



## The Compassionate Friends Brevard Chapter

*A self-help organization offering friendship and understanding to bereaved parents*

### TCF Brevard Chapter Web Site

[www.tcfobrevardnc.org/tcf/home.htm](http://www.tcfobrevardnc.org/tcf/home.htm)

#### TCF Brevard Newsletter

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Did you ever ask yourself, "Why am I here?" Do you wonder how you ever made it this far without your child? You don't need a psychiatrist or therapist to tell you that the road is hard and long. In fact, unless they lost a child, you can tell them what the journey is like.

One thing we have in common is the ultimate realization that we are no longer the same person we were before our child died. We have come to a place where the loss we feel includes the loss of self, as well as our child.

What used to bring us joy, may not excite us any longer. The drive to do anything can quickly turn to a chore. We are a different person and don't know where to place ourselves in the scope of life around us. Where do we fit in?

You might feel like a square peg trying to fit into a round circle. No one understands, but you and fellow bereaved parents.

You can learn from others and you can help others. TCF is a place that you can receive and give back, remember and moralize your child, and find that new person you are looking for.

#### Monthly Meeting

Always the 2nd Monday  
of the month

**February 13, 2012**

7:00 PM at the

**The Lutheran Church of  
the Good Shepherd**  
22 Fisher Rd. Brevard

#### This Month's Topic

Webinar- Getting Stuck  
and Unstuck in your grief

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News

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Sunrise and Sunsets  
Memorials

### News From Joe and Sandra Furr 3rd Annual Daniel Furr Golf Tournament

On February 9 Sandra and I will meet with Dr. Molly Parhill of Blue Ridge Community College to turn over \$7700 for the J. Daniel Furr Memorial Scholarship Fund which will benefit 11 full time students in 2012.

From the three Tournaments we have been able to provide over \$18000 in scholarships for Brevard area college students. Our focus continues to be providing college funding through the Golf Tournaments, raising awareness of and helping to educate on the issue of youth and alcohol, and honoring Daniel's memory in these endeavors. [www.danielfurrmemorialgolf.com](http://www.danielfurrmemorialgolf.com)

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During our next chapter meeting the webinar conducted by the National TCF, "Getting Stuck and Unstuck-in your grief", will be presented February 13, 2012



Bereaved parents often talk about feeling "stuck" in grief. "Stuck," however can mean different things to different people -- particularly at different times in the grief journey. Our presenter, Vicki Scalzitti, explores and defines how we know when we've hit a grief hurdle and shares strategies to get moving again. With a new year (may) come new hope!

This webinar was held January 18, 2012 and is the first in a series of videos that will be offered on line. National posted the following information about this presentation.

*Getting "Stuck" - and "Unstuck" in your grief, the webinar was recorded and is now available to view on our national website at [http://www.compassionatefriends.org/News\\_Events/Special-Events/Webinars.aspx](http://www.compassionatefriends.org/News_Events/Special-Events/Webinars.aspx). More than 725 registered for the event and the response has been extremely positive! We hope you are enjoying TCF's new webinar series and will share Getting "Stuck" - and "Unstuck" with others you feel might benefit!! Please feel free to share with us ideas for future webinars!*

Sometimes we need the help and encouragement of others to get through this journey. That is why we come together every month and during certain events. We are always looking for any information or material that will give us new insight and help along the way. Please join us at our next meeting and hopefully you will walk away with information that can make your grief journey a little lighter.



**C o m p a s s i o n a t e   f r i e n d s**  
**A   s a f e   p l a c e   t o   t a l k**



"The object of good grief is to remember, not relive."  
 author unknown.

There is a need to talk, without trying to give reasons. No reason is going to be acceptable when you hurt so much. A hug, the touch of a hand, expressions of concern, a willing listener was and still is the things that helped the most. The people who were the greatest help were not judgmental. It's most helpful when people understand that what is needed is to talk about it and that this is part of the grief process.

**To Our New Members**  
 Coming to the first meeting is the hardest, but you have nothing to lose and everything to gain! Try not to judge your first meeting as to whether or not The Compassionate Friends will work for you. At the next meeting you may

