



BASIS is a support ministry for bereaved parents, children and their families.

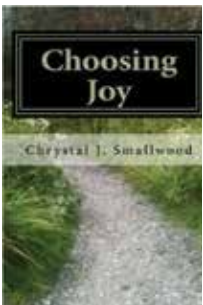


Joy and Grief

Don Allison, Director of BASIS

Those two words don't naturally seem to go together, but through the experience and writing of my friend, Chrystal Smallwood, I have come to understand the connection in a deeper measure. Chrystal has experienced the loss of three babies. Her newly published book will surely be helpful to many, many hurting parents who have experienced the death of a child.

I have shared some excerpts from Chrystal's powerful book below. We are happy to make a copy of the book available to anyone who makes a donation to BASIS. To receive a copy simply mark "Choosing Joy" on your donation slip.



Choosing Joy

A story of dreams, hopes, loss, grief, restoration and joy

By Chrystal Smallwood

There is joy after grief. Sometimes though you simply need to choose it.

One day I will meet my babies in heaven. I will hold them, and love

them, and tell them there wasn't a day that went by in which I did not think of them. I will tell them the stories of their sisters, and of camping at the farm in Vermont, and meeting Mickey Mouse and Cinderella.

One day I'll hold my babies. I will listen to them, look into their eyes as I run my fingers through their hair. I'll follow the shape of their eyebrows and cheekbones with my thumb as I hold their heads in my hand. I will count their fingers and toes and hang on every word they have to tell me.

I'll tell them of all the times I imagined them in my arms. But mostly, I'll hold them and love them and kiss them a million times.

I'll tell them how Jesus used them to teach me about Himself...Until that day comes, though, I know they are with One who is more loving than I, who created them exactly how He wanted them to be, and has a reason for every second they lived, no matter how infinitely short I think that life was.

Many women have lost babies in some way or another. Many husbands have wept alongside their wives as they grieved together. They've kissed infants goodbye one last

time before placing them in the ground. They've held their sixteen-year-old as they lay in the cancer ward, knowing there is nothing more to try. They've received the phone calls late at night, telling of the fatal accident. They have faced unspeakable loss.

We all share a similar grief. A parent isn't supposed to bury their child. My hope is that my story, our story, will comfort even just one with words of understanding.

Every parent who has ever buried a child... and managed to carry on understands that it takes sheer grit some days to do what needs to be done. It's pure courage to wake up the next morning. It's hard. It's really hard. Infinitely more difficult than anyone who has never experienced it can imagine.

I write our story because somewhere, sometime, there's going to be a little girl, who dreams big dreams, who thinks big thoughts and plans big plans, and one day those dreams and plans might

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look very different that she imagined they would. That little girl might want to lock herself in her house and never come out. She might find herself angry at God, or the world, in a way she never thought she could be. She might find herself in a depression that she can't get herself out of. And she's probably wondering why it's all happening. She needs to know that she's **done nothing wrong**. That she's **not** a bad person. That God **doesn't** hate her. That she **isn't** being punished. That **sin** is the cause of death but that God can and **will** redeem her misery. She needs to know that, if she can hang on just a little bit longer, one day she will see that He has been faithful all along.

My prayer for this book, these words of our story, is that it will reach the hands and hearts of those in mourning with the Spirit of the Great Comforter, and in it you will find a heart who understands.

We chose life so many years ago. We continue to choose to live, continue living with everything we are and have. It has been a journey of love and laughter and joy and family and blessing.

To God be the Glory.

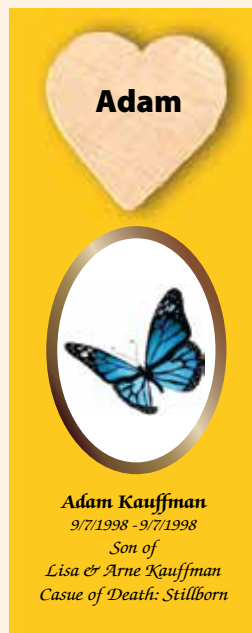
Wall of Remembrance

If you would like to include your child in our Wall of Remembrance, please fill out the enclosed slip and mail, with a picture, if you have a picture. For children who are stillborn or miscarried, we are using a butterfly symbol.

