

Good Grief NEWS

2622 W. Central - Suite 108, Wichita, KS 67203 Website: www.goodgriefofkansas.org

316-612-0700 April 2018 Email: info@goodgriefofkansas.org

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Can you smell it? Come on, breathe deep. In through your nose . . . The air is changing . . . rebirth and renewal glides around us like transparent layers of peace. The chill is gone and the birds have changed their symphony to one of hope and anticipation. Spring is right around the corner.

So, what should I write about in this season of rebirth that has any tie whatsoever to grief, and loss? Where is the thread that is woven through both issues? Grief is negative and full of hopelessness. Spring is about optimism and joy and . . . Resiliency. Oh. Ohhh. Resiliency, occurrence of rebounding or springing back. I think I've found the correlation. But now what should I do with it? Hmmm. I'll be right back. I need coffee, and maybe so do vou?

Okay. Only two sips of coffee and I know what I want to do. I want to write about grief in its infancy. I want to share some concrete suggestions that may (or may not) help you "rebound or spring back" to a stronger you. I want to give you some basics that can increase your *Resiliency*. We'll call it Grief 101 and we'll have just a few rules for our classroom.

Grief 101

- 1. Don't do anything that feels wrong
- 2. Take as long as you want
- 3. Add new experiences in whatever order you wish
- 4. Be patient with yourself
- 5. Understand that I am only going to give you Chapter 1 of the text. The rest of the book is yours to write.

Okay, are you ready? Feet flat on the floor, attention on the teacher? There goes the bell . . .

Lesson #1

Early in your journey of grief, you may feel as if a cloud has descended into your world. You will feel numb. Your mind will say it's been hurt but your heart will feel as if it has stopped. You may begin wondering if it really happened. You may have blank spots in your memory. Instead of fighting remember and relive the details, let the numbness help you. Let it be. It will be gone soon enough and reality will come crashing in. Allow the denial to protect you while you build up your strength.

Lesson #2

Realize that the pain you feel is as strong as the love you have for your loved one. The obsession with their absence is normal and not something to try to get over or avoid. Your grief is a tool for honoring them. You cannot "not feel" it. You cannot get to the other side of the pain without walking right through the middle. You must feel it until it changes.

Lesson #3

Talk to your loved one. Ask them to help you grieve. Tell them what you are feeling. Close your eyes, picture them in a happy moment and "think it" to them. Even if you do not believe they can hear you, the simple act of conversation should ease your loneliness.

Lesson #4

Write. Write to your loved one, write in a journal, write poems or try automatic writing. Writing is free therapy. The key is to put it on paper. Make it permanent. Take it out of your brain and send it into the world.

By Sandy Goodman - Spring 2009 Bereavement Publications



SCHEDULE OF GROUP MEETINGS FOR THE BEREAVED

Be sure to check the website for any changes to meeting schedules.

Mondays: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

SOUTH WICHITA

Grace Baptist Church – (1414 W Pawnee) Facilitators: Bob & Connie Westerfield

Mondays: 7:15 - 8:45 PM

EAST WICHITA

East Point Church of Christ - (747 N 127th Street E) Go to separate building north of playground Facilitators: Adrienne Massey & Melissa Warnken

Tuesdays: 10:00 - 11:30 AM

CENTRAL WICHITA

RiverWalk Church of Christ - Use South Office Entrance, Fireside Room (225 N Waco)

Facilitators: Marjorie Watkins & Jack Elder

Tuesdays: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

DERBY

Derby Woodlawn United Methodist Church - Room 15E (Woodlawn & Kay St.)

Facilitator: Kathy Thomas & Linda Burris

Tuesdays: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

WEST

WICHITA

Faith Renewal Church (formerly West Towne Baptist) - (2000 N Maize Rd.)

