

a ministry to bereaved parents and their families *"...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength."* Isaiah 40:31

# **LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS**

By Tim Sheetz, Interim Director of BASIS

cry to escape the despair and uncertainties of this world seems to grow louder each day. There is a kind of "darkness" overwhelming so many lives. Perhaps yours is one of those "lives." You've already been wounded by the death of your child. And now you're living in the strange world of a pandemic. Do I hear your cry? See your tears? Sense your despair because of dark days?

David also experienced dark days and events. Throughout the Psalms, we read his cries for relief. They are so reassuring.

David experienced the death of several children. You know the stories: when he sinned greatly against God, the consequence for him was to experience the horrible ache of losing the child he and Bathsheba conceived. And, he lost his son, Chileab, thought to be very young when he died. And, his son, Absalom, killed his half-brother, another of David's sons, Amnon. And, Absalom also rebelled against his father and was, ultimately, killed himself. In addition to losing several children, David had earlier been pursued by Saul who wanted to kill David. And, as if that weren't enough, he had ongoing wars with the Philistines. How much darkness can a person bear?

David needed something to light up the darkness of his world, brought about by the incredible pain of losing

several children; by attempts on his own life; and by constant wars. He found what he needed in God, His Savior. In 2 Samuel 22:29 he wrote, *"For You are my* lamp, LORD; And the LORD illuminates my darkness."

We all long for the "light at the end of the tunnel" to give us hope that a break in the darkness of our despair is coming. More than that light, tho', we need light that shines on the path that leads us straight to God. Two things will help us as we're walking that path: 1) the faithfulness of God and 2) our choice to trust in His faithfulness.

Recently, I reread an entry in the amazing book, Valley of Vision. An excerpt follows. I pray that it will encourage your heart, as it did mine, as you seek light in the darkness:

Lord, in the daytime stars can be seen from deepest wells. And the deeper the wells the brighter Thy stars shine; Let me find Thy light in my darkness, Thy life in my death, Thy joy in my sorrow, Thy grace in my sin, Thy riches in my poverty, Thy glory in my (dark) valley.\*

\*The Valley of Vision, A collection of Puritan prayers and devotions, edited by Arthur Bennett, The Banner of Truth Trust.



### BASIS Monthly Support Groups

#### For bereaved parents—join us at one of these locations.

Akron, PA	3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM (Sept-May)
Aldan, PA	3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Lavelle, PA	2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM (Sept-May)
Lebanon, PA	1st Tuesday, 7:00 PM (0ct-June)
Paradise, PA	2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Harrington, DE	1st Thursday, 7:30 PM
Quarryville, PA	3rd Mondays, 3:00 PM

Please contact our BASIS Department by emailing *cwhiting@hvmi.org* if you want further details on the regulations each BASIS Support Group is implementing regarding COVID-19.



#### 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.



Under the leadership of

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 > blogs > grief

# By supporting BASIS you will help others. 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



# May 1, 2021

9:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

#### **Yoder's Restaurant**

14 South Tower Road, New Holland, PA 17557 See enclosed invitation for details.



October-December 2020 BASIS would like to gratefully acknowledge memorial gifts from the following:

#### **Given By**

#### In Memory of

· ·	
Hannah Arrell	Jan Arrell
Doug & Ann Bennett	Patty Bennett
Wallace & Judy Blore	All BASIS Children
Matt & Cynthia Brown	Joshua Brown
Gary & Debbie Burlingame	Christopher Burlingame
	Jonathan Winfield Cameron
Carol Checkley	Lauren Antonelli
Donald & Patricia Coldiron	Michael Coldiron
Scott Danehower	All BASIS Children
Gene & Christine Dugger	Kurt Axe
James & Nancy Ferris	Alexander Gustaferri
	Christopher & Matthew Gingrich
	Cory Golis
Martha Jean Hershey	Amanda Halteman
	Stephen Jones
Wayne & Janice Lefever	Mark Lefever
	Jeremiah Pletcher
Christine Ludwig	BASIS Children
Robert & Lu McAfee	Richard McAfee
Rick & Judy McIlvaine	David McIlvaine
Ralph & Connie Owens	Kyler & Jessica Owens
Dave & Jan Smoyer	Michael Smoyer
Dan & Phyllis Steinman	Andrew Steinman
	All BASIS Children
	Kristi Walborn
Joanna Williams	Jimmie Williams
Leroy & Shirley Wolfe	Timothy Wolfe
Sue Yarbrough	Justin Yarbrough

# Parents Share

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV)

I have always been a good one for fixing things myself! I like to be busy, to be doing all I can, all the time. But of course there is no way I can control sickness, accident or death. But He, in His wisdom, controls all things, allows the trials and tragedies in our lives. How often He speaks to my heart, telling me not to try to work things out—but instead just to "trust in Him." Praise the Lord that Jesus never fails.