You can also email pictures and information. If you want the picture returned, please note that on the form.

We ask that you consider sending a donation to BASIS. Those who send a donation with their "Wall" request will receive a duplicate of what is placed on the wall, such as shown to the right.

Having the "Wall of Remembrance" in our office helps us identify and remember the children and to pray for the parents.



Retired... But Not Exactly Resting!!!



We didn't know, when God sent Don Allison to be the Director of BASIS, that we were getting a "two-fer!" What a blessing it was, when the need arose for

someone to become the BASIS Administrative Secretary, that Don's wife, Iris, was willing to step up and step in to the position! As a bereaved parent herself, she brought a wonderful tenderness to the position, overseeing clerical processes and, at the same time, caring deeply for all our BASIS members. Iris served faithfully for more than three years and has now retired to be more available to her family. She will continue to help with various aspects of the BASIS ministry from her home. We do miss her in the office as a friend and ministry partner but we're thankful for the years she so effectively served the BASIS Family.

2016 Upcoming Events

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| July 22 | H*VMI Night at Lancaster Barnstormers, Baseball Game, Lancaster PA |
| August 13 | BASIS Picnic, Annville PA |
| August 15-19 | Associate Missionary Training, Ephrata PA |
| August 20 | PIP Picnic, Akron PA |
| August 27 | BASIS Picnic, Philadelphia PA |
| September 26 | H*VMI Golf Outing, Pittsgrove Township, NJ |
| October 1 | H*VMI PA Banquet, Yoder's, New Holland PA |
| October 4 | National Day of Prayer for Mental Health Illness Recovery and Understanding, Lancaster PA |

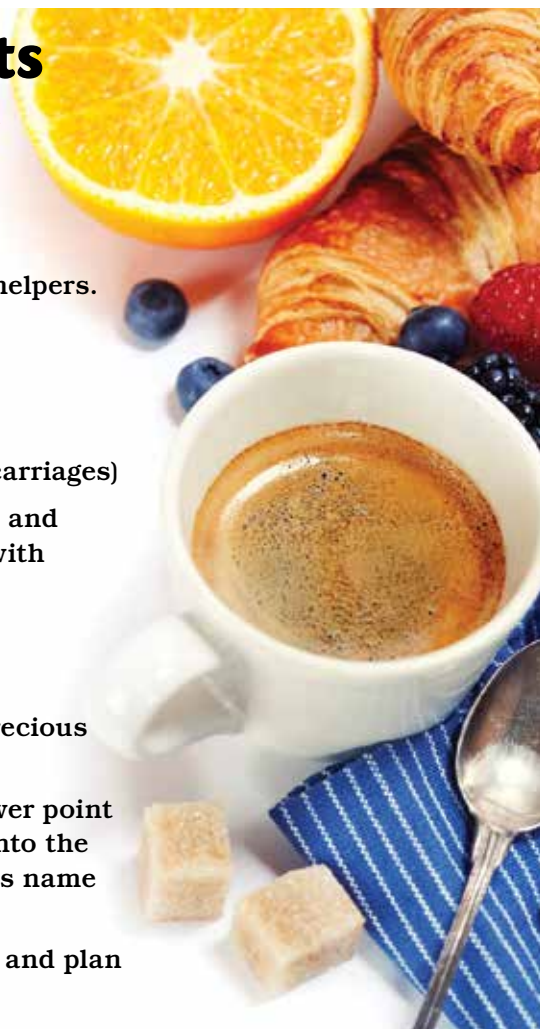
Check our website at humi.org or call us 717.859.4777 for additional information or to register for events you'd like to attend.

BASIS Breakfast 2016 Highlights

Our annual breakfast was another successful event thanks to the help of many.