Facilitators: Evelyn Reece, Marsha Huffman, Bonnie Workman

Wednesdays: 7:00 - 8:00 PM

CENTRAL WICHITA

W.A.Y. Widowed and Young (Ages 20's, 30's, 40's, 50's)

Nursery available for infants through age 2. Ages 3 and up welcome to participate

in church Bible classes or teen groups

RiverWalk Church of Christ - Use SW entrance door, Fireside Room (225 N Waco)

Facilitators: Fang Richards & Marsha Huffman

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE LOSS

Mondays: 7:00 - 8:00 PM

CENTRAL WICHITA

RiverWalk Church of Christ - (225 N Waco) Use SW entrance door (door closest to the river). Look for the Good Grief sign on the door. If the door is locked, please knock loudly. Room 106. Please call the facilitators for more information or to make your reservation. This group is for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one through suicide. *Facilitator:* Jim Yoder 316-727-0663

1st and 3rd Monday of each month: 7:00 - 8:00 PM **NEW GROUP** ARK CITY

Mid American Credit Union (1610 N. Summit Street, Arkansas City) – Community Room (north side of credit union). Please call the facilitator for more information or to make your reservation. This group is for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one through suicide.

Facilitator: Kathy Harbert 620-441-7271.

You are welcome to attend any support group of your choice.

It is normal to feel confused, forgetful, crazy, lost and alone, plus a wide range of other emotions.

It may not feel like it just now, but it does get better . . . let us help. Please commit to attend at least three times.

The first two times may be difficult but you will begin to feel a difference in your grieving as you are able to share about your loss and other issues that come along at this time.

You might want to visit several groups until you find the one you feel most comfortable with.

BAD WEATHER POLICY

No group meetings will be held:

Wichita:

If the Emergency Accident Reporting Plan is in effect.

Outside Wichita:

Check with your facilitator.

Never put yourself at risk. If you think the streets are too dangerous to drive on, do not attend the meeting.

OFFICE SUPPLY NEEDS:

Envelopes:

6¾ Security and #10 Std

Pastel Colored Paper:

Cream 8½ x 11, 24 lb

Schedule of Regular Socials:

Thursdays: Breakfast at 9:00 AM IHOP - 11855 E Kellogg Drive

(Hostesses: Cindy Swan, Adrienne Massey)

Saturdays: Breakfast at 10:00 AM
Spears Restaurant - 4823 West Maple

(Hostess: Janet Cook)

Thursdays: Lunch/Brunch at 10:00 AM

Spears Restaurant - 4823 West Maple (Host/Hostess: Chuck & Beth Holdeman)

OR

Country breakfast Café - 2804 S Seneca Street (Hostess: Lois Pardee)



April 2018



	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	All Fool's Day	2 SOSL Wichita 7:00 pm SOSL Ark City 7:00 pm South Group 7:00 pm East Group 7:15 pm	Central Group 10 am Derby Group 7:00 pm West Group 7:00 pm	W.A.Y. Group 7:00 pm	5 Breakfast 9 am IHOP Brunch/Lunch 10 am Spears or Country Café TLC Meeting 5:00 PM	6	7 Breakfast 10 am Spears Restaurant
8		9 SOSL Wichita 7:00 pm >West Group 7:00 pm South Group 7:00 pm East Group 7:15 pm	10 Central Group 10 am Derby Group 7:00 pm <<< West Group - one time move to Monday	W.A.Y. Group 7:00 pm	Breakfast 9 am IHOP Brunch/Lunch 10 am Spears or Country Café	13	14 Breakfast 10 am Spears Restaurant
15		16 SOSL Wichita 7:00 pm SOSL Ark City 7:00 pm South Group 7:00 pm East Group 7:15 pm	Central Group 10 am Derby Group 7:00 pm West Group 7:00 pm Good Grief Board Mtg. 5:00 pm - GG Office	W.A.Y. Group 7:00 pm	19 Breakfast 9 am IHOP Brunch/Lunch 10 am Spears or Country Café	20	21 Breakfast 10 am Spears Restaurant
22	Earth Day	23 SOSL Wichita 7:00 pm South Group 7:00 pm East Group 7:15 pm	24 Central Group 10 am Derby Group 7:00 pm West Group 7:00 pm	W.A.Y. Group 7:00 pm Administrative Professional Day	26 Breakfast 9 am IHOP Brunch/Lunch 10 am Spears or Country Café	27	28 Breakfast 10 am Spears Restaurant
29		30 SOSL Wichita 7:00 pm South Group 7:00 pm East Group 7:15 pm	1 Central Group 10 am Derby Group 7:00 pm West Group 7:00 pm	W.A.Y. Group 7:00 pm	3 Breakfast 9 am IHOP Brunch/Lunch 10 am Spears or Country Café TLC Meeting 5:00 PM	4	5 Breakfast 10 am Spears Restaurant

New Life

He came into my life and touched me gently with his love.

