celebrating LIFE with you at this fun fellowship event!

DCRTL will be providing ALL the food, individually wrapped.  
Please do not bring a side dish to pass. Thank you!

**Please join us & bring the whole family!**



*Wish  
List:*



Life Dinner Donations



Bottled Water



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# August 2021

Volume 24, Number 8  
Published Monthly

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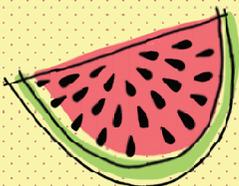
### Office Hours:

Mon.—Fri.: 9am—4pm  
Weekends: Closed

### Dyersville Office:

1657 15th Avenue S.E.  
Dyersville, Iowa 52040  
(563) 875-9152

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.



# August

## July

Tues., 27<sup>th</sup> - Sun., Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> **DCRTL Educational Booth at the Dubuque County Fair**

## August

Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> **Membership Picnic, Wagner Pavilion in Asbury Park, 6-8pm**

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> Board of Director's Meeting

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> **Prayer Service & Mass for Life!**  
• **Prayer Service:** Mt. Olivet Cemetery, 6:00pm  
• **Mass for Life:** St. Joseph Church in Key West, 6:30pm  
• **Dinner:** Church Basement following Mass

## September

Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> • **Outdoor Pro-Life Stations of the Cross, Holy Ghost Church in Dubuque, 6:00pm**

Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> Board of Director's Meeting

## DCRTL Educational Booth at the Dubuque County Fair

DCRTL will again have an educational booth at the Dubuque County Fair! We are so eager to be able to promote LIFE at our booth to **thousands** of people! From Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup> we will be handing out 12-week old fetal models,



educational pens, lollipops, pins, magnets, stickers, brochures, newsletters, bags, and more! Our booth will have the fetal model display, educating fair-goers of life in the womb from month 1 to birth, as well as our large Abortion Timeline banner that compares side-by-side the gruesome abortion procedures to the timeline of the stages of fetal development. It is incredibly eye opening!



Our booth provides a great opportunity to educate our community on the sanctity of life, engage them in dialogue, and to invite them into the pro-life mission. It's a wonderful way to educate and it's a great deal of fun. If you are at the fair, please stop by the DCRTL booth to say hello to the wonderful volunteers! Thank you!!

## Can You Help Give Our Birds A Home?

Here at the DCRTL office we are so blessed to listen to the beautiful birds happily chirping during our workday. It's lovely! Unfortunately, they tend to make nests (and very big messes!) between the beams and roof overhang on the front of the building. To solve this issue, we are searching for someone who has a very large "multi-unit" bird-house that they would like to donate, or someone who would be willing to make one. And if your or someone you know would be willing to install it with a metal stake or pole into the ground, that would certainly be appreciated too!





## A Note From Ashley Stackis

I'm excited to still be a part of DCRTL, even from Colorado Springs! During the interim period until a new Executive Director is hired, I've been helping out remotely where needed (while enjoying the view of the mountains from my bedroom window). I sadly expect this may be the last newsletter I have the privilege of writing to you though. To be honest, when I started as the Director over three years ago, writing the newsletter was incredibly intimidating. It's amazing how tackling intimidating or scary tasks can become something of enjoyment and love. And it has been just that! I encourage you to think of something intimidating to you in the pro-life movement, and tackle it with courage. You never know how it may turn into something fruitful - not just for yourself, but for others too. I received an email from Students for Life of America the other day about embracing controversy, which is almost inevitable in the pro-life mission, and certainly a large intimidator! I thought it was SO good, I needed to share it with you. So here it is...

**Think About It...** It's one of the abortion industry's sneakiest moves...Painting pro-lifers as the bad guys. They are the ones killing millions of defenseless babies, yet they've managed to paint us as the ones creating controversy. Think about it - do you feel a little nervous to wear your pro-life shirt out and about? Worried that someone who disagrees will get in your face?



