



Life Quotes from Lutherans For Life

Congregational Bulletin Blurbs for January–December 2018

Share the For Life message all year long with Life Quotes!

- Life Quotes are quotations on life issues—many from LFL resources and publications—for use in weekly congregational bulletins. You are also free to use the quotations in your monthly newsletter.
- The quotes are dated but could generally be used any time.
- We ask that Life Quotes be printed as written, in their entirety.
- Life Quotes are available—free of charge—at www.lutheransforlife.org.

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Note: Thank you for using Life Quotes in your weekly bulletin. You may also wish to regularly use the following text to offer hope and help to those hurting from an abortion decision.

Please consider including the following in your bulletins/newsletters:

“Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888.217.8679.”

Free, downloadable Word of Hope ads are available at www.lutheransforlife.org/media/downloads.

January 7 “Our happiness, therefore, does not depend on a new year or a changed situation, but upon the Lord and our changed relationship, our deepened growth, in Him and in terms of His will for us ... ‘Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you’ (Matthew 6:33 KJV).” *R. J. Rushdoony, philosopher, historian, and theologian – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 14 “The church must be reminded that it is ... the conscience of the state ... It must be the guide and the critic of the state ... If the church does not recapture its prophetic zeal, it will become an irrelevant social club without moral or spiritual authority.” *Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 21 “Life issues didn’t arise overnight. Their frequent connection to medical technology can make them seem like recent developments—and advances in understanding physiology and pharmaceuticals have made abortion and euthanasia more efficient and available of late. But these circumstances have been causing society’s difficulties—and providing opportunities to proclaim the Gospel—since ancient times.” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 28 “Our throw-away culture values ability and perfection. Those values increasingly and unfairly characterize the preborn diagnosed with disability as not even worthy to be born. But God’s Word is clear in King David’s Psalm 139:13-14 (NIV): ‘For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.’” *Mona Fuerstenau, director of Lutheran Ministry Partnerships, Bethesda Lutheran Communities – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 4 “[I]f it is wrong to kill a human fetus, it is wrong because this interrupts the vocation of that fetus to praise God and enjoy Him forever, a vocation given it by God Himself in and with the gift of existence, a vocation we may not override for purposes of our own without offending against the rights of God.” *Douglas Farrow, author of Desiring a Better Country: Forays in Political Theology – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 11 “Love and appreciation between generations are so important. God tells us not to conceal His great and mighty acts from our children, but to tell the generations to come the praises of the Lord, and His strength, and His

wondrous works that He has done.” *Kay L. Meyer, Family Shield Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 18 “In a sense, that is where man is today ... dead in sin, awaiting the Exodus led by the Son of Man, the new Moses, into eternal life, undoing the separation of soul and body at death. Lent (and the weakness of our mortal flesh) reminds us of this separation, our sin. Easter reveals to us the Exodus, Christ’s life that sets us free and brings us home.” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 25 “So when we see the embryo ... in that petri dish—vulnerable, helpless, and destined for destruction—we are compelled to speak and defend and help. And not because it is the right thing to do or the moral thing to do, but because it is the *Christ* thing to do. Our God became incarnate as an embryo, giving value to all embryos.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 4 “When we pray the Lord’s Prayer, we ask God to ‘deliver us from evil.’ We ask Him to protect us against the callous evil of abortion, the taking of a human life. We are harnessed with the burden of belonging to a nation that practices this barbaric procedure and calls it a ‘right.’ May God have mercy on us.” *Chaplain (Lt. Colonel) Steven Hokana, Assistant Director of Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) (LCMS) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 11 “My heart goes out to those struggling with guilt from the secret sin of abortion—a burden carried by millions. These women and men should not be deprived of the forgiveness Jesus earned for them when they have a repentant heart. We need to speak up and let them know they can have the forgiveness Jesus bought for them through His life, death, and resurrection.” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org (For those who have made an abortion decision, there is a Word of Hope, Lutherans For Life’s post-abortion healing ministry. Call 888.217.8679 or email info@word-of-hope.org.)*