And for a while (too short!) we walked through life together - hand in hand.

And together - we were strong, and happy, and invincible!

The seasons of our love pressed on and together we faced each challenge And the challenge, no matter how great, was divided As we faced it hand in hand.

Then came the ultimate challenge The one that would result in our lives being forever changed

And he faced it bravely,
Holding and comforting me in my pain Knowing that we both were dying Sensing wisely that his pain would end,
But mine would surely continue -

(cont'd on Page 7)

Contributions for last month(s) totaled \$707.00. THANK YOU for your donation which makes it possible for Good Grief of Kansas to continue to serve the bereaved.

March

Contributors:

Gary Appelman
Dave Bloir
Rob & Heidi Bolton
Janet Cunningham
W. H. Ford

Mike Gillihan
(February donation)

Marge Glazier Dara Hoffman

Chuck Holdeman

Marsha Huffman

Ted McMurphy

Marilyn Newkold

Royal Owens

Lois Pardee

Stephanie Parker

Alice Shelton

Jack L Smith

Nancy Vincent

Rodney Wake

Omer M. Wiseman

Memorial tributes and gifts always welcome.

Note: For memorials with a special remembrance date, submit information one month early for timely publication.

Memorial Gifts

In Loving Memory

Jack Shelton

In Loving Memory of my husband Born April 22, 1935 Born April 22, 2017 By Alice Shelton

Carol A. Smith

Love You "Mom"
By Jack L. Smith

Teresa (Wiseman)

Kastning

April 14 - birthday By Omer M. Wiseman

Love Gifts

At this time there are no dues or fees to belong to Good Grief of Kansas. However, your gift is very important. We depend on donations from individuals organizations to meet our program expenses and to keep the Good Grief office Please help make sure open. that others who need Good Grief will hear the message that we can and will help them through their grief. Gifts may be designated in honor or memory of a special individual or occasion. We also appreciate monetary gifts to help with the expense of producing mailing this newsletter.

April Birthdays

Marsha Agard 1
John M. Pool 2
Phyllis Calvert 3
Scott Hoepner 4
Maddy Sanders 4
Michael A. Nolen 5
Robert A. Nolen 5
Janet Nottingham 5
Debbie Selsor 8
Natalee Turner 9
Amy Rich 10
Paulette Traffas11
Tina Jonker 16
Jamie Jayne 18
Jennifer Nguyen 21
John Huebert 23
Debbie Rasmussen 26
Jody Hysom27



Memorial Balloon Release

and Walk (optional)

May 19, 2018 - Starting 10:00 AM RiverWalk Church of Christ

(225 N. Waco - Wichita, KS)

You are welcome to walk along the Wichita River Walk.

Access to the path is by the church.

Remember loved ones and support Good Grief of Kansas.

Family, friends, and special support people are welcome to come and participate with you.

- Write a message to your loved one on the balloon(s) to be released. Balloons will be provided, donations appreciated.
- Use the Pledge sheet to collect tax-deductible donations for Good Grief of Kansas.
- Make a tax-deductible donation in memory of your loved one.
- Make a tax-deductible donation (suggested \$10.00) for a Memorial Marker to be displayed on Memory Lane along the access path from the church. Please provide memorial information to be displayed on an 8 1/2 x 11 laminated sign. (Example: Picture of loved one, special verse, poem or inscription.)

** SUBMIT MEMORIAL MARKER PICTURE AND INFORMATION BY MAY 10, 2018 **

Email Memorial Marker items to the email address shown below or give to your group facilitator.

If you already have a prepared Memorial Marker, give it to your facilitator prior to May 19th.

Need additional information call Good Grief of Kansas office (316) 612-0700 or email: info@goodgriefofkansas.org

Monies are to be collected and turned in the day of the Release/Walk. Receipts for donations are available the day of the Release/Walk.

