

Life is...Christmas.

Life is precious. Choose life.



L. F. E. TIME

Life is for Everyone

December 2021

Volume 24, Number 12

National Night of Prayer for Life

Wednesday, December 8, is the National Night of Prayer for Life on the celebration of the Immaculate Conception.

This year our night of prayer will be held in both Dubuque and Dyersville:

Church of the Nativity (1225 Alta Vista St., Dubuque, IA 52001)

- 6:00pm-9:00pm
 - 6:00pm Church of the Nativity Weekly Family Holy Hour
 - 7:15pm The Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
 - 8:15pm Liturgy of the Word, Benediction & Dismissal

Basilica of St. Francis Xavier (104 3rd St SW, Dyersville, IA 52040)

- 6:00pm-9:00pm
 - 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Liturgy of the Word
 - 6:30pm Period of Quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 - 8:00pm The Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
 - 8:45pm Benediction & Dismissal

It was on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception that Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas and the Unborn, first appeared to St. Juan Diego. The National Night of Prayer for Life bridges these feasts. It honors Mary and prays for her assistance in establishing a Culture of Life, to preserve liberty, to protect the faith and to beg her Son to revive our land. We will be united with churches across the country in prayer to end abortion and to restore God's blessings of Life, Liberty and Faith in America.

Please join us for a few hours, for one hour, or for even just a few minutes. Whatever your schedule allows! People of all faith traditions are invited and encouraged to participate!



Wish List:

- ◆ Postage Stamps
- ◆ Kleenex
- ◆ Butter Braid Orders
- ◆ Memorial Christmas Tree
- ◆ End of Year Donations

December 2021

Volume 24, Number 12
Published Monthly



Office Personnel:

Augustine Payne
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Contact Us:

2205 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa 52001
(563) 556-5960
dcrtl@dcrtl.org
www.dcrtl.org

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.



December

Thursday, 2 nd	Update on Dobbs by Art Gilloon , with refreshments. 5:30 - 7pm. DCRTL Office
Friday, 3 rd	Final Day to Order Butter Braids
Wednesday, 8 th	National Night of Prayer for Life , 6-9pm -Basilica of St. Francis Xavier, Dyersville -Church of the Nativity, Dubuque
Thursday, 16 th	Board of Director's Meeting
Friday, 17 th	Butter Braid Pick-Up: DCRTL Office 1:30pm -4pm
Saturday, 18 th	DCRTL Christmas Party , 1-4pm, DCRTL Office
Friday, 24 th	Christmas Eve (DCRTL Office Closed)
Saturday, 25 th	Merry Christmas!!!
Friday, 31 st	Happy New Year's Eve (DCRTL open from 9am-12:30pm)

January

Saturday, 1 st	Happy New Year!
TBD	DCRTL Walk for Life
Thursday, 20 th	Board Of Director's Meeting
Friday, 21 st	National March for Life - Washington D.C.
Saturday, 22 nd	Anniversary of Roe v. Wade & Doe v. Bolton

Butter Braids!

The perfect opportunity is available to ALL, to purchase the most delicious pastries while supporting our youth in their pilgrimage to the 2023 March for Life in Washington DC! Monies raised will provide scholarships to the top essay winners, as well as to students who need financial assistance to attend the March. These pastries are perfect to have on hand for a quick treat or of course breakfast during the busy holiday season. What's your favorite flavor?

- ◆ Apple
- ◆ Blueberry cream cheese
- ◆ Caramel rolls
- ◆ Cinnamon rolls with cream cheese frosting
- ◆ Cinnamon
- ◆ Cream cheese
- ◆ Raspberry
- ◆ Strawberry cream cheese

Whichever one(s) you choose, we promise you'll be satisfied! To order your Butter Braids, contact the DCRTL office at 563-556-5960 or via email at dcrtl@dcrtl.org.