They've tricked us into thinking we're out-of-line by ruffling feathers. But here's the truth: **You are NOT the controversy – abortion is.** And we must embrace the controversy if we want to abolish abortion. Keep in mind here, controversy and confrontation are NOT synonymous with violence. What it does mean is the willingness and courage to show up where abortion battles are being fought and to have the hard conversations.

**We should confront the controversy of abortion, wherever it is, and in whatever form.**

If we **truly** believe abortion is the greatest evil of our generation, then we **are obliged** to speak against it, at every opportunity possible. If you're not fully convinced, consider Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr...

In his day, he was hated by many. Dr. King intentionally demonstrated knowing that he was going to create controversy and he, *like many others*, ended up in jail. While he was in jail, **eight clergymen hand-drafted a letter to him** entitled "A Call for Unity." In it, they basically blamed him for causing "needless disturbance." Yes, they blamed *him* for the violence with which the racists responded to his demonstrations... instead of blaming the racists for their own actions. Dr. King marched and protested for the same reasons you go out to educate others about abortion: **because he cared about a grave violation of human rights.**

I hope you'll remember Dr. King's example the next time an abortion supporter tries to demonize you for your pro-life stance. But remember... not all controversy is created equal. Activists can be hated for two different reasons: our message or our personal character. It should **be your message that sometimes "offends"....not you.** We are called to speak the truth with charity and love. A dissenter may not remember exactly what you said about fetal development or *Roe v. Wade*, but they will remember how you made them feel.

If you feel wary about embracing controversy, we encourage you to reach out to our office for resources, both online and from our library. We would be more than happy to provide some guidance and help in responding to particular arguments or topics. **Your voice is needed.**

Yours in the service of LIFE,  
Ash

### Executive Director Update



The DCRTL Board of Directors and the Hiring Committee want to give you an update that the search for a new Executive Director is under way and going well! We hope to present the new and fierce leader in the upcoming newsletter - please keep an eye out for the big announcement!



### **Volunteer Gardener Needed**

Do you have a green thumb? Enjoy the outdoors? Volunteering your time? DCRTL is looking for a volunteer gardener to help keep our landscaping beautiful at the DCRTL office (2205 Carter Rd, DBQ). Our amazing and faithful pro-life gardener for MANY years, Ken Chapman, heartbreakingly passed away this Winter, and so we are seeking for someone to fill his big shoes. If you are interested helping out in any capacity, please call DCRTL at 563-556-5960, or via email at [dcrtl@dcrtl.org](mailto:dcrtl@dcrtl.org). Thank you!

## Prayer Service & Mass for Life!

Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup>

Please join us for a Prayer Service, Mass for Life, & dinner!

- **Prayer Service:** Mt. Olivet Cemetery, 6:00pm
- **Mass for Life:** St. Joseph Church in Key West, 6:30pm
- **Dinner:** Church Basement following Mass

The Prayer Service is VERY special this year as we will be gathering around the BEAUTIFUL Memorial to the Unborn that was reconstructed this summer. It is absolutely breathtaking and we can't wait to share this meaningful DCRTL project with you!



The Prayer Service will begin at 6:00pm at the Memorial to the Unborn in Mount Olivet Cemetery (Key West, IA), which will be led by Deacon Bill Biver. Following the service, we will proceed by path to St. Joseph's Church for the Mass for Life. Rev. Rodney Allers will celebrate the Mass and area priests are welcome to concelebrate! A light meal (pizza & cookies – yum!) will be provided in the church basement following Mass so we can enjoy some wonderful pro-life fellowship. Everyone is welcome and people of all faith traditions are encouraged to attend. **See you there!!**

## Outdoor Pro-Life Stations of the Cross

September 12 | 6:00pm | Holy Ghost Church, Dubuque



Please join us for our 3rd Annual Outdoor Pro-Life Stations of the Cross at Holy Ghost Church in Dubuque! The Stations are located at the rear of the parking lot. If the weather does not cooperate we will be using the Stations inside the Church. Light refreshments will be served after. This event is to promote prayer for the sanctity of all life, from conception to natural death. Please join us!

