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Dear pastor,

On Wednesday, March 5, 2025, 40 Days for Life will be starting in hundreds of locations across the world including Guelph. Guelph & Area Right to Life will be hosting the 40 Days for Life campaign in our city.

40 Days for Life is an **effective, prayer filled effort to end abortion locally** through a peaceful 40 day long vigil located near a city's abortion facility or hospital. In Guelph, that location is the Guelph Community Health Centre on Wyndham Street, where the SHORE Centre (formerly called Planned Parenthood Waterloo) operates a satellite abortion pill clinic.

The abortion pill, also known as chemical abortion, is distributed to women who are up to nine weeks pregnant. Through a two step process the woman aborts their embryo at home. The embryo, though smaller than a fetus and an infant, is not just a clump of cells or a 'pregnancy sac'. The embryo is a living, distinct, whole human being with their own DNA. They are at one of the earliest stages of human development and as a result are the most dependent and vulnerable of our kind. The woman is given the first abortion pill which cuts off blood supply and nutrients to the developing embryo. Next, 24 to 48 hours later, the woman takes the second abortion pill at home which causes the uterus to expel the embryo. The result is an excruciating experience for the mother and a dead baby.

Women don't turn to the abortion pill because they want to. They turn to abortion because they feel like they have no choice. It has been described with the analogy of an animal caught in a trap and the only way to escape that trap is to gnaw their own arm off. **Abortion hurts women and men and kills humans before they are born** by use of chemical, as in the case of abortion pill, or through surgical abortion which dismembers and decapitates preborn children. In second and third trimester abortion, abortionists use forceps to rip off arms and legs, and crush the skull of the fetus (which is latin for little one) to remove them from the uterus in order to end their life. In Canada, this is allowed up until nine months of pregnancy. Abortion is a medical horror and one of the greatest human rights violations of our time. Women and couples turning to abortion, as well as the medical community providing abortion, desperately need our prayer.

Our goal is to have a prayer presence across the street from this centre for 12 hours a day (7am – 7pm) on each of the 40 days during the 2025 prayer vigil. Your church community can help us make this possible.

The prayer vigil outside of the abortion pill clinic in Guelph is one of the most impactful ways people can become involved in 40 Days for Life. We believe God will use this prayer time to change hearts and minds and save lives. In order to fill 12 hours a day, for 40 days, with prayer we need prayer volunteers. We are asking 40 churches from within Guelph & Wellington County to **commit to joining us at the vigil site for just one day.**

Will your church be one of the forty who will pray with us? If you designate one person from your church to be a 2025 40 Days for Life liaison, our Guelph & Area Right to Life team will work with them to help involve your church in this initiative.

Guelph & Area Right to Life will provide materials, information, and guidance to help make participation as easy as possible for your church and all free of charge, there is no cost to participate.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact us directly at 519-836-6311 or email info@guelphforlife.com.

On behalf of the Guelph & Area Right to Life Association, thank you for all you do to care for your community and for standing with us to uphold a culture of life.

Sincerely,

Joe Montague
Guelph and Area Right to Life Program Manager