

# The Compassionate Friends Of Northeast Arkansas

## Healing Hearts Newsletter

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

2211 Jones Road, Paragould, AR.

[tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com](mailto:tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com)

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### THE NEWTOWN REMEMBRANCE BOOK OF LOVE

To sign and leave a message in the Remembrance Book of Love, go to:

[www.compassionatefriends.org/AddNewtownEntry.aspx](http://www.compassionatefriends.org/AddNewtownEntry.aspx)

Our thoughts remain with the residents of Newtown, Connecticut and most especially the families of the victims of the December 14 shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School. We are currently in the process of shipping what will ultimately total 20,000 or more "Forever in My Heart" TCF wristbands to Newtown to be given to all students, family, teachers--and the town itself. The recent tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut has our nation collectively mourning. Many of us who have lost a child, sibling, or grandchild have found old wounds suddenly reopened. TCF Executive Director, Pat Loder was joined by Dr. Gloria Horsley and Dr. Heidi Horsley from the Open to Hope Foundation to discuss grief triggers and how to talk with children in the wake of this tragedy.

**Remembering Forever:** *Charlotte Bacon, 6; Daniel Barden, 7; Olivia Engel, 6; Josephine Gay, 7; Ana M. Marquez-Greene, 6; Dylan Hockley, 6; Madeleine F Hsu, 6; Catherine V Hubbard, 6; Chase Kowalski, 7; Jesse Lewis, 6; James Mattioli, 6; Grace McDonnell, 7; Emilie Parker, 6; Jack Pinto, 6; Noah Pozner, 6; Caroline Previdi, 6; Jessica Rekos, 6; Avielle Richman, 6; Benjamin Wheeler, 6; Allison N Wyatt, 6 Adults: Rachel Davino, 29; Dawn Hochsprung, 47; Anne Marie Murphy, 52; Lauren Rousseau, 30; Mary Sherlach, 56; Victoria Soto, 27.*



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Web address: [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org). Toll free national office: 877-969-0010



### World Wide Candle Lighting

The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas Held our first annual Candle Lighting Service on December 9th at the Southside Community Church. This was the 16th annual candle lighting in the U.S. Our service included the lighting of 5 candles to symbolize our:

**Grief, Courage, Memories, Love and Hope.**

Guests held candles which were lit in honor of their own loved ones, while the song "As I Light This Candle" was sung. The service also included several music sung by more singers and people who read poems, as well as our remembrance table on which people were invited to place pictures of their lost loved ones. We also had a remembrance tree hung with name tags of our children, which was topped with a butterfly. Volunteers wrote the names of children on a scroll and the names were read during the service. This newsletter will include the service program, which lists the wonderful, caring people who made this event possible.

Although The Compassionate Friends does not espouse any religious ideologies, people of Southside Community Church Allowed us to have this service in their beautifully decorated church, as well as donation and serving refreshments, and any duty we needed to have done. Thank you, Southside Community Church!



Pages 3-6 are the program of the W.W.C.L.

Program for The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

World-Wide Candle Lighting service

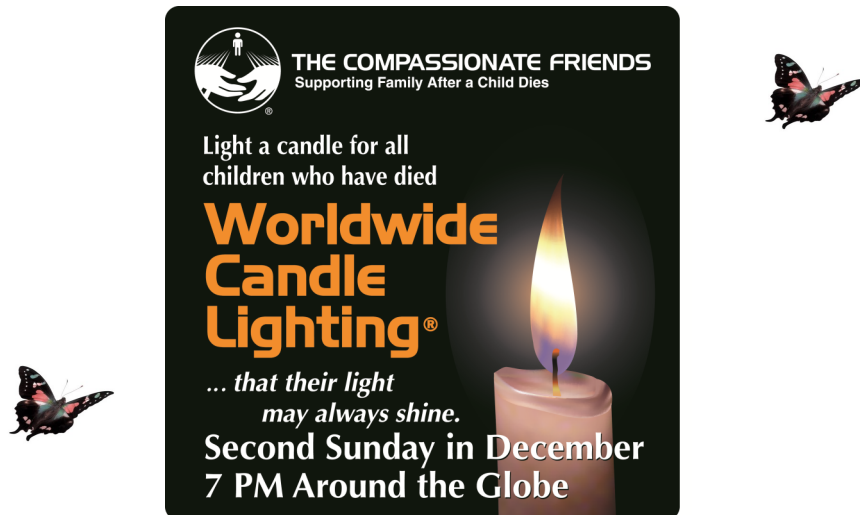
Cover

*The Compassionate Friends  
of Northeast Arkansas*

*Presents*

**Worldwide Candle Lighting**

*That their light may ever shine*



*We Need not Walk alone*

The Compassionate Friends offer grief support after the death of a child, of any age and for any reason, including grandchildren, brothers and sisters and babies who were stillborn or miscarried.



