

"There is no footprint so small that it does not leave an imprint on this world."

Website

www.emilias-wings.org

Our website includes different materials which we hope will provide support on your journey through grief and healing. We offer a variety of resources including eBooks, list of supporting organizations, reading material, music selections, and more.

Be sure to check out our Forget-Me-Not page, an online memorial dedicated to the children that live on in our hearts.

Facebook

facebook.com/EmiliasWings/

Stay up-to-date on projects, special events, and programs by liking us on Facebook!

Contact Us

info@emilias-wings.org

You need not walk alone. Together we can make it! Feel free to reach out by email.



February 2023 Newsletter

We welcome you all to Emilia's Wings! To all who are newly bereaved, we know how devastated you are. You are not alone in your grief. We have been in the depths of despair and we are here to help you with unconditional love and understanding. We hope this newsletter will help you while you navigate grief and provide additional resources on your journey. If you know someone who would find our resources helpful, please direct them to our website at www.emilias-wings.org and to our KC Hope monthly meetings.

January in Review

Due to an extensive amount of damage sustained at Good Shepherd from a bursted sprinkler pipe, KC HOPE met last month at Panera Bread for an informal gathering. Topic of discussion was getting to know one another and sharing our individual stories.

Members also participated in our First Annual Burning Bowl.

DATES & EVENTS

KC Hope

February 1st @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Kansas City Northland Support Group - Meetings are held every first Wednesday of each month.

Good Shepherd Church 9555 N Oak Trafficway Kansas City, MO 64155

Soul Sisters

February 25th @ 9:00am-2:00pm

We live in the world, but we don't have to be so well-adjusted to it – fitting into culture without even thinking. When we fix our attention on God, we can be changed from the inside out. Join other women for a Good Shepherd, Soul Sisters event and enjoy worship, fun activities, different speakers, and a time to renew your mind! The cost is \$25 (lunch included.) Register Here.

Let Charmel know if you plan to attend to arrange seating.

OTHER

Donations

-Donations can be sent & made payable to Emilia's Wings at: 10637 N. Holmes St. Kansas City, MO 64155 The New Year is a wonderful time to choose what we will carry into the future and what we are better off without. Some of us may be carrying the heavy burdens of guilt, fear, anxiety, anger,



depression, jealousy, or other emotions that prevent us from living life to its fullest. The burning bowl offered us all the opportunity to release that which no longer serves us, so that we could begin 2023 free of old burdens.

For those who would like to do their own burning bowl at home,

simply write down on a piece of paper what is keeping you from finding the peace and joy in your life. Light a candle and place the piece of paper into the flames. The purpose of the burning bowl is to release those burdens into the flames and leave them as past memories of 2022.



Looking Toward February

Please join us at Good Shepherd for our February Gathering. The month of February has long been associated with hearts, love, and friendship. But how do we share love throughout the month when our hearts feel so empty without our babies in our arms? Join us as we dive into the topic "Microchimerism" and how each of us truly do still hold a piece of our children deep within our own hearts.

Bereaved Presidents

Did you know that twenty-six of our 45 presidents and their wives were or are bereaved parents to at least one of their children? Our sixteenth president, Abraham Lincoln, lost two sons during his lifetime. Edward (4 years old) and William (11 years old), while President Lincoln was in office.

He wrote, "In this sad world of ours, sorrow comes to all... It comes with bitterest agony. Perfect relief is not possible except with time. You cannot realize that you will ever feel better... and yet this is a mistake. You are sure to be happy again. To know this, which is certainly true, will make you some less miserable now. I have experienced enough to know what I say."

The president's wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, unable to cope with the assassination of her husband and the death of yet another son, Thomas (18 years old) was confined to a sanitarium. Although she was released after a few months, she was never to be truly well again.

In honor of Presidents Day (February 20th) we pay tribute to all of our US Presidents. We especially hold close to our hearts, all past and current Presidents who have experienced a loss we all know too well... the devastating loss of a child. To read more about the fascinating lives of some of these extraordinary, bereaved figures; check out the following link: <u>GRIEF IN THE WHITE HOUSE</u>.

Excerpt from "GRIEF IN THE WHITE HOUSE"

"Many bereaved parents find that the loss of a child shifts their priorities. They seek meaning in life, with all that such a search entails. They also experience a new perspective on what they value: life's transience seems more immediate; relationships more vital. These presidents show us a few of the many forms grief can take. Theodore Roosevelt was crippled with guilt; Calvin Coolidge discovered new priorities; George H. W. Bush and Dwight Eisenhower found ways to go on, though never to forget; Abraham Lincoln demonstrated how sorrow and compassion can save a people and heal a nation." -David Bannon, 2020

The following link lists all of our bereaved presidents and a brief description of their unique losses:

US Bereaved Presidents

We extend our most sincere sympathy to those who have recently lost a child.

Please know that we are thinking of you and share in your hurt and sorrow

This February we Remember...

Nicholas Daniel Burford - February 2, 1993
Baby Miller - February 9, 2020
Weeder Baby #2 - February 10, 2017
Alexis Marie Lee - February 14, 2020
Scarlett Mae Badgett - February 16, 2016
Korbyn Henry Mercer - February 19, 2016
Baby Mueller - February 21, 2020
Baby Corbett - February 23, 2008
Erica Spring Boenker - February 24, 1980
Baby Clough - February 25, 2021
Baby Barnes - February 27, 2013

To have your baby's name added to our remembrance list, please fill out the Forget-Me-Not submission form on our website. This form can be found on our <u>Forget-Me-Not</u> page.



A Valentine's Day Wish - by Wayne Loder

How I wish I could bring your child back to you for Valentine's Day - 24 hours you could spend telling your child of your love.

But, alas, we are doomed to spend another Valentine's Day without our beloved children. Others who have not lost a child tend to take for granted these very special days. A card that says, "I love you, Mom & Dad," should be carefully folded and saved in a special place. All too many parents consider these cards to be renewable commodities. "There's no need to save this one - we'll always get another one next year." For many of us, next year came and there was no card.

Tears of sadness have replaced tears of joy on this special day. But for many of us, the memories remain of those Valentine's Days gone by. Because our child's love remains with us, our child will never truly be gone.

This year on Valentine's Day, let us shed tears of joy that we had even a short time with our child - for that, no matter how short, can never be taken from us.