



A UNITED VOICE FOR LIFE

88 Local Pastors and Ministry Leaders Speak with One Voice

There are conversations every day in our state and in our nation regarding pro-life positions, sanctity of life, pro-choice positions, abortion, and reproductive rights. The emotions and division in these conversations have increased in recent days.

As pastors and ministry leaders in Greater Waco, we want to join across denominations, genders, ethnicities, colors, and languages to speak with one voice as it pertains to the sacredness of all lives. We stand united in these truths:

Life has value, and every person has dignity because all humanity is created in God's image.

It is God who puts us together, who knits us in our mother's womb in wonderful and awe-inspiring ways.

Life begins at fertilization. At that time the gender, ethnicity, hair color, eye color, and other traits are already determined. This is because an embryo is not a mere bundle of cells, it already has distinct, individual DNA that will be carried throughout life.

Every female embryo and every male embryo will develop naturally, unless interrupted, into a fetus with a heartbeat and the will to live. Thus that embryo, fetus, and child need to be both treasured and protected.

A pro-life stance must mean more than the value, sanctity, and protection of human life in the mother's womb. But it cannot mean less.

We must, and will, make concerted efforts to care for children, single moms, and families in our city. From needed groceries to crisis pregnancy counseling that esteems life, and from financial support to job and educational help, we acknowledge the desperate need to do more to support a woman as she makes the brave choice to deliver a baby into the world.

We believe every Christian and every Waco church should place a high value on adoption and fostering, and that it is the role of Christians to adopt or foster, or fully support those who do.

For a woman who has chosen abortion in the past, or for a man who demanded or encouraged abortion, there is a grace that comes from turning to God through Jesus. His grace is more than sufficient to give a new start and complete forgiveness. Through His cross and because of His love, Jesus is willing to pay for all our sins.

For a woman who is deciding today or this week on what to do with a recently discovered pregnancy, we love you and we urge you to consider life. A great resource in our city is pregnancy.org and they will lovingly guide you through your options. And our churches are ready to receive you and walk with you!

We are in full agreement that this issue is complicated, filled with loud voices from all sides, and has been a source of great division in our nation. We also believe that this is the right time for us, as Christian leaders, to make these statements to our city.

With love and care for each of you,

Cyndi Abbe, Crossroads Fellowship	Albert Fuentes, Calvary Chapel	Ramiro & Orphalinda Peña, Christ the King
Ruben Andrade, Family of Faith Worship	Robert Gager, Shepherd's Heart	Susan Peters, Unbound Global
David Arnett, Bible Way Church	Zach Garza, Mentoring Alliance	Jonathan Pokluda, Harris Creek
Pete Arvizu Jr., Primera Iglesia Bautista	Father Joe Geleney, St. Mary Catholic	James Pool, OneCry Ministries
Ryan Barnett, First Methodist Waco	Tom & Elizabeth Gutierrez, Viento Fuerte Church	Darrell Price, Family Worship Center
Jeb Barr, FBC Elm Mott	Connor Griffin, Ecclesia Community	Patrick Riley, Ministerios Bethania
Brandon & Jeanie Berry, Gloryland Church	Jeff Hatton, Redeemer Presbyterian	Buck Rogers, Grace Waco
Bishop Charles Bledsoe, Point of Faith	Ronnie Holmes, Church of the Open Door	Chris Sammons, FBC Hewitt
David & Kim Booker, Acts Church	Stuart Huey, Faith Temple	Mario & Miriam Sandoval, Maranatha Church
Matt Byrd, Wellspring Church	Jangho Jo, Korean Church	Paul Sands, FBC Woodway
Tonja Carpenter, Community Doulas of Waco	Ben Johnson, Fellowship of Christian Athletes	Jimmy & Laura Seibert, Antioch Community
Rick Cobb, Renovation Church	Grant Kaul, Fellowship Bible	Adrielle Selke, Eagle Christian
Landon Collard, Journey Christian	Cary Killough, Meadowbrook Baptist	Waylon Sias Sr., Zion Hill Baptist
John Collier, Parkview Baptist	Heath Kirkwood, FBC Lorena	Matt Snowden, FBC Waco
Michael Copeland, FBC China Spring	Peter Kolb, St. Mark Lutheran	Jeff Stinson, Church of the Redeemed
Aristeo Cuevas, Faith Walk Church	David Littlewood, TFNB Charity Champions	Bill & Rosa Swearingen, Timbercrest Baptist
Jim Daniels, Cornerstone Baptist	Father Benjie Magnaye, Sacred Heart Catholic	David Tenberg, Point of Truth Church
Nika Davis, Second Missionary	Chuck & Ashley Martin, Glory Bell Church	Josh Vaughan, Columbus Ave. Baptist
Samuel Doyle, Greater New Light	Deborah McGregor, Care Net	Michael Visy, Grace Hewitt
John Durham, Highland	Nate Moehring, Active Love Church	Dale Wallace, Vertical Ministries
Ron Durham, Shiloh Baptist	Jared Nazarian, Valor Preparatory	Derrick Watley, Mighty Wind Worship
Billy Edwards, Brazos Meadows	Father Lee Nelson, Christ Church Anglican	Byron & Carla Weathersbee, Legacy Family
Father James Ekeocha, St. Jerome Catholic	Ed Newman, Full Gospel Assembly	Kevin White, Greater Zion
Ben Faus, FBC Crawford	CJ Oliver, Greater Zion	Wayne Williams, Renew Church
Ben Fountain, Lakeview Baptist	Drake Osborn, Grace Waco	Jovaster G Witcher, New Life Christian Fellowship
Tommy & Missi Frazier, Moldbreakers Fellowship	John Palmer, Waco First Assembly	Lloyd Ziegler, Victorious Life Church