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IMPORTANT NOTICE: We have a NEW meeting location!
Please join us at 17555 Hwy. 155 S. (off Loop 49), Flint, TX 75762.
We hope to see you at our next meeting!

We need not walk alone.



P.O. Box 9714
Tyler, Texas 75711



**The
Compassionate
Friends**

Supporting Family After a Child Dies



We need not walk alone.

Volume 19, Issue 7

Tyler, Texas

July 2018

**Monthly Group Meeting
Tyler Area Meeting**
17555 Hwy. 155 S.
(off Loop 49) Flint, TX 75762

Contact

Phone: (903) 422-0358
www.TylerTCF.org •
info@TylerTCF.org
P.O. Box 9714 • Tyler, TX 75711

Co-Chapter Leaders:
Cheri Zucca & Trish Mann Taylor
Secretary: Trish Mann Taylor
Newsletter/Website: Mary Lingle
Tyler Meeting Facilitators:
Leslie & Don Dixon

Steering Committee: Lisa Schoonover,
Cheri Zucca, Don & Leslie Dixon, Janet
Majors, Trisha Mann Taylor, Barbara
Barton, Heather Ogg, Mary Lingle,

Joan & Bill Campbell, Regional
Coordinators: (972) 935-0673
TCF National: (877) 969-0010
www.compassionatefriends.org

The Meeting Agenda

6:30 p.m. - Meeting will begin with refreshments followed by announcement of birthdays and anniversaries and reading of the Credo. We will then have open discussion.

8:00 p.m. - Meeting will close by recognizing our childrens' names. Feel free to visit after the meeting or check out books from our library.

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Daffodil Time

Sometimes in our grief we become workaholics. We rush, rush, and rush, never stopping to "smell the roses." We are afraid that if we stop, or even slow down just a little, all those memories and thoughts of our dead child will come flying back, and we'll drop down to that black hole of grief again-so we don't stop or even slow down a little.

When I was in the fifth grade we had to memorize some poetry. I still remember lines from the poem:

Daffodils

When oft upon my couch I lie,
in vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye,
Which is the bliss of solitude.

For a couple of years after my daughter's death I could not, I would not allow myself to get into a vacant or pensive mood, because it wasn't daffodils that flashed upon my inward eye, it was always my daughter who was there-and there was no bliss.

Things change. Time helped to heal the raw open wound. Now, after four years, I can allow myself to have those vacant or pensive moods, and I can see the daffodils along with my daughter. My bliss is bittersweet, sometimes more bitter than sweet, usually more sweet than bitter, but it is bliss as those memories flash upon my inward eye. I have accepted that which cannot be changed. I do NOT like it; I have accepted that she is dead.

As I lie there, in vacant or in pensive mood, I am careful that those memories that I allow to flash upon my inward eye are the happy ones, not the sad or unhappy ones. They are more like roses than daffodils, though. They do have thorns that hide just below the beauty. But I can do it now. I can take time to "smell the roses." And so can you. Try it. In small doses at first, then larger ones. You owe it to yourself—and to your family—and to your child.

Tom Crouthamel, TCF Sarasota, FL; Reprinted from the Nashville TCF April 2007 Newsletter

Of course there are things we regret. Things we wish we'd done differently. Even where there has been time to say all the appropriate things, images will flash in our minds that we'd give a lot to be able to change. Surely our loved one has forgiven us. Can we forgive ourselves?

I'm sorry. Please know that I loved you. I know that you loved me.

Daily message from *Healing After Loss* by Martha Whitmore Hickman

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.



We need not walk alone.

"Romance fails us and so do friendships, but the relationship of parent and child, less noisy than all others, remains indelible and indestructible, the strongest relationship on earth." —Theodore Belk (1888-1969)

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to those who attended their first TCF meeting last month.