## The Hyde Amendment Is Under Attack!

The Hyde Amendment, first enacted in 1976, prevents federal tax payer funds from being used to pay for abortion in Medicaid and federal employee health plans. The Hyde Amendment is estimated to have saved over 2.4 million lives.

As Congress begins work on government funding bills for the 2022 fiscal year, pro-abortion advocates in both the House and the Senate have repeatedly stated that the Hyde Amendment will be eliminated. President Biden also deliberately removed the Hyde Amendment from his proposed budget for 2022.

Eliminating Hyde destroys over 40 years of unprecedented bipartisan support for a measure which saves human lives. If the Hyde Amendment is eliminated, more unborn babies will die!

### What can you do?

Call or email your member of Congress to share your feelings about the Hyde Amendment. Monitor social media and local newspapers for misinformation about the Hyde Amendment. Write a letter to the editor in response to any inaccurate information about the Hyde Amendment. Point out how it has saved countless lives.

To learn more about the Hyde Amendment and what you can do to help save what is probably the **greatest** domestic abortion-reduction measure **ever** enacted by Congress, visit the *National Right to Life's* website at <https://www.nrlc.org/hyde>.

## A Perfect Summertime Item!

Grab yourself or someone you know a DCRTL tumbler! They are stainless steel, hold up to 20oz, insulated to keep drinks hot or cold for up to SIX hours, has a slide-action lid, and are high quality to last you a long time!

Get your very own DCRTL tumbler for only \$10.00! Please feel free to pick up at your convenience during our office hours, as there will be plenty available in our front entryway. Simply drop a \$10.00 donation (per tumbler) in the donation box. Thank you!



# DCRTL Grows Leaders

Simply open the camera on your smartphone, hover over the QR code, and it will take you to the videos. Or go to this link: <https://qrco.de/DCRTL>



If you haven't had a chance to watch the "DCRTL Grows Leaders" testimonials yet, you can do so by scanning the QR code or typing in the URL to your browser! We hope these videos provide a small glimpse into the difference that education makes in our community and then spreads to other communities making an even greater impact! **We are so proud of the countless pro-life leaders who have flourished throughout the years because of DCRTL.**

It is because of our dedicated donors, like you, that these pro-life leaders are **changing hearts** and **saving lives**. **Education is pro-active action to end abortion.** DCRTL is on the frontlines day in and day out educating on the sanctity of all human life, from conception to natural death. But we need **YOU** to continue our life-saving mission. Please consider making a one-time gift and a monthly gift to DCRTL **today**.

**This campaign is DCRTL's only major fundraiser for the year and we need your financial support now more than ever. If you haven't yet mailed in your Life Dinner donation, please do so as soon as possible. We are very behind financially to where we should be.**

**GOAL** is to raise \$96,000...  
**We've RAISED** \$58,150...

**=WHICH MEANS WE ARE BEHIND BY \$37,850!**

**Please, we need your help! If you have not mailed in your Life Dinner donation yet, please do so at your soonest convenience. From the bottom of our hearts, [thank you](#) for your continued support!!!**



## Pro-Life Onesies!



Honor a new mom and celebrate new life in a special way. Donate \$25 or more and we'll send a custom designed DCRTL onesie (size 12 months) to the new Mom on your behalf with a congratulatory card. Just mail DCRTL a donation with a note that includes the new mom's name & mailing address. We'll take care of blessing her with this beautiful gift!