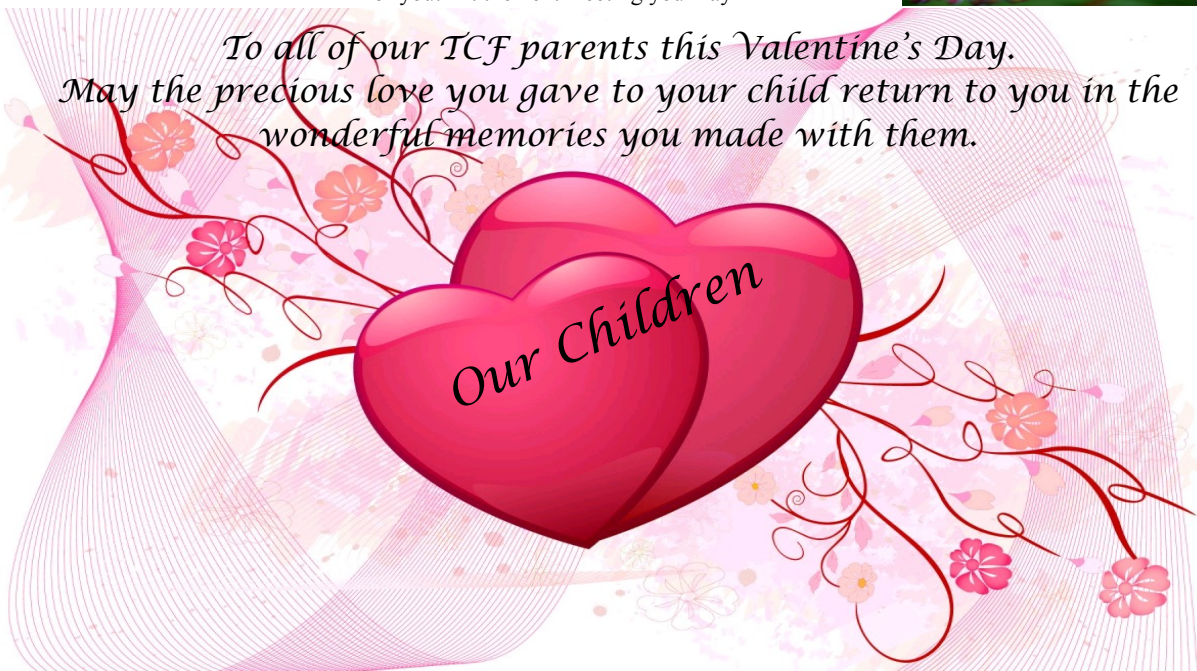
find just the right person or just the right words said that will help you in your grief work.

**To Our Members Who Are Further Down The "Grief Road"**

We need your encouragement and your support. Each meeting we have new parents. THINK BACK – what would it have been like for you at your first meeting if there had not been any TCF "veterans" to welcome you, share your grief, encourage you and tell you, "your pain will not always be this bad, it really does get better!"



*To all of our TCF parents this Valentine's Day,  
 May the precious love you gave to your child return to you in the  
 wonderful memories you made with them.*



**DONATIONS**

Frances Owen in memory of her son  
 Jeffery Owen



**News Corner**

2011 Scholarship Recipients of the  
 Daniel Furr Memorial Golf Tournament

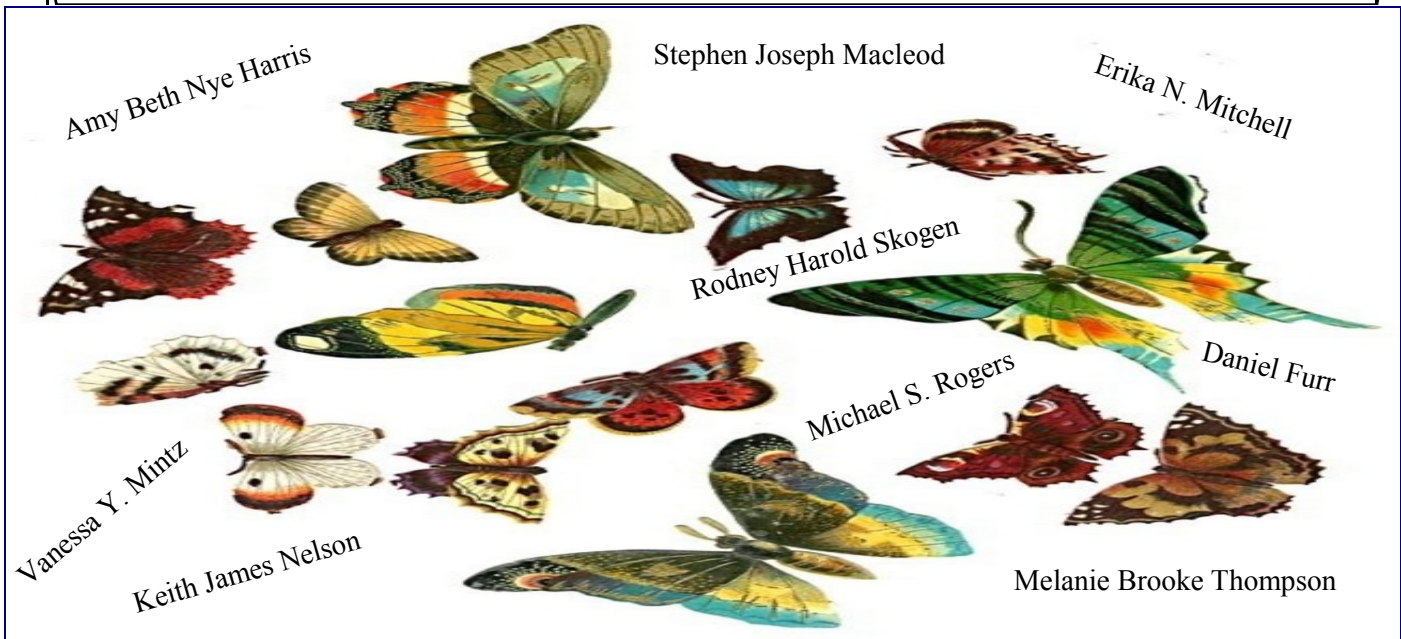




**OUR CHILDREN**  
**Sunrise and Sunset Dates**  
*Love that can not be quenched*  
*Our beautiful children forever remembered*