We deeply regret the circumstances that brought you to our TCF Chapter. The Compassionate Friends is a mutual assistance, not-for-profit, self-help organization that offers support and understanding to families who have experienced the death of a child. You are cordially invited to attend our monthly meeting (held the third Monday of the month). The meeting is open to everyone and free of charge. You are free to talk, cry or to sit in silence; we respect the individuality of mourning. Comments shared in the meetings remain confidential.

Our chapter is operated entirely by volunteers dedicated to furthering the work of TCF. Your voluntary, tax deductible donations honor your loved one(s) in a meaningful way by enabling us to print and mail this newsletter and meet other expenses involved in reaching out to other grieving families (100% of funds are used for this outreach). Donations, along with the name of the person being honored, may be sent to:

The Compassionate Friends of Tyler
P.O. Box 9714
Tyler, Texas 75711

To Our New Members

Coming to your first meeting is the hardest thing to do. But, you have nothing to lose and much to gain. Try not to judge your first meeting as to whether or not TCF will work for you. The second, third or fourth meeting might be the time you will find the right person—or just the right words spoken that will help you in your grief work.

To Our Old Members

We need your encouragement and support. You are the string that ties our group together and the glue that makes it stick. Each meeting we have new parents. Think back—what would it have been like for you if there had not been any “oldies” to welcome you, share your grief and encourage you? It was from them you heard, “Your pain will not always be this bad; it really does get softer.”

Grief Resources

Note: Some resources are based on individual opinion and experience and are not officially endorsed by the organization. The hope is that you may find a grief resource helpful to you and your family. We will continue to build on our resources column. Please let us know of any of your personal recommendations. Thank you.

Compassionate Friends (International Website) compassionatefriends.org
Also offers grief support for **siblings & grandparents**

The Childrens Park: www.childrensparktyler.org
Glory Babies meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Alison house next to The Children's Park of Tyler: www.glorybabies.com

GriefShare: www.griefshare.org

Smith County Victim Services Division
www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs/counties/smith.html

The Hospice of East Texas: www.hospiceofeasttexas.org

Victim Services Division - Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Online Resource Directory
www.tdcj.state.tx.us/divisions/vs

Survivors of Suicide: www.allianceofhope.org

Samaritan Counseling of Tyler: www.scctyler.org

Tyler Counseling & Assessment, LLP: www.tyler-counseling.com

Angel Layettes brings comfort to families grieving over the loss of an infant from miscarriage, stillbirth or death shortly after birth, and honor and dignity to the memory of the precious baby. Angel Layettes provides without charge custom designed burial layettes and keepsakes. angellayettes.org • 903-534-5212

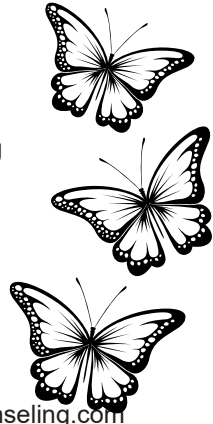
University of Texas at Tyler Psychology and Counseling and Training Clinic: 903-593-2348

The Cope Foundation: www.copefoundation.org

Grief Camps for Kids: www.moyerfoundation.org/programs

WINGS was established through Hospice of East Texas in 1993 to help children navigate the grieving process. WINGS, “a comprehensive bereavement program that provides both emotional support and grief education,” offers a camp (Camp G – grieve, grow and go forward) twice a year. For more information or to register for a grief support program, contact the Hospice of East Texas Bereavement Department at 903-266-3400 (Extension 127) or call 1-800-777-9860.

Group Meetings for Survivors of Trauma and Survivors of Suicide Loss, sponsored by Michael's House of Hope at the New Life Worship Center, 18535 Hwy. 69 S., Tyler, room 620. Call Dr. Timothy M. Roddam at 903-681-3161 for more information. Survivors of Trauma meets the the second Thursday of each month from 6-7 p.m.



We're on Facebook! Search for The Compassionate Friends of Tyler and Like our page.



