Support Group Meeting Schedule

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

All Meetings 7:30 – 9 p.m. Davis Hospital Classroom 1

• July 3 • Topic - Topic Cards

• August 7• Topic - "Am I Normal?"

• September 4 • Topic - Subsequent Choices

• October 2 • Topic - Grief and Marriage

• November 6 • Topic - Handling the Holidays

> • December 4 • Topic - Stress Relief

If you wish, please bring a memory item of your baby to share. (Pictures, stuffed animal, poem, etc.) For more information about support meetings, please visit www.utahshare.org

Due to limited resources, Utah Share only mails out a hard-copy newsletter to parents who experienced a recent loss. For the next edition of the bi-monthly newsletter, visit www.utahshare.org/newsletter to view the online version or download and print off a copy. 1

BABIES WHO HAVE TOUCHED OUR

Mya Ann Burke May 8, 2014

AJ August Oltienbruns May 9, 2014

Nicolas Kelvin Hansen May 1, 2014 – May 10, 2014

> Shanell Flores May 10, 2014

Baby Boy Wilson May 15, 2014

Miloh Hughes December 12, 2013 – May 20, 2014

Daniela Fatima Marquez May 22, 2014

> Xander May 24, 2014

Anthony Paul Jethro Gaylk May 28, 2014

Kyson Derek Andersen May 28, 2014 Andrew Johnson May 29, 2014

Jacob Johnson May 29, 2014

Anthony J Collins Jr. May 29, 2014

Sayler Jade Tobias June 4, 2014

Kol Daymen Casper June 6, 2014

Larry Ashton Cole Burris June 7, 2014

> **Oliver James Hess** June 9, 2014

Lilliann Saunders June 12, 2014

Chloe Saunders June 12, 2014

Brian Dean Sunley June 12, 2014

> **Andi Pettit** June 7, 2014 – June 14, 2014

WS & EVENTS

JOIN US FOR THE SHARE SUMMER SOCIAL

We're having a picnic for the entire family!

Wednesday, Aug 6 at 6 p.m. at the Hooper Park -6100 West 5500 South, Hooper

Come enjoy food, friends and fun! Also please bring a side dish to share, the main dish will be provided.

Please RSVP by July 24 to Rachael at Rachael@utahshare.org or 801.644.4437 with the number of people coming from your family.

July is Worldwide Bereaved Parents Awareness Month

Coping with Grief -Remember, with support, patience and effort, you will survive grief.

Some day the pain will lessen, leaving you with cherished memories of your loved one.

Be Good to Yourself
Be Yourself Be Yourself

Truthfully Accept Yourself
Gratefully Value Yourself Joyfully Treat Yourself Generously Balance Yourself Harmoniously Bless Yourself Abundantly Trust Yourself Confidently Love Yourself Prayerfully Give Yourself Enthusiastically Express Yourself -

SAVE THE DATE

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL UTAH SHARE WALK TO REMEMBER OCTOBER 11, 2014. MORE DETAILS COMING SOON. STAY UPDATED AT: WWW.UTAHSHARE.ORG/EVENTS

Resources

Utah Share would like you to know that you do not need to face the grieving process alone. Below is a list of several organizations that offer support and resources to grieving parents.

Utah Share -801-544-1159 www.utahshare.org

National Share -800-821-6819 www.nationalshare.org

Compassionate Friends -877-969-0010 (toll-free) www.compassionatefriends.org

Bereaved Parents USA www.bereavedparentsusa.org

HAND.org - Helping After Neonatal Death www.handonline.org

IRIS www.irisremembers.com

MissingGRACE.org www.missinggrace.org

Mommies Enduring Neonatal Death (M.E.N.D.) www.mend.org

Baby Steps www.babysteps.com

Grief Haven www.griefhaven.org

GriefNet www.griefnet.org

My Miscarriage Matters www.mymiscarriagematters.com

National SIDS Resource Center www.sidscenter.org

Center for Loss in Multiple Births hwww.climb-support.org

The Truth Is... A primary guide for parents who have recently experienced the death of a child through miscarriage, stillbirth or other perinatal loss. By - C. Elizabeth Carney

1. The truth isn't that you will feel "all better" in a couple of days, or weeks, or even months.

The truth is that the days will be filled with an unending ache and the nights will feel one million sad years long for a while. Healing is attained only after the slow necessary progression through the stages of grief and mourning.

2. The truth isn't that a new pregnancy will help you forget.

The truth is that, while thoughts of a new pregnancy soon may provide hope, a lost infant deserves to be mourned just as you would have with anyone you loved. Grieving takes a lot of energy and can be both emotionally and physically draining. This could have an impact upon your health during another pregnancy. While the decision to try again is a very individualized one, being pregnant while still actively grieving is very difficult.

3. The truth isn't that pills or alcohol will dull the pain.

The truth is that they will merely postpone the reality you must eventually face in order to begin healing. However, if your doctor feels that medication is necessary to help maintain your health, use it intelligently and according to his/her instructions.