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Larry Friedman



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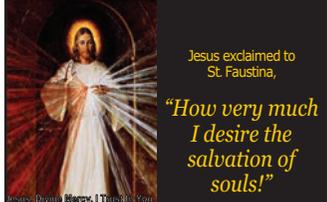
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Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.  
Jer. 1:5



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"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you..."  
Jeremiah 1:5



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Jeremiah 1:5

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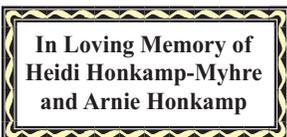
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## Memorial to the Unborn UPDATE:

We are incredibly excited to share the big news that the Memorial to the Unborn is finished! Please join us at the Prayer Service on August 26th to appreciate the beauty of this Memorial site, or stop by Mount Olivet Cemetery any time your schedule allows (10378 Military Road). Please see the pictures below for a preview! There is limestone rock throughout, a stamped concrete pad under the bench, numerous waterfalls, hydro-seed grass application around the perimeter, with of course the beautiful pond, refreshed plaques, cypress conifer bushes, hydrangea bushes, and major waterfalls at the top of the stream. WOW! You have to see it in person to really appreciate it!

Thank you SO VERY MUCH to Steve & Connie Hardie for your dedication to this Memorial for MANY years! Thank you as well to everyone who donated towards this wonderful and important initiative to honor and remember all children lost to abortion, as well as to provide a place of hope, healing, and reflection for those affected by abortion. Your dedication and support of this Memorial is making a huge difference in the lives of many.



## We Love Our Friends!

Please follow us on social media to keep up-to-date with DCRTL events, news items, articles, and so much more than what we can provide in this newsletter. We also have a BEAUTIFUL website that was completely updated last year. Please check it out if you haven't yet. Thank you!!



@righttolifedubuque



@DCRTL



@dcrtlife



dcrtl.org

## HAPPENINGS EMAILS

Maybe once or twice a week, we send out a DCRTL event reminder via email.

It is a great way to stay informed of local happenings. Just call our office at 563-556-5960 or email us at [dcrtl@dcrtl.org](mailto:dcrtl@dcrtl.org) to be added to our DCRTL Happenings Email list!



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St. Columbkille  
Dubuque, IA

**DEFEND  
LIFE!**

## Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

### Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential, and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release, and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal, and healing. Each weekend is run by volunteers who care deeply about your needs. Many of the facilitators have suffered the same loss.



### Rachel's Vineyard can help you

Rachel's Vineyard can help you find your inner voice. It can help you experience God's love and compassion on a profound level. It creates a place where men and women can share, often for the first time, their deepest feelings about abortion. You are allowed to dismantle troubling secrets in an environment of emotional and spiritual safety. Rachel's Vineyard is healing for the soul. Participants, who have been trapped in anger toward themselves or others, experience forgiveness. Peace is found. Lives are restored. A sense of hope and meaning for the future is finally re-discovered.

### DCRTL's Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Details:

**September 24-26, 2021**

**Shalom Spirituality Center, Dubuque, IA**

- **Schedule:** The weekend begins on Friday evening, with arrivals starting at 4:30 PM and concludes on Sunday, mid-afternoon.
- **Cost:** \$150.00 registration fee includes lodging for two nights, one meal on Friday, three meals on Saturday, and two meals on Sunday, plus all materials provided. Financial assistance is available for those who request help.
- **Accommodations:** Participants will be staying at the Shalom Spirituality Center in Dubuque. You will have your own bedroom with shared common spaces and bathrooms. We will also have COVID-19 precautions in place.
- **Confidentiality:** DCRTL strictly respects confidentiality and privacy. If you or someone you know is hurting, please reach out today. Please email ([dcrtl@dcrtl.org](mailto:dcrtl@dcrtl.org)) or call (563-556-5960) DCRTL if you have any questions about participating in the retreat.

**To register, please go to: [dcrtl.org/RV](https://dcrtl.org/RV)**

For more information about Rachel's Vineyard and other retreat locations, visit: [rachelsvineyard.org](https://rachelsvineyard.org)

**We hope you, or someone you know, can join us for this life-changing retreat.  
Transform the pain of the past into hope and love. You are not alone.**

## DCRTL Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Needs

DCRTL is hosting a *Rachel's Vineyard Retreat* September 24-26, 2021, to help women and men heal from their abortion or experiences with abortion. We will have many opportunities for support if you are interested in donating your time, talents, or treasures. Please reach out to us if you would like to be involved in any way!