The Compassionate Friends of Tyler

P.O. Box 9714
Tyler, TX 75711

We are happy to send our newsletter to you. We hope that it is helpful to you to be kept informed of chapter resources and activities and that you still wish to receive our newsletters that contain excellent material relating to grief issues.

To keep our mailing list current, we do ask to hear from you each year making sure that our information is correct and that you still wish to receive our mailings. If we did not hear from you in the last year please indicate any appropriate choices below and return the form to the address at the bottom of this page.

Your Name: _____

Child's Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Birth Date: _____ Death Date: _____ Cause of Death: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please check any of following that apply:

Due to the rising cost of postage, please send newsletters via email. My email address is _____.

I prefer not to receive the newsletter via email and would like to continue having a hard copy sent to the mailing address you have on file for me.

Please update my mailing address: _____

No thank you, I'd prefer to stop receiving the newsletter. (Newsletters are posted monthly on our website.)

Please include my child's name and picture in the slide presentation at the Candle Lighting Ceremony.

Please include my child's picture and information on the TCF Tyler Web site. (www.TylerTCF.org)

I am enclosing a memorial to support The Compassionate Friends in the amount of _____
Please make check payable to TCF

In memory of _____

Please use this gift for: TCF Newsletter Butterfly Release Candle Lighting TCF Events

The continuation of this chapter's work depends on donations. If you have not taken the opportunity to give a donation in memory of your child please consider taking this time to give a gift that will help reach out to other newly bereaved parents.

We must have your written permission on file to use your child's name and/or picture in the newsletter, Web site, Candle Lighting Ceremony or any other TCF event. Permission may be withdrawn at any time by written request. This information is used to maintain our Chapter Database. It is confidential and is only utilized for Chapter activities such as the newsletter.

Date: _____

(Signature)

Please return completed form to: The Compassionate Friends of Tyler, P.O. Box 9714, Tyler, TX 75711



We need not walk alone.

"Regret is an appalling waste of energy. You can't build on it. It is only for wallowing in." —Katherine Mansfield

July Birthdays



Morgan Finley Lambeth



Robert Lynn McMahon



William Jeffrey Stack



Melissa Elaine Majors



Shiloh Paisleigh Gray



Justin Corey Modisette



Madeline Joy Kearney



Cobin Frazier



Terry Wayne Brown



Grant Williams



Cameron Weatherly



Lester "Bubba" Chase



Andrew Moreno



Ryan Delaney



John Shade



Ashton Wayne Yates



Josh Chambers



Laura Wilkinson



Kyle Beck



Lindsey Peyton Goen



Carly Smith



John Wallace



Adrian Hampton



James Fincke



James Wilkinson



Jaime Arellano, Jr.



Christopher Mize



Felicia Hobbs



J.L. Adams



Nathan Spataro



Tommy Ford



Evan Blake Alexander



Alex King



Darrell Lynn Sallas, II



Darrell Bolton



Brad (BJ) Huggins

Continued on next page



We need not walk alone.

"With each piece, the bereaved, through trial and error, find where each piece belongs or even if it belongs at all. This process is different for every person and does not adhere to any kind of timeline. This (what feels like endless) thinking is the work that grief demands—it is the creation of a new picture of your life—created one piece at a time." —Stephanie Elson

To Cope and to Move Forward

As a newly bereaved parent, I had a need to tell my story, to talk about my son, Tom, and to describe my grief journey over and over again, to anyone who would listen. I was fortunate at that time to have people in my life who were willing to listen to me. However, I also found myself sometimes opening up to perfect strangers. For whatever reason, there were times when I could not contain myself, almost as if I had to prove to the whole world that Tom existed. Sometimes those conversations would lead to a story about Christopher, my twin son who died at three days old, three years before Tom died, and to the two miscarriages I experienced.