Riverwalk Church of Christ 225 N Waco, Wichita, KS May 19, 2018 10:00 A.M.

Participant Name

							_
Pd	3						
Amount						\$	
In memory of						Total Pledge \$	
Address							
Donor Name							

Balloon Release and Walk start at 10:00 am Make tax-deductible donation payable to Good Grief of Kansas, Inc. 2622 W Central Ave, Suite 108 Good Grief of Kansas, Inc Wichita, Kansas 67203 (316) 612-0700 CINNAMON ROLL & coffee/juice - \$3.00 at 9:30 am

www.goodgriefofkansas.org



(cont'd from Page 3)

Then darkness covered us And in the darkness his hand left mine.
And at that moment
We both faced death -

And my silent scream of terror and pain was not so much because he had died,
But because, for the first time since our lives had touched,
We were no longer hand in hand!

The winter has been long and dark and deep And though the seasons changed for others,
The winter raged on for me gray and drab and cold For I walked in death among the living.

But, as the tiny crocus pushes up shyly through the snow,
So my spirit stirs to life again.
I see new life around me and I join it.

And as the pain of my rebirth subsides
I face new life with confidence Not with bitterness and anger because I lost him But with gratitude and joy Because I had him!

He came into my life
And touched me gently with his love.
And though he passed this way but briefly The world seems better somehow
For his having passed through it!

And my life, forever changed,
Moves on into a new phase Bolstered by the memory of his love and strengthened by the power of his spirit!



By Mary Ann Streitmatter

DILLONS COMMUNITY REWARDS

Dillons Plus Card Instructions

Step 1: Go online to www.dillons.com

Step 2: (If you already have an online account

please go to instruction below.)

Click on Community/then Community Rewards. Click on Create Account, enter email address and password, select preferred store, then click on create account at the bottom of the page.

Step 3: Add Dillons Plus Shoppers Card - Enter the 12 digit number from the back of your Dillons Plus Card or alternate phone number and your last name, then click on save.

Step 4: This will bring up Account Summary page, scroll to bottom of page and at Community Rewards, Click Edit button.

Step 5: You will be asked your organization number enter 10192 or Goo to see organization name, select, then click on "enroll to complete your enrollment". You are done! Every time you use your Dillons card, your total \$\$'s will be credited to Good Grief of Kansas. Ask your friends & family to select us too!

Already have a Dillons Account?

Step 1: Go online to www.dillons.com

Step 2: Click on Community/then Community Rewards

Step 3: Sign In - enter email and password, then enroll now.

Step 4: You will be asked your organization number enter 10192 or Goo to see organization name, select, then click on "enroll to complete your enrollment". You are done! Every time you use your Dillons card, your total \$\$'s will be credited to Good Grief of Kansas. Ask your friends & family to select us too!

If you have any problems, please call the Good Grief office and leave a message. More details may be found on the Good Grief website.

I Want To Help Suppor	rt Good Grief of Kansas
Enclosed is a memorial gift in memory of (Name)	
Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift in the amount of \$	MANONIVACUE DI FACE
Enclosed is my monthly support of:	ANONYMOUS PLEASE
\$20 \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$	I would like more information
Send Memorial acknowledgment to:	My phone # is ()
Name	My Name
Address	Address
City State 7in	City, State, Zip



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Attention: Amazon shoppers!

Good Grief of Kansas is registered with Amazon Smile. Here's the link. http://smile.amazon.com/ch/48-1134597

www.goodgriefofkansas.org

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Mission Statement:

Good Grief of Kansas provides grief support for persons who have lost a loved one through death. 316-612-0700

Program Outreach:

- Widowed Support Group
- Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Groups
- Other Adult Family Loss Support (parent/child)
- Social Support
- Seminars/Workshops
- Community Presentations
- Counseling Referrals

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call 316-612-0700 or email your name and address as it appears on your mailing label to info@goodgriefofkansas.org and put "remove from mailing" in the subject line.

Newsletters may be viewed on-line by going to www.goodgriefofkansas.org.

Good Grief News

Good Grief of Kansas is a TAX EXEMPT non-profit 501(c)(3) organization funded by:

• Memorials, Gifts & Donations

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