**Prayer Team:** We are searching for **MANY** individuals to join the "Rachel's Vineyard Prayer Team". During the entire weekend retreat there will be at least 1 person (but hopefully 2) praying for all of the participants and retreat leaders the whole time. **Will you please join to pray?** We need at least 48 volunteers to fill all the time slots.

### **To sign up:**

- **Email:** [dcrtl@dcrtl.org](mailto:dcrtl@dcrtl.org)
- **Call:** 563-556-5960
- **Online:** [www.shorturl.at/twBR8](http://www.shorturl.at/twBR8)



Please reach out to sign up or if you have any questions. Your prayers are **INCREDIBLY** important during this weekend of hope and healing. Please consider dedicating just 1 hour of your time for the participants and leaders. They need your prayers during this life-changing weekend. **Thank you!**

**Financial Support:** If you feel called to donate to cover the many expenses of hosting this retreat, please consider mailing a donation with "RV Donation" written in the memo line. Your donations directly support this life-changing program! You can mail donations to: DCRTL, 2205 Carter Road, Dubuque, IA 52001. **Thank you!**

## Iowa Can Block Planned Parenthood From Sex Ed Programs

The Iowa Supreme Court ruled on June 30, 2021 that the state of Iowa can ban abortion providers from taxpayer-funded sexual education programs. In a 6-1 decision, the high court ruled in favor of legislation passed by Iowa lawmakers and signed by Gov. Kim Reynolds (R) in 2019. The law, House File 766, includes sections that block abortion providers from receiving federal grant money through two sexual education and teen pregnancy prevention programs.

The ruling reverses a decision by a lower court in 2020 that placed a permanent injunction on enforcement of the ban after a lawsuit by Planned Parenthood. According to local news, Planned Parenthood, which commits around 95% of abortions in Iowa, received nearly \$200,000 last year through the two state-run programs, Community Adolescent Pregnancy Program (CAPP) and Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP).

The court's majority opinion, written by Justice Dana Oxley, noted "three different purposes" for Iowa's exclusion of Planned Parenthood in CAPP and PREP. "The State presented three different purposes for the law: to express its preference for childbirth over abortion, to ensure that its state-sponsored sexual education message is not delivered by entities that derive significant revenue from abortion-related activities, and to avoid indirectly subsidizing abortion providers," Oxley wrote, concluding that "all three purposes advanced by the State are legitimate purposes under rational basis review." "The government has considerable leeway in selecting who will deliver a government message," including in programs related to sexuality and teen pregnancy, Oxley's opinion said. While Iowa sex ed programs prohibit discussion of abortion, "the goals of promoting abstinence and reducing teenage pregnancy could arguably still be undermined when taught by the entity that performs nearly all abortions in Iowa," the opinion continued. "The state could also be concerned that using abortion providers to deliver sex education programs to teenage students would create relationships between the abortion provider and the students the state does not wish to foster in light of its policy preference for childbirth over abortion," Oxley wrote.

Planned Parenthood said that it has received funding through CARP and PREP since 2005 and has reached tens of thousands of Iowans at more than thirty schools and over a dozen community-based groups, the Associated Press reported. Last year alone, they received nearly \$200,000 through CARP and PREP. Planned Parenthood is known for encouraging extremely high-risk, dangerous sexual behavior to minors, illegally assisting child rapists, and pushing transgender ideology to children as young as four years old. In 2019, a former Planned Parenthood "sex education" teacher, Monica Cline, described how Planned Parenthood uses school programs to groom girls to have abortions. "The sex education grooms them for promiscuity. Grooms them for STD treatment, and grooms them for abortion," she told the Daily Caller. Cline was happy with the Iowa Supreme Court's ruling yesterday, saying that families "should be celebrating." "Planned Parenthood's entire business model relies on separating kids from their parents, who are referred to as barriers to service. If Planned Parenthood is allowed in our schools, it means they are talking to your kids about sex, contraception, STDs, and their version of healthy relationships," said Cline.

