



**THE
COMPASSIONATE
FRIENDS**
Supporting Family After a Child Dies



Newsletter

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POSTAGE

PAUL BROOME in memory of CYNTHIA BROOME
ED and CAROLYN BUCHANAN in memory of ASHLEY BUCHANAN
JERRY and CINDY WIGGLESWORTH in memory of LEE WIGGLESWORTH
VIRGINIA HORTON in memory of ANDREW THOMAS STANLEY (Birthday 11/03)
HELEN and BILLY JACK MAY in memory of BILLY JACK (JACKIE) MAY (Birthday 10/19)

SECURITY SERVICE

WILEY and BETH GREER in memory of BENJAMIN QUIN (Ben) GREER

CHILDRENS MEMORIAL

MARCIA LEFTEROFF in memory of KEVIN LEFTEROFF
PAT HEDERI in memory of TYLER LIND, CONNER LIND and PRESTON LIND
WILEY and WANDA FISHER in memory of DANIEL MERRIT FISHER and RYAN FISHER
KNIGHT
CHUCK and MARLISE PRESTWOOD in memory of KRISSY PRESTWOOD

The Compassionate Friends THANK YOU for your donations

They are tax deductible and deeply appreciated.

Printing of TCF Monthly Newsletter: Courtesy of BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD OF MS

TCF JACKSON CHAPTER NEWS	TCF MEETINGS
<p>There were 24 persons present with 3 new parents. Faye McCord welcomed everyone and made announcements. Faye introduced our guest speaker Pastor Malcolm Pinion, Senior Pastor of Briar Hill Church, Florence, Ms. Brother Pinion is a graduate of Blue Mountain College and New Orleans Theological Seminary. He stated he was nervous to speak to our group because we know something he does not know, how it feels to lose a child. Brother Malcolm is a first responder to families. He is the first one that many families call when they have a death in the family and when that is a child, (By child I mean of any age they may be, they are someone's child.) Brother Malcolm has been a pastor 40 years, so he has been there for many parents. Many parents become angry with God, asking why God? It's okay to be mad at God. God can take that anger he knows you. Many parents say they do not feel close to God, but God has not moved. He wants to comfort us. Pastor Mal read a bible verse: 2 Corinthians: 3-4.</p> <p><i>Praise be to the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.</i></p> <p>I am a member of Briar Hill Church and there are eight others in our Compassionate Friends group who are also members. Brother Mal has been there when their child was dying, and when they found their child where he had taken his life by suicide. Brother Mal stated, "all the parents are in shock, their whole body and mind." Some parents scream, some weep, and some may be very silent. I remember the day I came home to find my son Andrew had taken his life. It's so unbelievable to see your child lifeless. He was outside in a chair. I sat beside him holding his hand. Shock and disbelief! That was six years ago.</p> <p>I am still grieving, and there is no limit to grieving. Our Compassionate Friends Group is how we survive the loss of our children. We help each other as the verse in 2 Corinthians states the comfort we receive, we give that comfort to other parents as they try to live with loss that you never stop grieving over and as try to live this new life without a part of you and your heart.</p> <p>Birthdays Marcia Lefteroff read the Birth dates, and Tina Taylor read the heaven dates. A special thank you to Brother Mal for taking time to speak with our group.</p> <p>A big thank you to everyone who came to the meeting and to all who brought the delicious food.</p> <p>TCF/Jackson, MS Virginia Horton, Treasurer</p> 	<p>2nd Tuesdays monthly at 7:00 p.m. Fondren Presbyterian Church – Fellowship Hall 3220 Old Canton Road, Jackson, MS</p> <p>Directions: Take West Lakeland Drive exit off I-55 North until it dead ends into Old Canton Road. Turn right, go to 2nd traffic light. Fondren parking lot is on the right.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Meeting</u></p> <p>Meeting: Tuesday, November 13 - 7:00 p.m. Topic: General Sharing- "Ways to Survive the Holidays" Facilitator: Marcia Lefteroff</p> <p>Thanksgiving and Christmas, which are both traditionally family times are very difficult when our children who have gone on before us are not here to be with us during these times. Be thinking of ways that you could share with others, especially the newly bereaved, of ways that have helped you to cope or at least get through each day.</p> <p>*****</p> <p><i>Although our meetings are held in donated church facilities, The Compassionate Friends is not a religious organization, and espouses no religion affiliation or doctrines. Persons of all faiths (or no faith), creeds, color, and race are welcome.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Prenatal Bereavement Support Group</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">*1st Wednesday/ Noon UMC Cong. Ctr. Jackson Medical Mall For more information, call Kelly Hinson @ 601-815-7096</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*If the meeting date falls on a holiday—the following Wednesday</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>For Children Grieving the Death of a Loved One</u></p> <p>The McClean Fletcher Center—12 Northtown Drive, Jackson, MS offers peer support groups for children ages 4-18. This includes the child's family and meets every other week. For more information call:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jennifer at 601-206-5525</p> <p style="text-align: center;">.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MS SIDS ALLIANCE INFANT LOSS SUPPORT GROUP</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monthly 1st Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">River Oaks Hospital Lobby Classroom MS SIDS ALLIANCE offers education to the public and professionals on risk reduction of SIDS and bereavement support. Cathy Files - 601.955- 1057 Leslie Threadgill – 601-573-1458</p> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <p>Our newsletter folding will be Saturday, November 24th @ 4:00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reminder</p> <p>Our Candle Lighting Ceremony will be December 1st this year. (See page 6.)</p>



