



Life Quotes from Lutherans For Life

Congregational Bulletin Blurbs for January–December 2016

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 3 “God needs and wants you in His kingdom-building work. God thinks you are a valuable part of His team. God thinks that you have an important role to play. God thinks you are worth investing in. God actually stoops down to make you great. Seriously.” *Pastor Marke Jeske, www.timeofgrace.org – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 10 “The concept that the lives of some people are not worth living leads to the death of newborns with disabilities and infanticide. This concept also leads to the continued devaluation of the lives of people with disabilities and people with chronic and other vulnerable conditions.” *Alex Schadenberg, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 17 “The choice of life flows from trusting in our God who gave us life. This in turn flows from faith in God who has given us new life in Jesus. You may not be able to trust a god who says, ‘Choose Life or else.’ But you can most certainly trust in a God who says, ‘I chose to give My life for you.’” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 24 “Finding forgiveness in Christ is the first step towards healing everyone who is impacted by the shockwaves of abortion.” *From “Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion” by Janet Morana and Georgette Forney (LifeDate Spring 2015) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

January 31 “Since the fetus is a creature already alive and in the process of development, to kill it is to choose death over life. At what point shall we allow this choice? For me the answer is—at no point, once life has begun. At no point, I repeat, either as life begins or as life ends, for we who are human beings cannot, for our own safety, be allowed to choose death, life being all we know.” *Pearl S. Buck, author of The Good Earth and recipient of the 1938 Nobel Prize in literature – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 7 “Should there be a line that determines when humans have value? Some say it’s at viability ... when there’s a heartbeat ... at birth. Some even argue that the ability to reason should be the dividing line, which would make killing infants okay, too. These lines we draw are so arbitrary, meaningless ... Human beings are valuable because we are human beings. And it’s as plain and simple as that.” *Micaiah Bilger, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 14 “Lincoln recognized that we could not survive as a free land when some men could decide that others were not fit to be free and should be slaves ... Likewise, we cannot survive as a free nation when some men decide that others are not fit to live and should be abandoned to abortion.” *President Ronald Reagan in “Abortion and the Conscience of the Nation,” The Human Life Review, 1983 – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 21 “Jesus, God, became one of us, a human being with flesh and blood and all our likenesses and feelings—hunger, thirst, heat, cold, fatigue, anger, frustration, pain—to become our servant!” *Lynette Auch, president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

February 28 “The greatest irony of Jesus’ life is the more Jesus loved, the more Jesus forgave, the more He was hated.” *Rev. Paul Koelpin, Professor of History, Theology at Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 6 “While human history is in flux and certain seasons have yet to be fulfilled (e.g., Divine Judgment), in the life of the Church there is no season or hour in which Christ is not worshiped as Lord. The eternal penetrates the temporal. ‘Pray without ceasing’ (1 Thessalonians 5:17).” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 13 “In Genesis 3, the serpent’s temptation began with the words, ‘Did God really say?’ That temptation confronts us daily. We listen to that voice and sin constantly. But God keeps calling us back to His Word, to Christ as our Savior (John 18:37). May we listen and learn, and in learning from Him be built into a spiritual house, holy and acceptable to God.” *Rev. Michael Stangeland, pastor at Highwater Lutheran Church, Lambertton, Minnesota, and Old Westbrook Lutheran Church, Westbrook, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 20 (Palm Sunday) “Jesus, who was formed in the womb of Mary, who began life smaller than a grain of salt, grew ... became a newborn in the Bethlehem manger, and lived a sinless life to become a 33-year-old who hung on a cross outside of Jerusalem. He did this so that you might be saved from the power of the devil, so that you might receive the forgiveness of sins, and so that you might spend eternal life with Him in Paradise.” *Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, pastor at Peace Lutheran Church, Natoma, Kansas, and First Lutheran Church, Plainville, Kansas – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 25 (Good Friday) “We have some shocking news. ‘God became a speck, an embryo in a fallopian tube!’ ‘God was born!’ ‘God lived as a friend of sinners.’ ‘God embraced dirty, smelly sinners!’ ‘God suffered for unlovable and unloving sinners!’ ‘God died!’ ‘God rose again!’ ‘God wins!’ ‘Sin, death, Satan defeated!’ ‘God reigns over all!’ That’s the most positive and powerful shocking For Life news I can think of.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

