

November 2017

Whispers of the Heart Newsletter



IRIS INFANTS REMEMBERED IN SILENCE

Celebrating Our 30th Anniversary in 2017

218 NW 3rd Ave.

Faribault, MN 55021

Phone: (507) 334-4748

e-mail: support@irisRemembers.com

www.irisRemembers.org

Offering parents, families, friends and professionals support, education and resources on the death of a child in early pregnancy, or from premature birth, stillbirth, neo-natal death, birth defects, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), illness, accidents, and all other types of infant and early childhood death.

2017 Board Members

Leif & Natalie Crooks - Faribault
Denise Gillen - Northfield
Anna Kettering - Faribault
Chris Petricka - Kenyon
Michelle Priebe - Waseca

Founder and Executive Director

Diana Kelley

Founded in 1987



24th Annual

IRIS

Holiday Service of Remembrance

You, your family, and friends are invited to attend this special service.

December 3, 2017

2 PM

**Chapel of the Good Shepherd
On Shattuck Campus
1000 Shumway Ave
Faribault, MN**

The IRIS Holiday Service is designed to help you start the holiday season by remembering and honoring your child. If you would like to have your child listed in the keepsake program please complete the enclosed form.

Also enclosed is information on the custom made Stained Glass Ornament/sun catcher and Holiday Service Poinsettia order form.

**It's NOT too late to Join us!
You can register at the IRIS Turkey Trot
Early Check-in and On Thanksgiving Day!**



9th Annual

IRIS Turkey Trot

Thanksgiving Morning

November 23, 2017

Faribault Middle School

704 17th St. SW, Faribault, MN

Check-in and Registration

November 22nd from 4pm - 6:30pm

November 23th 7am - 8am

Event Times:

7:50 am - Line Up Kids Events

8:20 am - 5K & 10K Line Up

8:30 am - 10K Timed Run

8:35 am - 5K Timed Run

8:40 am - 5K Walk

It's not too late to join in,
It's not too late to create a team,
It's not too late to donate to a team,
It's not too raise funds for a great cause.
This is IRIS's largest fundraiser
And we would love to have you
Be a part of it!



Heaven's Rocking Chair

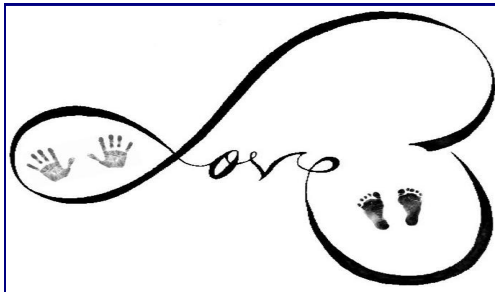
© Ron Tranmer

Are there rocking chairs in Heaven where little babies go?
Do the angels hold you closely and rock you to and fro?

Do they talk silly baby talk to get a smile or two,
and sing the sleepy lullabies I used to sing to you?

My heart is aching for you,
my angel child so dear.
You brought such joy into my life,
the short time you were here.

I know you're in a happy place,
and in God's loving care.
I dream each night I'm rocking you in Heaven's rocking chair.





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2017 IRIS Holiday Service Of Remembrance



The Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc. (IRIS) Holiday Service of Remembrance has been held annually since 1993. We all know that the holidays are a very special time for children, and seem to be geared for them, but as a parent whose child has died, how do we navigate the holidays?

The IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance is a very unique service that can help with the emotions, fears, frustrations, and anxiety of the season. Many parents who attend have stated "I need to remember and honor my child first, so that I can survive the holidays." You are encouraged to attend the service and are welcome to invite your family and friends to attend with you. This special service will be held on:

Sunday December 3, 2017
2 pm
Chapel of the Good Shepherd
Shattuck Campus
1000 Shumway Ave. Faribault, MN

The IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance is designed by and for parents, family, and friends who have experienced or been touched by the death of a child in early pregnancy (miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, etc.) or from stillbirth, premature birth, neonatal death, birth defects, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), sudden unexplained death of a child (SUDC), illness, accidents and all other types of infant or early childhood death. Everyone is welcome regardless of how long ago the child died or the cause of death. Those attending are encouraged to participate by decorating the chapel windows, reading poems, providing music, and/or bringing treats for the reception that follows the service.

Having Your Child Remembered



If you would like to have a child/children remembered during the candle lighting part of the service, please complete the enclosed form and return to the IRIS office by November 19th.

Names that are received after the 19th will be listed on an insert. Remember you must submit the name every year.