Final Order Deadline: Please call or email your order by Friday, December 3

Pick-Up Date & Time: Friday, December 17 at the DCRTL office, between 1:30 pm and 4:00 pm

Cost: \$13/each (\$5.50 of that will go directly towards the March for Life Scholarship Fund)



A note from the Executive Director

Dear Fellow Pro-lifers – it is a joy and honor to serve you as Dubuque County Right To Life’s new Executive Director! When it comes to pro-life, it is an exciting time we are living in. Here in Dubuque, we just hosted our first ever Rachel’s Vineyard retreat for those who have been affected by an abortion. In the United States, Curtis Means, from Alabama made the Guinness World Record as the most premature baby to survive, just a month after the previous record holder, Richard Hutchinson from Wisconsin, set the record. See page 10 for more on that story.

In Texas, the ban on abortion from as early as 6 weeks has continued, and the Supreme Court is willing to hear a direct challenge to Roe v. Wade in the Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization. With these two cases in the news, and the time and season for family getting together, it’s important to know why Texas and Dobbs have chosen the 6th week and 15th week respectively. The 6th week is when the embryo’s heart can begin to be detected by an ultrasound machine, but in reality, it has already been beating since 21 days old. Also, some other developments that have started by the 6th week are the brain, lungs, arms, and legs. In regard to Dobbs choosing the 15th week, please see the 15 facts at 15 weeks on page 4. Most notably out of the list, the baby can already feel pain. Please keep the Supreme Court in your prayers that they may be open to the facts and have the courage to strike down Roe v. Wade.

For a summary of the Dobbs case along with some good news regarding the Iowa Supreme Court, please see the Court and Legislative Update by attorney, Art Galloon on page 5. Also, on December 2nd please come by our office for refreshments and an update by Art on what happened in the December 1st oral arguments. Regardless of what happens in the Dobbs case, our mission to educate the public on the humanity of the unborn and promote solutions that help expectant mothers and fathers will continue. In this, the season of joy, I wish you and your family a blessed and merry Christmas!!

Augustine Payne

Welcome to the Newest Elected DCRTL Board of Directors!



Congratulations to your newest elected members of the Board of Directors: Anna Durr, Darby Callahan, and Marian Bourek. We are so excited and fortunate to have such a delightful group of pro-life advocates who are willing to dedicate their time and efforts on our Board for a three-year term.

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!



15 Facts at 15 Weeks

The following is an excerpt from article by Katrina Furth, Ph.D. published through the Charlotte Lozier Institute on September 9, 2021. Please see the full article for further detail on each given fact.

“Introduction A unique human being forms at fertilization when a man’s sperm combines with a woman’s egg creating a zygote, a single-celled human embryo, with a unique set of genetic information that determines his or her physical traits. A new human being is called an embryo for the first eight weeks of life inside the womb and a fetus from nine weeks until birth. There is enough genetic variation that no two humans have been, or ever will be, genetically identical. That single-cell zygote will become a 30 trillion cell adult.

15 Amazing Facts about the 15-Week-Gestation Fetus

1. All of the major organs have formed.
2. The heart pumps 26 quarts of blood per day.
3. The heart has already beat approximately 15,800,000 times.
4. Each finger moves separately.
5. The fetus prefers sucking his left or right thumb.
6. The entire body responds to touch.
7. The fetus responds to taste.
8. The brain creates neurons at a rate of 250,000 per minute.
9. Brain connections formed at 15 weeks’ gestation last into adulthood.
10. The fetus can feel pain.
11. Females have most of the eggs that they will ever produce.
12. The fetus has practiced breathing for over six weeks.
13. Eye movements are easily seen in ultrasound recordings.
14. If a doctor took an X-ray this week, the fetus’s skeleton would be visible.
15. Surgeons have successfully performed surgery on fetuses at 15 weeks’ gestation.”



Image is from babycenter.com/pregnancy/week-by-week/15-weeks-pregnant



Christmas Party!!!