- We enjoyed great food prepared by Sandy Robinson and her helpers.
- Three parents were interviewed:
 - ~Lisa Kauffman (Adam - Stillborn)
 - ~Dave Smoyer (Michael - Car accident)
 - ~Chrystal Smallwood (Lindsay – Pregnancy loss and two miscarriages)
- These moving interviews reflected the variety of child losses and helped us understand the different types of grief that come with these losses.
- Several new parents attended.
- Parents enjoyed fellowship with other grieving parents.
- The “Wall of Remembrance” was presented again with 110 precious children now represented.
- Our children who have died were recognized in a moving power point presentation with each child’s picture and name projected onto the screen. A special “Praying Hands” memento with their child’s name was presented to each parent who attended the breakfast.

Watch for the 2017 Annual BASIS Breakfast date to be publicized and plan to attend. ***You’ll be blessed!!***



Support Groups *for Bereaved parents*



Announcing...

BASIS is pleased to announce that Lula McAfee will be the new leader of our New Jersey Support Group. Lula and her husband, Robert, have been part of the group since their son, Richard, died in a car accident nearly twelve years ago.

The McAffees live in Williamstown and will be hosting the group in their home beginning in September. Lu and Bob have consistently shown compassion and support to other grieving parents and will be well suited to lead the group.

Join us at one of these locations.

Akron, PA	3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:30 PM (September-May—suspended for June, July and August.)
Aldan, PA	3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:30 PM
Lakeland, FL	4th Monday of the month, 2:00 PM
Lavelle, PA	3rd Sunday of the month, 1:00 PM (September-May—suspended for June, July and August.)
Lebanon, PA	1st Tuesday of the month, 7:00 PM (September-May—suspended for June, July and August.)
Williamstown, NJ	To be Announced

**Call us at 717.859.4777
for additional information.**



Dates to Remember



AUGUST

- 1 Shane Kurtz, Gavin Mentzer, Dustin Hallahan-birthday
- 1 Shari Lloyd, Crystal Allison Kline-died
- 1 Elena Pascual-day of birth & death
- 2 Philip Brunner-birthday
- 2 Alexander Gustaferrri, Rob Lukens, Daniel Weaver-died
- 3 Kurt Whitaker, James (Jamie) Phillips, Alexandru-Valentin Zaharia, Adam Davidson-died
- 4 Mirela Zaharia-birthday
- 4 Jacob Simpson-died
- 5 Destiny Berg, Peggy Floyd, Dustin Hallahan, Gavin Mentzer-died
- 6 Jeremy Bickling, Kenneth Edwards, Gretchen Watts-died
- 7 Art Regal-birthday
- 8 Shawn Johnson-birthday
- 8 Gary Berthiaume Jr.-died
- 9 William Minnich-birthday
- 10 Rudy Skirvin, Jason McGill-died
- 11 Joshua Brown-died
- 12 Maurice Long-birthday
- 13 Jimmy Rubincan, Kurt Axe-died
- 14 Dayne Thomas-birthday
- 15 Rocky Saginario, Marcus Smith-died
- 17 Justin Yarbrough-died
- 17 Michelle Patch-birthday
- 17 Amber Leinbach-day of birth & death
- 19 Joseph Tucker, Scott Wolff-died
- 20 Sakina Wilson-birthday
- 20 Tina Gelnett-died
- 22 Dayne Thomas-died
- 24 Alexander Gustaferrri-birthday
- 27 David Hoffman, Alexis Williams-birthday
- 28 Peter Hallinan, Alexis Williams-died
- 29 Jeffrey Rhinehart-died
- 30 Laura Reyburn-birthday
- 31 Christine Garber-died