I learned through The Compassionate Friends meetings that not everyone feels comfortable in talking about their situations. Some bereaved parents are concerned about stopping conversations or about making others feel awkward if they share their story about their child who died, and I suppose there is that risk. However, what I found was that if I took the initiative and talked about my child and my situation, then it somehow gave others permission to talk about Tom, too, and that was comforting to me. It also seemed to increase the awareness and the understanding of those around me as to what I was experiencing as a bereaved parent.

This July will mark the tenth anniversary of Tom's death. I recognize now that I don't have that same urgent need to tell my story as I did in the early years. However, there are occasions when I am in social situations with unfamiliar people when the conversation turns to children, including the "How many?" and "How old?" questions, and just like in the early years, I cannot contain myself. I find myself opening up about Tom and Christopher and my journey since their deaths. Sometimes when I hear myself describe that part of my life, I wonder how I ever survived. However, what I have primarily discovered is that more people welcome my story and my openness than are offended by it. I have learned that by sharing that part of my life, others in turn begin to share their pain and their hardships, or arrive at a better understanding about someone they know who is suffering because of the loss of a child or a sibling. It has become obvious to me that hardly anyone goes through life unscathed, and that for most people, life is not fair. However, by sharing our burdens, we do learn to cope and to move forward.

Carmen, Chapter Leader, TCF North Shore, Boston, MA

Lindsey Barton

In loving memory of Lindsey

by Barbara Barton



This month's newsletter is sponsored by Barbara Barton.

Newsletter sponsorship is \$75. Contact us if you'd like to be a sponsor in memory of your loved one.





We need not walk alone.

"It was your child who died. This is your pain, and you have the right to feel it and deal with it in your own way—and may a bit more healing take place in the doing." —Peggy G.

July Anniversaries



Erika Reyes



Sara Ann Plocheck



Shiloh Paisliegh Gray



Jamie Allen



George Washington Shaw, III



Shanna Marie Redmond



Michael Knight



Jason Bollard



Trey Dobbs



Kathy Jo Tumminello



Brian St. Clair



Ryan Delaney



Adam Grabill



Brian Christopher Harris



Christopher Andrews



Grant Williams



Gregory Davis, Jr.



Coby Deese



Herby Parr



Kody Dale Hughes



Shane Odening



Lance Alan Massey



Scott Bradshaw



Graham Gill



Ke'Andre Ross



Justin Turbeville



Aceyn Richards



Ashley King



Keith Radabaugh



Megan Parrish



Joshua McDaniel



Brian McDaniel



Kayla Denise Wager



Linton Daniel Wilgus



Johnny Snyder



Glenn Ray Hawkins

Continued on next page.



We need not walk alone.

"Grief is lonely because it threatens other happier people and isolates individuals. If someone listens and shares tears with another, it is still lonely. But not as much." —Anne Morrow Lindberg

July Anniversaries cont.



Renee Seale



Caleb Scott Jones



James Permenter



Matt Mears



Walter Dale "Skipper" Winningham



Christopher Mize



Lisa Marie Tutt



Chandler James "Jimmy" Brazell



James E. Abbie, Jr.



Dex Bailey McLean



Morgan Finley Lambeth



Ben Smith



Andrew Moreno



Allison Carson



Brian David Stewart



Missy Rogers



Chasen Shirley



Timothy Allen Hawkins

Fireflies by David Morrell

Fireflies is author David Morrell's account of the death of his fifteen-year-old son Matthew from a rare form of bone cancer. Morrell, the suspense novelist who created the Rambo character, has used his creative talents in *Fireflies* to create a unique blend of truth and fantasy.

The book factually lays out the details of Matt's death and its impact on Morrell and his family. But Morrell also interjects a layer of fiction. The fictional element in *Fireflies* plays off a fantasy that many bereaved parents have embraced at one point or another: an imagined effort to change the single intolerable fact of your child's death. In the book, Morrell as an old man travels back in time to the final weeks of his son's life. He embarks on a desperate struggle to alert Matt's doctors to the boy's worsening condition. That portion of the book reads as a taut suspense novel, and I found myself hoping against hope that Morrell would succeed in accomplishing the impossible.