Decorating Chapel Windows



Decorating the Chapel Windows has become a very special tradition of the IRIS Holiday Service. You are encouraged to bring any keepsake items that you would like to display in the windows. You will be in charge of placing your child's/children's keepsakes in a window and clearing the area when the reception is over. Suggested items for window displays include: scrapbooks, blankets, pictures, poems, small Christmas Tree and other holiday items, etc. There will be volunteers on hand to answer questions and help you however they can. No flames or water allowed in the displays. Due to the magnitude of this project, IRIS will not be able to return items sent to us. Everyone is welcome to visit the displays during the reception that follows the service.

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd will open at 12 noon for anyone wishing to come early and setup window keepsake displays.



Your Participation Is Needed

One of the things that make the Holiday Service so very special is the participation of parents, family and friends. We would love to have your help with the reading of poems, singing, playing an instrument, reading a scripture, decorating the chapel windows, and/or providing treats for the reception that follows the service. You will find signup information on the registration form. Please help make this a very special service by sharing your time and talents.



Memorial Poinsettias

IRIS will again be selling poinsettias. Poinsettias will be labeled and delivered to the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. You will be able to take them home following the reception. If you would like to order a poinsettia for yourself or as a gift for family and friends please fill out the Holiday Service Registration Form and return it to the IRIS office by November 19th.

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Sharing Information on the Holiday Service



Please feel free to share the information on the Holiday Service Remembrance with others. You are welcome and encouraged to invite your family and friends to the service as well as other bereaved parents. If you would like you are welcome to ask your local churches, newspapers, TV and radio stations to run information about the service.

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Siblings and Children at the Holiday Service

This is a difficult topic to approach, and it brings up many emotions for everyone involved. Because of concerns voiced in previous years, parents with children under the age of 6 years of age are lovingly requested to sit in the back of the chapel close to the restroom and exit. Children who can Sit Quietly for two (2) hours are welcome to attend the service. Out of consideration and compassion for other grieving parents, you are asked to take children out of the Chapel if they are crying, talking, making noise of any kind, disrupting others in any manner or are restless. If you have questions, concerns or would like to discuss the issue please call Diana at the IRIS office 507-334-4748.



“Heavenly Notes”

“Heavenly Notes”[®] are letters or ... “notes” written to your precious child and placed in the sleigh basket, located by the altar, at the IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance.

“Heavenly Notes”[®] are never read by anyone, you are free to say or express whatever you like. Following the service, notes are burned and the ashes scattered at the IRIS House/Office in the Memorial Garden and by the Bronze Angel.

Because “Heavenly Notes”[®] program is so well received we are opening it up to everyone around the world. If you are unable to attend the IRIS Holiday Service of Remembrance you, your family, and friends are invited to write a Heavenly Note and mail it to:

“Heavenly Notes”
Infants Remembered In Silence
218 3rd Ave. NW
Faribault, MN 55021

Stained Glass Star Ornament Sun-catcher



IRIS is currently taking orders for this year's Holiday Ornament Sun-catcher. These unique Stained Glass items are one of a kind and 100% custom made by Jim Pichner. This years ornament is a Star made from Clear Bubbles glass. Your Star can be personalized with a name, date(s), message, symbol etc. or left natural. Personalization, on etched glass will dangle off of the stars low point. All Orders "Received" by 5 pm on **November 19th** will be available for pick up at the December 3rd Holiday Service of Remembrance. Orders "received" between November 19th and December 4th, will be available for pick-up or will be delivery by Christmas. Order Online at: www.irisRemembers.org OR mail form with fee to: IRIS, 218 3rd Ave. NW Faribault, MN 55021. Provide the following for each star:

Personalization/Symbol - Line 1

Personalization/Symbol - Line 2

Personalization/Symbol - Line 3



Holiday Service of Remembrance Poinsettias

Poinsettias are \$16 each, and are available in Red or White. You are welcome to order as many as you like. You are welcome to take them with you following the Holiday Service, pick up at the IRIS Office, or have IRIS donated your poinsettia. Please provide the name you would like on each poinsettia.

Names for Card: _____ Red White

Names for Card: _____ Red White

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Item	Qty	Price (Tax included)	Extended Price
Stained Glass Star		\$19.97	
RED - Poinsettia		\$14.97	
WHITE - Poinsettia		\$14.97	
		Shipping - \$10 per Star Ornament (optional)	
		Donation	
		Total Due	

Return with payment to IRIS 218 3rd Ave. NW Faribault MN 55021 or order online (checks made payable to IRIS)

Notes, Special Instructions, etc:

2017 Holiday Service of Remembrance Registration Form



To have a child's name listed in the program, please have this form to the IRIS office by November 19, 2017 at 5 pm. Mail, email, or drop off at the IRIS office.
(address: 218 Third Ave. NW, Faribault MN 55021 - email: support@irisRemembers.com)

Names received after 5 pm on November 19th will be listed on a program insert. Names will be accepted through the start of the Service on December 3rd.

Names are NOT held over from year to year. You must submit names every year.