*An Evening of Remembrance*

*Sunday, December 9th, 2012*

*Welcome: Toni Baker*

*Reading: "Loving Memory" Toni Baker*

*Reading: "Dear Child of Mine" Shelly Cleveland*

*Music: "One More Day" sung by Leann Moore*

*Ceremony of Five Candles, Toni Baker*

*Reading of Our Children's names, Andrea Coessy*

As we light our candles tonight in memory of our precious children, we also honor the memory of all children who have died. This night is a very special opportunity to share the love of our children with each other all around the world, and to remember with love the lives of those children which so enriched our own. Our wish is that this night brings some peace to you who are sore at heart, hope to you who are bereaved, and happiness to you who have reached that place where a smile is possible again

*Grief Toni Baker*

*Courage Alicia Chambers*

*Memory Joyce Cook*

*Love Jessica Cook*

*Hope Andrea Cossey*



*Music: "Tonight I Light This Candle"*

*Sung by: Mike Stallings*

*Song is being signed by: Angie Meyers*

Reading: "On a Night In December" by Genesse Gentry

Recited by Brittany Lawrence

Reading: "Crying on Christmas" by Amber Lenox

Recited by Kelli Voss

Music: "Precious Child" by Karin Taylor Good

Sung by Ginger Bales

*Drawing for Door prizes: Toni Baker*

*Closing: Toni Baker*

*Please accept our Sincere "Thank You"*

*To all volunteers and sponsors*

*Who made this event possible!*

*Sound System: Patrick Graham*

*Video Taping: Hayden Hartsfield*

*Photos: Ginger Bales*

*Pianist: Joann Graham*



**Program for The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas**

**World-Wide Candle Lighting service**

**Back**

**Our Sponsors**

**Southside Community Church**

**Lowe's**

**Hay's East**

**Hays West**

**Country Mart**

**Teacher's Express**

**Walmart**

**Fred's**

**Burger King**

**Lantern Book Store**

**Fed EX**

**Knight's Cupcakery**

**Sherry Simpkins**

**Bren's Flowers**

**Ballard's Flowers**

**Peterson's Warehouse**

**Jody Whitaker**



**This program is being recorded**

**If you would like a copy of this program, you may**

**make an order tonight, or contact:**

**Toni Baker, 870-476-6025**

**Or email: [tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com](mailto:tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com)**





# The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas



## Healing Hearts Newsletter



### Telephone or email Friends

If you need someone to talk to.....

Toni Baker, 870-476-6025 or baker2205@msncom

Toni's son Jayson died in a motorcycle accident.

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

Linda's daughter Melissa died in a flooded creek.

### Advisory Board Members

David Lange, Executive Director of The Paragould Housing Authority

Associate Pastor Pat Graham, LMSW

Melissa Phillips, Owner of Bren's Flowers

Crystal Baldwin, MSNFP-BC

Mariah Bryson, General manager of Zaxby's

Guest speaker at our Meeting in January is Charlie Jackson. Mr. Jackson is a counselor and will speak about coping with grief.

We are also honored to welcome Alan Peterson to come speak to our chapter at our March 14th meeting. Alan Peterson is a singer/songwriter who is also a bereaved father. You can see his music videos on youtube.com. Simply do a search on youtube for Alan Peterson.

### Our next 3 Meetings

February 14, 2013

March 14, 2013

April 11, 2013

Mark Your Calendars!



January's meeting will be on the 10th of January at 7:00 P.M.

**Angel Kiss**

An Angel kissed my tears away today when I was sad. I wasn't feeling quite myself my day had been so bad. I felt a warmth brush by me that quickly dried my tears. A gentle, kind, and loving touch that seemed to hold me near. Immediately, I felt so much better and the day seemed brighter too. I guess that's just the way you feel when an Angel comforts you.

