



# Pro-Life Waco 2019 Year in Review

[www.prolifewaco.com](http://www.prolifewaco.com)



## Significance of the battle for life in Waco

This map of Texa reveals the importance of a vigorous battle against abortion in Waco. Eight cities in Texas have facilities for mass killing of pre-born children. Sadly, Waco is one of these. The only Texas midsize cities with abortion centers are McAllen and Waco. Waco is the only Texas city where abortion returned after being shuttered by the Texas HB2 law.

Planned Parenthood has committed to bring abortion back to midsize cities in West Texas such as Lubbock, Abilene, or Midland. This plan has not been implemented. In addition to our outreach in support of abortion-minded moms coming to Waco, we fight vigorously for life to deter Planned Parenthood from expanding into West Texas. The battle for life in Waco has direct impact the lives of clients coming to Waco from dozens of counties and broader implications throughout Texas. We will never relent!

## Second Sunday Ecumenical Pro-Life Gathering



Of course, a big attraction is authentic Italian pasta and meatballs. It all happens at St. Mary's Church Hall. For the meeting from 1 to 2 p.m., we present the pro-life initiatives of PLW and promote other pro-life ministries in Central Texas.

We also hosted out-of-town speakers in April and October:  
**Jannique Stewart**, Life Training Institute, shared about the recent retraction of her speaking engagement at Cornell University and presented strategies to counter counter common pro-abortion "thinking." Learn more about her ministry: <http://bit.ly/36KKrTZ>  
**Monica Cline**, founder of It Takes a Family, drew on over a decade as a Planned Parenthood sex educator to provide insights on the content and dangers of "progressive" sex ed promoted in Texas and the country. Learn more: [monicacline.com](http://monicacline.com)

# 40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

Pro-Life Waco and Care Net Pregnancy Center delivered a remarkable spring 40 Days for Life prayer vigil at Planned Parenthood beginning March 6.

40 Days for Life was promoted at the Pastors Breakfast on January 10. Over 100 attended the breakfast at the Baylor Club delivered by CareNet Pregnancy Center and Pro-Life Waco. The keynote speaker was the Shawn Carney, CEO of 40 Days for Life.



Over 500 volunteers provided prayer coverage from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday for the 40 days. Many drove an hour or more to pray.

The 40 Days campaign was directed by Aine Fitzgerald, who has become a nationally recognized local vigil leader. Many others stepped forward as 40 Days team leaders.

All prayer volunteers received a free 40 Days T-shirt (black in English or Spanish and pink in English). Free yard signs in both languages were available to all. Many churches displayed the 40 Days for Life yard signs.

A prominent feature of 40 Days for Life Waco was a full-page, color ad in the *Waco Tribune-Herald* printed March 31. The ad listed the names of 96 local pastors affirming the goals of 40 Days for Life. Robert Lehman led this effort to broaden pastor involvement in outreach in support of babies and their moms.

The closing event featured a Jericho March around Planned Parenthood, a candlelight vigil and a very cold temperature. Nevertheless, over 100 strong life defenders attended. Closing event video: <http://bit.ly/2tQGf4d>



Spring 2019 prayer vigil is in 377 cities and 30 countries.

Each day during 40 Days for Life, individuals and churches internationally join in prayer with one-hour commitments outside local abortion facilities. Prayer volunteers seek God's help in guiding mothers to choose life for babies and avoid personal heartbreak, healing for men and women suffering from past abortions, and for conversion of abortion facility workers.

Sponsored in Central Texas by:  
 Care Net Pregnancy Center of Central Texas  
 and Pro-Life Waco

We support and encourage Central Texas to be a part of the 40 Days for Life prayer vigil. Let us pray for decisions that both the preborn baby and the mother can live with. We pray for an end to abortion in Waco. Let us embrace the image bearers of God as our brothers and sisters, deserving of our support in life and our sacrificial love.