Parents Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

- I / We will be attending this year's service. Family & friends are welcome.
- I / We will bringing pictures, keepsakes and / or holiday items to decorate the chapel windows ~ Highly Encouraged
No flames or water please
- I / We would like to take part in the Holiday Service of Remembrance by:
 - Reading a poem, letter of scripture, etc.
 - Singing or playing an instrument
 - Donating a Christmas Ornament in memory of my child for the IRIS Christmas Tree
Bring an ornament with your child's name and dates on it and place on the tree at the service.
Ornaments will be used yearly at the Holiday Service & at the IRIS House during the holiday season
 - Bring Treats to share during reception that follows service
 - Help with Set up on Saturday December 2nd at 1 pm
 - Help with Clean up on Sunday December 3trd following the service
 - Other/Suggestions welcome: _____

- I / We would like to have the following child / children remembered during the service.

Child's full name	Phonetic pronunciation
Child's full name	Phonetic pronunciation
Child's full name	Phonetic pronunciation
Child's full name	Phonetic pronunciation
Child's full name	Phonetic pronunciation

Suggestions, Notes and Comments welcome:

Angel Donations In Loving Memory Of:



- ❖ Alex Michael Buenger
- ❖ Allison Mary Prechel
- ❖ Payton Lee Prechel
- ❖ Andrew Hughes
- ❖ Michael Hughes
- ❖ Angel Love
- ❖ Aubrey Dozark
- ❖ Carolyn Dozark
- ❖ Baby A & Baby B Hedberg
- ❖ Baby Evert
- ❖ Baby K.
- ❖ Baby K.
- ❖ Baby Kaderlik & Mommy Suzy
- ❖ Baby Singamsetty
- ❖ Blake Wilson
- ❖ Brielle Marie Trcka
- ❖ Britty Sauer
- ❖ Cameron Gentz
- ❖ Cameron Lee Allen
- ❖ Catherine Rose Allen
- ❖ Chance Louks
- ❖ Daniel James Piepho
- ❖ Daniel Robert Novak
- ❖ Derek Albert Lisowski
- ❖ Derek Joseph Sundwall
- ❖ Baby Culhane
- ❖ Baby Culhane
- ❖ Ethan Patrick Culhane
- ❖ Kaden Patrick Culhane
- ❖ Garrett Robert Sterling
- ❖ Grace Sammon Johnson
- ❖ Grace Reker
- ❖ Griffin Jon Velishek
- ❖ Gwendolyn Gail Griep
- ❖ Laura Ruth Griep
- ❖ Gwendolyn Ruth Melton
- ❖ Isaiah Elzen & his mother Angie
- ❖ Jacob Donald Peterson
- ❖ Jacob Lynn Slama
- ❖ John Paul Slama
- ❖ Jake Michael Schaffran
- ❖ James Brown IV
- ❖ Jayden Anne Krohn
- ❖ Jessica Leigh Tutewohl
- ❖ Jessica Lynn Jandro
- ❖ Joshua Daniel Neubauer
- ❖ Joseph Thomas Markman
- ❖ Karl Hermanson



- ❖ Kayden James Horak-Federly
- ❖ Keene
- ❖ Kol Michael Culligan
- ❖ Little K.
- ❖ Lizzy Sammon Dienst
- ❖ Logan O'Connor
- ❖ Taylor O'Connor
- ❖ Michael Mathews
- ❖ My 2 Precious Children
- ❖ My Niece/Nephew
- ❖ My Precious Baby
- ❖ My Precious Grandbaby
- ❖ Noah Ethan Priebe
- ❖ Samuel Ethan Priebe
- ❖ Our Angels
- ❖ Olivia Riley Glende
- ❖ Tyson William Glende
- ❖ Lily Grace Glende
- ❖ Samantha Ann Waldner
- ❖ Sara Connelly-Jones
- ❖ Sara Jane Murray
- ❖ Stella Finley Grace Sauerbrey
- ❖ Steven Michael Toothe
- ❖ Baby Girl Fiorina
- ❖ Susan Grace's 3 Angels
- ❖ Sweet Angel
- ❖ Sweet Grand Angel
- ❖ Sydney Pfeffer
- ❖ Victoria Ann Graves
- ❖ Wendy Morrison
- ❖ Weston Bradley Germenson
- ❖ Wyatt Michael Bauer
- ❖ Helen & Mark Kelley
- ❖ Barb & Dick Thorson
- ❖ Dorothy & Bob Thorson
- ❖ Our Father, Jim Kittleson
- ❖ Our Mother, Karleene Adams