Saturday, December 18th, 1pm - 4pm

Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. Office (2205 Carter Road, Dubuque)

Please join us for this year’s DCRTL Christmas Party! We will have cookies, hot cocoa, crafts and everyone’s favorite Christmas music in the background for you, and as a special surprise for the kiddos, **Santa will arrive at 2:30pm!** So come and have a grand time, and be filled with Christmas cheer. **EVERYONE is invited!**

This year we are honoring **Clarity Clinic** with gifts at our Christmas Party and they are in need of the below items. Please consider blessing them by bringing to the party one of the following:

Baby First Aid and Safety Kit

Diaper Cream (Any Kind)

Baby Wipes

Baby Clothes (Size: Baby to Size 6)

Baby Wash (Shampoo or all-in-one)

Boys Socks (Size: Baby to Toddler)

Mittens (Baby and Toddler)

Baby Nail Clippers



Court and Legislative Update

By Arthur F. Gilloon, Attorney and Board Member

By the time you read this newsletter, the United States Supreme will have heard oral arguments in the case of Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. In 2018, Mississippi's pro-life legislature and Governor passed a law protecting unborn babies and their mothers from abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy. The lower Federal Courts determined that the law was unconstitutional under Roe v. Wade and other prior pro-abortion U.S. Supreme Court Decisions. Mississippi then filed a Petition for a Writ of Certiorari in the U.S. Supreme Court, asking the Court to approve the law. Even though oral arguments were to be presented to the Court on December 1, 2021, a decision is not expected until the summer of 2022. The Dobbs case will allow the Supreme Court to confront the bad legal framework of Roe v. Wade, which most legal scholars agree was a Constitutionally suspect decision in the first place. It is important to remember that the U.S. is one of only 7 nations in the world that allows abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy. Most countries limit abortions in some capacity, but the United States, Communist China, North Korea, Vietnam, Canada, the Netherlands, and Singapore have no limitations. With science confirming that the human heart starts beating in its most primitive form 21 days after conception, the human body is completely formed by 10 weeks, and that unborn babies can feel pain at 15 weeks, Roe v. Wade should be overturned.

The Supreme Court can decide to uphold all, part, or none of Roe. Depending upon the Court's decision, it may be possible for the 50 states to legislate on abortion and protect women in crisis pregnancies and their babies once again. All of us in our unborn state of being were as human then as we are now. There are positive, pro-life answers to crisis pregnancies that do not include killing the baby and harming the Mother. We must help these women and their unborn children before and after birth with all of our resources: financial, educational, and social. The legality of abortion should be left to the American people. If Roe is overturned, our work at DCRTL will not be over.

On a bright note, the Iowa Supreme Court ruled on June 30, 2021 that Planned Parenthood will not receive federal sex education grant funds in Iowa because PP profits off abortion. In Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, Inc. v. Kim Reynolds, et. al., the Iowa Court upheld a 2019 Iowa law that said Iowa does not have to give money to pro-abortion profiteers when distributing federal funds for sex education. Planned Parenthood had argued that the law was unconstitutional. In a 6-1 decision the Iowa Supreme Court disagreed. The Court's overwhelming majority upheld the right of Iowans, through their elected representatives, to favor childbirth over abortion. Planned parenthood performs 95% of all abortions in Iowa, and is the No. 1 killer of unborn babies in Iowa. The Court ruled that Iowa does not have to "partner" with baby-killing organizations like PP. This is a big pro-life legal victory!

Lastly, I need to correct last month's update. The Protect Life Amendment to the Iowa Constitution will be up for a second vote in the Iowa legislature in 2023, not 2022.

Thank You!

- Thank you to our previous board members for their time and commitment: John Freund, Katie McGuire, Rebecca McGrane, and Leon Jensen! Your time on the board is greatly appreciated!
- Thank you to Laura Dolehide, Katie McGuire, Colleen Myers, and Linda Taylor for volunteering in the office!
- Thank you to our office committee who set-up and provided refreshments for our first in-person membership meeting!
- Thank you to everyone who donated towards the John Deere Birdies for Charity Fundraising initiative! \$334.80 was raised for DCRTL!
- Thank you to Anna Brimeyer for donating toilet paper and bottled water, and Linda Taylor for donating a roll of stamps for our office!
- Thank you to Julia Schulfer for being DCRTL Executive Assistant this past year - we wish you and your family the best on your future endeavors!
- Thank you to Clarity Clinic for inviting us to have an educational table at the grand opening of their Tree of Life Education Center!