... in the Autumn

Some people love to see the changes
in the colors of the leaves,
When the sky is clear and dark blue
as the sea.

They love to smell the oak leaves burning
But it is then my heart is yearning
To be with ones I know
I cannot see.

There's something in the autumn
That makes my heart so heavy,
I miss them all but know they're where
they should all be.

If I can make it through the winter,
And see the spring unfold before me,
Then I'll know once more they're
there, and wait for me.

When the morning sun comes later,
and the afternoons die early,
And my spirits drop like leaves
around my feet.

I'm so aware that I am mortal
and I can almost see the portal
that I will pass through and be
evermore complete.

Jim O'Neil
TCF, Montgomery, AL



A Day

A laugh a day keeps the heart pumping.
A tear a day keeps the mind clear.
A smile a day gives joy to others.
A hug a day gives the hopeless
hope.

A thought a day brings loved ones near.
A memory a day brings you closer to me.
Laughs, tears, smiles, hugs stitched with thoughts
and memories--
They're all in my days without you.

Pam Burden
TCF/Augusta, GA

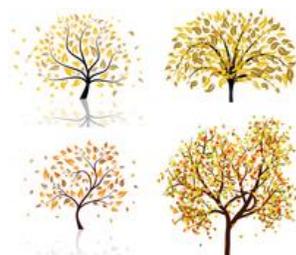
AUTUMN TEARS

We look back on September and we realize that somehow, we made it through those dreaded first days of school. Whether it was the anticipation or the actual days that were the worst, we survived. We used our faith, our support systems or just plain hard work and made it over yet another hurdle. We watched small children heading for their first day of kindergarten, listened to excited teenagers talk of high school and heard stories of children leaving home to attend post-secondary school. Somehow, we rode the waves of grief and found ourselves ashore again.

As these waves subside new ones will build as we head into the holidays that speak of, and to, children. Halloween will soon approach and for some, painful memories. Thanksgiving arrives to exemplify family and togetherness and Christmas looms ahead. These special days are forever reminders of our loss—the costumes we'll never sew, the empty chair at turkey dinner, the fun and magic we'll never share with someone we love. Forever reminders that our child has died.

To survive when these events and anniversary days come around let's find time to think of the good memories we have—the announcement of our long-awaited pregnancy at Thanksgiving dinner, the look of excitement on our son's first Halloween night, the vision of our daughter helping prepare the turkey dinner. These holidays will always be reminders that our child died. Let us also make them reminders that our child lived! They left us memories more precious than any others to hold and celebrate!

Penny Young
TCF Powell River, British Columbia



A Love Song

The mention of my child's name may bring tears to my eyes. But it never fails to bring music to my ears.

If you are really my friend, Please, don't keep me from hearing the beautiful music of his name. It soothes my broken heart and fills my soul with love.

Nancy Williams
TCF/New Jersey

OUR CHILDREN—LOVED, MISSED & REMEMBERED

“They may be deceased by a few days or years, but we still miss them so much and still shed our tears.”

