

 40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

# DEFINING MOMENT

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# 2012

Teleconference and Web Simulcast  
Event Transcript

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# ESTHER 4:14

*“...who knows  
whether you have  
not come to the  
kingdom for such  
a time as this?”*

**CARMEN:** Welcome to 40 Days for Life Defining Moment 2012 Teleconference and Web Simulcast. Let's ask the Lord to bless our time together.

*Most Gracious Father, great are you, Lord, and most worthy of praise. Our generation will commend your works to another. We will tell of your mighty acts. We will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty. We will meditate on your wonderful works and proclaim your great deeds. We will celebrate your abundant goodness, and joyfully sing of your righteousness.*

*Oh, Abba Father, like the psalmist, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving for answered prayers. We also recognize that our work is not complete until abortion is no more. And so we ask you to empower us once again, to represent you well in the battle. Speak to our hearts tonight, Lord, as you have called us together for your purpose. May your name be glorified in the plans that are presented, for this defining moment. In the name of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Well, I'm Carmen Pate. I'm Executive Producer and host of Truth that Transforms Radio. It's my joy to serve as your host this evening. I am honored also to serve on the Board of Directors for 40 Days for Life. You may have received some of the devotionals that I helped prepare.

You know, as a post-abortive woman transformed by God's grace, I have had a glorious adventure with the Lord serving in the pro-life movement for almost 30 years now, including running a pregnancy care center, working in public policy in Washington, D.C., and in media, providing a platform for God's truth to be proclaimed.

But the most rewarding has been serving alongside our small and humble team at 40 Days, watching God do a mighty work through His people who simply answer the call to pray.

Well ladies and gentlemen, tonight we have an opportunity to sing His praises and to get in line for our next assignment.

So before we get started, be sure to click the big gray button that's on the webcast page. It reads, "Get Action Guide." You'll open that up. It's a PDF document. We'd encourage you to print it out or open on your computer so you can follow along with our call.

During tonight's event we're going to cover the scope of the abortion crisis and how 40 Days for Life is a powerful solution to that crisis.

We're going to talk about the unprecedented results of 40 Days for Life, both the Spring Campaign that just concluded, and the cumulative results since this international movement began just four and a half years ago.

We're going to discuss why 2012 is a crucial defining moment for the pro-life movement, and how we are positioned to achieve life-saving victories on multiple fronts.

You'll hear about the innovative strategic plans and next steps in our unified efforts that will help mobilize more people, change more hearts and minds, and save more lives than ever before.

We'll share how you can help this effort achieve its full potential, and the challenges that must be overcome for this to truly be a defining moment.

We'll have a special surprise announcement toward the end that can literally double the impact of this work.

Tonight you're going to be hearing from David Bereit, our National Director of 40 Days for Life. Shawn Carney, Campaign Director of 40 Days for Life. You'll also hear from several of our heroes – local 40 Days for Life campaign leaders.

By the time we're done we hope that you will realize the urgency and the importance of this moment in history. We hope that you'll prayerfully discern your role, and the role for your community.

We pray that you'll decide to invest your time, your talents, and yes, your treasure. You'll have two opportunities tonight to make a one-time gift and to make a pledge of ongoing monthly support.

Well, with that being said, let me introduce our first presenter, David Bereit. David, we all understand the abortion battle is ongoing. But sometimes we lose sight of the scope, the size of the battle. Share with us the current state of the abortion crisis.

**DAVID:** Thank you so much, Carmen, for hosting tonight. Thank you for being here. Thanks for that question. I just want to begin by first welcoming all of the guests we have here on this teleconference and webcast. Right before we started we were hearing many, many people calling in from across America, Canada and Mexico. It's just so exciting. We have so many more folks joining us by webcast. At this moment we actually have 2,644 people participating in this Defining Moment event. We are excited to be here, and excited that you are here with us at this crucial time.

As Carmen mentioned, on the webcast page where you got the phone number to call in on the phone, or where you're listening to the sound of our voices right now, or where you're listening to this recording after the fact, there is a big gray button with a red arrow that says, "Get Action

Guide.” If you haven’t already, go ahead and open that up or print it out and follow along.

I specifically want to direct you first to Page 2, right behind the cover of that action guide. It’s just part of one verse from Esther, Chapter 4 verse 13. The words are, “Who knows whether you have not come to the Kingdom for such a time as this.”

Most of us remember that was the words that Mordecai spoke to Queen Esther who was an outsider who God had brought into the Kingdom, established as the queen, and brought her into that place with an opportunity to save her people who had received an edict that was going to lead to their death without intervention.

Esther was terrified. She was overwhelmed. But God had placed her in that moment, in that place, to make a life-saving impact. I think that’s a lesson for all of us tonight. Who knows if each of us have not been called for such a time as this. This time is in the midst of the greatest crisis our nation, those of us here in America, have ever faced, and literally that our world has ever faced.

On Page 3 of your Action Guide, the Abortion Crisis. You see a picture there of an abortion facility with its flag appropriately at half-staff. The reason why is since abortion began to spread across the globe, we now see over 42 million abortions happen every single year all around the globe. I’m going to focus on the United States because that’s where most of our callers are joining us from and that’s where I’m from.

Here in the United States since the *Roe vs. Wade* Supreme Court decision in 1973 when seven men imposed abortion on all 50 states, we have seen more than 54 million innocent children made in God’s image and likeness killed by abortion. We see another 1.2 million lost to abortion every single year. Even as we’re here on this webcast, Carmen, every 24 seconds another boy or girl is losing his or her life. Abortion truly has become the leading cause of death in our nation.

But it’s not just the innocent children who are victims of abortion. Because we know women are victims of abortion. Women who are pressured into a situation where they feel they have no choice and they have an abortion thinking it will get rid of a problem only later to find out that it creates so many other problems rather than solve the problem of a crisis pregnancy. Men have been shoved to the sidelines, abandoned to lives of regret. Families have been torn apart. Souls have been put in eternal jeopardy.

At the forefront of this crisis is that organization pictured there on Page 3 of the Action Guide, Planned Parenthood. In America, Planned Parenthood is the largest abortion chain. Last year, according to its latest

annual report which just came out, Planned Parenthood aborted 329,445 children at its facilities coast to coast while taking in a record, record amount of taxpayer funding in the amount of \$487.4 million. That's an increase of more than \$100 million more per year of taxpayer funding under the current Obama Administration.

We've also seen this crisis spill into so many other areas. The egregious HHS Mandate that many of us are aware of that directly attacked our religious liberties by mandating that religious employers, that all employers, pay for abortion-causing drugs and devices in healthcare plans.

Many of us remember looking back just a little bit that 40 Days for Life was at the forefront helping to lead the charge to initially expose the abortion mandate that was in the Obama Healthcare Reform package. We helped to mobilize more than 36,000 people on a nationwide webcast. In response to that, President Obama himself was part of launching a copycat effort which was not coincidentally called literally "40 Days for Health Reform." He personally spoke on their knockoff webcast.

Even right now we know the Supreme Court is actively deliberating over the constitutionality of that mandate. We need to pray for those justices to have wisdom in overturning this unjust edict.

President Obama, if you've been following the news, is not the only one who is trying to copy these efforts that you and I are a part of. Just over these last few weeks we've seen the media abuzz with Planned Parenthood and other abortion advocates promoting their new "40 Days for Prayer for Abortion" campaign.

If you haven't seen this, this is shocking. This is a mockery of God. This campaign invokes twisted prayers that really make us realize just how misled those who promote abortion are. Here are just a few examples.

