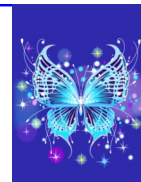


Healing Hearts



Newsletter of The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas Chapter

Up on the hill from Southside Community Church, in the Conference Room.

2211 Jones Road, Paragould, AR.
tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS OF NORTHEAST ARKANSAS

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas held it's first meeting for the selection of it's Steering Committee on April 12, 2012 Our application was sent in the next day and on April 19th we were approved to start a chapter here in Paragould!! The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas will offer support meetings the second Thursday of each month at 7pm, starting on June 14, 2012 in the Conference Room at Southside Community Church - up on the hill from the church, at 2211 Jones Road, Paragould.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends (TCF) is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others be supportive.

We are a non-profit organization and funded through donations and voluntary gifts from individuals. **We would like to thank Mitchell Funeral Home for their donation-our first donation!!** Donations may be sent to The Compassionate Friends, c/o Toni Baker, 2703 Stonegate Drive, Paragould, AR 72450.

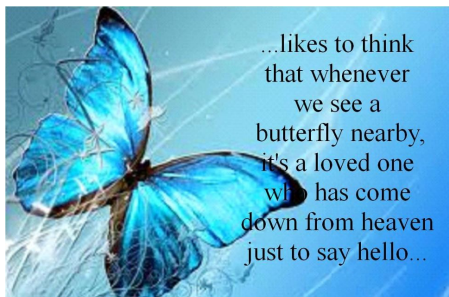
If you would like more information on TCF please contact Toni Baker at: 870-476-6025 or email to:

tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com



Pictured in photo L-R: Dawn Kidd; Treasurer, Linda Lenox; Director of Community Outreach and Newsletter Editor, Toni Baker; Chapter Leader, Victoria Porter; Secretary and Director of Public Relations. . Also pictured is Dana Penn; Chapter Leader for TCF of Lawrence County, In front, Candace Kidd; Librarian,

David and Dana Penn are the Regional Coordinators For the state of Arkansas. Please call or write them for more information: TCF of Lawrence County, 173 Park Ave., Hoxie Arkansas 72433. (870) 759-1299



...likes to think that whenever we see a butterfly nearby, it's a loved one who has come down from heaven just to say hello...

Our First Fundraiser!
Zaxby's of Paragould has Agreed to donate 10% of their sales on June 21st, 2012 from the hours of 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.! We may also set tip jars out for donations.
Thank You Zaxby's!

National Office
P.O. Box 3696
Oak Brook IL.
Toll free: (877) 969-0010
Fax: (630) 990-0246
www.compassionantfriends.org



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Principles of The Compassionate Friends

1. TCF offers friendship and hope to bereaved parents, Siblings, and grandparents.
2. TCF believes that bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents can help each other toward a positive resolution of grief.
3. TCF reaches out across society's barriers to all bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents.
4. TCF understands that every member has individual needs and rights.
5. TCF reaches out to the bereaved primarily through our community of local chapters and secondarily by website, social media and conferences.
6. TCF chapters belong to their members.
7. TCF is coordinated nationally in its support to its chapters, bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others be supportive.

They Say

They say it's been ten years, I must be better now.

But I carried her inside me.

They say it's been ten years, you have other children to love.

But she was the first.

They say it's been ten years, you have a beautiful home.

But she doesn't live here.

They say it's been ten years, I should see the beauty around me.

I need to see her face, touch her hair, hear her voice.

They say it's been ten years, it's time to cheer up.

But I love her still.

They say it's been ten years, get over it.

.....But I miss her.

Written by Linda Lenox for the 10 year anniversary of Melissa's death.