Donations Received From

- ❖ Wing Pin Donations
- ❖ Miniature Statue Sales
- ❖ Allina Health - In honor of the Birth Center Nurses and Staff at Faribault District One Hospital and Owatonna Hospital
- ❖ Logistics Health Inc. of employee Angie Sundwall and her Volunteer Hours to IRIS
- ❖ St. Johns United Church of Christ Sunday School - Faribault
- ❖ Owatonna VFW Volunteers
- ❖ In honor of our new Godchild
- ❖ Mary & Steve Frost - Bruzek Funeral Home - New Prague, MN In Loving Memory of All the Children
- ❖ Kari & Scott Boldt - Boldt Funeral Home - Faribault, MN
- ❖ Suzy's Smile Shines Golf Tournament
- ❖ Friends of IRIS
- ❖ Faribault Moose Lodge #2098
- ❖ In Memory of all the Children I have worked with as an OB and NICU Nurse
- ❖ Anonymous "I hope others are as touched by this beautiful Angel as I am"
- ❖ Gallery on the Go
- ❖ Upper East Side
- ❖ Many Anonymous Donations



Angel Arrives at the IRIS House on October 12, 2017

The "A Parents Love Never Dies" Committee has spent many hours fundraising and planning for the installation, delivery, and dedication of the "I Knew You In The Womb" bronze statue by World Rewound Canadian Sculpture Timothy Schmalz. "The "I Knew You In The Womb" statue that was commissioned by IRIS in the fall of 2016 is the first such statue west of the Mississippi River, the second in the United States, and is the third in the world." said Diana Kelley IRIS Founder and Executive Director. "The Committee is still working on fundraising because we have a lot left to do. We have gardens to complete, lighting and benches to be installed, etc." If you would like to make a donation in memory of a child or loved one please visit the IRIS website: www.irisRemembers.org for details and donation levels.

Special Thank You To:

- ❖ Sculpture by Timothy Schmalz - a man who's talent and design have left us all breathless

To those who helped with the Dedication:

- ❖ Pastor Jan Bodin - Congressional Church
- ❖ Pastor Deb Braun - Congressional Church
- ❖ Father Henry Doyle - Shattuck Saint Mary's School
- ❖ Fr. Matthew Northenscold - Divine Mercy Catholic Church
- ❖ Todd Markman - read names
- ❖ Maria Markman - sang
- ❖ Jackie Slama & Daughters - Poem & chimed hand bells
- ❖ Diana Kelley
- ❖ Fette Production - sound
- ❖ City of Faribault
- ❖ Connie DeGroot & Kathy Hallanger
- ❖ First English Church - Park for Ballon Release
- ❖ Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior - Church Bells
- ❖ Congressional Church - Church Bells
- ❖ Images 4 Life Photography - Laura Knopik
- ❖ Mums of MN - Jody & George Chappuis
- ❖ Sheri Velishek - Treats
- ❖ Design Specialties
- ❖ Treadway Graphics - Kristen Koch

To those who helped with the angel Installation:

- ❖ Church Groups from Faribault and Owatonna,
- ❖ YWCA Camp Youth
- ❖ Heselton Construction
- ❖ Faribault Rental
- ❖ BioWood mulch - Faribault
- ❖ Sheriff Troy Dunn & Rice County Sheriff's Department
- ❖ Jimmy O'Connor, Andy Sundwall, Gunner Olson, Matt Schlegel, Troy Dunn, and Seco Varani, and who physically moved and placed 800+ pound Angel

Others:

- ❖ Everyone who have made and continue to make donations to this breathtaking statue and gardens.
- ❖ MLoved Designs - Heidi Meier - wing pins

A Parents Love Never Dies Committee:

- ❖ A Parent's Love Never Dies Committee Members:
Ciera Federly - Chairperson, Brianna & Ryan Prechel - Product Sales, Lori Jo Markman - Thank You Notes, Beth & Nick Dienst - Instillation, Holly Caudillo - Secretary
Laura O'Connor - PR, Diana Kelley - Treasurer and PR, Rachel Concannon, Laura Knopik - Photography, Jackie Slama, Sheri Velishek, Gwen Culhane, Ashley & Charles Branchaud, and Shelly Jensen-Germundson.



Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc. (IRIS)

218 3rd Ave. NW
Faribault, MN 55021
www.irisRemembers.org

In This Newsletter:

♥ **IRIS 30th Anniversary**

♥ **Bronze Statue For IRIS House**

The best gift you can give me this Christmas is remembering and missing my child with me.



IRIS
Holiday Service of Remembrance
December 3, 2017
2 PM
Chapel of the Good Shepherd
Shattuck Campus
1000 Shumway Ave.
Faribault, MN

Today I caught a star

It reminded me of you...

It made me wonder how you are,
and if you're thinking of me too.

I see lots of stars on Christmas trees,
but none can shine as bright,
as the shimmer of love that
dwells in my heart

From the memory of your light.....

God

placed a **star** in the sky tonight,

and He named it after you.

He gave it **life** and light to **shine**,

To remind me, you're thinking of

me, too.

Casey Dairon