March 18 “Ultimately abortions are antithetical to the Gospel message the church proclaims, as we marvel over the fact that Jesus says to undeserving sinners: ‘I will lay my life down for my sheep,’ and so He did, taking on our sin and shame and the debt that stood against us and nailing it to the cross. Abortion instead demands of an innocent life, ‘You will lay your life down for me.’” *Pastor Gunnar Ingi Gunnarsson, Loftstofan Baptistakirkja, Iceland – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 25 “Moreover, when Christ, the Son of God, was to be conceived in His mother’s womb and become incarnate, He certainly had to be already present in essence and in person in the Virgin’s womb, and had to assume humanity there.” *Martin Luther (LW 37:62) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 1 “Jesus has really, truly, physically been raised from the dead! And God stakes His entire reputation on these historical Easter facts! Luke was no liar, the women were not delusional, and the angels are no myth. God proclaims His Easter truth to us so that we may know and believe that in Jesus all our sin is forgiven, death has gone to die, the devil has been defeated, and life lasts forever!” *Pastor Jonathan Kruschel, St. John Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 8 “Our Lord has written the promise of the Resurrection not in books alone, but in every leaf in the springtime.” *Martin Luther – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 15 “When people question the value of a life lived with disability, I share God’s Word concerning the body of Christ in 1 Corinthians 12:22 (NIV): ‘On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable.’ Note it does not say those that are weaker, but those that ‘seem to be weaker are indispensable!’” *Mona Fuerstenau, director of Lutheran Ministry Partnerships, Bethesda Lutheran Communities – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 22 “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." *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 29 "When we see the unborn ... vulnerable, helpless, destined for destruction—we are compelled to speak and defend and help. And not because it is the right thing to do or the moral thing to do, but because it is the *Christ* thing to do. His hands that were pierced and His body that died and rose again were formed in a womb, giving value to all who have resided there." *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 6 "Young women within our churches are watching how we as the Christian community treat unplanned pregnancy within our own four walls. Yes, it is very important to educate our people on the dangers of abortion and the value of life. But we will fail as life advocates if we do not demonstrate compassion for those among us who find themselves caught in the web of unplanned pregnancy." *Diane E. Schroeder, former president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 13 "If you knew that Jesus would be in your church on Sunday to bless your children, to put His hand on your shoulder, to personally assure you of His forgiveness and love, would you be there? He is there, and He does that through the Gospel." *Rev. James Albrecht, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Okabena, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 20 "We celebrate when a mother has second thoughts concerning abortion and keeps her baby. We sing 'Alleluia' when an orphaned child once abandoned is adopted and lives in a home filled with the presence of Christ's love reflected through a mother and father." *Chaplain (Lt. Colonel) Steven Hokana, Assistant Director of Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) (LCMS) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 27 "Would you be willing to take a little bit of time on Memorial Day to do two things? One is to thank God for the successful outcomes of the sacrifices that these graves represent. Our country is a free and blessed place, and our freedom was bought at a terrible price. Second, will you rededicate yourself to sharing the good news of Jesus so that as many people as possible will be rejoicing on resurrection day? As you think about cemeteries, realize that God has the last word: 'Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt' (Daniel 12:2 NIV). All Christian warriors will awake soon to new life." *Pastor Mark Jeske, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 3 "The fight for the right to life is not the cause of a special few, but the cause of every man, woman, and child who cares not only about his or her own family, but the whole family of man." *Dr. Mildred Fay Jefferson, MD – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 10 "You can stand for life today, even if you have had an abortion. When you bring any sin into the light, Jesus disarms the enemy. The devil can no longer hold that sin over you. Christ is your righteousness, and you stand in Him. God's Word declares it to be so." *Rev. Lyndon Korhonen, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org (For those who have made an abortion decision, there is a Word of Hope, Lutherans For Life's post-abortion healing ministry. Call 888.217.8679 or email info@word-of-hope.org.)*