March 27 (Easter Sunday) “We hear Jesus’ words: ‘I am with you. I will comfort you. And when you die, I will take you home to heaven.’ That message put a smile on the faces of those disciples, and it has put a smile on the faces of many evangelical believers who trust Christ and allow Him to live in their hearts. It is the same smile you and I wear. We will have some frowns, some days of disappointment when we won’t know which way to turn. But if we live with Jesus in His Word (that is the secret), the living Christ will speak. Jesus Christ is our comfort and our strength.” *Rev. Homer Larsen, Christian Crusaders radio program – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 3 “On Easter Sunday, Christ became the firstfruits of the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:20). Because He lives ... you and I shall live and never die (John 11:25–26). This joyous message is for all ages because all who believe in Jesus have life in His name (John 20:31).” *Ryan C. MacPherson, Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 10 “God made it known to ... you and me, through His Word and Spirit that He who created all things in this world, including life—and especially us, His crown jewel—ever loves, ever provides for, and ever walks with us daily, as we record our life’s book. And regardless of ‘bad’ pages, God is ever with us and, as His promise says, is working all things for good. This is the good stuff which makes up a truly full and abundant life!” *Rev. Lyle Kath – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 17 “Let us stand firm for the rights of all people, especially for the most vulnerable, defenseless of them all, the unborn children ... The Church has confessed from the beginning that each life is created by God, that human life is the supreme gift of the Creator. Human life is not given unconditionally but is given under the condition that we will be responsible for preserving it.” *Abbot Tryphon, Vashon Island, Washington – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

April 24 “Instead of helping people to kill themselves, we should offer them appropriate medical care and human presence. We should respond to suffering with true compassion and solidarity. Doctors should help their patients to die a dignified death of natural causes, not assist in killing. Physicians are always to care, never to kill.” *Ryan T. Anderson, William E. Simon Senior Research Fellow in American Principles and Public Policy – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 1 “The question that arises is, ‘Why is [the Hippocratic oath prohibition on physician-assisted suicide] there?’ Why is that something that physicians, with tremendous consistency, over 2,000+ years, have continued to affirm and profess? A commitment to never participate in assisted suicide is essential for the possibility of doctors continuing to care well for patients who are dying.” *Farr A. Curlin, MD, Duke University School of Medicine – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 8 (Mother’s Day) “We have been among the living from our first moments inside our mothers. God’s holy angels and many wonderful people worked very hard to keep it that way. Because they did, we have fulfilling lives in Jesus Christ. And there is hope for others through us as we live for Him. We owe a great debt. Let us pay it forward as guardians of life and hope.” *Jason Nelson, www.timeofgrace.org – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 15 “It is God’s design that the marital union of man and woman become the nest for new life, the foundation for home and family. Sin has distorted God’s perfect design, but even in disappointment and difficulty, a faithful marriage is the bedrock of a finely tuned and healthy society.” *Linda Bartlett, former president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 22 “As we speak words of life in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, to this culture of death, God’s purpose will be achieved. Our days are filled with matters of the heart, and God’s Words speak to them. ‘Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path’ (Psalm 119:105). God’s Word always accomplishes the purpose for which it was sent and stands as the only certain guide that we have as we journey on the paths of this life.” *Lynette Auch, president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

May 29 (Memorial Day weekend) “If you keep thinking of your life—which is utterly unique in the entire universe!—as a true gift, you will draw nearer to the Giver of that gift.” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 5 “Pro-choice has come to mean the right of a woman to give her unborn child life or not. I am not sure why. American women have the ability to make many other choices that raise us up as women rather than give us something to be ashamed about: We have the right to choose not to become merely a sexual object to men or women. We have the right to choose to develop our intellectual abilities and talents. We have the right to choose to marry or not. We have the right to choose to not engage in sex with every man that we meet. We have the right to choose to be proud that we are the vessels that give life. We have the right to choose that sex be the vehicle that nurtures a relationship between a husband and wife. We have the right to exalt life.” *Jan Flanagan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 12 “Marriage is the amazing teamwork of male and female; indeed, the two eyes of the human race. Both eyes are needed for a proper perspective on all matters of life. Biblical marriage is the only pairing that allows a man formed from the dust of the ground to welcome the help of a woman made from his rib. The world is better for it.” *Linda Bartlett, former president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 19 (Father’s Day) “Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was born of flesh and blood so that through His redemptive work we could become a part of His eternal family. And in this very special family, the Lord enables Christian fathers to be a blessing to their children. Far from being a cut-and-run begetter, a Christian father makes a commitment to provide his children with a loving, healthy, stable, safe, and well-supplied family home.” *Rev. Mark Gullerud, pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, South Dakota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