40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil  
 March 6 through April 13

In Waco, at the public right-of-way of Planned Parenthood, 700 W HWY 6.  
 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday  
 You can still participate in the prayer vigil!  
[prolifewaco@gmail.com](mailto:prolifewaco@gmail.com) 254-644-0407 [www.40daysforlife.com/waco](http://www.40daysforlife.com/waco)

With the support of these pastors and churches, prayer volunteers will be praying in the public right-of-way of Planned Parenthood during 40 Days for Life.

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <b>Pastor Stanley Adams</b><br>New Deliverance Missionary Baptist Worship Center, Waco | <b>Pastor Patrick Ebner</b><br>Holy Family Catholic, Copperton, TX                                | <b>Pastor Larry Krueger</b><br>St. Paul Lutheran, Waco   | <b>Pastor Kurt Ruiz</b><br>Grace Lutheran, Martin                       |
| <b>Pastor Chip Anthony</b><br>Trinity Avenue Baptist, McCombs                          | <b>Rev. Billy Edwards</b><br>Brazos Meadow Baptist, Waco  | <b>Pastor Christopher Lange</b><br>First Baptist, Calvert                                      | <b>Pastor Stephen Rymerson</b><br>Peace Lutheran, Hewitt                |
| <b>Pastor David Arnett</b><br>Bible Way Church, Waco                                   | <b>Rev. Cyril Egan</b><br>St. Rose of the Sacred Catholic, Waco                                   | <b>Pastor Kevin Lanz</b><br>Trinity Lutheran, Woodway  | <b>Pastor Mark Sandol</b><br>Maranatha Church, Belmad                   |
| <b>Rev. Jim Bentley</b><br>Church of the Nazarene, Waco                                | <b>Pastor Colin Errington</b><br>First Baptist, Meridian  | <b>Rev. Daniel Lee</b><br>St. Peter Catholic at Baylor, Waco                                   | <b>Senior Pastor Brad Sands, Ph. D.</b><br>First Woodway Baptist Church |
| <b>Rev. James Berger</b><br>Evangelist Baptist, Waco                                   | <b>Rev. Ron Feather</b><br>St. Joseph's and Sacred Heart, Lant                                    | <b>Rev. Peter Magalasan</b><br>Christ Lutheran, Waco   | <b>Pastor Jimmy Beard</b><br>Antioch Community Church, Waco             |
| <b>Pastors Brandon &amp; Jeanne Berry</b><br>Goodland Church, Waco                     | <b>Pastor Albert Fuentes</b><br>Catholic, Chapel, Waco  | <b>Rev. Carlo Benjamin Magraye</b><br>Sacred Heart Catholic, Waco                              | <b>Rev. James Ekeocha</b><br>St. Jerome Catholic, Woodway               |
| <b>Bishop Charles Bledsoe</b><br>Holy Redeemer Church of God, Waco                     | <b>Rev. Joe Galeway</b><br>St. Mary of the Assumption, Waco                                       | <b>Evangelist Ruby McGray</b><br>A City of Faith Ministries, Russell                           | <b>Father Xavier Silvasadan</b><br>Pastor Brent Station                 |
| <b>Pastor Charlie Brown</b><br>McGregor Baptist Church                                 | <b>Pastors Mark and Dalna Griffin</b><br>Rock Creek Church, Waco                                  | <b>Pastor Dale McDaniel</b><br>First Baptist Church, Toluca                                    | <b>King Memorial United Methodist, Whitney</b>                          |
| <b>Pastor Barry Camp</b><br>Pastor Ernestus, Waco                                      | <b>Rev. John Guizado</b><br>St. Luke Catholic, Temple   | <b>Father Lee M. Nelson, SSC</b><br>Christ Church Waco, Student Ministry, Baylor and Texas A&M | <b>Rev. Tracy Sims</b><br>Thomson Central Baptist Church                |
| <b>Pastor Joe Carbajal</b><br>Mighty Wind, Waco  | <b>Rev. Jeff Hinton</b><br>Redeemer Church, Waco  | <b>Pastors Robert and Cindy Nelson</b><br>River City Church, Robinson                          | <b>Pastor Jerry Smith</b><br>First Baptist, Clinton                     |