Little Pink Socks

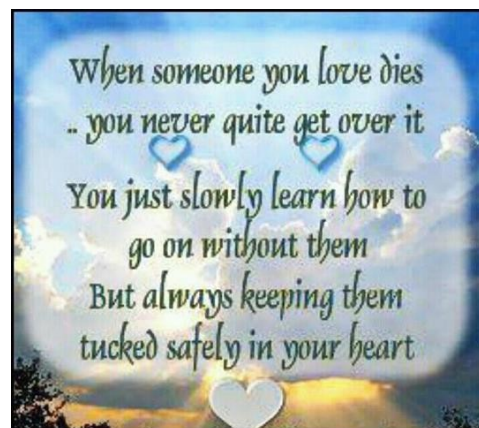
Cousin cries...
Such a harsh defeat.
She wants little socks
For baby's little feet.

Pink and tiny, with a bow,
So beautiful indeed...
Would be the little socks
For angel's little feet.

Though baby needs them not in heaven
When Jesus she does meet.
Cousin wants little socks
To warm that baby's feet.

"It is not fair," she says.
For, knowing her would be so neat.
But... cousin does not get to make
Little socks for little feet.

Written by Amber Lenox , December 2004
For Baby Gracie



The Compassionate Friends, Inc. chapters shall not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology.

Southside Community Church has graciously allowed our chapter to meet in the conference room, up the hill from the church, next to the office.



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The Compassionate Friends Credo

**We need not walk alone.
We are the Compassionate Friends.**

We reach out to each other with love,
with understanding and with hope.
Our Children have died at all ages and
from many different causes, but our love
for our children unite us.

Your pain becomes my pain, just as
your hope becomes my hope.

We come together from all walks of life,
from many circumstances.

We are a unique family because
we represent many races and creeds.

We are young, and we are old.

Some of us are far along in our grief,
but others still feel a grief so fresh and
so intensely painful that we feel helpless
and see no hope.

Some of us have found our faith to be a
source of strength; some of us are
Struggling to find answers.

Some of us are angry, filled with guilt or
In deep depression; others radiate an
inner peace.

But whatever pain we bring to this
gathering of The Compassionate Friends,
It is pain we will share just as we share
with each other our love for our children.

We are all reaching and struggling to
build a future for ourselves, but we are
committed to building that future
together as we reach out to each other in
love and share the pain as well as the joy,
share the anger as well as the peace,
share the faith as well as the doubts
and help each other to grieve
as well as to grow.

**We need not walk along.
We are The Compassionate Friends**

Telephone or email Friends

If you need someone to talk to between meetings, these folks
are happy to help. We've been there.

Toni Baker, 870-476-6025 or baker2205@msn.com

Toni's son Jayson died in a motorcycle accident.

Victoria Porter, 865-242-0009 or horsenwz@hotmail.com

Victoria's daughter, Cooper was stillborn.

Dawn Kidd, 501-410-6994 or shandawn@paragould.net

Dawn's son, Nathan, miscarried at 18 weeks gestation.

Dawn's daughter Haylee died 38 minutes after birth.

Linda Lenox, 870-573-6920 or linda@thelenoxfamily.com

Linda's daughter Melissa died in a flooded creek.

Heaven's Treasure

"I'll give to you a little while, a child of mine," He said.

"For you to love the while she lives, and mourn for when she is
dead.

"It may be six or seven years, or 22 or 3, but will you until I call
her back, take care of her for me?"

She'll bring her charms to gladden you, and should her stay be
brief, you'll have her lovely memories as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise she will stay, since all from earth return,
but there are lessons taught down there I want this child to learn.

I've looked this wide world over in my search for teachers true
And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes, I have selected you.

Now, will you give her all your love, nor think the labor vain,
Nor hate me when I come to call, to take her back again?"

I fancy that I heard them say, "Dear Lord, your will be done.
For all the joy thy child shall bring, the risk of grief we'll run.

We will shelter her with tenderness; we will love her while we
may, And for the happiness we have known, forever grateful stay.

But should the angels call for her much sooner than we planned,
We will brave the bitter grief that comes, and try to understand.

Our Children Remembered

Melissa Wilkinson

Jayson Baker

Cooper Catharine Porter

Nathan Kidd

Haylee Kidd