Morrell is clearly a gifted writer. The book evokes the pain of parental grief in vivid and wrenching descriptions, including many passages about the disabling physical effects of grief. But perhaps the most important contribution of Morrell's book is its account of the author's own personal journey from despair to acceptance. Central to that journey is Morrell's openness to spiritual signs from his son and his willingness to believe that human life is part of an eternal and universal energy that doesn't stop at death. As Morrell tells it:

"One day, about four years after his death, I surrendered. I stopped dwelling on the past. I accepted the present, the after-Matt present. The day I came to terms with the fact that life would never be as it was, that it had changed and transformed—that was the day I began to heal. Because I came to believe in what Wolfe and Whitman had written about. 'All goes onward and outward, nothing collapses—and to die is different from what any one supposed.'"

Fireflies was first published in 1988 but was re-released last year. Bereaved parents should be grateful. The book is engrossing and wise at the same time.

Reviewed by Barbara Atwood, TCF Tucson Chapter





We need not walk alone.

"So let me look for you anew in all the wonders and blessings of life. I believe you are reflected there with every expression of happiness and joy, in every instance of fearless exploration and with every act of unconditional love."
—Harold Hopkins

Surviving Children: the 'Silent Griefers'

Our surviving children are often called the 'silent' griefers or 'forgotten' mourners. Over the last three years I have come to know and love many bereaved siblings. They have told me time and time again how very hard it is not only to lose their baby sister or brother, but also to watch the tremendous pain that their mom and dad are experiencing. The emotions these siblings are experiencing and seeing in their parents are like nothing they have seen or felt before.

As adults, we have had many years to experience a variety of different intense, overwhelming emotions and feelings. We may have had to deal with the death of someone other than our child, or experience the scary uncertainty of losing a job, or at the breakup of a marriage. For example, my husband has experienced the death of his father in addition to losing two unborn babies and burying our son Jacob.

Our surviving children may have never felt anything even remotely close to what they are feeling right now at the death of their sister or brother. Most older siblings I have met have told me that they were frightened by the intensity of their own grief. They often hid their feelings, both from themselves and their parents. A few were lucky enough to have a close friend to share their feelings with.

Talk to your surviving children about the baby's death. Even the youngest children need to be told that mommy and daddy are sad about the baby, brother John, or sister Jane. They need to be told repeatedly that they did not cause mommy or daddy to cry. They also need reassurance that YOU will not go away like the baby did.

Don't be afraid to cry in front of, or with your children. They need to know that it is alright to cry. Children of all ages are extremely sensitive to their parent's feelings, moods and emotions. They know instinctively when we are sad or upset. If we don't tell them what they need to know their imagination could make up the answers. They could possibly blame themselves for what is happening in the family.

My wish for each of you is love, hope and peace.

Kim Brundt, *Bereaved Parents USA*

Thanks for your donations and continued support of TCF of Tyler.

In loving memory of
**Margie Starkey and
James Abbie, Jr. by
Betty Abbie**



In loving memory of
**Terry Wayne Brown
by Melton Brown**



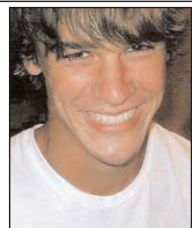
In loving memory of
**Alex Conway by
Robert & Trisha
Taylor**



In loving memory of
**Andy Terrell by
David & Teresa
Terrell**



In loving memory of
**Chris O'Leary by
Merri Walsh**



In loving memory of
**Leah Zucca by
Jim & Cheri Zucca**



In loving memory of
**Chad Cavazos by
Dale Cavazos**



In loving memory of
**Christopher Loper
by Tina Loper**



In loving memory of
**Jared Sheets by
Carol & Shane
Johnson**



In loving memory of
**Stephanie Settle by
Danny & Pat Settle**



We need not walk alone.