| <b>Pastor London Collard</b><br>Joanna Christian Community, China Spring               | <b>Rev. Ryan Higdon</b><br>St. Louis, Waco and St. Philip, China Spring                           | <b>Rev. Michael Nemeck</b><br>Christ Lutheran, Hillboro  | <b>Rev. Christopher Stainbrook</b><br>St. John Vianney, Cleburne        |
| <b>Pastor John Collier</b><br>Pastor Ernestus, Waco                                    | <b>Rev. Ronnie Holmes</b><br>Church of the Open Door, Waco  | <b>Rev. Justin Nguyen</b><br>St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Milnes                     | <b>Rev. Jeff Stinson</b><br>Church of the Redeemer, Waco                |
| <b>Pastor Keith Collier</b><br>First Baptist Grimes                                    | <b>Rev. Jordan Hubbard</b><br>Crestview Church of Christ, Waco                                    | <b>Father Richard O'Rourke M.S.C.</b><br>St. Paul Church, Neasing Catholic, Harter Heights     | <b>Elder New Stensland</b><br>Belmad Church of Christ                   |
| <b>Pastor Mike Copeland</b><br>First Baptist, China Spring                             | <b>Pastor Carl Jewett</b><br>First Baptist, Whitney   | <b>Rev. Carl Oliver</b><br>Peace Lutheran, Waco  | <b>Our Lady of Mercy Catholic, Hillboro</b>                             |
| <b>Rev. Steve Countryman</b><br>Church of Christ, Clifton                              | <b>Pastor T.J. Joyner</b><br>Herald Springs Baptist Church  | <b>Rev. Bonnie Onella</b><br>St. Eugene Catholic, McGregor                                     | <b>Rev. Jude Uche, MSP</b><br>St. Stephen, Salado                       |
| <b>Pastor Richard Crouch</b><br>First Baptist, Purvis                                  | <b>Rev. Grant Kauf</b><br>Fellowship Bible, Waco  | <b>Rev. John Palmer</b><br>Waco Assembly of God  | <b>Rev. Timothy Vavank</b><br>St. Mary of the Assumption, West          |
| <b>Rev. John Crowder</b><br>First Baptist, West  | <b>Rev. Joe Keating</b><br>Immaculate Heart of Mary Abbott & Nativty of the Virgin Mary, Penelope | <b>Pastor Taler Paschal</b><br>Brazos County Community Church                                  | <b>Pastor Michael Vav</b><br>Grace Church, Hewitt                       |
| <b>Rev. Walter Dhanwar, MS</b><br>St. Martin, Turre and St. Joseph, EK                 | <b>Pastor R. C. Kelly</b><br>Reverend, Sheridan   | <b>Pastor Randy Peltz</b><br>Christ the King Baptist, Waco                                     | <b>Pastor James Webb</b><br>United Pentecostal, Meridian                |
| <b>Rev. Jim Dickson</b><br>Fellowship Baptist, Calton                                  | <b>Pastor Cary Kilough</b><br>Redwood Lake Baptist, Robinson                                      | <b>Rev. Jayanna Peltz</b><br>Our Lady of Lourdes, Gatesville and St. Thomas, Hewitt            | <b>Pastor John Whetstone</b><br>First Baptist, Valley Mills             |
| <b>Rev. Chris Downey</b><br>St. Joseph Catholic, Kilson                                | <b>Rev. John Kirby</b><br>Christ the King Catholic, Bolton  | <b>Pastor John Rasmussen</b><br>Highpoint Church Waco  | <b>Pastor C. W. Whetstone</b><br>First Baptist, Valley Mills            |
| <b>Pastor Samuel J. Doyle</b><br>Greater New Light Missionary Baptist, Waco            | <b>Pastor Peter Kirby</b><br>New Covenant Church, Waco  | <b>Pastor Patricia Riley</b><br>Missionary Bethania, Waco                                      | <b>Pastor Jeff Wyers</b><br>West Robinson Baptist Church                |
| <b>Pastor Tim Drake</b><br>Dream Center, Waco  | <b>Rev. Robert Kobler</b><br>Pastor Emmott  | <b>Rev. Francisco Rodriguez</b><br>Our Lady of Guadalupe, Temple and St. Matthew, Rogers       | <b>Pastor Ricky Woodall</b><br>First Baptist, Hubbard                   |
| <b>Rev. John Durham</b><br>Highland Baptist, Waco                                      | <b>Pastor Peter Kolb</b><br>St. Mark Lutheran, Waco   | <b>Rev. Albert Ruiz</b><br>St. Joseph Catholic, Waco   | <b>Rev. Joe Young</b><br>Cross Connection Ministries                    |

