



BASIS is
a ministry to
bereaved parents
and their families.

Renew

Winter 2023



"...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength." Isaiah 40:31

An Invitation

By Tim Sheetz, H*VMI Founder and Ministry Ambassador, BASIS Support Group Leader

As Believers in Christ, many times we remember that, if we turn to one or more of the 150 Psalms, we'll find in them words that so adequately describe our own pain, frustration and anger. It's like someone (or Someone) is privy to what's precisely on our mind and heart. I know I've found myself saying, "Yes, Lord. That's me! That's how I feel!" In the Psalms, too, we find solace in our sadness, strength to face struggles and direction for decisions.

The Psalms were written to lead us just where we need to go when we're hurting—to the sovereign, ever-present, caring God Who is in and over all matters that affect our lives. You probably know that David is the predominant writer of the Psalms—73 of them.

In many, if not most Psalms, he begins by crying out to God as he faces challenging, emotional pain or decisions. He "lays it out to God" and does so with blatant honesty. Then, just as he's ranting about his concern, his attention shifts from the dilemma, to recognizing that the only thing he really needs to get through the concern is his (our) Creator, God.

David then ends off the very Psalm that began with agony by now shifting focus and expressing his confidence, trust and joy in the Lord and by praising and worshipping Him.

Over the years, I've personally read through and related to the Psalms for so many situations in my life. I'm definitely not a David when it comes to writing, but I have been tempted—maybe even tried—to write a Psalm from my heart to God's. Writing can bring clarity of mind and release of a burden, as well as give opportunity to worship and praise God.

I invite you to join me in expressing your concerns, fear or doubt to God—in writing. As it did for David many years ago, I believe it will help bring some ease to the pain you may be feeling. Write through the tears, let them stain the paper on which you're pouring out your heart. You may want to destroy the paper after you've read your "Psalm" to the Lord; or keep it as a future reference when additional struggles come. Whether you write or not—most definitely read. You'll find exactly what you need in David's writing.





The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped.

Psalms 28:7a (NIV)

Our capacity for pain is an indicator of our capacity for joy. Our ability to feel is as important as our ability to think. Both are a part of our eternal self, a reflection of the image of God in us. He made us that way, with a beauty and a variety that for now may threaten to undo us, may seem more curse than blessing—a risky, dangerous place to be.

We believe God loves us and that in everything He causes or allows He is motivated by that love, and that He has in His mind only what will ultimately be for our best. Reconciling these paradoxical ideas may take some a long, long time.

Three-year-old Jonathan sat beside me as we drove along the highway. “Daddy,” he asked, “if I was killed, would you still be able to find me?”

Beautiful, bright, Jonathan was the apple of my eye. I loved that boy more than anything else in the world. It was impossible to think that anything other than happiness lay in store for us.

... but nothing I could do, or anything that anyone could do in the next five weeks would change the fact that our beautiful blonde-haired, blue-eyed boy had suffered brain damage through some undiagnosed mechanism. He lingered for a while, but in early October, when the sugar maples are at their most glorious, he died.

Sometimes we simply cannot know “why.” God’s ways are not our ways, nor are His thoughts our thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8). He doesn’t have to reveal His reason for things.

God can redeem our pain into power. Our faith will be stronger if we can’t understand than if we can.

David Biebel

Jonathan, 3

viral infection

BASIS Monthly Support Groups *For bereaved parents—join us at one of these locations.*



Akron, PA	3rd Tuesday, 7:00 PM (Sept-May)
Aldan, PA	3rd Saturday, 11:00 AM
Lavelle, PA	1st Monday, 3:00 PM
Lebanon, PA	1st Tuesday, 7:00 PM (Oct-June)

Paradise, PA	2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Quarryville, PA	3rd Monday, 3:00 PM
Harrington, DE	1st Thursday, 2:00 PM

Please contact our BASIS Department by emailing cwhiting@hvmi.org if you want further details for the Support Groups listed above.



BASIS

Brothers And Sisters In Support

Ministering to bereaved parents and their families through a support system of personal contact, newsletters, support groups and other activities.