June 26 “Christianity isn’t decorative. God is for real life, modeling in Jesus what perfect forgiveness looks like. As long as your relationship doesn’t risk your safety or your sanity, it’s probably better to dig in right where you are. Some waste a lifetime hunting for contentment, running with resentment from this person to that, searching for the human equivalent of a pot of gold; but quick hitches aren’t quick fixes. Rainbows come after storms. So, build up your partner, laugh together, be vulnerable, and let the Spirit sculpt you into a better self for that someone.” *Rev. John Nunes commenting on marriage – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 3 “We cannot read the history of our rise and development as a nation, without reckoning with the place the Bible has occupied in shaping the advances of the Republic ... Where we have been the truest and most consistent in obeying its precepts, we have attained the greatest measure of contentment and prosperity.” *Franklin Delano Roosevelt, October 6, 1935 – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 10 “For all the millions of walking wounded in our society, for those who have had an abortion or have been affected by an abortion decision, there is a Word of Hope—Lutherans For Life’s healing ministry. Word of Hope (888.217.8679; www.word-of-hope.org) connects men and women ‘soul wounded’ through the act of abortion to the forgiveness and healing that comes only through knowing that God loves you and sent His Son to free you from the guilt of all sin—including abortion.” *Diane E. Schroeder, former president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 17 “Christian fatherhood goes beyond merely ensuring that children are well cared for and provided for. A Christian father will also be actively engaged in the rearing of his children. The apostle Paul gives divine counsel both on how to—and how not to—go about this parental function, when he exhorts, ‘Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord’ (Ephesians 6:4, NIV).” *Rev. Mark Gullerud, pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, South Dakota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 24 “Men, do not hesitate to engage in the battle that is raging around you, the battle that is wounding our children and families, the battle that is distorting the dignity of both women and men. This battle is often hidden, but the battle is real. It is primarily spiritual, but it is progressively killing the remaining Christian ethos in our society and culture, and even in our own homes.” *Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

July 31 “Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love but to use violence to get what they want. That is why the greatest destroyer of love and peace is abortion.” *Mother Teresa – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 7 “Will you, experienced believer in Christ, who have passed through a world of tribulation, lie down in despair, or give up your profession because you are at the present moment passing through some light affliction? Let your past preservation inspire you with courage, and constrain you to brave all storms for Jesus’ sake. Courage for the present is strengthened by the memory of past deliverances.” *C. H. Spurgeon, 19th century English preacher – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 14 “The greatest comfort Christians have as they face death is the knowledge that Christ already has died and risen again. The second greatest comfort is like unto it: the knowledge that we, too, have been buried into Christ’s death through baptism so that we may rise again to newness of life with Him (Romans 6:4).” *Ryan C. MacPherson, Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 21 “A Christian father will also serve as spiritual priest of the family. As such he is to nourish the souls of the children, teaching them about the Lord, His will for their lives, and about His loving, gracious, and merciful ways.” *Rev. Mark Gullerud, pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, South Dakota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

August 28 “In an age when many question the morality of state-sanctioned executions of criminals or question the justification of war, it is beyond the pale that we would think we have the right to kill an unborn child.” *Abbot Tryphon, Vashon Island, Washington – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 4 (Labor Day weekend) “The world was not empty when we came into it; we must not leave it emptier for having been here. Our duty is to leave it richer and better because we have shown our gratitude to the Lord by being productive Christians.” *R. J. Rushdoony – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 11 “From here, a sign of care for the weakest of the weak—the unborn child—must go out to the world ... then really you will be true to what the founders of this country stood for.” *Mother Teresa – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 18 “Boys need to know how they, as the stewards and defenders of life, should regard women, most especially their someday wives. Girls need to know how they, as the co-stewards and nurturers of life, should regard men, most especially their someday husbands. Parents go a long way in preparing sons and daughters for marriage by mentoring respect, patience, selflessness, and forgiveness.” *Linda Bartlett, former president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