### Pro-Life Waco is a 501c3 non-profit.

Contributions are tax deductible.

**Your financial support is vital for 2020**  
 Donations go directly to pro-life initiatives.  
 PLW leaders do not receive compensation.

You can donate online at [prolifewaco.com](http://prolifewaco.com).

Click the red "Support Us" button

Or send a check to:

PLW, 4200 Grim Ave. Waco TX 76710

## Sidewalk counseling

Abortion days in Waco are Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of alternating weeks. Pro-Life Waco partners with Care Net Pregnancy Center sidewalk counseling. CareNet staffs and parks its 60-foot, beautifully wrapped sonogram bus (named Birtha) directly across Sanger Avenue from Planned Parenthood.

Sidewalk counseling training (lasting five hours) was delivered on six occasions. We use print and video materials from Sidewalk Advocates for Life. Our life-saving SWC outreach is growing!

Offering women gift bags was something new in 2019. The bags contain personal items and educational materials to turn clients away from PP.

## Monthly Love Life Chain

The first Sunday of each month is Life Chain Sunday at the intersection of Valley Mills Drive and Waco Drive. This year Ellen and Hank Staniszewski have organized and led this important initiative. Ellen suggested inserting "Love" into the name of the outreach. In October, Pro-Life Waco participated in International Life Chain Sunday along with 1,500 communities worldwide. Our messages affirm pro-life travelers and challenge abortion supporters. Dozens honk their support. Abortion supporters may also stop for a visit.



## Big change in overpass outreach

Our prime venue for high altitude engagement has been Interstate-35 near Baylor University. Last summer PLW received a big setback.

The Texas Department of Transportation began a five-year construction project revamping and Interstate 35 through Waco. The plan included the demolition of our beloved overpass in June.



There is another pedestrian overpass over Valley Mills Drive. We have shifted monthly outreach there. Stop lights are on each side of the overpass, resulting in the benefit of slow traffic. While we miss our Interstate-35 gig, it is important to deliver our messages to this local setting.

We continue the Pro-Life Waco tradition of buying meals for participating foot-soldiers. Our destination is the nearby Zoe's Kitchen.

## Protesting PP Fundraisers

Pro-Life Waco leads protests of fundraisers of Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas in Waco, Dallas, Fort Worth, and Austin.



Our biggest initiative was the annual Fort Worth Honors Luncheon on February 5. This was at the downtown Omni Hotel, a very advantageous venue for our interaction with abortion supporters.

Planned Parenthood in Waco does not hold any large fundraising events. For events they do have, they keep the location secret to avoid the presence of the Pro-Life Waco's faithful.

## Visual Displays "Everywhere"

Outdoor displays play a big part in the public square outreach of Pro-Life Waco. We have 3 jumbo billboards, 8 junior billboards, Carolyn the pro-life billboard truck, and hundreds of yard sign at residences and churches.

In the first year of the return of abortion to Waco, Pro-Life Waco contracted for two jumbo billboards on HWY 6 for travelers driving toward Planned Parenthood from either direction.



We pray that the "ABORTION HURTS" message help turn moms to love and life for their babies.

Our junior billboard messages change ever couple months. These included in 2019: Abortion is not healthcare. Defund Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood separates children from parents. And, a moving Christmas message.

GOD PLANS PARENTHOOD was most popular.