One day as I was on my way to the hospital where I was doing volunteer work and involved with those who needed chemotherapy, the thought of death was much on my mind. I was also helping at hospice at the time, so I suppose it was nature for the thoughts of death to frequently be on the front of my mind. I suddenly asked myself, "and what if death comes to your house?" My quick response was, "Get thee behind me, Satan!" But almost as quickly II Corinthians 12:9 came to my mind: *"My grace is sufficient for thee."* It was just two weeks later that my seventeen-year-old son was suddenly taken home in an accident on the way home from a Bible study.

Since that day the Lord has continued to bring Scripture verses to my mind that meet the need I have at that time. I was reminded over and over again that I do need to trust in the Lord with ALL my heart and acknowledge Him in ALL my ways. I live with the realization that my son is indeed "Safe in the Arms of Jesus."

> Gail Sell Barry, 17 Car accident

## 2021 H\*VMI Calendar

Hoping that things will improve in 2021, here are upcoming ministry events that need your prayers. Please check our website or call for more details on the following.

#### hvmi.org • 717.859.4777

April 17	South Jersey Area Ministry Luncheon, The Grove, Pittsgrove Township NJ
May 1	Annual BASIS Breakfast, Yoder's, New Holland PA
May 25–July 2	Handi*Camp Orientation and Camp, Camp Innabah, Spring City PA
August 7	Disability Ministries Picnic, Akron PA
August 21	BASIS Picnic, Akron PA
September 14	H*VMI Annual Charity Golf Outing, Quarryville PA
October 2	Chicken BBQ and Fall Fun Family Event, Akron PA
October 29	Lancaster County Area Ministry Luncheon, Shady Maple, East Earl PA
November 13	North Jersey Area Ministry Luncheon, River View Banquet Center, Berkeley Heights NJ

### **Dates to Remember**

#### **A Prayer Plan**

The plan is very simple. 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.

#### MARCH

- 1: Daniel Hayes-date of birth and death
- 2: Kyler Owens-date of birth and death
- 2: Bailey O'Neill-birthday
- 3: Bailey O'Neill, David Parrillo-died
- 6: Jonathan Teets-died
- 7: Mark Lueder-birthday
- 7: Scott Hickman-died
- 8: Glenn Auld-died
- 9: Stephen Wildasin-birthday
- 10: Haleigh Kappre-birthday
- 10: Patrick Hastings, Colleen Heron, Joe Pilotti-died
- 11: Kristan Lefferts, Tykea Justiniano-died
- 11: Barbara Peifer, Victoria Peifer-birthday
- 14: Hershel Scriven-died
- 14: Chuckie Magee-birthday
- 15: Karen Benner, Hershel Scriven-birthday
- 15: Jay Delp, Shawn Walsh-died
- 17: Barbara Lang, Collin Peters-birthday
- 18: Joseph Tucker-birthday
- 18: Michelle (Wells) Patch, Joel Shrum, Sara Yorty-died
- 19: Susan Alexander, Tyler Hamvas, Rose Rogers-died
- 20: Maurice Williams-died
- 21: Nathanael Beiler, Haleigh Kappre-died
- 22: Tommy Burke-birthday
- 23: Peter Hallinan, Mark Meher-birthday
- 24: Jeannie Ellis Wilkins-died
- 25: Logan McKinney-died
- 29: Winifred Ellis-died

PAGE 4

29: Darin Findley, Joel Haines-birthday

**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.

#### **APRIL**

- 1: Robin Hull-birthday
- 2: Eliana Hoffman-died
   3: Nathan Peters-birthday
- 5. Nathan reters birthag
- 5: Ryan DiGuiseppe-died
- 5: Brandon Lock-birthday
- 6: Jason Dempsey-died
- 7: Edith Sullivan, Terri Ann Wilson-birthday
- 7: Stephen Jones, Justin Mayer-died
- 8: Scott Bartholomew-birthday
- 8: George Radcliffe-died
- 9: Kevin Barto-birthday
- 9: Robert Reedy, Ninel Zaharia-died
- 9: Grace Peruski-date of birth and death
- 10: Hannah Cohen-birthday
- 11: Joseph Hansell, Dolores Jewell, Joel Shrum, Marcus Smith-birthday
- 11: Steven Butts-died
- 12: Anani Bailey-date of birth and death
- 12: David Benster, Jeffrey Rhinehart-birthday
- 12: Mirela Zaharia-died
- 13: Michael Smoyer-died
- 14: Mark Lefever, Ashley Meyers-birthday
- 14: Chad Bettinger-died
- 16: Jonathan Teets-birthday
- 17: Dusty Auld, Peter Toebe-birthday
- 18: Chelsea Denham, Laura Reyburn, Richard Singmaster-died
- 19: Craig Austin, Ashley Sankus-birthday
- 19: Paul Stranix, Brittany Wrigley-died
- 20: Victoria Peifer-died
- 22: Sam Cook, David Steiner-died
- 25: Stephen Jones, Richard McAfee, Jason Thomas-birthday
- 26: Alexandru-Valentin Zaharia-birthday
- 27: Jessica Baransky, Stacey Gutz-died
- 27: Landon Vels-birthday
- 28: Rachel King-birthday