One of the prayers on one of the "40 Days of Prayer for Abortion" ...  
"Today we pray for all the staff at abortion clinics around the nation, that they be confirmed in the sacred care they offer women." That's what they call destroying the lives of children and wounding women – "sacred care."

Another prayer. "Today we pray for the families we've chosen. May they know the blessing of choice." So killing children, wounding women they call a blessing.

Another prayer, this is Day 40 of their campaign. "Today we give thanks and celebrate that abortion is still safe and legal." They celebrate 54 million dead children, millions of wounded women.

Some people say, Carmen, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. But when that imitation is being used to promote and expand the destruction of innocent children and the wounding of women and men, I have to tell you, we're not the least bit flattered.

We have to decide tonight that enough is enough. We can't get overwhelmed by the massive scope of this crisis. We have to bring it down to realize that what this is all about, the crisis, is one mother who tonight is in a crisis pregnancy. She's scared. Her boyfriend or husband who has abandoned her and said, "You're on your own." The family members who are trying to pressure her to get rid of the problem. She's not pro-choice. She's feeling like she has to have an abortion because she feels she has no choice.

That mother is at risk of making the worst decision of her life. Her child is at risk of dying from abortion. That is the crisis. That one mother. That one child on their way tonight, tomorrow, to an abortion facility nearest to where each of us live. That is the local crisis that demands a local solution.

**CARMEN:** It is a life or death crisis. Let's bring Shawn Carney into this discussion. Shawn, how is 40 Days for Life a solution to this crisis?

**SHAWN:** Well Carmen, 40 Days for Life was really birthed out of that local problem that David was just talking about with the idea that abortions don't happen on the bench of the Supreme Court. They don't happen in the White House. They don't happen in the halls of Congress. They happen usually for most of our campaigns, in very unassuming neighborhoods right around the corner from schools and businesses and just ordinary shopping districts where life goes on as if nothing else is happening in the community.

40 Days for Life came out of Bryan/College Station, Texas, a community of about 200,000 people. It started in the fall of 2004 when myself, my wife, David and one other person were praying around an old wooden table because we saw our local Planned Parenthood abortion numbers going up. We saw our volunteers going down. We didn't know what else to do, so we spent one hour in prayer.

After that one hour of prayer 40 days just came to use for obvious reasons, how God uses 40 days throughout scripture not only to bring about change in the culture, but to call His own people back to Him. So we decided to do 40 days of prayer and fasting to end abortion. 40 days of community outreach where we let people know that abortion was going on in our community. Many didn't even know we had a Planned Parenthood facility in our community. Then 40 days of a nonstop peaceful 24 hour vigil outside of that local Planned Parenthood abortion facility.

That was the first 40 Days for Life campaign. It was in the fall of 2004. It dropped the local abortion numbers by 28%. But we never imagined that that one small local effort would ever leave our community, much less leave the State of Texas, or leave the United States of America for that matter. But as we did that campaign, some of the results got out throughout the media. A group in Seattle called us, then Wisconsin and North Carolina. We started to see local communities wanting to do 40 Days for Life.

So in the fall of 2007 David and I launched 40 Days for Life as a nationally coordinated effort hoping that 20 cities would sign up and participate. Of course we were blown away in the fall of 2007 when 89 cities in 33 states participated in the first nationally coordinated 40 Days for Life. That led to the spring campaign.

Over the last four and a half years we've had a fall campaign and a spring campaign. Last fall, the fall of 2011 we saw the largest 40 Days for Life campaign ever in the fall with 301 cities. The largest spring campaign followed that largest fall campaign. We just completed it with 261 different cities across North America and around the world. It was the largest spring 40 Days for Life campaign ever.

We've just gotten many of the results back from our local leaders and our surveys that we sent out. We had 100,000 people participate just in the spring 40 Days for Life campaign. Every campaign new things happen. There are always new surprises. But one consistent factor with 40 Days for Life is that 30% of the people that participate, this is their first activity in the pro-life movement. So this spring 30,000 new people entered the pro-life movement through 40 Days for Life, which is always humbling and blows us away because we're asking people to do something very difficult and very selfless by going out to these vigils and peacefully praying.

We saw 4,000 churches get involved in the spring campaign. There were 300 news stories about 40 Days for Life this spring, including stories done by Fox News, the BBC, the Laura Ingraham Radio Show. She actually had one of our local leaders on her radio show live. The Huffington Post covered 40 Days for Life.

We saw three abortion facilities close their doors forever during the spring campaign. Eight abortion clinic workers had conversions and left their jobs. A record 883 little innocent boys and girls were spared from abortion. Those are the saves that we can confirm, that we know of. We know there are more we don't know about, but we do know about the 883 lives that were saved just from the spring.

That brings the cumulative results since 40 Days for Life was launched as a national effort in the fall of 2007. We've seen the campaign done 1,894

individual campaigns done in 440 cities in all 50 states and several countries including Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belize, Canada, Denmark, England, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Poland and Spain. They have seen 40 Days for Life come to their communities just from that one hour of prayer.

That's why it's not a cliché to say this is focused on prayer. Prayer is the only thing that can be responsible for all these efforts.

Over half a million people have participated in 40 Days for Life. Again, 30% of those this was their first-ever pro-life activity that they've ever done.

We've seen 15,000 church congregations get involved. We've seen Catholics, Protestants and Evangelicals come together. We've seen 2,100 news stories over the last four and a half years. 5,928 babies saved from abortion. Again, those are just the ones we know about over the last four and a half years.

We've seen 69 abortion clinic workers have conversions and leave their jobs. Those include the eight that left just this last spring. There have been 23 abortion facilities that have closed their doors and gone out of business forever.

All of these results, all of the glory has to go to God. He is the only thing that can explain how this has happened just in four and a half years. So the glory goes to God. And all of you on the call tonight. All of you that are going to listen to the recording. Your prayers. Your participation. Your selflessness and your support of the local and national 40 Days for Life campaigns.

Finally, we want to take you to the front lines and let you hear from just a few of the locations that just completed their 40 Days for Life campaign. These are recorded testimonials from our local leaders. They're going to give you an idea of the kind of results that God has accomplished in cities across North America and around the world.

**NIKKI:** Hi! My name is Nikki Bruni. I'm the Campaign Director of 40 Days for Life in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. We just completed our most successful campaign so far with over 100 churches and/or groups taking part in our vigil, over 1,000 participants, and hopefully 7 babies saved.

During the past four campaigns we have focused on reaching out to local churches and asking them to each adopt part of one day during the 40. I've made it my mission to continue to reach out to churches and expand my database of churches until every single church in the greater Pittsburgh area has been invited to participate in 40 Days for Life.

It does take a lot of preparation and organization to reach out to hundreds of churches prior to each campaign. For instance, we mailed, emailed and called almost 1,000 churches just to get the 100 to actually take part. But the results are powerful. There is power when the Body of Christ unites. Seeing various denominations joining together for a purpose such as this is beautiful.

I've had the honor of praying with Roman Catholics, Ukrainian Catholics, Orthodox Christians, Baptist, Evangelical Christians, non-denominational Christians, and mainline Protestant denomination believers.

I think when the Lord sees His many children coming together for a cause such as this it's like a beautiful mosaic to his eyes. When he hears our prayers and the various ways that each denomination prays, it's like a beautiful symphony to his ears.