Handi*Vangelism Ministries International™

Contact us at: PO Box 122, Akron PA 17501

Phone: 717.859.4777

Email: info@hvmi.org

Website: hvmi.org

Blog: hvmi.org/grief-blog

Podcast: hvmi.org/hopeingrief

You can support BASIS by:

- Your prayers
- Referring other bereaved parents to our ministry
- Participating in BASIS sponsored events as you are able
- Placing your child on the “Wall of Remembrance”
- Using resources provided by BASIS
- Your financial donations



Enhancing Trust

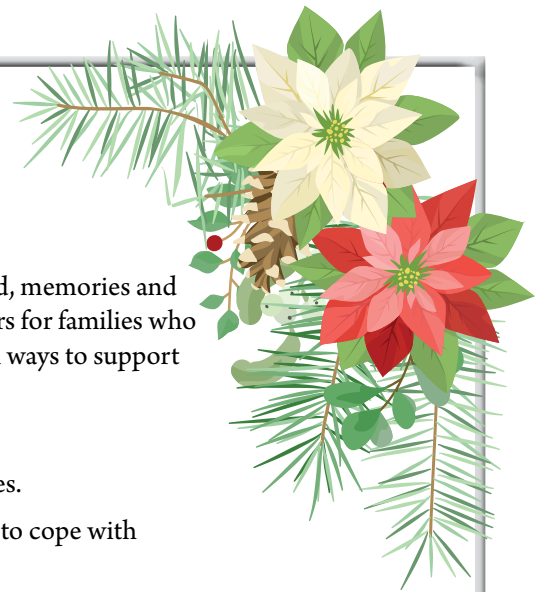
Helpful Ideas for the Holidays

By Michelle Noble, former H*VMI missionary

The Holidays will be upon us before we know it, which means family, food, memories and celebrating the birth of Jesus. All of these things combined can be triggers for families who have experienced the death of a loved one. Here are some simple and practical ways to support grieving children and teens this Thanksgiving and Christmas season:

- Be intentional about talking about your loved one.
- Make your loved one's favorite dish together and share memories.
- Share your own emotions with children and share healthy ways to cope with those emotions.
- Encourage children to make a special card or gift for your loved one.
- Light a candle in honor of your loved one.
- Make an ornament in memory of your loved one; and continue the tradition each year.
- Look through photos and share stories.
- Have children draw a picture and take it to the cemetery.
- Have a stocking for your loved one and each person in the family can write memories and put them in the stocking. Then they can be shared together as a family.
- Finally, give thanks for Jesus' life and the life of your loved.

My prayer is that you feel the love of Christ mightily this Holiday Season.



Memorial Gifts

July–September 2023

BASIS would like to gratefully acknowledge memorial gifts from the following:

Given By

Hannah Arrell Jan Arrell
 Doug & Ann Bennett Patty Bennett
 Wallace & Judy Blore All BASIS Children
 Nancy Bottomley All BASIS Children
 John & Lynn Boyer All BASIS Children
 Matt & Cynthia Brown Joshua Brown
 Lois Cameron Jonathan Winfield Cameron
 James & Nancy Ferris Alexander Gustaferris
 Robert & Claudette Garber Christine Garber
 James & Jerri Golis Cory Golis
 Roger & Carol Groce All BASIS Children

In Memory of

Given By

Martha Jean Hershey Amanda Halteman
 Norma Hull Robin Hull
 Joye Jones Steven Jones
 Bob & Becky Kurtz Shane Kurtz
 Gregory & Carol Manaugh All BASIS Children
 Judith McIlvaine David McIlvaine
 Dan & Phyllis Steinman Andrew Steinman
 Glen & Kathy Vosgerichian All BASIS Children
 Ted & Helen Walborn Kristi Walborn
 Joanna Williams Jimmie Williams

In Memory of



Dates to Remember



A Prayer Plan

Use the dates below as your guide. Keep *Renew* in a handy place and pray for the parents of the children remembered on each day. You will be blessed and so will the ones for whom you pray.

DECEMBER

- 1: David Hoffman, Mary Moore-died
- 3: Anneka Vels, Landon Vels-died
- 3: Raymond Shenk III, William Steiner-birthday
- 4: Katie Russell-birthday
- 5: Camryn Colucci, Kimberly Falls-died
- 5: Dennis Plastino Jr.-birthday
- 6: Kristi Walborn-birthday
- 6: Scott Bartholomew, Brandon Lock-died
- 7: Eric Renegar-birthday
- 7: Adam Herr, Gareth Marcel-died
- 7: Anna Stuckey-date of birth and death
- 9: David McIlvaine, Ryan Schuster-birthday
- 9: Jonathan Rasnake-died
- 10: Jason Walters-birthday
- 12: Russell Krepp-died
- 14: Amanda Halteman, Tyler Howe-birthday
- 14: Dorian Battle, Ryan Bradford, Joseph Hansell, Ryan Nolen, Paula Nyce-died
- 15: Tyler Howe-died
- 16: Ronald Emsoff-birthday
- 16: Graham Mitchell-died
- 19: Shelia Hollinger-birthday
- 20: Christopher Burlingame, Barbara Peifer, Michael Stone-died
- 20: Dawn Wagner-birthday
- 21: William Manhart-died
- 22: Bruce Baxter, Owen Schiffer-birthday
- 23: Justin Yarbrough-birthday
- 23: Vincent Cellucci, Seth Linsinbigler, Justin Mack-died
- 24: Michael Chappine-died
- 25: Barbara Lang, Marlin Carl-died
- 26: Steven Butts, Camryn Colucci, Vincent Williams-birthday
- 26: Talia Emslie, Corey Patches-died
- 27: Isaac Bennett-birthday
- 28: Michael Chappine-birthday
- 30: Frank Halter, Kevin Logan-birthday
- 30: Isaac Bennett-died