September 25 “The primary goal in fatherhood is to help children grow in the Lord so that throughout their lives they will look to the Savior in faith and follow Him in Christian love. Our most fervent hope and prayer is that they will be and remain members of God’s eternal family. May God bless our fathers in carrying out their crucial role in Christian fatherhood!” *Rev. Mark Gullerud, pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, South Dakota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 2 “Parents also do well in preparing young men and women for the realities of married life. Because of the Fall, marriage is hard work. It requires appreciation of our differences as male and female, the commitment to work together, trust, friendship, and more *agape* than *eros* love.” *Linda Bartlett, former president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 9 “Your witness can speak for the speechless. Your words can give value to people considered disposable. Remember that in heaven these disabled folks will be your equal in every way. What will they say to you when you meet there? God’s stars see God’s handiwork in all people.” *Rev. Mark Jeske, www.timeofgrace.org – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 16 “Is someone resistant to the life-affirming message as you have presented it? Perhaps it’s the attitude they sense when they have been approached. I have found that when my attitude is more reflective of Christ, my message is much better received, and I can do my job of lifting up those who are weak. So I pray, ‘Lord, make me a servant who is humble and meek that I might lift up those who are weak. Amen.’” *Lynette Auch, president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 23 “Every day in this country such confusion and fear leads to nearly 3,000 babies being brutally destroyed through abortion. These are babies created by God, babies for whom Jesus died, and babies God wants to call into an eternal relationship with Him ... How can we possibly label these [issues] ‘political’ and withhold the only thing that can speak to such matters of the heart? The Gospel is designed to speak to hearts: your heart, my heart, all hearts. The Gospel calls us to repentance. The Gospel cleanses our hearts and forgives the sins that flow from our hearts.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October 30 “Luther placed primary emphasis on the Word. He understood that scripture is the final authoritative source for the church’s life and doctrine. Everything the church says or does is to be consistent with God’s Word and is to be regulated by God’s Word. God has spoken, His Word is truth, and it is the church’s responsibility to regulate her speech in the light of God’s speech. That is what continual reformation is.” *Rev. Michael Stangeland, pastor at Highwater Lutheran Church, Lamberton, Minnesota, and Old Westbrook Lutheran Church, Westbrook, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 6 “All human governments, even bad ones, are actually God’s agents of stability and order. How wonderful when individual Christians and their congregations don’t just hunker down and hide in their holy fortresses until judgment day. How wonderful when they get out into their communities and help, clean, repair, and build. How wonderful when their acts of love and mercy, given as freely as Christ’s love and mercy, touch and bless the lives of their neighbors, not just fellow church members. And how respectful when Christians refrain from ridiculing their elected officials, even when they strenuously disagree with them. To love God is also to love your country, you know.” *Rev. Mark Jeske, www.timeofgrace.org – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 13 “People do not like to face the fact that their soul will live on in eternity. We need time to be alone with God, to hear His Word, to read it every day, and to pray to Him. This is where we get food for our soul. We need to sit as a family and let God feed us with His Word, have our devotion, and pray together.” *Rev. Homer Larsen, Christian Crusader radio program – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 20 “The Apostle Paul seemed to have thought that giving thanks was front and center in the life of the Christian: ‘Give thanks in all things’ (1 Thessalonians 5:18), ‘Always and for everything giving thanks’ (Ephesians 5:20), ‘In everything by prayer ... with thanksgiving’ (Philippians 4:6), ‘And be thankful ... with thankfulness in your heart toward God ... do everything ... giving thanks to God the Father’ (Colossians 3:13-17), ‘Continue steadfastly in prayer, with thanksgiving’ (Colossians 4:2).” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

November 27 “[A]fter our nation has celebrated Thanksgiving, I encourage God’s people to continue with a thankful spirit. We, who have heard the angels tell of God’s Good News of great joy, ought to be rejoicing. We, who have seen the fires of hell and know we don’t have to go there, should continuously praise God who sent His Son to give His life so we might have eternal life. Indeed, for us, contentment and thanksgiving ought to be our regular fare.” *Rev. Ken Klaus, Speaker Emeritus of “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 4 “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 first-born who are enrolled in heaven... and Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant’ (Hebrews 12:23-24). 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 – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 11 “Mary and Joseph’s hardships serve as a vivid reminder that as God’s children, we don’t always have it easy either. But because Mary and Joseph followed God’s will, countless generations benefit from the presence of this child’s life in the world. Let’s put that in the context of modern life—a young couple facing an unexpected pregnancy. If they follow God’s will, abortion will be averted, and countless generations will benefit, albeit in a much smaller way, from their child’s presence in the world.” *Bradley Mattes, Executive Director of Life Issues Institute – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 18 “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 – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

December 25 “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 – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*