Children	Sunrise	Sunset
Amy Beth Nye Harris		2/22
Daniel Furr	2/16	
Erika N. Mitchell		2/21
Keith James Nelson		2/01
Melanie Brooke Thompson		2/15
Michael S. Rogers		2/21
Rodney Harold Skogen		2/05
Stephen Joseph Macleod	2/10	
Vanessa Y. Mintz		2/19



**Birthday Table**

Every month at our chapter meeting, we provide a Birthday Table. In the month of your child's birthday, if you are ready to do so, please bring pictures and small mementos of your child to place on the table. You may also bring a favorite cake, cookies, or other snacks, flowers, candles or balloons for the table in memory of your child. We do this to celebrate our children's lives and to share their special day with others who understand.

If you would like your child's picture to appear on this remembrance page or if you have a memorial you want printed, please send me an email at [emprop2001@yahoo.com](mailto:emprop2001@yahoo.com) with their picture as an attachment in a jpeg or bmp. format.



*Over that rainbow, I know you are there. Stop, and wait awhile for me.*



In Memory of  
Dawn Barnhisee  
Daughter of  
Linda and Bill Muir  
Written by her sister  
Dianne

The inexplicable happened it seems  
Only it wasn't in my dreams  
The sorrow weighs down my core  
Mires my heart, my mind forlorn

The surge of loss arrives in waves  
Of turbulent and tossing seas of grey  
The world, it changed today  
When your spirit left our midst

Then in a moment  
My sorrow slides away  
But I race to catch it  
Lest I start to feel  
Less than  
The grief I need to heal

The smallest mundane thing  
Makes me cry, but then I see  
Your sparkling eyes  
Glow of your smile  
The music in your voice  
Laughter shared freely  
I stop and think  
Is this how she'd want us to feel?

The love you gave us without condition  
Then protected us from all that was unknown  
To rise and join a better place  
We'll know as paradise

Wrapped in love  
I'll forge ahead  
Remembering your gifts:  
Live life to the fullest limit  
Surround yourself in nature's beauty  
Wield courage, take life head on  
Stop to wonder at the bounty  
That is the life we are given  
To enjoy each and every moment in  
The paradise on earth we can't explain

**Amy Nye Harris**



**Michael Rogers**



**Daniel Furr**

Melanie Brooke Thompson  
May 11, 1979– February 15, 1999



We thought of you with love today  
But that is nothing new  
And days before that too.  
We think of you in silence,  
We often speak your name;  
All we have now are memories,  
And your picture in a frame,  
Your memory is our keepsake,  
With which we will never part;  
God has you in his keep,  
We have you in our heart.  
It broke our heart to lose you.  
But you didn't go alone,  
For a part of us went with you..  
The day God took you home.  
-Author unknown-

We all love and miss you Melanie  
You are forever in our hearts  
Mommy and Daddy (Hugh and Kathie Thompson)  
Sisters: Trinity, Miranda and Brittany  
Niece: Savannah Brooke  
Nephew: Thomas, Bradley and Sag

Note: Please share a picture of your child so we can include it in our newsletters

**Love Gifts – A Way to Remember**

There are no dues to belong to the Compassionate Friends, because we have already paid the ultimate price; the loss of our loved one (s). A **Love Gift** is a gift of money given in Honor of a child who has died from their family members or as a Memorial from friends. Your gifts are tax deductible and are used to reach out to other bereaved parents, grandparents, and siblings. Your gifts support this newsletter, our TCF Library, Brochures and other Chapter Expenses.

**In Memory of:**

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**From:**

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**TCF of Brevard  
PO Box 304  
Brevard, NC 28712**



*You are not forgotten my child.  
I see you in the creases of my mind and I  
feel you in the chambers of my heart.*

VVA



The Compassionate Friends of Brevard  
PO Box 304  
Brevard, NC 28712

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## February 2012 Newsletter

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### *Our Credo...*

We need not walk alone. We are The Compassionate Friends. We reach out to each other with love, with understanding, and with hope.

The children we mourn have died at all ages and from many different causes, but our love for them unites us. Your pain becomes my pain, just as your hope becomes my hope.

We come together from all walks of life, from many different circumstances. We are a unique family because we represent many races, creeds, and relationships. We are young, and we are old. Some of us are far along in our grief, but others still feel a grief so fresh and so intensely painful that they feel helpless and see no hope.

Some of us have found our faith to be a source of strength, while some of us are struggling to find answers. Some of us are angry, filled with guilt or in deep depression, while others radiate an inner peace. But whatever pain we bring to this gathering of The Compassionate Friends, it is pain we will share, just as we share with each other our love for the children who have died.

We are all seeking and struggling to build a future for ourselves, but we are committed to building a future together. We reach out to each other in love to share the pain as well as the joy, share the anger as well as the peace, share the faith as well as the doubts, and help each other to grieve as well as to grow.

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