



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

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## A Church Pledge Could Save Lives

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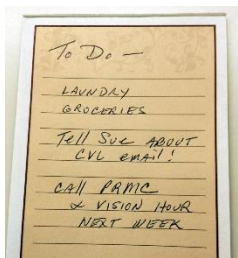


**Education:** Christian women are not immune to the temptation of abortion. They make mistakes, and many younger women do not hold to the traditional view that intercourse should only happen within marriage. But boyfriends still abandon them and even Christian parents can decide that abortion is really the best answer. If their church is silent on abortion, they may fear being ostracized or condemned for a pregnancy outside of marriage. They may even be in doubt about how God views abortion. But a pledge of church support for unwed mothers can make a difference. If they hear that abortion is wrong, and that the church wants to support unwed mothers who reject the temptation to abort, they may be much less likely to choose abortion. Women who have already aborted also need to be assured of God's continuing love and readiness to forgive.

Christian Voices for Life has written letters to pastors and designed two sample pledges that might be posted in the church building to provide a constant reminder of the church's policy to support women who are pregnant under difficult circumstances, to support the local pregnancy center as they help women to choose life and to cope with the pregnancy, and to encourage post-abortive women to find forgiveness and healing in Christ-centered healing ministries. To see a copy of the letter and the sample pledges go to the [ChristianVoicesforLife "to-do" page](#). The letter itself also contains links for other resources for pastors.



**Prayer:** Dear Father God, please help all pastors to overcome whatever hesitations they may have about preaching about abortion. Let them have the courage to proclaim the message of the sanctity of life as well as compassion for women. Help them resist the pressures they may feel to avoid the subject. Help them to understand that post-abortive women will not be helped by silence. Silence may on one hand encourage their denial that abortion was wrong, delaying their reconciliation and healing. Or it may lead them to believe that abortion is the unforgivable sin, or that the church does not care about the pain she is experiencing after abortion.



**Action:** If your pastor doesn't talk about abortion, ask him why. Bring him a copy of a letter written to area pastors, which is available [here](#). Encourage him to consider posting one of the pledges or something similar. Think about how your church could minister to pregnant women in difficult situations, making it clear that they will be accepted and loved in that circumstance. Learn about the pregnancy help center nearest to you, and be aware that you can refer both women considering abortion and those who are suffering after abortion to OptionLine.org or 800-712-HELP for help.

Those seeking help from Option Line can speak or chat with someone immediately (24/7, Eng/Sp) and then be referred to local help.