One of the reasons we've had success in getting churches to participate, I believe, is that we are blessed to have such a dedicated team of vigil shift managers who are committed to taking charge of regular shifts each week. Because of them we're able to assure the churches that there will always be someone from our team present to welcome them, provide a sign and materials, and provide guidance to nervous first-timers.

In fact, just one example is a young woman named Gretchen. She found out about 40 Days for Life when her church received our mailing in January. She was looking for a local mission to get her church involved in, so she decided 40 Days for Life was it.

Once she began participating and came to the vigil for the first time, God so broke her heart over abortion that she made the commitment to come to Planned Parenthood every chance she got through the rest of the 40 days. Even though she has three small children at home, she worked it out with her husband to stay home with the kids while she went to pray during the 7:00 a.m. hour before he had to go to work.

When she told me one day during this campaign that she had found herself sobbing uncontrollably on her kitchen floor I realized that God had used 40 Days for Life to recruit another soldier into this battle, just as he did with me during the fall of 2009.

I will definitely lead another 40 Days for Life campaign in the fall. I will be continuing to add new churches to my database during the summer so we can give them the opportunity to participate.

We continue to grow as a 40 Days for Life family with each campaign we conduct. It's also helping to unite the various pro-life organizations in and around our city.

I want to thank David, Shawn and all of the national team for giving all of us this opportunity to join this fight to end abortion.

DAN:

Hi! This is Dan Miller from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This is my fifth campaign as a participant, and my fourth as a Campaign Coordinator.

Never before did I ever feel like I was treading water until this campaign. In all previous campaigns God was so good to us. He filled every gap with a vigiler. In the Fall of 2010 campaign I promised vigilers that they would never ever have to stand on the sidewalks alone ever again, because I would be there all the time, except on Sundays. This promise stands true to this day.

If you've ever experienced vigiling by yourself during a campaign, you know the intense feeling of loneliness that is experienced. If you are not completely clothed in Christ, wearing all of the spiritual armor available to you, you will find your time on the sidewalk short lived.

I thought my day had come. As each day passed with gaps in coverage, the evil one found holes in my armor, spreading his seeds of doubt. I write a daily email communication for our campaign which are generally upbeat in their tenor, but on March 3 I let it all hang out. I vented my feelings and simply asked for our vigilers to return to me the favor of their presence as I had done for them in the last three campaigns.

Someone took that email to our local Catholic radio station, Relevant Radio. The management was moved by my plea and helped immediately and started running ads 12 times a day during our campaign every day, for free.

Over 75 people whom I had never seen before started to show up. During this campaign we had over 200 people participate on a regular basis. When the radio ads started the gaps disappeared.

During this campaign God has shown us 31 saves. Can you say, "Praise God!?" Thank you, Lord, for your great, great abundance, mercy and grace.

Shawn wanted to know if we would ever have another campaign ever again. I almost laughed out loud when I saw that question. The answer is a resounding yes! Of course we are going to have another campaign!

I sidewalk counsel all year long. I've been keeping track of the saves God has shown us since my first on August 3, 2010. During the last four campaigns God has shown our campaign here in Milwaukee 133 saves. The total number of saves I have seen since my first save on August 3, 2010 is 175. This tells me that when 40 Days for Life is on the sidewalk, I can expect a 416% increase in saves.

During this last campaign God even blessed us by showing us how to reach out to a post-abortive woman. We were able to save her from suicide. God is so good!

These are not just talking points. Your presence does make a huge, huge impact.

**MONICA:** Hello! This is Monica Jordan from Glendale, Arizona. Hearts are changing here in Arizona. My own heart has been transformed. God has taught me so much in these past two years.

During each campaign for 40 Days for Life I have seen God's hands and feet diligently at work. I truly believe together we can do all things through Him who strengthens us. I could never have imagined that what the devil intended to destroy God would restore and allow his grace to shine through us women and men who have experienced the unfortunate and damaging effects of abortion.

I received a special opportunity to attend Rachel's Vineyard in July of 2010. There I met some amazing people. From that small group nine men and women from Rachel's Vineyard joined 40 Days for Life that same fall. Isn't it amazing that God can use wounded and unwounded people alike, all working together to build a Kingdom of love and respect?

I am so grateful to witness all of you coming out in prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil, together with different churches, pro-life groups, sidewalk counselors, passersby and even pedestrians. Hearts are changing and they're committing to pray to end abortion.

During the spring campaign several of us have witnessed the efforts on the sidewalk. What has brought us hope while we pray are your personal stories of why you come to pray at Planned Parenthood. Through the men, one of our prayer warriors who comes out here several times per week, his passion, his giving heart, his unique way of helping and stand for life. We have amazing sidewalk counselors who come rain or blistering heat. I am humbled by their perseverance.

Thank you, those of you who prayed nightly on Saturdays. Your prayer covers us for the Sundays, one of the hardest hit abortion days.

This year's campaign brought miracles in unexpected ways. God was working on the hearts of individuals who were employed at one of our Planned Parenthood clinics. I am so pleased to tell you that your prayers were answered. A total of six clinic workers quit their jobs and walked away from this place of death. Six! Thanks be to God. This message of the Gospel made it to these six workers. My prayer is that it will make it to many more so they can see how much God loves them and wants them to return to him.

It was through the courageous and consistent efforts of your presence that makes a difference here every day. Your love made a difference. Please continue to stand with us in 40 Days for Life seasons and outside of them too.

We are strongest when we stand together.

**ROBERT:** Hi! This is Robert Colquhoun 40 Days for Life Campaign Director in London, England. I first got involved with 40 Days for Life when I saw a local prayer vigil in Ottawa, Canada when I worked there as a youth missionary.

When I came back to the UK I was really inspired by many of the stories of how 40 Days for Life was growing across North America. I realized God was calling me to start this initiative in the UK.

We started in September 2010. We've now just done our fourth campaign this Lent. We've really seen a lot of blessings during our campaigns. We've seen lots of young people get involved. We've seen many turnarounds in the UK. I think we've seen a new paradigm for the pro-life movement here as well, that many people have been involved for decades have really been inspired with a hope that the youthfulness, the vigor and the confidence of many of our volunteers.

I think during this campaign there's been four women who changed their minds from our campaign. There might have been more that we haven't known about. We've seen many new people get involved this campaign who perhaps hadn't had the confidence to get involved in the past.

We've also had a huge media coverage [inaudible] here with almost 50 media outlets covering a story about our particular campaign.

We've been blessed to be joined by Birmingham, Brighton and also by Manchester in this campaign. We also had a visit of David and Shawn in February to the UK. It's really exciting that we've got [Torrington], Oxford and Milton Keens who are likely to join next campaign, as well as a second campaign in London. That would mean we would have eight campaigns in seven cities.

We've seen really extraordinary events during this campaign as it's been. Best of all, the reaction of the British Pregnancy Advisory Service, the equivalent of Planned Parenthood. The first part of our campaign they copied our campaign calling it "40 Days of Choice." When they realized that didn't work they started a vigorous media campaign against us, trying to slur our name and saying we were harassing women and other nonsense like that. That really didn't seem to work either because we simply got more coverage in the air that we managed to get our point across in some of the media like the BBC Radio twice. It actually drew attention to us. I think that really helped our campaign strongly. More people got involved.