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORS



Pray for an end to abortion.

Larry Friedman



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Peosta, IA

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Bishop O'Neill Council East Dubuque, IL

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Council #15813
St. Columbkille Dubuque, IA

DEFEND LIFE!

St. Mary's Catholic School Pre-K3 Through Grade 8
East Dubuque, IL
"For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the LORD . . . plans to give you a future full of hope." Jeremiah 29:11

Mike Martin
US Navy Veteran
Member of American Legion Dubuque Post #6

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



Beckman Catholic High School
Dyersville, Iowa

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



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"If people spent an hour a week in Eucharistic Adoration, abortion would be ended."
Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Sign up for an hour or to sub at the Power of Prayer Eucharistic Adoration Chapel
Call Melissa Tittle at 563-564-6365

Catholic Parishes of the Emmaus Pastorate: 

St. Patrick, Colerburg; St. Mark, Edgewood; St. Joseph, Elkader; St. Mary, Strawberry Point; and Sacred Heart, Volga.

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you."
Jeremiah 1:5



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Dr. David & Eva Stabenow



Love them BOTH!

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563-583-9117
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"Do whatever He tells you." John 2:5

Jesus wants YOU to save the babies.

John & Ellen Markham
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The determination of the need for legal services and the choice of a lawyer are extremely important decisions and should not be base solely upon advertisements or self-proclaimed expertise. This disclosure is required by the rule of the Supreme Court of Iowa.

Yarn soup
• a feast of fibers •



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Bill & Jan Frye

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Drs. Clark & Ann Williams

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory Of:

- **Beth Fair**, given by Linda Chapman
- **Rev. John Hulsizer**, given by John & Sue Lukasik, John & Ellen Markham, and Dan & Barb Nicholson
- **DJ Jaeger**, given by Steve & Kerry Koopmann, John & Ellen Markham, and Dan & Barb Nicholson
- **Marina Klein**, given by George & Bonnie Heisler
- **Steve Koopmann**, given by Bob & Debbie Anderson and Koopmann Family
- **Julius Kruser**, given by James & Catherine Giese
- **Rosemary Owens**, given by Colleen Myers
- **Betty Schatz**, given by Joyce Honkamp
- **Joan Willenborg**, given by Jim & Kathy Conlon
- **Catherine, Noelle and Christopher Yaklin**, given by Sebastian & Danielle Yaklin

In Honor Of:

- **Jan Brown for her acts of kindness towards her neighbors**, given by Dorothy Wilwert
- **Dan & Barb Nicholson's 65th wedding anniversary**, given by John & Sue Lukasik

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.

Help DCRTL while you shop!



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support DCRTL every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the same shopping experience as Amazon.com, but with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to DCRTL.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com. If you have an existing Amazon.com account, you can use that to sign in and then under "Account & Lists", click "AmazonSmile Charity Lists" and search for **Dubuque County Right to Life**.

If you don't already have an account, click "create an account". On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Please select **Dubuque County Right to Life**. Your selection will be remembered and then every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation. **But always remember to begin your shopping at smile.amazon.com! Thank you!**

Heading South for the Winter?



Please contact the DCRTL office (reception@dcrtl.org; 563-556-5960) with your winter address and the dates during which you will be gone. You may choose to have us discontinue the monthly newsletters or have them sent to your winter address. We can also make sure you receive it via email! Thank you!

Thank you from the Rachel's Vineyard Coordinators

Amy and I would like to thank everyone who helped with our Rachel's Vineyard Retreat. Without you, the women and men who attended would not have had a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem their hearts broken by abortion. Together, we gave them a way to begin healing.

Thank you, team! You gave of your hearts and time to come and minister to the participants of this retreat.