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Cory Golis-birthday
- 1 Kent Erickson, Paul Maurer-died
- 2 Jessica Owens-stillborn
- 3 Jacob Simpson-birthday
- 3 Jay Hamby-died
- 5 Joshua White-died
- 6 Talia Emslie-birthday
- 7 Adam Kauffman-stillborn
- 7 Nathaniel Norris-died
- 8 Walter Schauer III-birthday
- 8 Jimmie Williams-died
- 11 Sam Harner III, Paul Stranix-birthday
- 11 Nancy Schiavo, Randy VanRyn-died
- 12 Peter Gray-birthday
- 12 Jeff Christensen, Jeff Ollar, Stephen Stranix-died
- 15 Stephen Stranix-birthday
- 17 Destiny Berg, Chizo Duruji-birthday
- 17 Sarah Yellets-died
- 18 Nicholas Moroni-birthday
- 20 Jay Hamby, Nancy Schofield-birthday
- 20 Chizo Duruji-died
- 21 Tyler Klingseiser-birthday
- 23 Jimmie Williams-birthday
- 24 Logan McKinney-birthday
- 24 Patty Bennett-died
- 25 Jimmy Rubincan-birthday
- 26 Michael Coldiron-birthday
- 27 Matthew & Christopher Gingrich-day of birth & death
- 29 Ryan Nolen-birthday
- 29 James O'Brien-died
- 30 Kurt Axe, Shawn Donley, Timothy Flocco, Michael Skowronek-birthday
- 30 Shane Kurtz-died

OCTOBER

- 1 Chad Burkhart-birthday
- 1 Natalie Chavez-died
- 2 Kimberly Falls-birthday
- 2 Scott Fischer-died
- 3 Ricky Radcliffe, George Radcliffe-birthday
- 3 Janice Arrell-died
- 5 Jeff Christensen, Michael Windsor-birthday
- 7 William (Buddy) Hoesch, Ryan Schuster-died
- 8 Faye Giansin-birthday
- 9 Brent Bissinger-birthday
- 9 Emilee Davis-died
- 10 Abie Schneck, DeVaughn Lee-birthday
- 11 Ashley Romer-died
- 13 Philip Wilkins-birthday
- 14 Brian Raske, Jameson Adams-birthday
- 14 Alanna O'Brien, Charles (Chuck) Weir-died
- 16 Jameson Adams-died
- 17 Jonathan Rasnake-birthday
- 18 James O'Brien-birthday
- 18 Brianne Carter-died
- 20 Kurt Whitaker-birthday
- 21 Jaida McDaniel, Tim Wolfe, Jeremy Lavoie-birthday
- 22 David Pfohl-died
- 22 Anneka Vels, Natalie Wilbur-birthday
- 23 Joshua Ollar-birthday
- 23 David Stephens-stillborn
- 24 Chris Bender, Jedd Jordan, Jay Delp-birthday
- 24 Andrew Stoltzfus-stillborn
- 25 Heather Gates-died
- 26 Sam Cook, Chelsea Barry-birthday
- 26 Chelsea Barry-died
- 26 Matthew & Michael Barto, Nathan Kerr-stillborn
- 27 Jacob Sweigart-birthday
- 29 Marlin Carl-birthday
- 31 William & Eric Snyder-stillborn
- 31 Richard Hollingsworth-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.

Parents Share



“My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” Exodus 33:14

It is hard to put into words the immense changes that have occurred in my life since Rachel was born almost five years ago. I became aware of the “subculture” of special needs that exists in America today. Hospital stays, therapies, endless tests of endurance; but none of these prepared me for her Homegoing shortly before her fourth birthday.

As our family tried to put our lives back together again, I fluctuated between a faith in God that was a resting faith and a faith in a God because there was nowhere else to turn. If I could not trust that God was in control, who or what else was left? There was no hope away from that thread of thought.

How patient the Lord is with us! As the days went by, He slowly and carefully seeped into the cracks of our wounded hearts with a balm of peace. Smiles returned to our family. Rachel began to be remembered in life, not just in death.

Did our reality change? Did the circumstances go away in a miraculous cloud? No! What did change was our awareness that God really did care about us and could be trusted. I did not have to be a “Super Christian.” I am not in charge of circumstances or of proving God’s love. I simply must obey the commands He gives and allow His Spirit to change my heart and the hearts of those around me.