4. The truth isn't that once this is over your life will be the same.

The truth is that your upside-down world will slowly settle down, hopefully leaving you a more sensitive, compassionate person, better prepared to handle the hard times that everyone must deal with sooner or later. When you consider that you have just experienced one of the worst things that can happen to a family, as you heal you will become aware of how strong you are.

5. The truth isn't that grieving is morbid, or a sign of weakness or mental instability.

The truth is that grieving is work that must be done. Now is the appropriate time. Allow yourself the time. Feel it, flow with it. Try not to fight it too often. It will get easier if you expect that it is variable, that some days are better than others. Be patient with yourself. There are no short cuts to healing. The active grieving will be over when all the work is done.

6. The truth isn't that grief is all-consuming.

The truth is that in the midst of the most agonizing time of your life, there will be laughter. Don't feel guilty. Laugh if you want to. Just as you must allow yourself the time to grieve, you must also allow yourself the time to laugh. Viewing laughter as part of the healing process, just as overwhelming sadness is now, will make the pain more bearable.

7. The truth isn't that one person can bear this alone.

The truth is that while only you can make the choices necessary to return to the mainstream of life a healed person, others in your life are also grieving and are feeling very helpless. As unfair as it may seem, the burden of remaining in contact with family and friends often falls on you. They are afraid to "butt in," or they may be fearful of saying or doing the wrong thing. This makes them feel even more helpless. They need to be told honestly what they can do to help. They don't need to be told, "I'm doing fine" when you're really NOT doing fine. By allowing others to share in your pain and assist you with your needs, you will be comforted and they will feel less helpless.

Continued on next page

Continued from page 5

8. The truth isn't that God must be punishing you for something.

The truth is that sometimes these things just happen. They have happened to many people before you, and they will happen to many people after you. This was not an act of any God; it was an act of Nature. It isn't fair to blame God, or yourself, or anyone else. Try to understand that it is human nature to look for a place to put the blame, especially when there are so few answers to the question, "Why?" Sometimes there are answers. Most times there are not. Believing that you are being punished will only get in the way of your healing.

9. The truth isn't that you will be unable to make any choices or decisions during this time.

The truth is that while major decisions, such as moving or changing jobs, are better off being postponed for now, life goes on. It will be difficult, but decisions dealing with the death of your baby (seeing and naming the baby, arranging and/or attending a religious ritual, taking care of the nursery items you have acquired) are all choices you can make for yourself. Well-meaning people will try to shelter you from the pain of this. However, many of us who have suffered similar losses agree that these first decisions are very important. They help to make the loss real. Our brains filter out much of the pain early on as a way to protect us. Very soon after that, we find ourselves reliving the events over and over, trying to remember everything. This is another way that we acknowledge the loss. Until the loss is real, grieving cannot begin. Being involved at this early time will be a painful experience, but it will help you deal with your grief better as you progress by providing comforting memories of having performed loving, caring acts for your baby.

10. The truth isn't that you will be delighted to hear that a friend or other loved one has just given birth to a healthy baby.

The truth is that you may find it very difficult to be around mothers with young babies. You may be hurt, or angry, or jealous. You may wonder why you couldn't have had that joy. You may be resentful, or refuse to see friends with new babies. You may even secretly wish that the same thing would happen to someone else. You want someone to understand how it feels. You may also feel very ashamed that you could wish such things on people you love or care about, or think that you must be a dreadful person. You aren't. You're human, and even the most loving people can react this way when they are actively grieving. If the situations were reversed, your friends would be feeling and thinking the same things you are. Forgive yourself. It's OK. These feelings will eventually go away.

11. The truth isn't that all marriages survive this difficult time.

The truth is that sometimes you might blame one another, resent one another, or dislike being with one another. If you find this happening, get help. There are self-help groups available or grief counselors who can help. Don't ignore it or tuck it away assuming it will get better. It won't. Actively grieving people cannot help one another. It is unrealistic, like having two people who were blinded at the same time teach each other Braille. Talking it out with others may help. It might even save your marriage.

12. The truth isn't that eventually you will accept the loss of your baby and forget all about this awful time.

The truth is that acceptance is a word reserved for the understanding you come to when you've successfully grieved the loss of a parent, or a grandparent, or a beloved older relative. When you lose a child, your whole future has been affected, not your past. No one can really accept that. But there is resolution in the form of healing and learning how to cope. You will survive. Many of us who have gone through this type of grief are afraid we might forget about our babies once we begin to heal. This won't happen. You will always remember your precious baby because successful grieving carves a place in your heart where he or she will live forever.



FINGERPRINTS

Your fingerprints are on my heart. Even though I never held your hand - you touched me. Even though I never heard you speak you taught me. You taught me about love. You taught me about caring. You taught me about courage. You taught me about faith. You taught me about happiness. You taught me about sorrow You brought me closer to my loved ones. You brought me closer to myself. In the time I care for you, my how life changed.