Thank you to the DCRTL board for believing in our mission and supporting us.

Thank you to Ashley Stackis! You helped get the Retreat started, and worked very hard to make this retreat possible, and to Julia who took over after Ashley moved.

Thank you to the many donors who blessed us financially.

Thank you to Butts Florist for donating such beautiful flowers.

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for providing excellent meals.

Thank you to all the ladies who crocheted prayer shawls.

Thank you for making the angels.

Thank you for all who prayed for the team and the participants. The Lord moved in amazing and beautiful ways in response to your prayers.

Again Thank you,

Teresa and Amy

A testimony from an attendee of the Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

"When I attended Rachel's Vineyard it was because I wanted to volunteer to help others. It was recommended that I attend one first. I had a abortion 32 years ago and I thought my healing was pretty much done. That was not the case. This weekend showed me there was more healing that needed to be done. It was a blessing to share the weekend with other women who went through the same experiences that I did. You realize that you are not alone and there are so many other women who are hurting and need to heal also. I am hoping to volunteer at this retreat next year to help others."

Alabama boy breaks world record as most premature infant to survive

The following is an excerpt from article by Yaron Steinbuch published by New York Post on November 11, 2021.

"A 16-month-old Alabama boy who weighed less than a pound when he was born at 21 weeks and one day has set a world record — being named the most premature infant to survive, according to Guinness World Records. Curtis Means and his twin C'Asya had a less than 1 percent chance to survive after they were born to Michelle "Chelly" Butler at UAB Hospital in Birmingham on July 5, 2020... Sadly, C'Asya died the following day, but her brother — who weighed a mere 14.8 ounces at birth — made it, setting a new world record. He spent 275 days in the hospital, where he was removed from a ventilator after three months and discharged in April... The plucky boy celebrated his first birthday on July 5, at which point he qualified as the most premature baby to survive... 'The first thing that struck me when I saw Curtis was how tiny he was, how fragile his skin was. I was amazed at such a young age that he was alive and that he was responding to the treatments,' Dr. Colm Travers, co-director of the hospital's



SALVATION ARMY

Perhaps the most surprising group holding to immoral ideologies is the Salvation Army. Most of us are aware of the good work done by them, but few people are aware that they promote contraception (which can be abortifacients) and approve of abortion in certain cases. The Salvation Army's International Headquarters states their position:

"The Salvation Army believes that termination can occur only when carrying the pregnancy further seriously threatens the life of the mother; or reliable diagnostic procedures have identified a foetal abnormality considered incompatible with survival for more than a very brief post natal period. In addition, rape and incest are brutal acts of dominance violating women physically and emotionally. This situation represents a special case for the consideration of termination as the violation may be compounded by the continuation of the pregnancy.....A serious commitment to the protection and care of the unborn calls us to a commitment to the prevention of unwanted pregnancy through means such as access to reliable birth control..."



DCRTL believes that all life is sacred, no matter the circumstances of conception nor the "judged" quality of life after birth. Should an innocent child be handed capital punishment for the crime of his father? Or should a child's life be cut short because she may have a disability? This Christmas season, please consider dropping a note in the kettle (example below) rather than giving money to the Salvation Army.



Dear Salvation Army,

According to your International Headquarters, the Salvation Army approves of abortion in cases of rape, incest, health of the mother, and fetal deformity. As a "no exceptions" pro-lifer, I can't, in good conscience, contribute to your kettle. If your position were different, I would most certainly donate to your cause. Please reconsider your position. Thank you!

Memorial Christmas Tree

Remember those whom we've lost over the years. A loved one, a friend, a child through miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion, etc....

We will have a beautiful Memorial Christmas Tree displayed in the front of our office, decorated with handmade angel feather ornaments, each one in remembrance of someone special. If you would like us to display an ornament to remember that someone this Christmas season, please fill out the below memorial slip and mail to DCRTL (2205 Carter Road, Dubuque, IA 52001).



In Memory Of: _____

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

I/We would like this to remain anonymous



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