Birth Date	Child’s name	Parent’s name(s)	Cause
11/03	Andrew Thomas Stanley	Virginia Horton	Suicide
11/04	Roger Savell II	Brenda Crumbley	Stroke
11/05	Nathan Allen Grice	Sandra Grice	Suicide
11/07	Kristi Diaz	Julie Diaz	Cancer
11/08	Nathan Myers	Gaye Myers	Suicide
11/11	Jesse Arron Griffing	Eddy/Rebecca Griffing	Suicide
11/20	Anthony Jerome Blair	Mary Ann Blair	Homicide unsolved
11/22	Donovan Rashad Thomas	Sandra Moffett	Auto accident
11/22	Wynn McAllister	Susan McAllister	Auto accident
11/25	Dixie Patrice Kendall	Sam/Barbara Kendall	Cancer
11/30	Abbie Gatewood	Brandie Campbell	Cancer

ANNUAL CANDLE LIGHTING MEMORIAL SERVICE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018
Fondren Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

We look forward to seeing you at this very special and memorable event sponsored by the TCF Chapter/Jackson, Mississippi. The Candle Lighting Memorial Service is all about our children and their lives. We will have music, poetry, and a special visual program that allows us to share our memories with each other.

If you are unable to attend and would like to have a candle lit in memory of your child, please send the following information to: The Compassionate Friends, P. O. Box 1396, Jackson, MS 39215-1396.

IN MEMORY OF: _____

FROM: _____

=====

Pictures of our children will be shown on a power point and if you had pictures shown last year you do not have to send them in again. If you did NOT have photos of your child shown last year or want different photos shown this year, **please sent no more than 3 photos to: Bob Gates.**

It is preferred that you send these photos digitally to the following email address: guitarbobgates@gmail.com. If you cannot send them digitally, please mail photos to Bob Gates, 1009 Harding Street, Jackson, MS 39202.

Please send information with your digital photos listing your child’s name, your name, and phone number and include in the subject line: Pictures for Candle Lighting 2018.

Pictures must be received by November 10, 2018. It is preferred that you send them in sooner than that, but they **MUST arrive no later than November 10, no exceptions, to be included in our program.** If you send photos in the mail, please do not send originals as they could get lost. Please send only 3 copies of photos and print your child’s name and your name and phone number on the back of each picture.

Please mark the date on your calendar and plan on helping if you can. We will meet at Fondren Presbyterian Church at 10:00 am the day of the program to decorate and get set up for the ceremony and we need all the help we can get. There is no need to bring anything. Candles and refreshments will be provided by the Jackson TCF Chapter. Feel free to invite your family and friends as we honor our children.

For more information: Marcia Lefteroff @ 601-937-1940 or Faye McCord @ 601-878-9339.

OUR CHILDREN—LOVED, MISSED & REMEMBERED

Heaven Date	Child's name	Parent's name(s)	Cause
11/02	Russell "Rusty" Wilkins	Jimmy/Barbara Wilkins	Heart Disease
11/05	Jeff Pritchett	Paul/Rita Pritchett	Auto accident
11/09	Jason Walters	Brenda Crumbley	Auto accident
11/09	Stuart Clark	Rai Clark Smith	Suicide
11/10	Rivers McGraw	Lauren McGraw	Suicide
11/13	Ebony Jones	Mary West	Died in sleep
11/16	Ted Jensen	David/Marilyn Jensen	Septicemia (sudden)
11/19	Price Harper	Alicia Harper Ball	Seizures/Handicapped
11/20	John Mack Osborne III	Mack Osborne	Suicide
11/24	Drew Little	Greg Little	Enlarged heart
11/26	Britney Gail Brinlee	Reba Gail Walker	Accidental overdose
11/26	Britney Gail Brinlee	Belinda Woolard	Accidental overdose
11/27	Doug Albritton	Mary Ellen Albritton	Auto accident
11/27	Charles Randolph Weatherly	Ruth Ellen Germany	Homicide
11/28	Walker Woodward	Nathan/Sherri Woodward	SIDS
11/29	Alex Carraway	Jes/Jerrett Caraway	Auto accident

REPLY FORM—IMPORTANT

It is important for our children to be remembered. Please understand that in order for your child to be on the "special days" list, you must fill out this form, which gives us permission to list this information.

I/We are () bereaved Parents () grandparents () siblings () step-parents () friends () relatives () professional Please () add () remove () keep me on the mailing list.

Remember my () Child () Sibling () Grandchild on Special Days. Please () have someone call me.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Name of Child _____

Age when deceased _____

Cause* _____

Child's Birthday _____ Child's Heaven

Date _____

*You need not list cause of death. We ask this only so that parents whose children have died in similar ways may reach one another.

Optional: Your donations are tax deductible and allow us to reach to other bereaved parents.

Enclosed is \$ _____ given in memory of

I would like my contribution used to fund: Check one: ___ Postage ___ Children's Memorial ___ Love Gift

Mail to: The Compassionate Friends; P.O. Box 1396; Jackson, Mississippi; 39215-1396