June 17 "Children, vulnerable and dependent, desperately need security, and it has ever been a duty and a joy of fatherhood to offer it. Being a father requires strength ... and more than a little courage ... to persevere, to fight discouragement, and to keep working for the family ... With God's grace, fathers find the patience to teach, the fortitude to provide, the compassion to comfort, and the mercy to forgive. All of this is to say that they find the strength to love their wives and children selflessly ... Let us ... express our thanks and affection to our fathers, whether we can do so in person or in prayer." *President Ronald Reagan, Father's Day 1988 – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 24 “When we see the young woman in a crisis pregnancy ... vulnerable, helpless, feeling destined to make only one choice—we are compelled to speak and defend and help because it is the *Christ* thing to do ... We lift her up and offer Christ’s compassion in real, practical ways.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 1 “No man, great or small, is a self-made individual. And no nation can make itself great. Nations and individuals depend on both the grace of God and His mysterious purposes in history. If any nation wishes to become great, it must bend to protect the least of its irreplaceable citizens, starting in the womb.” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 8 “When people consider euthanasia for those experiencing illness or decline with aging, God’s Word is clear again through King David in Psalm 139:16b (NIV): ‘[A]ll the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.’” *Mona Fuerstenau, director of Lutheran Ministry Partnerships, Bethesda Lutheran Communities – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 15 “We need to embrace the God Who is found in suffering. He is the man of sorrows, acquainted with grief. He’s the Lord who was impaled on a cross. We’d rather Jesus be mild-mannered and mild-tempered, and we’d rather listen to Him preach about lilies in a field of flowers. We don’t want to go down that hard path of Calvary. But once we do, I think then we can gain compassion. Because compassion means ‘with suffering.’ Christian compassion means suffering with the sufferings of Christ.” *Joni Eareckson Tada – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 22 “Please join us in praying for those who make, administer, and judge our laws that they may reflect the truth, love, and life of our Lord Jesus Christ in their policies and actions until the Savior returns to bring our redemption and resurrection to fulfillment in new creation and everlasting kingdom.” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 29 “Arguments from some about when life begins, which inexcusably focus on eliminating the rights of the baby in the womb, are a perfect opportunity to speak the truth in love. We need to do this because this is not an abstract issue. It is a matter of life and death.” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 5 “We are not engaged in a battle for lives but souls. We fight for the souls that drift from the faith in their pursuit of abortion, and we battle for souls who do not yet know Christ as their Savior. It is our primary vocation because the evidence is clear. Society as a whole has no trouble ending human life if no longer values. We restore the value to human life when we venerate the place of its Creator.” *Rev. Robert Fleischmann, national director of Christian Life Resources – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 12 “When the end of life is near, may we be willing to speak up for those who are the most vulnerable here as well. States across this nation are considering legalizing assisted suicide. We have a voice. We need to use it! Do not let the voice of the evil one be the most vocal. Be voices For Life!” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 19 “Whom can you encourage today? Think of lonely hearts that need the encouragement of the presence of their Savior. Tell those who are worried about the future that you are praying for them and that God has good plans for them. And don’t forget the simple fact that just listening to others and letting them know you care may be all they need. Listen to your Savior encouraging you in His Word and you will be well prepared to encourage others.” *Rev. Jonathan M. Kruschel, St. John Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 26 “When we see post-abortive women and men ... vulnerable, helpless, destined perhaps to their own destruction—we are compelled to speak and defend and help because it is the *Christ* thing to do. As Christ, we get down in the ditch with them. We offer healing that can only come from the objective and complete forgiveness in Christ. We lift them up and walk beside them.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote*

from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org (For those who have made an abortion decision, there is a Word of Hope, Lutherans For Life's post-abortion healing ministry. Call 888.217.8679 or email info@word-of-hope.org.)