We organized the bishop to come for the first time ever and a counter rally was organized against the bishop coming. At which point many Christians from across London decided to come for the vigil. We had 400 people at the vigil when the bishop was there and about 300-400 noisy pro-abortion advocates there at the same time. So it was quite an event. We had people praying for it all around the world. People said they were really spiritually touched by that event. It was great, and the encouragement and fortitude of Bishop Allen Hopes to attend at that time. I think it set a new paradigm here that saw a lot of hope and many people who wouldn't have been involved in pro-life activities really actually getting involved and tangibly doing something perhaps for the first time.

We've seen a lot of people inspired and hearts and minds really touched across London and across the country. I think it really sets a really firm foundation for the future of this work. I think there's lots of signs of hope for the future as well that gradually is building a growing consciousness and awareness in the public of the humanity of the unborn child.

We've still got a long way to go in the United Kingdom. But we're gradually seeing changes that weren't imaginable last year or the year before. I think we've made great progress. So thank you to David and Shawn for all the – everywhere he works with 40 Days for Life, and for all the other leaders as well. God bless you all!

**SUE:**

This is Sue Thayer, 40 Days for Life Campaign Director from Storm Lake, Iowa. I'm also a former center manager for Planned Parenthood.

This strange story starts in April of 1991 when I was hired by Planned Parenthood as a clinic assistant. Within a month the manager's position opened and I applied. During the interview I was asked what I thought about abortion, and shared that I felt that abortion is murder. The interviewer replied that unless a fetus is viable it can't possibly be murder. Amazingly enough, I got the job.

All managers were required to watch a full day of surgical abortion. So within a few months of starting the job I drove about three hours to Des Moines, the nearest surgical clinic. During that day I witnessed about 30 abortions, including at least one set of twins. I learned about the entire process and saw in graphic detail what the abortion industry calls "products of conception."

Fast forward to early 2008. Upper management announced a new program called telemed abortion. Every clinic, including mine, would be required to provide abortions. That was bad enough. But then we learned that medication abortion would be done with no doctor on site, by nonmedical staff. A pregnant woman could choose to abort her baby without ever seeing a doctor, a nurse practitioner, an RN, or even an LPN. I was stunned and horrified.

Each center was actually given a goal for how many abortions they were expected to do in a month. I'd always felt my job was to prevent abortion, and now I would be forced to be a part of the actual process of killing a baby.

I freely voiced my concern and was fired in December 2008. They were supposedly downsizing, but I'm pretty sure that was not the real reason I was terminated. As a single mom I was a bit anxious about losing my job, but the relief of being out of there far outweighed any unemployment stress.

I shared the story of telemed abortion with a couple of pro-life groups and felt like I had passed the burden on and my part was done. I then did my best to ignore Planned Parenthood and everything related to abortion. I wouldn't even drive by the clinic. Out of sight, out of mind.

God would often nudge me, encouraging me to tell others what I knew. I'd pretend I didn't hear him. Finally, the Lord must have gotten tired of me going my own way, because he sent Allen, a retired missionary. Allen was sort of my own personal prophet reminding me that something needed to be done to save the babies that were dying right in our own town. How could babies be saved if no one even knew about telemed abortions?

I knew it was long past time for me to speak up. So Allen and I had a gathering with a few church friends. We tossed around possible ideas. I knew from my years at Planned Parenthood that they do not like 40 Days for Life. So I volunteered to check out the 40 Days website. It was close to the last day to sign up for the fall campaign, so without any input from our new little group, I enrolled Storm Lake.

Thankfully when I told the rest of the group what I'd done, they were very supportive. Our little pro-life group met and grew, planned and prayed.

We expected that we would pray and fast for 40 days with volunteers at the clinic for 15 hours per week.

When I shared this idea with Lauren at the 40 Days for Life office, she encouraged me to plan for prayer volunteers to be at the clinic 12 hours per day. I gave her several reasons why that would never work. We were a new group. We had no clue as to what we were doing. Plus, we live in rural Iowa and there aren't even that many people here. But Lauren lovingly reminded me that we shouldn't limit God, which was some really great advice.

We did end up filling every minute of the 480 hour prayer vigil, often with several folks there at the same time. We read scripture. We sang. We worshiped. And we stormed the gates of Heaven on behalf of the babies, the moms and the clinic workers.

I think I can safely say that it was a great time of fellowship and growth for all involved. Youth groups came. Whole schools came. Hearts were touched and lives were changed. Truly, God honored our efforts and we were blessed.

When you think it can't possibly get any better, the Lord sends the biggest miracle of all. In mid-February, Planned Parenthood announced it was closing the Storm Lake center forever. I have to admit, the announcement shocked me. This was exactly what we had prayed for, so why would I be surprised? Still, I couldn't imagine that the clinic would actually close.

But on March 1, Planned Parenthood did close the doors to the Storm Lake center. No more abortions in Storm Lake. We were thrilled beyond measure, and quickly planned a celebration to mark the good news. David and Shawn, 40 Days for Life directors, came to Storm Lake for the festivities. There's no word for all that happened, other than miracle.

I want to encourage each and every one of you to never give up. I know that's easy for me to say since we only prayed for 40 days and many of you have prayed for years. But we know from scripture that his word never returned void. He hears every prayer. And he answers. He cares and he loves of us. Most importantly, he loves all life. May the Lord continue to honor our efforts. God bless you!

**CARMEN:** Wow! Absolutely beautiful testimonies from our local leaders. If you'd like to see pictures from their campaigns, if you look at Page 7 of your handout there are some beautiful pictures there for you to share.

After hearing the statistics that Shawn shared as well, I am convinced that 40 Days for Life is a solution to the crisis of abortion in America and around the world.

David, you say that 2012 is a crucial year. Why is that?

**DAVID:** Well Carmen, that's a great question. As I was looking at the pictures you were describing on Page 7 of the Action Guide, as I was listening to those testimonies, I think it's important to realize that is just five of the 440 cities that have conducted 40 Days for Life. We certainly don't have time to play reports from every single city. But God is moving in such a powerful way.

All of this takes on even more significance and more importance right now in light of what we're in the midst of. We're in the midst right now of the 40<sup>th</sup> year of legalized abortion in America. On January 22 that marked the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Roe vs. Wade* Supreme Court decision. That was the end of the 39<sup>th</sup> year. On January 23<sup>rd</sup> America began the 40<sup>th</sup> year of legalized abortion.

Obviously as a person involved in a ministry called 40 Days for Life I've got a little bit of a bias to the number 40 because it shows up so much throughout biblical history. It's a number that God uses as a timeframe always to test the faithfulness of his people, and many times to bring about transformation in the world. Shawn mentioned some of the 40 day timeframes.

It's also important to remember that 40 year timeframe that shows up in the Bible. Specifically I'm thinking of the story of the Israelites who spent those 40 years wandering in the wilderness. If we remember the story, that was actually a time of punishment for them due to their lack of faithfulness. They were being punished one year for each of their 40 days of lack of faith.

They had to endure that task before they were finally able to enter into the Promised Land that God had prepared for them.

When you read that story though, you realize that the first 38 years the Israelites spent wandering almost aimlessly throughout the desert before finally arriving those last two years. They were right on the outskirts of the Promised Land looking into the land that God had prepared for them.

Isn't that a great parallel for us as we think about us in this now 40<sup>th</sup> year of abortion? Because haven't we seen unprecedented signs of hope and progress in this pro-life movement last year and so far this year? More than in decades previously. We've seen more Americans polling as pro-life than ever before.

We see record numbers of abortion facilities closing, from a record high in 1991 of 2,200 centers that number is now 661 abortion facilities. Two-thirds of abortion centers across America have closed in these recent

years. 87% of US counties have not a single abortion provider. We see the number of pregnancy centers all across the country. More than 2,300 and that number is growing.