~Author Unknown~

Angel Hugs -j-



The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas has a Facebook page!! [www.facebook.com/groups/tcfofnea](http://www.facebook.com/groups/tcfofnea)

For those who understand, no explanation is needed. For those who do not understand, no explanation is possible.

### PEOPLE SAY

*you don't know what you've got till it's gone.*

**TRUTH IS,**  
*you knew what you had, you just never thought you'd lose it.*

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN



The Compassionate Friends does not espouse any religious ideologies.

Southside Community Church has graciously offered the use of it's conference room as a place to hold our meetings.

Thank You Southside Community Church !

The Compassionate Friends

Regional Coordinators for the state of Arkansas

David and Dana Penn

870-759-1299

[www.djdp32@hotmail.com](http://www.djdp32@hotmail.com)



**Our Children Remembered**

Melissa Wilkinson

Jayson Baker

Cooper Catharine Porter

Nathan Kidd

Haylee Kidd

Timothy Lee Fitzwater

Shane Mathew Fitzwater

Aaron Scott Boyer

Jennifer Cook

Samantha Cook

Tyler James Tritch

Nicholas Zurosky

Contact me if you'd like your children added

Linda Lenox: [linda@thelenoxfamily.com](mailto:linda@thelenoxfamily.com)

**Winter Wonderland by Amber Lenox**

The day we buried baby

A blanket fell on the town.

So unexpected,

Yet, oh so profound.

And as we wept,

Heavens sent us snow

To tuck in baby

As all she'd ever know.

First and last she'd see,

And, how could we not smile?

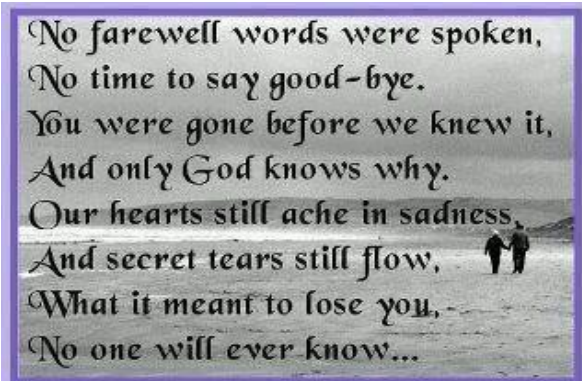
Daddy brought us a white Christmas

To help mourning for a lost child.

**In Loving Memory...**

There are no dues or fees to belong to The Compassionate Friends. We have all paid the ultimate price; the loss of our loved ones. Through "Love Gifts," parents and others who wish to, may provide financial help to support our chapter.

We appreciate these gifts and use them in our chapter's work to be there to help other people who have lost a precious a child, or grandchild, brother or sister.



No farewell words were spoken,  
No time to say good-bye.  
You were gone before we knew it,  
And only God knows why.  
Our hearts still ache in sadness,  
And secret tears still flow,  
What it meant to lose you,  
No one will ever know...



Dear 2013,  
Will you please go a little  
easier with me this year?  
My heart has been broken  
into a million little pieces.  
Bring sunshine to those of us  
who are grieving.  
Shower us with peace and healing  
and let the rainbows shout Joy.  
Another year.....  
missing a piece of my heart...  
I can do this - I have Hope.  
Wings of Hope Living Forward



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## The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas

We ask for donations in memory of our children who have died. Our activities support the grief work of many families. Our work also goes to educate the community about the grief process and how everyone can help and give emotional support to bereaved families.

Please help us help others by making a "love gift"

Tax deductible love gifts may be sent to:

TCF of Northeast Arkansas, c/o Dawn Kidd, treasurer

2703 Stonegate Drive, Paragould, AR 72450

This page can be printed to form an envelope for your love gift. Fold as directed, insert your check. and tape the ends closed

I would like to give a love gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

If you choose to give a love gift, please add your return address to receive your tax deduction receipt

May we acknowledge your love gift in our newsletter: Please Circle YES NO

If you would like your loved one's name added to our memorial page,

"Our Children Remembered" in our newsletter, Please submit the following information:

Child's full name \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date month and year \_\_\_\_\_ Death date, month and year \_\_\_\_\_

**The Compassionate Friends of Northeast Arkansas**

**c/o Dawn Kidd, Treasurer**

**2703 Stonegate Drive**

**Paragould, Arkansas 72450**