

# Life News



December  
2016

[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)



## Life Newsbytes

**Colorado voted to legalize physician-assisted suicide by an expected margin of around 65 percent to 33 percent—making the state the fifth to allow assistance in dying.** Alex Schadenberg, executive director of the London, Ontario-based Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, says the result is distressing but not surprising. “People have been inundated with the message that this is about freedom, that this is about my autonomy, that there will be safeguards in place, when the fact is when you look at the reality, none of that is true.” Proposition 106 creates the “Colorado End of Life Options Act,” allowing doctors to prescribe lethal drugs to patients age eighteen and over who have been diagnosed with a terminal illness and have been assessed to have six or fewer months to live. (*LifeSiteNews.com, 11/8/16; CLR LifeWire, 11/10-16*)

## Speaking Up For Life

“As to the seasons, it remains the season in which we are Christ’s ‘witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.’ ... The next time you receive Holy Communion, you will be standing in a holy place with ‘the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven... and Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant’ (Hebrews 12:23-24a). He is the Eternal Lord, who is rightly glorified ‘at every season and every hour, in Heaven and on earth.’” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James*

“As Christmas approaches, I’m reminded of another man more than 2,000 years ago who also made a difficult choice about a mother and a baby. Joseph could have cut and run, but he didn’t. When men commit themselves to stand for life and for their families, they experience blessings far greater than wealth and fame.” *Bradley Mattes, executive director of Life Issues Institute*

“God gave you what you couldn’t do for yourself. What a great Christmas gift you have in the unconditional forgiveness of your sins through the person and work of your Savior Jesus Christ! Thank You, God!” *Rev. Mark Jeske, www.timeofgrace.org*

[www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-quotes](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-quotes)

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Hope For Life



2017 Lutherans For Life Regional Conferences  
Ft. Wayne, Indiana • New Braunfels, Texas • Lincoln, Nebraska • Pekin, Illinois



For those who have had an abortion—there is a **Word of Hope** for broken hearts. Call

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## Still Standing but Not Standing Still

by Rev. Michael W. Salemink

**“E**veryone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it” (Matthew 7:24-27).

The storms will come—with hurricane force.

Jesus guarantees that “[I]n the world you will have tribulation” (John 16:33). “[T]hey will lay their hands on you and persecute you ...” (Luke 21:12a). The clouds will swell, and the thunder will roll. The lightning will strike and frighten. The rains will fall, and the floods will rush and rise. The wind will blow and beat against us, no matter where or how we hide, whether on rock or in sand. We cannot avoid or outrun sin and death because it resides inside us. We have fallen, and the whole world broke long ago.

Yet the Rock won’t move. The Rock does not move. He does not change or fail. Our all-knowing Architect has spread around and over us a shelter that will not fall, not even at the shaking and shouting of the weakened and weeping ones within. The Stricken Cornerstone streams perpetual waters of atonement, absolution, and acceptance. Having already swallowed death down along with humankind’s guilt and buried it beneath His resurrection, Jesus Christ has no death left in Him and allows none near His own. Bravely and gratefully we keep sharing what He continues showing us, that all persons are worth it despite the cost and opposition, every one precious for His grace’s sake and not dependent upon appearance or age or ability. The Rock holds, and His house prevails.

He has christened this ark of ours for filling with neighbors instead of animals. Here we stand, not to look down on but to reach out to. For those around us whose foundations have flushed away, we get to shine light. We will fling Gospel doors open and invite in those drowning in deception, dread, and regret. Let us tear back all shades and throw up every window that anyone endangered by sin’s grip and death’s threats may be saved—and loved.



**Since Roe v. Wade in 1973:  
57,762,169 abortions in America**

Source: [www.lifenews.com/2015/01/21/57762169-abortions-in-america-since-roe-vs-wade-in-1973](http://www.lifenews.com/2015/01/21/57762169-abortions-in-america-since-roe-vs-wade-in-1973)

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