We see progress on the legislative front, in the political realm. We see more momentum building around Defund Planned Parenthood efforts. First it was successful in the House, the US House, and then failed in the US Senate, but now state after state after state is taking on measures. Carmen, you just emailed me right before this event. Arizona just passed a measure to defund Planned Parenthood. We see that happening more and more. Record numbers of people getting involved.

This 40<sup>th</sup> year is a critical year. It's also, I don't think coincidentally, a critical election year. But with all of this progress are we perhaps looking into the Promised Land of an America that once again will respect and protect that fundamental right to life from the moment of conception?

A couple of other verses to reflect on. Exodus 20:13. The word "exodus" means "to depart from something, to get away from." 2013 will be the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a year, of abortion in America. That verse, Exodus 20:13 is, "Thou shalt not kill," one of the Ten Commandments. Maybe there's a message in there for us.

Deuteronomy 30, a verse we've heard many times in the pro-life movement. "I've set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life so that you and your children may live." That verse was the last instructions that God gave to those Israelites at the end of their 40 years before they entered into the Promised Land. Their last instructions, "Choose life, so that you and your children may live."

Maybe those are just coincidences. I don't know. I don't presume to know God's plans for this 40<sup>th</sup> year. But I think all of us know that 40 years of abortion in America is 40 years too long. We are called to be faithful. I love the words of Mother Teresa when she said, "We're not called to be successful. We are called to be faithful." And that is what we are called to do.

We need to be faithful, pull out all the stops and see what God has in store as we commit to do everything we can on every front of the pro-life movement, more than we have ever done before. I can tell you, that is what our 40 Days for Life team is committed to do. I know that many of you who are on this webcast, on this teleconference, are going to rise to this occasion and join us as well.

**CARMEN:** David, I know you wouldn't tell us all of these things if you didn't have some big plans to share with us. So what are the big plans that will really help us to make 2012 a defining moment?

**DAVID:** Absolutely. Again, I'll point people to the Action Guide. On Page 9 of the Action Guide it has "Major Initiatives." Carmen, I'll just start off by saying 2012 represents for 40 Days for Life our biggest steps forward since this initially began as a national and then international effort starting back in 2007.

The path forward is based 100% on the input of those who are on this webcast, on this teleconference, those who are listening to the recording, those who have been a part of 40 Days for Life. As you know, we survey you and ask your input, your guidance to tell us where we need to go from here.

Just over this last week 4,511 of you filled out surveys giving us clarity on where to go from here. Over these last five years more than 45,000 people have given us input to help us know what are the top priorities.

Hands down, the number one priority for participants of 40 Days for Life, for local campaign leaders, is to continue rapidly to grow and improve the 40 Days for Life campaign. Not just settle for incremental growth, but continue to multiply the growth and the impact of this campaign. You've told us how to make this campaign experience better. We are constantly working to implement these changes and improvements.

The next 40 Days for Life campaign I believe will be the biggest ever, far eclipsing this campaign, last fall. It will be held this fall from September 26 – November 4<sup>th</sup>, ending on the Sunday before national elections here in the United States. What more crucial time could there be for people of faith and conscience to pray and fast for our nation, for life, than for those 40 days leading up to that critical election?

Applications for the fall campaign will begin this summer, likely in early July. Every indication is pointing to this being the biggest 40 Days for Life campaign ever, with hundreds of more locations still to cover in the United States. That doesn't even scratch the surface of the international opportunities of more cities and more countries.

We're going to work to get more people and more churches and organizations involved, more media coverage. Ultimately, that's going to result in more lives saved.

Now, to accomplish this we are actively overhauling and improving every aspect of the 40 Days for Life campaign, streamlining it and making it more efficient. It literally by this fall will look like a version 2.0 of 40 Days for Life.

The three major areas that we are overhauling with cutting edge new solutions are the three T's on Page 9 – Training, Tools, Technology.

**Training.** This January we held live workshops in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco for over 200 of our local leaders at absolutely no cost to them, thanks to the generosity of many of the donors like you who support these efforts. The feedback was great, and that was all nice. But most importantly, we were watching those campaigns who attended those training workshops and then implemented what they learned. What we found was those campaigns had enormous growth, some of them multiplying the number of people involved and the number of lives saved in their campaigns this spring.

That entire training is going to be made available to everyone preparing for fall campaigns and moving here forward. It is a game changer, the training that is being provided to help you go from zero to 60 as fast as possible in your community.

**Tools.** Promotional materials, recruiting tools, supplies, videos, everything needed to do a 40 Days for Life campaign so you don't have to reinvent the wheel. You don't have to come up with anything. If you can follow a recipe you can have a successful 40 Days for Life campaign. We are building all new tools to replace some of the existing ones, to supplement in areas where we needed tools, to attract more people, fill more vigil hours with more people, and to save more lives with less effort.

**Technology.** We mentioned this for the first time last fall on our webcast. Thanks to many of you who stepped forward in faith, we've committed six figures of investment into building cutting edge technology solutions that are all in the process of being developed behind the scenes and will be implemented over these next couple of months before this fall's campaign. They are going to be huge in helping to multiply the growth and impact of this next campaign.

It was a huge step of faith, but thanks to many of you we have been able to make that step of faith. We have the training, the tools and the technology that are being developed. We are working to have everything rolled out to you for this fall campaign and beyond, not sparing any expense to make this easier and more effective where you live. So that's number one, the most important.

Number two of initiatives is to help you defund Planned Parenthood in your local community where you live. That was a very close second on the priority of the surveys of people saying this is what we need to do. Most people have recognized that the defunding efforts against Planned Parenthood thus far, while they have been very effective, they have primarily focused just on federal tax dollars, and in a few cases, some state

tax dollars. But that is just a sliver of Planned Parenthood's revenue. They get local tax dollars, state, federal. They get customer dollars. Corporations, foundations and donors give money to them.

We have worked very extensively at the local level in Texas and then with other communities to help with efforts that have been successful, and yes, stripping local and state tax dollars, but also working to reduce all of Planned Parenthood's revenue sources. Not only taking away their funding, but forcing Planned Parenthood in some communities to actually be forced to cancel all their local fundraising events due to absolute lack of community support.

So we're working right now with leading experts across the country. This effort, which we first started talking about in the fall, will be rolling out the summer of 2012, this critical defining moment year.

Last, the third highest priority for all of you who participated in the surveys is the ongoing prayer presence beyond the end of a 40 Days for Life campaign, realizing that on Day 41 children continue to lose their lives. Women continue to be wounded. We have to be there, present in prayer. We know how effective it is. Combine that with effective, proven sidewalk counseling.

That's our background. That's where Shawn and I came from in a local organization that had an ongoing year-round prayer presence that led to the efforts that started 40 Days for Life, that Abby Johnson has credited with helping to bring her out of the abortion industry.

The media said that our community back in Texas we had the most consistent and active presence outside of any Planned Parenthood facility in America. Our local police told us that strip of public right-of-way in front of that Planned Parenthood was the most, in their words, protested spot in all of America.

Now we know it was prayer, not protest, but there was a reason that Planned Parenthood labeled that community where 40 Days for Life began, where we had that year-round prayer presence and sidewalk counseling, they labeled that community the most anti-choice place in the nation. We want to share that experience with you, working with other experts in these areas across America. Again, that is the third initiative that we are rolling out here in 2012.