September 2 “We come together from all parts of our land ... We come rich and poor, proud and plain, religious and agnostic, politically committed and independent ... The right-to-life cause is not the concern of only a special few, but it should be the cause of all those who care about fairness and justice, love and compassion, and liberty with law.” *Dr. Mildred Fay Jefferson, MD – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 9 “The culture of life respects human life at all its stages, recognizing that those who have lived long and well have much to offer those who are just beginning their journeys on this earth. Not only should the young respect the aging, but the elderly should also respect themselves with the honor God says is due them. If Grandpa is too weak to work, he is not too weak to pray. Let us cherish our parents and grandparents as they intercede on our behalf and pass down to their children’s children the wisdom of the Lord.” *Ryan C. MacPherson, Professor at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 16 “Oh, how the believer in Christ needs to remember that Christ lives within. This is no longer my life, it is Christ’s. Yes, you live in the midst of a battle between the culture of death and the culture of life. Stand firm in Christ, where the abundant life has always been and always will be!” *Rev. Lyndon Korhonen, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 23 “Are you afraid of commitment and ‘belonging’ to other people? Relax. It’s how your Creator designed you. When you call a sick friend, send a card, congratulate an achiever, encourage a drooper, pursue a stray, or teach a child, you will feel a satisfaction in your heart that not even the devil can steal.” *Rev. Mark Jeske, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 30 “My hope and prayer and encouragement to each of you is to see people of all abilities as God sees them. Each of His children is beloved and valued. Each is uniquely gifted so that the work of God may be displayed—through every season of life.” *Mona Fuerstenau, director of Lutheran Ministry Partnerships, Bethesda Lutheran Communities – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 7 “It is our faith that compels us to venerate life from its moment of conception. It is by faith that we treat life not as an entitlement or possession but as a steward for the Creator who gives life. Only by faith do we accept that life at its earliest possible moment has culpability for sin before the Divine Judge and benefits from the sacrifice of our Savior.” *Rev. Robert Fleischmann, national director of Christian Life Resources – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 14 “Look at your infancy and give thought to whether you remember that you were in your mother’s womb, that you lay in a cradle, that you sucked your mother’s breasts, cried, ate pap, grew, etc. Yet we are certainly alive even during the first year, when the fetus is carried in the mother’s womb.” *Martin Luther (LW 5:75) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 21 “So, let us say yes to the opportunities before us that God has prepared for us to do! To say ‘Here We Stand’ ... in defense and protection of the precious and vulnerable human lives that are the handiwork of God from the moment of conception to natural death.” *Lynette Auch, president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 28 “God justifies sinners by grace through faith for Jesus’ sake. Salvation comes as a gift and not because of one’s own works. This truth stands at the heart of all Christians say and do ... God’s graciousness governs how we engage life issues. Not only are human beings forgiven, redeemed, and resurrected by grace, but every human life is valued and beloved by grace—age, appearance, and ability notwithstanding. Even after 500 years, we rejoice to proclaim and perform this Gospel.” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 4 “How can we remain silent when life itself is in question? Standing firm and trusting in Jesus Christ, the Lord and Savior of life, and being willing to use our voices to speak up and share the truth about the value of human life are so very important as the world crumbles around us.” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 11 “God adopts. The Gospel is about adoption. Salvation’s story can’t be told apart from adoption. Christianity can’t happen without it ... Pharaoh’s daughter adopting Moses leads to the Hebrews ending up liberated ... Joseph adopting Jesus sets in motion sinners getting forgiven. Father Almighty offers His Son and adopts human beings for us to have a faith relationship with the Lord God and the hope of resurrection to everlasting life in His heavenly kingdom. No wonder early Christians opened the world’s first orphanages.” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 18 “When we see those suffering from disease or disability ... vulnerable, helpless, destined by many to assisted suicide or euthanasia—we are compelled to speak and defend and help because it is the *Christ* thing to do. For Christ reveals a God who knows about suffering not just because He’s God, but because He suffered. We have a message of a God present in suffering, at work in suffering, and accomplishing His purpose in suffering.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 25 “God is the ultimate Designer. He designed the greatest good the world has ever seen to come from the most heinous evil mankind has ever produced. You are never too stained for God to love. When you are feeling weak and foolish, give thanks to God for that, because that’s exactly the kind of person that God likes to use.” *Rev. Dan Larsen is pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Wabasso, Minnesota, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Sanborn, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 2 “Advent is about Return—the Lord’s Second Coming, our return to Him, which is another way of saying ‘repentance.’ Repentance requires memory, for return requires memory. The Prodigal did some mental research and remembered the facts about his father’s house from his personal history. Informed by a paternal history, he struck a new course, which was to return. And the Homecoming was sweet, like the marriage supper in paradise, when all history will be fulfilled, and the guests live happily ever after. Advent reminds us, based on history that we know, that He is coming, which should remind us, Repent!” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 9 “The very best light show comes from the smile on the Baby’s face in the manger. He is smiling because He likes you and has come to rescue you. ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life’ (John 8:12 NIV).” *Rev. Mark Jeske, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 16 “We love children as they can remind us of the simple fact of love’s openness and embrace of new life and communion of one person with another. Children can open up our hearts to this. That our society now treats children the way it does is a dark shame, another sign of its separation from God. Regardless, we confess that Jesus Christ, Son of God, has come in the flesh and preach these glad tidings to all.” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 23 “Christmas celebrates more than just Jesus’ birthday. This historical event testifies to unchangeable truth about humankind and our Almighty Maker. It bestows upon us the honor of a special connection to the Lord God that makes us more precious than any other creature. It forms the foundation for all peace and love and joy and hope by revealing His salvation and testifying to how we participate in His everlasting life. Christmas profoundly proves the Gospel to be our history, identity, and destiny, and it proclaims a distinctly life-affirming reality.” *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 30 “God’s time is not our time. He sees the whole, but also more than the whole, as each whole life is a part of a larger picture beyond our sight lines. To accomplish His purposes, God takes His time, not ours.” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*