Never to be the same again. Because of you I know I will somehow be stronger. Because of you I know I will be more prepared for life. All this from tiny fingerprints that touched my heart. Because of this you will live forever in my soul never to be forgotten. I will always love you. You are my child.

Written by: Tom Krause

Not Like You by Sherí Hess

I am a mother, though not líke you. You cradle your sweet baby in your arms, Mine are empty, but I hold him in my heart. You brush her soft curly hair, and tie pretty pink bows just right. A lock of his hair is tucked neatly in a book. You pick daisies and tie them in a chain to wear around her neck. I cut lílacs and arrange them in a vase to set at his grave. You look forward to dreams and plans. I hold on to memoríes. I am a mother. though not like you.

In Memory of Dakota Raín Hess

When you come to the edge of all that you have known, there will be two possibilities awaiting you: There will be something solid to stand on or you will be taught how to fly.



THE BEST AND MOST BEAUTIFUL THINGS IN THE WORLD CANNOT BE SEEN, NOT TOUCHED, BUT ARE FELT IN THE HEART. ~ HELEN KELLER



Birthdays In Memory Of



Chloe Faith Price July 21

Happy 8th birthday in heaven baby girl. Not a day goes by that we don't think of you and wish more than anything we could have you back. Our hearts and arms ache so much to hold you again.

> Until we meet again... Love you and miss you terribly. Love, Daddy, Mommy, Madalyn, Olivia and Gavin

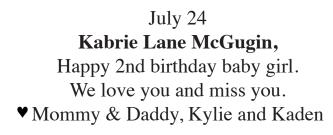


Madeleine Redford McMurtrey



29 August 2013 Love you forever Our perfect little Madeleine Love, Mommy and Daddy

July 15th Happy 3rd birthday to my sweet **Easton**. Miss you and think of you every single day. Love, Mom



Happy 42nd Angel Birthday **Kimberly Ann Jacobsen** 7/20/1972 We love you soo much and miss you :) Love, Your sister Shauna

> Dearest Joshua... Happy 5th Angel Day. We miss you and love you.

Love forever, Dad, Mom, Shelby, Jacob, Rachel and Jarom **Joshua Derrek Williams** 7-28-09

July 8, 2011 Happy 3rd Birthday **Brantley**. I wish more than anything that we were celebrating your birthday with you. We love you and miss you SO much.

Love, Mommy and Daddy

Happy 2nd Angel Birthday **Mathew Thomas Jackson** 7/21/2012 We love and miss you so much. Love, Dad, Mom, Rozena, Brayden, Dakota, Mason and Dominic.

Utah Share would like to thank ...



JaLynn Thirkill Larsen donation in memory of JacLynn Blake Larsen.

Allison Gardner and Katrina Mudrow donation in memory of Dennis Luke Gardner.

Ashley Wong's work team at the (IRS) donation in memory of Avery Marie Wong.

> **Travis** and **Natalie Clemens** donation in memory of Luca Deon Clemens.

Alissa Jensen donation in memory of Luca Deon Clemens.



Debbie Johnson Cutler donation in memory of Luca Deon Clemens

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Taisdyn Brett Fowers born to Desiree Call and Brett Fowers April 26, 2014 at 12:42 p.m. 6 pounds 18.5 inches **Jacob** and **Lindsay Cutler** donation in memory of Luca Deon Clemens.

Keven and **Sherrie Clemens** donation in memory of Luca Deon Clemens.

Heidi and Ryan James donation in memory of Luca Deon Clemens.

Helen and Deon Johnson donation in memory of Luca Deon Clemens.



Mallory Thomas donation in memory of Joshua and Adelaide Spackman.

White Rail Ward Young Women from West Haven donation in memory of Benson Russell Engstrom through Angel Outfitters.

Utah Share is a non-profit organization with 501(c)3 status, supported solely by private donations. Monetary contributions are always appreciated and are tax deductible. You can donate online via paypal or you may also mail donations to: Utah Share, 1178 Homestead Ln. Fruit Heights, UT 84037 Your financial support helps more than 100 families each year. Thank you for making a difference. 9



July/August 2014 Edition

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Our Mission

The mission of Share Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support, Inc. is to serve those whose lives are touched by the tragic death of a baby through pregnancy loss, stillbirth or in the first few months of life.

The primary purpose is to provide support toward positive resolution of grief experienced at the time of, or following the death of a baby. This support encompasses emotional, physical, spiritual, and social healing, as well as sustaining the family unit.

The secondary purpose of Share is to provide information, education, and resources on the needs and rights of bereaved parents and siblings. The objective is to aid those in the community, including family, friends, employers, members of the congregation, caregivers, and others in their supportive role.

Pregnancy & Infant Loss Support, Inc. touching lives... healing hearts... giving hope... www.utahshare.org and www.utahshare.org/newsletter



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