

January 2018



www.lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

U.S. Abortion Rate Drops to Historic Low – CDC reports 652,639 abortions in the United States for 2014, sinking to the lowest rate in more than four decades ... According to the recently-released CDC report, the abortion rate nationwide fell 2% between 2013 and 2014. The abortion ratio dropped 7% to 186 abortions per 1,000 live births ... The decline has continued over the last number of years with 2.1 abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age in 2014, compared to 19.4 per 1,000 in 2008. The abortion rate for teens showed the largest decrease: 46% since 2008 ... It should be noted the CDC data does not require states to submit abortion information. The latest report does not include ... California, Maryland, and New Hampshire, rendering the CDC numbers incomplete. Last October, Guttmacher, the former “special affiliate” and research arm of Planned Parenthood, reported an abortion total of 926,200 in 2014, far more than the CDC numbers. (CDC Report, 11/27/17; CLR LifeWire, 11/30/17)

Speaking Up For Life

“Every life has value because every life is someone created by God, redeemed by the blood of Jesus, and someone He either has called or wants to call into an eternal relationship with Him. It doesn’t have to be complicated! Amen.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life*

“If unborn children are to be protected from death by abortion; if newborn handicapped children are to be protected from death by infanticide; if the elderly, the ‘non-productive,’ the dependent are to be protected from death by euthanasia; and if the sanctity of life is to be affirmed and protected, then our voice is essential.” *Dr. Jean Garton, former president of Lutherans For Life*

“Our unyielding belief that ‘every single life matters’ means that pro-lifers are immune to the eugenics temptation which rears its ugly head in many guises and which is always on the prowl for more victims. Why do you matter, I matter, we all matter? Just ... because ... we ... are.” *Dave Andrusko, National Right to Life*

For those who have had an abortion—
a **Word of Hope.**
888.217.8679
www.word-of-hope.org

Since 1973:
58,586,256
abortions in America
Source: www.lifenews.com

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Ten Reasons for the Hope That Is in Us

by Rev. Michael W. Salemink

We share hope. As people of Christ, we speak hope. As Lutherans For Life, we show hope. Our faith does not just consist of prescriptions. Our message does not condense to mere principles. Our identity amounts to more than only prohibitions. We proclaim promises. We perform promises.

In fact, **“Hope For Life”** sets our theme for the coming year. Our 2017 LFL Regional Conferences examined **“Hope For Life.”** Our 2018 Life Sunday resources explore **“Hope For Life.”** As our Heavenly Father encourages us:

“[I]n your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”

(1 Peter 3:15)

We’ve put together ten of our favorite hope reasons for you as follows:

1. Jesus is Lord. He realizes our circumstances and reigns over them. **“This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses ... therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified”** (Acts 2:32, 36).
2. God is with us. He abides alongside in the womb (Psalm 139:7-13), in our suffering (John 11:35), and in the very valley of the shadow of death itself (Psalm 23:4).
3. Our Savior gives us victory over the devil and death. Temptations, fears, and failures may bark, but they cannot bite, because Christ’s ways prevail (Romans 8:37-39).
4. Forgiveness heals even the flesh. **“[H]e who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you”** (Romans 8:11b).
5. The Redeemer protects and provides for body and soul. We have become heirs of His entire kingdom (Romans 8:32).
6. God works all things together for our good. Even pain and persecution have holy purpose (Matthew 10:29-31).
7. His family accompanies and assists us. **“If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it”** (1 Corinthians 12:26-27).
8. We will be raised again to live and reign forever. The Lord wills and works life for us: **“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live”** (John 11:25).
9. A new heaven and earth await us. Our Almighty Maker is restoring what sinfulness has ruined (Revelation 21:1-5).
10. We will behold and be held by God Himself. Heaven is going to envelop everything about us and our earth (1 Corinthians 13:12).

What would you add?

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