All of these things I've just mentioned Carmen, the improve and grow 40 Days for Life, defund Planned Parenthood locally, ongoing prayer presence with sidewalk counseling, all of these will be while we continue to develop a centralized hub for collaborative efforts with leading groups and experts across the pro-life movement.

We have some huge breakthroughs that we are about to start seeing the fruit of with faith leaders. I can't go into it right now. I'm not allowed to talk about it yet. But some huge things that are going on behind the scenes right now, this next week and the week after which I think are going to be huge for opening up 40 Days for Life in some entirely new faith communities.

We've been working very closely with pregnancy centers, education and advocacy groups, campus outreach efforts, healing ministries, working with mobilization efforts. Many of you are familiar with the Stand up for Religious Freedom Rallies. There was a first round of those held in March. The next round will be held on June 8. It's a huge opportunity. You can learn about that at [www.StandUpRally.com](http://www.StandUpRally.com) if you haven't already been getting informed on that. But these are the kinds of things where 40 Days for Life helps to bring the pro-life movement together in collaboration to accomplish results that save lives right where we live.

These are the things we're committing to do with you and for you for the rest of 2012, this defining moment 40<sup>th</sup> year. That will help to draw in new people, change more hearts and minds, save more lives, and ultimately we believe it will help to impact more eternal souls and move your community toward becoming abortion free. Carmen?

**CARMEN:** Wow! This is just an incredible plan. I am so excited to see what God is continuing to do through 40 Days for Life. Now Shawn, I know there have to be challenges that we're facing if we're going to accomplish all of these great plans that God has laid on your hearts and has presented here this evening.

**SHAWN:** Well, there are, Carmen. Nobody is surprised on this call tonight that Planned Parenthood has more money than 40 Days for Life. But we have seen technology play a huge role in leveling the playing field. You've heard all of the local leaders. You heard David talking about the training and the use of the web, even this webcast here tonight.

40 Days for Life has a tiny national team. We have two employees, four contract workers spread out throughout the country. We have no office. We work from home. Most often that means we work on the road or in airports or on airplanes or any other creative place we can find as we travel. This keeps costs low. But we're stretched thin. The campaigns have multiplied in size. Our national team hasn't grown at the same pace at all as 40 Days for Life has grown and gone through all of these cities and around the world.

So we want to do much more for those cities that registered to do a 40 Days for Life campaign. We want to do much more for those communities

to help build ongoing efforts after a 40 Days for Life campaign. But to do more we need to raise more funds and improve the technology. David mentioned some of the investments we've been making in the six-figure range to improve the technology just since December.

We always want to be completely transparent and share our financial situation with everyone on the call and with all the people who have been on the email list for so many years. As you know, we rarely ask for financial help. This is the first time in 2012 that we've asked for financial support this year. In fact, really what we do is unheard of in the nonprofit world. 95% of our time goes into our mission. It goes into working on the front lines and not our fundraising efforts. That is only possible because of the faithfulness of so many donors who are on this call tonight. Because when we've asked for help you've provided that help.

So with everything that's at stake beginning with this defining moment year in 2012, we invested everything we possibly could into this spring's 40 Days for Life campaign. We didn't want to hold anything back. Our resources as a result were drastically depleted. So the bottom line is we have an unprecedented opportunity before us. We can raise the funds right now and move forward with everything that David laid out earlier during this 40<sup>th</sup> year of legalized abortion. But if we don't raise the funds, we're not going to be able to do that.

So tonight, as it was mentioned earlier, everyone on this call will have two opportunities to give financial support to 40 Days for Life. You'll have a one-time gift here tonight, and you'll have the opportunity to give an ongoing pledge. I encourage everyone to consider doing both.

Some of you have been giving monthly donations, whether it's \$10, \$25 or \$50 a month for a long time. These results that you heard are your results. These are results in local communities. Those monthly donations allow us to focus on the mission and to not spend 95% of our time traveling around the country fundraising. So tonight's the night to consider going up if you're already a monthly donor.

If you're not currently a monthly donor, this is the time to discern if you can build us into your budget and make 40 Days for Life something that's a monthly donation. David mentioned we both ran local pro-life organizations for years. We know how far \$10, \$25 a month can go. It may not seem like a lot to us, but it goes far in the nonprofit world. So consider doing both a one-time gift and a monthly gift tonight.

**CARMEN:** Now Shawn, we also mentioned earlier in our teleconference call that there's a surprise announcement that will literally double the impact of the work. Share with us the details of that surprise.

**SHAWN:** Yes! A few donors, in fact it's three donors who want to remain anonymous, despite the state of the economy, despite their own financial challenges, they really felt called to sacrificially invest in 40 Days for Life after seeing the spring campaign results. They wanted their money to have the biggest impact. These are people who participate in their local 40 Days for Life campaigns. All of them have prayed outside of their local abortion facilities. They want to help us financially and they also want to encourage others to support 40 Days for Life financially as well.

They put together a matching challenge. The matching challenge total came to \$89,500. For one week every gift between now and next Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> will be doubled up to \$89,500. This includes one-time gifts that are given over the next seven days. It also includes any monthly pledges that are annualized. If you pledge \$100 a month, that's a \$2400 donation because of that match. So every dollar, whether it's a one-time gift or an annualized monthly pledge up to \$89,500 will be matched.

Those generous donors obviously hope that knowing your gift will be doubled it will encourage you to partner with 40 Days for Life. It will help to take this effort to a whole new level. Some of you may remember on these webcasts in the past we've had matches well over \$100,000. That's not the case now. We've had one donor who just wasn't able to help like they normally have in previous years. So this gives us an opportunity for the rest of us to fill in that gap. Since 40 Days for Life is a 501c3 nonprofit, all your gifts are fully tax deductible.

As we go into the one-time gifts I wanted to mention earlier in the campaign I had the joy of going to the Charlotte 40 Days for Life campaign. Charlotte, North Carolina was one of the first campaigns to participate, way back in the fall of 2007. They've done a 40 Days for Life campaign every single time it's come around, both fall and spring. It's led by two amazing post-abortive women, Katherine and Andrea.

For the first time, I visited Charlotte. When I got there they gave me a gift. I opened it and it was a book. In that book were pictures of all of the babies, many of the babies, that the Charlotte 40 Days for Life campaign has saved over the years. Some of the babies were older than others. We wanted to share this with you because we've shared a lot of big news and a lot of big plans tonight, the history of 40 Days for Life.

But everything that has happened and the way that God has used this very simple campaign boils down to these pictures on Page 11 of the Action Guide. Look at those pictures of those babies. They gave me a copy of this book and David.

I know for David and I, some people think we meet a baby saved from abortion every single day. That's just not the case. Over the last four and a

half years I've met three of the babies that have been saved as a result of 40 Days for Life. David has met two. We want to share this because this is a small sample from one campaign.

Charlotte led the spring campaign with the number of saves which was absolutely amazing. Many times it's a larger city. It's been New York City for many of the 40 Days for Life campaigns. But 53 lives were saved in Charlotte, North Carolina. That's just one of the 261 cities. So we wanted to share this.

No matter where you are there can be books like this in every single community. There often are many pictures that come out of the local 40 Days for Life campaign. We both hope that one day you have the opportunity to meet a baby that is saved as a result of doing just the most basic fundamental thing we can do which is pray peacefully for an end to abortion where the abortions actually happen.

I hope tonight that yes, you'll do a one-time gift and a monthly gift, but this is really the epitome of what this work is about.