## Unplanned movie: One weekend. 50 churches.

A hallmark of the pro-life movement in Waco is **collaboration**. This was seen in an amazing way resulting in nearly 50 churches showing the movie **Unplanned** on the weekend of October 25-27. This movie is the Abby Johnson conversion story. The alliance included the Republican Party of McLennan County, the McLennan County Republican Women's Club, CareNet Pregnancy Center of Central Texas, 40 Days for Life Waco, and, of course, Pro-Life Waco. Pastor Ronnie Holmes of Church of the Open Door was also a key contributor.

The "Waco Pro-Life Alliance" organized a Pastors Pro-Life Breakfast for September 12 to unveil the movie outreach. Over 200 attended at the Baylor Club representing close to 100 diverse churches. We were honored to have Rev. Tony Evans of Oak Cliff Bible Church (Dallas) as our keynote speaker. His presentation encouraged pastors to pro-life involvement inside and outside their churches. You can listen to Pastor Evans at this URL: <http://bit.ly/300R0BC> The sound is not great, but the message is.

Fifty churches showed **Unplanned** on one October weekend with thousands having a life changing experience. To multiply the weekend impact, the Waco Pro-Life Alliance ran a one-page ad naming the participating churches in the Sunday *Waco Tribune-Herald* on Sunday, October 20. God's people and their shepherds in Central Texas are coming together to root out the evil of abortion in our midst!

## A road trip to Abilene

Pro-life groups in other cities look to Pro-Life Waco for a model and advice for battling Planned Parenthood.

In the summer of 2018, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas announced a \$9 million grant to return abortion to one or two mid-size cities in West Texas, such as Lubbock San Angelo, Midland, Odessa, or Abilene. Thankfully, the deadly designs of Planned Parenthood have not been realized.

Life defenders in threatened cities have organized under the umbrella of West Texas Pro-Life. The Abilene chapter invited Pro-Life Waco to come to the neighboring city of Cisco for a planning conference on countering the possible return of Planned Parenthood to Abilene. Pro-life Waco director John Pisciotta and board member Bob Lehman drove to Cisco on August 13 for a presentation and brainstorming with the committed life defenders in the Abilene area.



## 28 in the WacoTrib newspaper

"24" was not the points Baylor scored in a football game. 28 was the number of pro-life Letters to the Editors printed in 2019. We faced a lot of incoming fire from letters and several editorials. CareNet's Deborah McGregor had a strong full editorial printed. Our letter writers included Tom Harrison, Warren Fain, Ellen Staniszewski, Bob Lehmann, Don Hardcastle, Elizabeth Kirby, Jerry Willet, Doel Garcia, Nick O'Connor, and Erika McBurnett. Thanks to all for this powerful engagement in this public square. Tom Harrison wrote the most letters. Let's raise our sights and click our keyboards in 2020.

## JP's two Facebook groups

Pro-Life Waco has impact nationwide and beyond through Facebook groups created and PLW director John Pisciotta. Hometown Pro-life Action is the second largest pro-life group on Facebook with over 10,000 members. The name of the other group is Pro-Life Politics. **Y'all join!**

## Carolyn #II billboard truck

A major goal of Pro-Life Waco in 2019 was to have a new billboard truck in operation to replace Carolyn #I, which served babies and moms so well for a decade. We came close. Thanks to our generous donors, a 2009 Ford cargo truck with an excellent body and engine was purchased in November. On the last day of 2019, the truck was in the shop at Precision Wraps getting outfitted with powerful and attractive pro-life messages. You will see Carolyn #II at Planned Parenthood and at a major streets in Waco. Check out a photo collage of the beautiful Carolyn #II: <http://bit.ly/2uGzGUH>

## Thank you

to all who have  
• prayed • worked • and financially supported  
the Gospel of Life in Waco in 2018.  
We need your support in 2019!

**Donate online:** [www.prolifewaco.com](http://www.prolifewaco.com)  
**Donate by mail:** 4200 Grim Ave Waco TX 76710  
**Contact us:** 644-0407 or [prolifewaco@gmail.com](mailto:prolifewaco@gmail.com)