#### MAY

- 1: Lydia Cameron-died
- 2: Annie Marie Craven-birthday
- 3: Corinne Harris-birthday
- 4: Dusty Auld, Emily Porter, Philip Wilkins-died
- 5: Amanda Vonderhorst, Daniel Weaver-birthday
- 7: Jessica Baransky, Chad Bettinger, Jimmy Nowasielski-birthday
- 8: Brittany Wrigley-birthday
- 8: Hannah Miller-died
- 9: Amber Wu-birthday
- 10: Kathleen Fullam-died
- 11: Tyler Hamvas-birthday
- 11: Tina Genovese-died
- 12: Gala Hershey-birthday
- 14: Tina Genovese-birthday
- 14: Terri Ann Wilson-died
- 15: Anthony Lepera-died
- 16: Ashley Sankus, Edith Sullivan,
  - Sakina Wilson-died
- 18: Timothy Flocco-died
- 18: Robert Ranck-date of birth and death
- 19: Scott Wolff-birthday
- 20: Ryleigh Canham, Chuckie Magee, Abie Schneck-died
- 21: Robbie Gillis-birthday
- 21: Presley Robinson-died
- 22: Sarah Ann Cole-died
- 22: Glenn Auld, Gioanni Cole-Birthday
- 23: Gioanni Cole, Jason Herr-died
- 25: Aaron Wilbur-birthday
- 26: Amy Parker-birthday
- 26: Sheila Hollinger-died

28: Thomas Lavin-died

27: Nathan Swymer-birthday

27: Jerry Legg, Tim Wolfe-died

28: Susan Alexander-birthday

29: Jessica Simrell-birthday 29: Anna Diffenderfer-died



May 1, 2021

9:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

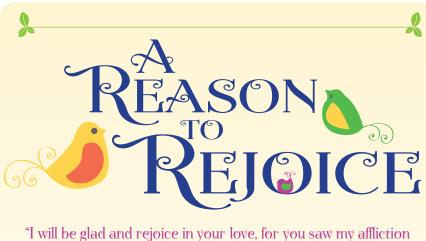
Yoder's Restaurant 14 South Tower Road, New Holland, PA 17557

Please call if you need directions.

# Three ways to register by April 28 2021:

Mail the form below to H\*VMI Call 717.859.4777 Online at *hvmi.org/upcoming-events* 

There is no cost to attend. An offering will be received to help keep BASIS operating and growing.



I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul." Psalm 31:7 (NIV)

#### **Guest Speaker: Scott Mitchell**

Scott and Sandy Mitchell have spent their married life bringing the message of Christ's encouragement to those who hurt. Scott became disabled at age 21 due to a fall. Together they planted a church in Atlanta. God has always proved himself faithful to them in spite of the challenges that come with disability and the tragic loss of their only child, Graham Scott, who was 24 in 2013. They pray they can share the grace of the Lord's tender mercies and His relentless pursuit of us in grief.

### Support \* Fellowship \* Inspiration \* Hope \* laughter \* Food \* Music

Please complete information below, cut off and return in the enclosed envelope. We need your name(s) for registration and/or receipting purposes.



#### Registration for BASIS Breakfast 2021

**YES!** I/We would like to attend the 2021 BASIS Breakfast. Number attending:

Ν	a	n	e	(s)	
---	---	---	---	-----	--





H\*VMI / BASIS PO Box 122, Akron PA • 17501 717.859.4777 • hvmi.org



Unfortunately, I/we are unable to attend the BASIS Breakfast
but want to help the ministry.

Enclosed	is	mv	aift	of	\$
----------	----	----	------	----	----

#### **Method of Payment**

- $\Box$  My check payable to H\*VMI is enclosed.
- Give online at: *hvmi.org/donate*
- Please bill my credit card: 🗆 Visa 🗅 MasterCard 🗅 Discover 🗅 American Express

Credit Card No.		Exp. Date (MM/YY)
Signature		Security code
Name (If paying by credit	t card, please print your name as shown on the card.)	
<ul> <li>Name (If paying by credit</li> <li>Street or PO Box</li> </ul>	t card, please print your name as shown on the card.)	
	t card, please print your name as shown on the card.)  A State A Zip	