So for the one-time gift you'll see the option there on Page 11 of your Action Guide, or on the webcast homepage you can click "one-time gift." As you look at the different gifts we're going to walk through the numbers. Some of you may be able to give a \$25,000 gift or a \$5,000 gift or a \$50 gift. You know what you can give. You know what you can't give.

We just ask that we're going to take it to prayer in a moment. Just consider what you can do. Not only will every dollar be doubled, but it will go certainly straight to the front lines. So if you'll join me for a short prayer then we will go through the one-time gifts.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of life and for the opportunity to serve you and glorify you in the pro-life movement. We pray for all women in our local communities who today found out they were pregnant. We pray for all women who made abortion appointments today in our country and around the world. And for all women who've had abortions.

We pray that you guide us today in our roles, whatever they may be, how big or how small they may be, to work as if everything depended on us, and to pray as if everything depends on you. Because it does. We glorify you tonight for how you've used 40 Days for Life to save lives, change hearts and close abortion facilities. We know that you have big plans for the future to help end abortion in America and around the world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

At this time you will see the options if you click on the one-time gift button. For the next seven days, and we encourage you to make your

donations tonight if possible. No matter what your one-time gift amount is, you can click on the link and do it online, or if you would rather mail your donation in you can click the link that says "click here."

A PDF form will pop up. Simply print off that PDF form, fill it out with your donation and you can mail it to our 40 Days for Life address that's written on the page. So if you would rather mail it in it just has to be post-marked by next Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, in order to count toward the \$89,500. Again, all donations are tax-deductible.

If you give online when you click the amount you will see a screen pop up. Just like most sites, put in all of your information. When you click "checkout" we'll need your name, address and be sure your billing address matches your credit card address and your donation will go through.

I'm going to go ahead, I know some of the donations are coming in. Again, the match is \$89,500. I'm going to hand it to David to talk about monthly giving.

**DAVID:** Alright, Shawn. Thank you so much for leading us through that. I just want to acknowledge we have all kinds of one-time gifts that are pouring in right now.

I just want to say thank you to Joy in Gordonsville, Virginia; Albert in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Teresa in Victoria, Minnesota; Evelyn in Paris, Illinois; Sarah in Hollywood, Florida; Joy in Rosemount, Minnesota; Frances in Massillon, Ohio; Anna in New Kensington, Pennsylvania; Dianna in Groton, Massachusetts; Gerald in White Plains, New York; Janet in Magalia, California.

Ellen – welcome Ellen in Williamsville, New York. Linda in Black Canyon City, Arizona; Joy in Virginia; Rebecca in South Bend, Indiana; Verda in Carmel, Indiana; John in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania; Fozia in San Liandra, California; Char in Vero Beach, Florida; Deborah in Bluffton, Indiana; Ida in Dakota, Minnesota; Barbara in Parsippany, New Jersey.

They continue to come in faster than I can keep up with them. Thank you, thank you so much. You have no idea what an encouragement this is and what an affirmation. Thank you for allowing God to work through you and for being a part of standing up and speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves.

If you have any question about making a gift, feel free to email [info@40daysforlife.com](mailto:info@40daysforlife.com) which is the email address where you'll get the quickest response. I will tell you it will be kind of crazy for the next few hours, but we'll try to get back to you as quickly as we can if you have any questions.

Shawn, as you were talking about the lives that were saved and those pictures in that book it reminded me when I heard Nikki Bruni's testimony from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I wasn't even planning to share this, but I was in Pittsburgh with my family at the 40 Days for Life. We went to visit during this campaign. While I was there we were getting ready to leave and a woman came up to me.

She said, "I understand that you're involved with the national 40 Days for Life." I said, "Yes, I am." She said, "I just wanted to come up and thank you." She started getting really emotional. She proceeded to tell me that a little over a year and a half ago she had been pregnant and was going to that Planned Parenthood facility outside of which these people were praying. She was going in for an abortion.

When she saw the people praying outside she said, "I just can't go through with this. If I try to go in those people are going to offer me help. If they start to help me I'm probably not going to go through with it." So she left and went around the corner to a restaurant where she worked. She was sitting there in the restaurant getting ready for her shift at work trying to think about, "Should I just stay here until then?"

The 40 Days team that had been out there finished their shift and they came over to eat at her restaurant. When she saw them come in there she said, "You know, this really must be some sort of a sign." She accepted their offer of help.

What she proceeded to tell me as her eyes were filling up with tears is her son is today 14 months old. Not only did she spare herself from an abortion, spare her son from death, but she told me that because of that, because of that son, she has turned her life around, gotten off drugs, gotten out of an abusive situation. Her life is completely transformed because people were praying outside of that abortion facility.

That's the potential that you and I have to make a defining moment – yes for our nation, yes for our world, but for that mother and for that child.

On Page 12 we're going to move into an opportunity if you feel led to make a pledge of ongoing monthly support. We have three pictures there. Shawn mentioned that there were three abortion facilities that closed during this 40 Days for Life campaign. The first one there is Storm Lake, Iowa. That was the one that Sue Thayer was talking about during her testimonial. It was such a blessing to be there when that facility closed.

The other one there is in Knoxville, Iowa Planned Parenthood facility. The third that just closed down was in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Both Shawn and I have been to all of those locations.

What I want you to think about as you look at those facilities that are now closed knowing that no more children will die there, no more women will be wounded there. What I want you to think about is not Storm Lake, Iowa and Knoxville, Iowa and Allentown, Pennsylvania. I want you to think about your community. I want you to think about the nearest abortion facility to where you live, work and worship.

What will it feel like when that facility closes its doors forever? What will it feel like to go out to that praise event praising God for what he has done for hearing and answering prayers? What will it feel like to know your prayers have been answered, your faithfulness has been rewarded?

That's what we have an opportunity to partner in tonight. As Shawn mentioned, a monthly pledge of support, particularly in this tough economy, maybe this is a way that God can use you to make a difference not just this month, but next month and the next nine, ten, eleven months of the year, to make a difference because lives continue to be at risk every single day. Maybe you can't make as large of a one-time gift, and maybe this is a way to spread it out over time.

This truly is the backbone of 40 Days for Life. I can just tell you honestly. Those who carry us monthly, you have no idea how much of an answer to prayer you are. For some of you, maybe tonight you're going to increase that pledge. For others, maybe it's to make that pledge for the very first time.

So whatever that is I'm going to invite you in just a second to pray about it. On the webcast page if that's where you're listening you can click on the "make a tax-deductible monthly pledge" link on the bottom right corner. If you have the PDF document open of the Action Guide you can click that link for the "make a monthly pledge online" or just go to [www.40daysforlife.com/donate](http://www.40daysforlife.com/donate) and you can get to the monthly pledges.

When you click that it will take you to a pledge with anything from \$1,000 a month pledge for those who feel inclined to do that, down to a \$10 a month pledge. No gift is too small and no gift is too large, I'll tell you that.

If you've given in the past, if you've made a previous pledge and you want to keep that same pledge for the next 12 months you certainly can do that. You can let us know that by emailing [info@40daysforlife.com](mailto:info@40daysforlife.com). If you want to change the amount, you can sign up for the monthly pledge of the new amount that you would like to make a pledge for and then email [info@40daysforlife.com](mailto:info@40daysforlife.com) and we'll adjust that for you.

One thing that's important when you do click that link you'll go to a shopping cart to page to process the online donation if you do it by credit

card. Do not change the quantity thinking that will show the number of months. It is already a monthly pledge.