"Wounded hearts need to be wrapped in quietness, gentleness and compassion, away from the turmoil of daily life. A wounded heart not allowed to mend from the depth of its agony, will be an abscess—to swell and undermine—erupting at a distant time. Or, suppressed, it will slowly choke the spirit of its host."
—Nancy G.

July Birthdays Cont.



Lindsey Barton



Stephen "Chadwick"
Williford



Jason Eubank



Ryan Goff



Colton James Bain



Keisha Knauss



Michael Slay
Chapman



Travis Morris



Angela Frazier



Suzanne Renee'
Glover



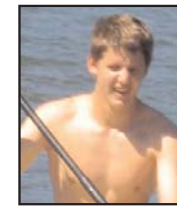
Sheila Nolen



Jasmine Pruitt



Brevon McCarty



Zachary Bradley



James Rawls



Joshua Baker



Ke'Andre Ross



Zain Hussain



Garrett Sullivan

"Hope is the feeling that the feeling you have isn't permanent." —Jean Kerr

Lost Potential

Last year I attended a workshop presented by a specialist in grief named Dr. Cable. Dr. Cable said many important things about the grief process, but as a bereaved parent, one thing stuck in my mind.

He said that if you ask a bereaved person to describe his deceased mother, he will say, "Oh, she was so sweet. She always wore flowered dresses and loved to bake cookies." But, if you ask a bereaved parent to describe her deceased child, she will say, "Oh, he would be five this year and just starting kindergarten," or, "She would be twenty-two this year and graduating from college."

You see, we bereaved parents grieve the lost potential of our children. Our children don't stop growing in our minds. We grieve again and anew each year as our child would have been a different age.

Chris Anderson, *TCF Walla Walla, WA*





We need not walk alone.

"During such an emotionally draining time as grieving, don't leave anything to chance; don't assume anything. Making sure you and your children are aware of each other's feelings will mean less confusion, less tension, more sharing, and more growing together as a family." —Julie Peterson

Golden Scrapbook

A treasure cache of memories
A scrapbook in my mind
A baby boy with big blue eyes
A golden hair I find.

A toddler grabbing marshmallows
His little fist closed tight
A first grader with brand new books
Brave and proud and bright.

A picture here—a feeling there
I shuffle them together
And sort them over constantly
Although I know I'd rather

Not have to search for memories
But still I must—I find
Add page on page on page on page
To the golden scrapbook
in my mind.

Lois Gardner, TCF Junction City, CO

Leave the Light On

All through the fall I kept seeing your face
and hearing your voice

Wisecracks coming out of the pack
Thousand megawatt smile
through August sweat and October rains,
Dust-choked or mud-crusted

Celebrating success, toughing out adversity
Forgetting that in one terrible instant
A void was opened in us that cannot be closed

You are supposed to be with us
In our classes, on our playing fields, at our houses
And so you are—

Leave the light on for us Bobby—
We'll be along in a minute.

*Written in honor of Bobby Moore
in his Senior yearbook after his death.
Submitted by his dad, Jeff Moore,
TCF North Shore, Boston, MA*

To My Friends

This is my pain.
Let me feel it.
Don't tell me not to cry.
I know you mean well, dear friend.
But telling me not to cry,
Tells me you don't understand.
But, how could you, really?
Have you lost a child?
Have you given birth, loved and laughed,
And then watched him die?
This is my pain.
Let me feel it.
Be patient with me when I want to scream
to cry
or be crabby
or talk about him
or be alone.
This is my pain.
Let me feel it.
I know you'd take it all away,
if you could.
But you can't.
I can't avoid it,
Or stuff it down somewhere,
Or run away from it
Because it always finds me again.
The cold, hard fact is,
That I had a child that died,
and it hurts.
So I know, that this is my pain,
And I have to feel it.
To get through it.