Deb Donker

*Daughter, Rachel, age 4
Stroke*

2 BASIS Picnics

Annaville, PA

Saturday, August 13

11:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Home of Don & Iris Allison
10575 Allentown Blvd.
Annaville, PA 17003

Register by August 9, 2016

Rutledge, PA

Saturday, August 27

4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Home of Arne & Lisa Kauffman
215 Sylvan Ave.
Rutledge, PA 19070

Register by August 23, 2016

Come for Food, Fun and Fellowship with other parents who have lost a child.

We supply the fun. You bring the fellowship that only people with shared experience can have. Bereaved parents can comfort one another. They can also teach or learn about how to reinvest in life after loss. We would love to have you join us. All are welcome. If you have not already done so, bring a picture of your child for the “Wall of Remembrance”.

What to Bring? Casserole or Salad or Dessert to share. There is power for crock pots. Hot dogs or other meat, and drink provided. You could also bring comfortable lawn chairs. Let us know if you plan to come: **717.859.4777** ext. 106; **717.304.5161**, or email **dallison@hvmi.org**.



How You Can Support BASIS?

- By your prayers
- By referring other bereaved parents to our ministry
- By participating in BASIS sponsored events as you are able
- By placing your child on the "Wall of Remembrance"
- By using resources provided by BASIS
- By your financial donations



Enhancing Trust

Memorial Gifts

March, April & May 2016

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

Given By	In Memory of
Allison, Don & Iris.....	Crystal Allison Kline
Austin, Kevin & Cindy.....	Caleb & Craig Austin
Bennett, Doug & Ann.....	Patty Bennett
Brown, Matt & Cynthia.....	Joshua Brown
Burlingame, Gary & Debbie.....	Christopher Burlingame
Dempsey, Rosanna.....	Jason Dempsey
Evans, Mike & Cathy.....	David Steiner
Ferris, James & Nancy.....	Alex Gustaferris
Ferster, Ronald & Rosemary.....	Crystal Allison Kline
Garber, Robert & Claudette.....	Christine Garber
Genovese, David & Mary.....	Tina Genovese
Golis, James & Jerri.....	Cory Golis
Heckman, Nancy & Lee.....	Rob Lukens
Herr, Carl & Freda.....	Jason Herr and Crystal Kline
Herr, Clyde & Melva.....	Jason Herr
Hershey, William & Martha Jean.....	Amanda Haltezman
Hipple, Robert & Helen.....	Jeff Hipple
Jones, Charles (Lou) & Joye.....	Stephen Jones
Kauffman, Lisa & Arne.....	Adam Kauffman
Kurtz, Jan & Rebecca.....	Shane Kurtz
Lenker, Jean.....	Marlin Carl
Lindsey, Mike & Dee.....	All BASIS children
McAfee, Robert & Lula.....	Richard McAfee
Meyer, Clifford & Kim.....	All BASIS children
Myers, Doug & Cathi.....	Joshua White
Noecker, Sterling & Virginia.....	Crystal Allison Kline
Patterson, Linda.....	Adrienne Squier
Schauer, Floss.....	Walter E. Schauer III
Schnaithmann, Paul & Mary Jo.....	Vincent Cellucci
Vosgerichian, Glen & Kathy (Kathryn).....	All BASIS children
Walborn, Ted & Helen.....	Kristi Walborn
Weaver, Paul & Helen.....	David Weaver
Williams, Joanna.....	Jimmie Williams



Community Partner

United Way Campaign

If you would like to designate all or part of your United Way donation this fall, simply list BASIS (Handi*Vangelism) as the Donor Option agency on your designation form. The code number for BASIS is 7659.

Be sure to include our office address so your United Way office can contact us.

Thank you for considering UNITED WAY as one means of helping BASIS help other bereaved parents.



BASIS is a ministry of compassion to bereaved parents and families.

BASIS Director, Don Allison

Renew is produced quarterly by BASIS.

For information, please contact us at:

BASIS

PO Box 122 • Akron, PA 17501-0122

Phone: 717-859-4777

Email: info@HVMI.org

Check out our blog on the H*VMI website.
Go to: hvmi.org > blogs > grief

BASIS IS A ministry under the leadership of

Handi*Vangelism Ministries International™

A Ministry of Compassion since 1973

hvmi.org