JANUARY

- 1: Joseph Eckman-birthday
- 1: Melissa Heydenreich, Michael Skilling-died
- 3: Justin Murphy-died
- 5: Christian Anderson-birthday
- 6: Baby Smallwood-died
- 8: Colin Fitzpatrick, Nicole Mazza, Jeffrey Patton-died
- 9: John Stein-birthday
- 10: Ethan Hall, Colleen Heron-birthday
- 10: David Miller, Bill VanDerbeek-died
- 11: Kenny Fable-birthday
- 11: Grace E Lobis-died
- 12: Joshua Ewing, Carl Henninger-died
- 13: Brandon Heck-birthday
- 13: Ethan Hall-died
- 13: Samuel Peachey-date of birth and death
- 14: Joseph Eckman-died
- 15: Kara Hocker, Keith Smith-birthday
- 15: Kenny Fable-died
- 16: John Griffith, Kristi Walborn-died
- 17: Eliana Hoffman-birthday
- 17: Amy Parker-died
- 18: Shari Lloyd-birthday
- 19: Nathanael Beiler, Sarah Cole, Christina Jones-birthday
- 21: Julie Ochs-birthday
- 23: Stacey Gutz-birthday
- 24: Kent Erickson, Nathan Dale Mowrer-birthday
- 24: Chad Ashby-died
- 25: Noah Lord-birthday
- 26: Morgan Kelly-birthday
- 26: Jimmy Nowasielski, Baby Owens-died
- 27: Raymond Shenk III-died
- 28: Heather Gates-birthday
- 28: Christian Anderson, Walter Schauer III, Owen Schiffer-died
- 29: Jeffrey Short-died
- 30: Colin Fitzpatrick, Vincent Williams-died
- 31: Maurice Williams-birthday

FEBRUARY

- 1: Mark Zakuluk-birthday
- 2: David Benster-died
- 3: Morgan Kelly-died
- 4: Zachary Meck, Ashley Meyers-died
- 5: Christina Gelnett-birthday
- 5: Michael Coldiron-died
- 6: Rose Rogers-birthday
- 7: Michael Smoyer-birthday
- 8: Chad Ashby, Thomas Leidy-birthday
- 8: Jennifer Melucci-date of birth and death
- 9: Amber Wu, Mark Zakuluk-died
- 10: Robert Reedy, Rocky Saginario-birthday
- 10: Hannah Cohen-died
- 12: Eric Renegar-died
- 13: Deanna Bartron-birthday
- 13: Tommy Burke-died
- 14: Mary DeMeglio, John Kirkpatrick, Holly Smith-birthday
- 14: Mitch Bewley, Tyler Klingseiser-died
- 16: Maddox Evans, Buddy Hoesch-birthday
- 17: Isabel Rineer-birthday
- 17: Dolores Jewell, Shawn Johnson-died
- 18: Jay Butcher-died
- 19: Isabel Rineer, Baby Silveira-died
- 20: Jacob Sweigart-died
- 21: Paul Maurer-birthday
- 21: Drew Nelson-died
- 22: Tyree Long, Krista Marino, Abigail Wright-birthday
- 22: John Stein, Nathan Swymer-died
- 23: Adrienne Squier-birthday
- 23: Frank Halter, Baby Smallwood-died
- 24: Anna Diffenderfer, Patrick Hastings-birthday
- 24: Mary Drosehn, Maddox Evans-died
- 26: Shawn Donley, Abigail Wright-died
- 27: James Tarik Jordan-birthday
- 27: Keith Smith-died

NOTE: If you received *Renew* and your child's name is not shown in their birth and death month, please notify us immediately so we can make those corrections.
Thank you for your understanding.



Don't forget to listen to our BASIS Podcasts!

Scan the QR code on your phone or go to humi.org/hopeingrief.