*Carolyn Johnson, TCF Yuba City, CA
from We Need Not Walk Alone, Summer 1994*

Remembrance

I see your smile in the brightness of the summer sun.
A gentle breeze is the touch of your hand on mine.
A wave breaks softly on the shore,
and I hear you whisper,
"Remember me."

A winged bird begins its flight into the distant sky.
The sound of children's laughter fills the air.
The evening stars become your eyes,
and I reply—
"You are ever near."

Priscilla D. Kenney, TCF Kennebunk, ME



We need not walk alone.

"You see, we bereaved parents grieve the lost potential of our children. Our children don't stop growing in our minds. We grieve again and anew each year as our child would have been a different age." —Chris Anderson

Love Gifts



Thanks to the following people who make a MONTHLY LOVE GIFT to TCF of Tyler:

(For monthly donors we will post photos of your children.)

- Merri Walsh in memory of Chris O'Leary - rent
- Carol & Shane Johnson in memory of Jared Sheets - rent
- Danny & Pat Settle in memory of Stephanie - rent
- Jim & Cheri Zucca in memory of Leah - rent
- Robert & Trisha Taylor in memory of Alex Conway - rent
- Barbara Barton in memory of Lindsey - rent
- Dale & Phyllis Cavazos in memory of Chad - newsletter
- Tina, Johnathan & Heather Loper in memory of Christopher - TCF Phone
- David & Teresa Terrell in memory of Andy - rental of a storage building

See more love gifts on page 7.



Newsletter Submissions

TCF Tyler welcomes all submissions to our newsletter. Send articles, poetry, love messages and scanned photos to: The Compassionate Friends of Tyler, P.O. Box 9714, Tyler, Texas 75711. Or e-mail text and photos to: info@TylerTCF.org; We reserve the right to edit for space and/or content.

Deadline for submissions is the 5th of each month. TCF Chapters may copy articles from this publication provided credit is given to the author and the original source.

Errors and Omissions: We try very hard to be sure that all of the names and dates of our children are correct. If you see an error in the newsletter, please contact TCF at 903-422-0358. We want to get it right and will correct the information for future use. Thanks very much.

Email Addresses: If we do not have your email address or it has changed, please email it to info@tylertcf.org so that we may email you announcements and updates about TCF of Tyler.

Sign up for email notifications of events and to be notified when the newsletter is posted online at: www.tylertcf.org

Announcements

NEW MEETING PLACE! The new meeting location is 17555 Hwy. 155 S. (off Loop 49), Flint, TX 75762. Our meeting is held on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call 903-422-0358.

Steering Committee Meeting: If you are interested in participating in our chapter by serving on the steering committee, please plan to attend a steering committee meeting. Anyone who would like to become more involved in TCF and serve on the steering committee is welcome to come! Email us at info@tylertcf.org to get involved!

News from National: Compassionate Friends National offers webinars for the public on grief related topics. Upcoming public webinars will include Death of a Child By Suicide, Pregnancy and Infant Loss, The Death of a Special Needs Child and How Can I Help When A Child Dies? Check out www.compassionatefriends.org for dates and times.

Event reminders for parents:

- If anyone is interested in singing at the Candle Lighting in December or if you know of anyone who is blessed with musical talent, and would like to participate, please contact us.
- If you have a butterfly release sign, please put it out the end of April or first of May.
- If we are storing your butterfly sign, please contact us to pick it up the end of April or first of May so you can put it out at place of your choice.
- Pre-Registration is required every year to have your child's picture in the butterfly garden. (We are very sorry, but due to growth we need to know who will be attending.)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

Dear TCF Members,

As always, we welcome volunteers to serve in any capacity within our group, including sending out birthday and anniversary cards each month.

It's only July, but before we know it, we'll be planning our Annual Candlelighting Ceremony for December.

If you'd like to get involved as a volunteer or steering committee member, please reach out to us. We'd love to have you aboard!

Sincerely,
Cheri & Trisha

