




40 DAYS FOR LIFE®
SUMMER *Gala*
with special guest
Jerry Shick

July 24, 2020



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 24, 2020

I send my warmest regards to those gathered in Savannah, Georgia, for the 40 Days for Life leader symposium.

40 Days for Life plays an important role as a leading voice for the pro-life movement, reminding us all that every human life is full of potential and worth defending. Your efforts help provide countless and critical resources to women during times of uncertainty, ensuring that they have the support they need to make choices that reflect our Nation's belief that all life is worthy of respect.

Each year, more than one million volunteers give families the tools they need to consider loving alternatives to abortion. To date, 953 cities and 64 countries have benefitted from 40 Days for Life campaigns. Not only have 107 abortion facilities closed, but 206 abortion workers changed their careers because of a campaign that changed their hearts. Our country, including the 17,226 babies whose lives have been saved, is grateful for your heartfelt work. As a Nation, we must always strive to live up to God's teaching that every human life is a precious gift from our Heavenly Father and that He has a plan for every child.

The First Lady and I send our best wishes for a productive and memorable conference. May God bless you, and may He continue to bless the United States of America.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Michelle Obama".

SCHEDULE OF THE EVENING

WELCOME

Steve Karlen

Director of Campaigns, 40 Days for Life

OPENING PRAYER

Fr. Paul Felix

Pastor, Church of the Annunciation
and Retreat Leader for post-abortive healing in the
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

DINNER

MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR

Carol Siedhoff

Chairman of the Board, 40 Days for Life

FULL DISPLAY

Shawn Carney

President & CEO, 40 Days for Life

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Jerry Shick

US Navy SEAL

CLOSING PRAYER

Deacon Russ Woodard

SPEAKER BIOS



Jerry Shick
US Navy SEAL

Jerry Shick is a Financial Advisor and Retired US Navy SEAL with over 24 years of service. A native Texan, Jerry grew up in Pasadena, Texas where he spent his formative years playing football and other team sports. Inspired by the camaraderie instilled in team sports, Jerry was compelled to find a way to live his life where he could have that same camaraderie he experienced playing team sports and put it to good use. After graduating high school, Jerry enlisted in the US Navy to become a Navy SEAL, highly regarded as the ultimate organization for camaraderie. In 1994, he received orders to Naval Special Warfare Center to attend BUD/S or Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training where he learned the true power of teamwork. After graduating BUD/S in 1995, Jerry was assigned to SEAL Team One in Coronado, CA where he completed three deployments in the Pacific Theater of Operations. In February 2001, Jerry was assigned to Naval Special Warfare Development Group, from which he was temporarily assigned to Naval Special Warfare Detachment 2 and served with several Joint Task Forces completing 11 combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and others in the global war on terrorism. During his 24 years of service, Jerry has been a part of numerous teams and served in various levels of leadership while operating in the most arduous environments, mastering the concept of teamwork, leadership, and the importance of communication. In his varying roles, his experience has ranged from junior level leadership, managing a small team with less than 15 personnel, to senior level leadership, managing several departments and over 120 personnel with varying backgrounds. There he was charged with developing and maintaining a high-performance team for no-fail missions. Jerry Shick retired from Naval Special Warfare Development Group in September of 2017 with numerous awards for his accomplishments including 6 Bronze Stars with combat "V" for valor, and 2 Defense Meritorious Service Medals. Jerry is enthusiastic about bringing his

accumulated knowledge and experience into the civilian sector and seeks to continue to develop camaraderie with his family, friends, and clients. He now works as a Financial Advisor in Tyler, Texas with his wife of 22 years, Teresa, and their 4 children. Jerry periodically gives lectures on his experiences.



Shawn Carney
President/CEO,
40 Days for Life

Shawn began as a volunteer in the pro-life movement while still in college. During this time, he helped lead the first ever local 40 Days for Life campaign. After graduating from college, Shawn was asked to serve as the executive director of the Coalition for Life, a local pro-life organization in Texas, made up of more than 60 churches. From its beginning, Shawn has been instrumental in growing 40 Days for Life nationally and then internationally.

Shawn is a regular media spokesperson, and his work has been featured on hundreds of outlets, including *Fox News*, *The Laura Ingraham Show*, *The Drudge Report*, *The Guardian*, *USA Today*, and Christian media including *The Christian Post*, *National Catholic Register*, *Sirius XM Catholic Radio*, *EWTN Radio*, and *Focus on the Family*.

Shawn is one of the most sought-after pro-life speakers, addressing audiences coast to coast and internationally. He has executive produced award-winning pro-life documentaries. Shawn co-authored the #1 top-rated Christian book: *40 Days for Life: Discover What God Has Done ... Imagine What He Can Do*, *The Beginning of the End of Abortion*, and *To the Heart of the Matter*. Shawn lives in Texas with his wife and eight children.



Carol Siedhoff
Board Chair,
40 Days for Life

Carol has been heavily involved with 40 Days for Life since 2008. Her board experience includes non-profit organizations, including national advocacy non-profits. Carol has previously held Chief Human Resource roles. She has a Master of Science degree in industrial relations and counseling education. Carol and her husband have been married 35 years.



Steve Karlen
Campaign Director,
40 Days for Life

Steve got involved in the pro-life movement as a volunteer leader with the 40 Days for Life campaign in Madison, Wisconsin. Before long, he found himself at the center of a nationwide controversy as the health system at his *alma mater*, the University of Wisconsin, was secretly preparing to open a late-term abortion center on campus. Groups across the state looked to him for leadership. After nearly a year and a half, the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics abandoned its plan to open an abortion facility, citing Steve and his team as the reason for the decision. Steve now serves as the campaign director for 40 Days for Life, where he trains and assists local 40 Days for Life campaign leaders, co-hosts the 40 Days for Life Podcast, and edits 40 Days for Life's *Day 41* magazine. He has spoken in all 50 states; Washington, DC; four Canadian provinces; and Mexico City. Steve lives in Madison with his wife and five children.



Fr. Paul Felix
Pastor, Church of the
Annunciation
and Retreat Leader
for post-abortive
healing in the
Archdiocese of
Galveston-Houston

The fourth of six children, Fr. Paul Felix is the pastor of Annunciation Catholic Church, the oldest church in continuous use in Houston. His ministry has featured an apostolate to area nursing homes, leading pilgrimages (across Texas and internationally), prison ministry, Spanish-language ministry, and the founding of a medical ethics group for Catholic professionals. He has served as a spiritual director, confessor, retreat master, speaker, and teacher. Fr. Felix is a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus, a participant in the Opus Dei Circle of Priests, and a Priest Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.



**Deacon Russ
Woodard**
40 Days for Life
Leader, Bloomington

Deacon Russ Woodard was ordained to the diaconate for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis in 2012. He currently serves as Parish Life Coordinator at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Edinburgh, Indiana. He also serves as leader of the 40 Days for Life campaign in Bloomington, Indiana.

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THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.



17,226 LIVES SAVED FROM ABORTION,
THANKS TO YOU!



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