So you don't put "12" in to make it 12 months. It will automatically be a once a month pledge starting immediately and then for those next months. So don't change that otherwise we'll have to go through credit card refunds and get you all credited for that. It's not a problem, we'll do it. But it would certainly make you a little less stressed in having to do that.

So go ahead and click that link, go to that page. Pick the amount. We're going to pray over it in just a second. Then wherever the Lord leads you, whatever you feel called to do to help save lives, to help close these facilities, to help impact eternal souls. Let's go to the Lord in prayer and ask him to guide our hearts.

Thank you God so much for what you have accomplished through 40 Days for Life. We are nothing, nothing without you. All of this is because of you. We thank you for everybody who has been so faithful in being a part of this effort. For the prayers they have lifted up. For the efforts they have invested. We thank you for the lives that you have saved, those that we know about, and the many more we don't know about. We thank you for the hearts and minds that have been changed, for the healing that has been brought to those who have been wounded by past abortions. We thank you for the conversions of heart of those who work in the abortion industry. And we thank you for these closed abortion facilities, knowing no more children will die there.

Dear God, we just ask that you guide each of us tonight to know how you would have us make an ongoing pledge of support. We know the economy is tough right now. We know it's not easy. But when women are in a crisis, when they are in the midst of a pregnancy that they weren't expecting in the midst of a down economy, we know they're far more likely to consider abortion than when times are good. So Dear God, we just ask you to guide each of our hearts to know what you would have us do as a monthly pledge, and then be faithful, not to 40 Days for Life, not to David and Shawn, but to you. We ask all this in the name of your son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

You can go ahead and click whatever link there you want, or as Shawn mentioned on the last one, you can print out on that page there's a place to print out a donation form if you prefer to mail-in your monthly pledge. Or on your Action Guide on Page 12, that last link for the monthly pledge form. You can print that out. Again, remember, every pledge will be multiplied by 12. So \$100 a month pledge, that's \$1200, that will instantly be doubled to \$2400 up to that matching challenge of \$89,500. For it to be doubled though, it has to be given online by Midnight Pacific next Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> or post-marked by next Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> to be doubled.

Thank you to those who are making pledges of ongoing support. I see them coming in right now. I'm in awe. Wendy, Mildred, Joe, Mark, Nancy, Michael, Marie, Ann, Eileen, Howard, Priscilla, Deborah, Maureen, Gerald, Diana, Marilyn, Loraine, Vicki. I mean literally, it is just pouring in here. Joy, Lois, Douglas, John, Barbara. It goes on and on. Thank you. You have no idea how much this means to us. Just know that we will be good stewards of every dollar you pledge, that you give. We will do everything we can to literally make 2012 a defining moment that will be the beginning of the end of abortion. Carmen?

**CARMEN:** No doubt just from the response so far we know that lives are being touched even as we speak. I join David in thanking you for letting the Lord help save the unborn through your donations, and saving those women from a life of regret and from wounds that they receive.

Tonight we've heard some amazing testimonies. We've heard statistics. We've talked about the scope of the abortion crisis, how 40 Days for Life is a powerful solution to that crisis. We've heard the unprecedented results of 40 Days for Life since this international movement began just four and a half years ago. We've heard why 2012 is a crucial defining moment for the pro-life movement and how we are positioned to achieve life-saving victories on multiple fronts. We've heard innovative strategic plans, next steps so we can mobilize more people, change more hearts and minds, and save more lives.

Now you've heard how you can participate, how you can help this effort to achieve its full potential. We do pray that you realize the urgency and the importance of this crucial defining moment year. We hope that you see how these efforts can save lives, impact souls, transform your community, the nation, the world. We ask that you would prayerfully discern your role and the role for your community and decide to take action. Make that one-time gift. Make a pledge of ongoing monthly support. And prepare for one of the most exciting 2012 that you could ever imagine.

Would you help us to spread the word? Would you ask everyone that you know to visit [www.2012DefiningMoment.com](http://www.2012DefiningMoment.com) before next Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. That way they too can listen to the recording and be inspired as we have been tonight. They can prayerfully discern how they can help.

You know, before Christ departed to Heaven he taught his disciples two great lessons in regard to their relation to him in the great work they had to do. He said in John 15:7, "If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will and it shall be done for you." With these two truths written on their heart, he sent them out into the world. The almighty, glorified Jesus was ready to do in and with and through them greater things than he himself had ever done on earth. Let us learn this lesson,

both for our lives, and for this good work to which we have been called. Close abiding fellowship with Jesus, our Lord, submitting to his will in unceasing prayer and supplication, and expecting his answer. Let's pray.

*Abba Father, we want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection in our lives. Help us in our unbelief. Fill our hearts and our minds with your truth and your love. Send us back out into the world with boldness and courage, knowing that the enemy holds many in bondage to lies regarding the value of life. help us to speak truth into their lives, and to rescue those who are perishing.*

*Every number that has been shared tonight has a name. You know and love and treasure each person represented – the volunteers, the moms, the dads, the babies, the clinic workers. Continue to show your glory Lord, through the united prayer effort of 40 Days for Life. Continue to hear our prayers. We trust in your timing. You will indeed end abortion for the glory of your name. It is in your son Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Thank you for joining us this evening. We pray the Lord will bless you tenfold for your blessings tonight. Goodnight!

**DAVID:** Carmen, thank you so much. I just wanted to say a quick thank you to again, everybody who is giving so generously right now. I first and foremost want to be sure we thank God and give him all the glory for what is happening.

Thanks to our amazing National Team. I am so blessed to work with Shawn, David Brandao our Communications Director, Lauren Muzyka our Campaign Strategist, Chantel Poisel who is our campaign Administrative Coordinator, Erin Wilson who is helping with administrative work as well.

We have an amazing Board of Directors. I look forward to reporting to them. We have a meeting tomorrow. I am excited to share with them how God has been moving. All the local leaders who lead campaigns, and you, each of you who are on this webcast, on this teleconference, listening to this recording, you are the ones who are making history through this effort.

I was very touched, as gifts keep pouring in here. One of them caught my eye because it was from Eileen Smith. Eileen is in Orlando, Florida. I know Eileen and I love her dearly. In the memo line of her gift it says, "This gift is given in the memory of Laura Hope Smith, who died from abortion September 13, 2007."

Eileen, I keep a picture of your daughter, Laura, on my desk, right next to a picture of the first baby I ever met that was saved from abortion due to a 40 Days for Life, to always remind me that it's not just the babies, it's also

the mothers. Your beautiful daughter died on that abortion table there in Massachusetts, and this so-called safe and legal abortion, not only her unborn child, but she as well died. That is always there on my desk as a constant reminder that this is about the babies. It's about the women. It's about everybody affected by abortion. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you also to Danielle, Anna Maria, Sandy, Margaret, Grace, Elizabeth, Nicholas, Joan, Annie, Dewayne, Shirley, Alice, Patricia, David. The gifts just keep pouring in. Thank you so much for your generosity. Thank you so much for what you are doing to help make 2012 a defining moment. Thank you Donna, Elaina, Janet, Chris, Sherry, Peter, Vicki, Anna Maria, Kina.

I could be on all night. But you know who you are who are giving so generously. Thank you for what you are making possible. Let's go forward and let's make this the turning point year. Let's make 2012 the beginning of an end to abortion.

God bless you, everybody. God bless you, Shawn. Thanks for being on tonight. Thank you, Carmen, for emceeding. Everybody have a great night. We'll be talking with you soon. God bless!

**SHAWN:** Good night everybody!