Planned Parenthood, the country's top abortion provider and a leading transgender hormone drug provider, claims to be America's "largest provider of sex education," and reported reaching 1.1 million people through sex ed programs in its 2020 annual report. Last month, flyers designed by Planned Parenthood and sent home with eighth-graders in Tacoma, Washington, instructed students that they could get an abortion "at any age" without telling their parents and could legally have sexual relations with other children. Washington voters in November had approved a bill backed by Planned Parenthood mandating so-called "sexual education" content in all public K-12 classrooms. Other states, like Illinois, have similar policies.

Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. applauds the Iowa Supreme Court's ruling on this case. Let's protect our children!

[www.lifesitenews.com/news/iowa-can-block-planned-parenthood-from-sex-ed-programs-court-rules](http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/iowa-can-block-planned-parenthood-from-sex-ed-programs-court-rules)

- Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Pro-Life Swim Night & the Pro-Life Bridge Day!
- Thank you to Katie McGuire, Karen Gravel, Jennifer Kalashian, Barb Fiske, Mary Kluesner, Linda Taylor, and JoAnn Olson for helping to cover the DCRTL Office!
- Thank you to Kayla Sass and Luke for volunteering in the office!
- Thank you to Leon & Joan Metz for donating postage stamps to the office!



## "Life is..." Pictures Needed!

Children create darling moments that let you know what life is all about. From spaghetti-covered faces to tubby-time games, these are the memories you wouldn't trade for the world. And these are the moments that are meant to be shared.

In 2013, Dubuque County Right to Life launched the "Life Is..." campaign by inviting everyone in our community to send in their favorite photos of memorable moments in the lives of children they knew. Those photos were all given captions to match the pictures. Two favorites are "Life Is...Spaghetti" featuring a small child in her highchair with spaghetti all over her face and "Life Is... the Journey" with a photo of a little one strapped in his car seat ready to go.

Selected pictures and slogans have been placed on billboards, bumper stickers, tote bags, shirts, coffee mugs, and other fun items. Our "Life Is..." campaign has proven to be very successful.

Let the world see what life means to you by sending in an adorable photo of your child or depicting a special family moment for use in local ads and billboards. Simply email your photo to [dcrtl@dcrtl.org](mailto:dcrtl@dcrtl.org) with the subject line "Life Is..." and a short description of the subject. Please make sure there are no copyrights or professional photography associated with the photo. We'll let you know if we decide to use your photo. We always like to have an abundance of options to choose from!

Please get involved! Share your little bundle of joy with the world and help spread the message that Life Is...precious.



## Memorials & Honorariums

### In Memory Of:

- **Matt Hoskins**, given by Daniel & Barb Nicholson
- **Robert Lucas**, given by Dick & Jean Mescher
- **Anna Meyer**, given by Daniel & Barb Nicholson
- **Carol Pfeiler**, given by Louis Pfeiler
- **Jim Pihart**, given by Bill & Mary Mormann
- **Larry Scherrman**, given by Doris Wessels, John & Sue Lukasik, Ed & Mary Kluesner, Dr. Virgil & Marian Bourek, Dick & Jean Mescher, Daniel & Barb Nicholson, George & Bonnie Heisler, Ken & Darlene Besler, John & Patricia Scherrman, and Michael & Judith Meyer
- **Janet Schwendinger**, given by Ambrose & Marlene Koopman

### In Honor Of:

- **Susan Chapman's Birthday**, given by Dick & Jean Mescher
- **The Birth of Jack & Karen's Son, Richard**, given by Nate & Clairra Kapraun

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, 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 a card.

## A Quotable Quote...

By Carrie Gress:

"We are living amid a tremendous societal experiment that is revealing dramatically what happens when you denigrate the most fundamental, beautiful, and tender bond on earth—the bond between a mother and child. When that is destroyed, it doesn't take long for the rest of civilization to follow the same path, as we now witness daily."



Dubuque County  
**Right To Life, Inc.**

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