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Life Newsbytes

A new report indicates that preborn children in the womb may be capable of feeling pain earlier than is commonly thought—a conclusion that supports previous studies. Dr. Bridget Thill’s dissertation, “Fetal Pain in the First Trimester,” was published in December 2021 in *The Lincro Quarterly*, and it considered research from medical journals published from 1936 through 2021. The peer-reviewed article concluded that the capacity for the preborn child to feel pain begins during the embryonic stage—possibly as early as eight weeks—and for anyone to deny this “is no longer tenable.” Thill notes that there are five key pieces of evidence that point to the fact that fetal pain perception has implications for fetal surgery and abortion and that fetal pain perception begins during the first trimester: “The neural pathways for pain perception via the cortical subplate are present as early as 12 weeks gestation, and via the thalamus as early as 7-8 weeks gestation ... The cortex is not necessary for pain to be experienced ... Consciousness is mediated by subcortical structures, such as the thalamus and brainstem, which begin to develop during the first trimester ... The neurochemicals in utero do not cause fetal unconsciousness ... The use of fetal analgesia suppresses the hormonal, physiologic, and behavioral responses to pain, avoiding the potential for both short- and long-term sequelae.” (*Live Action News*, 2/1/22; *CLR Life Wire*, 2/3/22)

Speaking up For Life

“Whether you are five or 35 or 65, there will be days when it seems to you that God has dropped it. When that happens, when the darkness threatens to close in on you, just go back to the simple truth that God taught you in your youth. Go back to the Word of Light, the Word that is Christ. ‘Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.’ That will lighten the way for you, for us all.” *Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer, The Lutheran Hour*

“Christ does not refuse our sense of tragedy or awareness of pain. He bears it in love, affirming our condition, carrying our sorrows to the end, all the way to the heart of God.” *Jill Carattini*

“We affirm again and again that God handmade all people and Jesus died for all people. And that means ALL lives are valuable and equally loved.” *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life for Lutherans For Life*



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Step Up 4 Life



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Life is indeed amazing! As we celebrate the end of snow and ice and freezing temperatures, we look forward to singing again with all of God’s saints.

“Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations!” (Revelation 15:3)

As the sun warms the earth, we look forward to being outdoors again and feeling that warmth on our faces. As we put away our heavy jackets, we look forward to hearing the birds, seeing the new green grass, and enjoying the burst of new life that comes every spring. How amazing indeed are the works of the Lord!

We at Lutherans For Life hope you will celebrate spring in another way, too!

Join us on April 25 as we kick off our second annual Step Up 4 Life campaign.

Our 2022 theme is “God Chose YOU!” and it is surely worth singing about! Ephesians 3:10 reminds us that God chose us out of all the world to be His people: **“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”** Or run in them, rock in them, or stroll in them, as the case may be!

We are once again partnering with Charity Footsteps for our Step Up 4 Life campaign, and we’ll be adding new features to help you more easily monitor your progress as you walk, run, or play toward fitness and a donation to our ministry!

What else is new? You can sign up to be a sponsor! We’re looking for individuals, groups, or businesses to donate \$250, \$500, or \$1,000 toward our \$60,000 fundraising goal. Whatever level of sponsorship you choose, you’ll not only receive thanks and special recognition from LFL, but you’ll also help us reach our goal! Watch for more details on how to become a sponsor soon!

It’s time to start getting warmed up and psyched up for the next competition! Watch our website, Facebook, Directions, and Life Notes for more details in the weeks to follow. Thank you to all who participated last year. We are so excited to offer you another chance to **Step Up 4 Life**, and we encourage you to bring more friends!

Since 1973: 63,459,781 abortions in America

Source: www.lifeneews.com/2022/01/07/63459781-babies-have-been-killed-in-abortions-since-roe-v-wade-in-1973