



**The  
Compassionate  
Friends**  
*of Brushy Creek*  
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

**November 2025**

Our next in-person meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

*Location:*

Christ Lutheran Church

510 Luther Drive. Georgetown, TX. 78628

PH: 512-966-8139 Email: [TCFBrushyCreek@gmail.com](mailto:TCFBrushyCreek@gmail.com)

*(If you have problems finding us, call 512-966-1651)*



**The Compassionate Friends**  
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Light a candle for all  
children who have died

**Worldwide  
Candle  
Lighting®**

*... that their light  
may always shine.*

**Sunday, December 14, 2025  
7 PM Around the Globe**



The Compassionate Friends of Brushy Creek  
YOU NEED NOT WALK ALONE; WE ARE THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

## **Welcome**

We, of the Brushy Creek Chapter of The Compassionate Friends, offer you a warm welcome. Our in-person meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.

The Compassionate Friends is a mutual assistance, self-help organization offering friendship, understanding and hope to bereave families. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child at any time, of any age, from any cause is welcome. Our meetings give an opportunity to families to talk about their feelings as they go through the grieving process. The purpose of this support group is not the cause of death but rather to focus on being a bereaved parent, sibling, or grandparent. There is no religious affiliation. There are no membership dues.

## **The Mission of The Compassionate Friends**

When a child dies, at any age, the family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated. Compassionate Friends provides highly personal comfort, hope, and support to every family experiencing the death of a son or a daughter, a brother or a sister, or a grandchild, and helps others better assist the grieving family.

## **To Our New Members**

We recognize that it takes great courage to come to the first meeting, whether you are a bereaved parent, sibling, or grandparent of one month or many years. Please don't be afraid to come to a meeting. You are welcome to bring a friend or relative for moral support if you wish. Nothing is asked of you. You will find that it is alright to cry, laugh, share how you feel, or listen. You do not have to talk at a meeting if you do not want to. We welcome your participation, but it is not a requirement. To be fair to yourself, please consider attending at least three meetings before you decide whether TCF is right for you.

## **To Our Members Further Down The “Grief Road”**

Each meeting will have new parents, siblings, and grandparents. **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.” We welcome your presence and support!

## **Information Regarding Our Meetings**

This is **YOUR** group, and we are here to support each other. Everyone in the room has walked the path you are on now. We hope you will find our meetings and newsletters to be a comfort and a place where you find hope.

## Monthly Topic for Discussion

As we cover these subjects, some points may be made to help you cope a little better.  
We are open to suggestions for additional subjects you might like to see discussed.

**November** – Potluck Memories (A Guide to Celebrate Thanksgiving)

**December** – Candle Lighting Ceremony

**January** - How grief affects future plans, values, and daily life.

**February** – Taking care of your health during grief.



So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. – *John 16:22*



## ***Birth Date***

Jake  
Jake  
Jake  
Zoey  
Dustin  
Shawn  
William  
William  
Clay  
Valerie  
Valerie  
Han

*Son of*  
*Son of*  
*Brother of*  
*Daughter of*  
*Son of*  
*Son of*  
*Son of*  
*Stepson of*  
*Son of*  
*Daughter of*  
*Niece of*  
*Grandson of*

Rebecca  
Riley  
Kate  
Donna  
Shirley  
Charlotte  
Torreon  
Elisa  
Alissa & Lance  
Leonard  
Sally  
Bonnie Hinckle





## ***Angel Date***

Henry  
Taylor  
David  
Hannah  
Zoey  
Jesse  
Brendan  
Nathan

*Son of*  
*Daughter of*  
*Son of*  
*Daughter of*  
*Son of*  
*Son of*  
*Son of*

Lourdes  
Rebecca  
Suzy  
Angelga & Roger  
Donna  
Catherine  
Gene  
Toni



## A Message for November

As autumn deepens and the air grows cooler, November invites us to pause, remember, and reflect. For many of us who grieve, this season brings mixed emotions — memories of holidays past, gratitude for love shared, and the ache of absence that never fully fades.

The Compassionate Friends community reminds us that grief and gratitude can coexist. While our hearts may carry sorrow, we also carry the deep love that binds us eternally to those we have lost. May this month be one of gentle remembrance and quiet peace.

---

### Article 1: The Bittersweet Month of November

November is often described as the month of gratitude, yet for those grieving the loss of a loved one, it can also be a month of longing. Thanksgiving gatherings, family photos, and traditions can highlight the empty chair at the table and the silence where laughter once filled the room.

Grief during this season may bring guilt — guilt for feeling joy or gratitude, or guilt for not feeling thankful enough. It's important to remember: gratitude does not erase grief. Both can live together in our hearts.

Try to honor your loved one this season through small acts of remembrance:

- **Light a candle** before a meal and speak their name aloud.
- **Share a story** about them—keep their memory woven into family life.
- **Write a gratitude list** that includes what their life taught you or what love remains.

Each moment of remembrance becomes a bridge between love and loss, between the past and the present.

---

### Article 2: Preparing for the Holidays After Loss

The holidays can magnify grief, no matter how long it has been. Planning ahead can help ease emotional stress and create space for healing.

#### **1. Give yourself permission to feel.**

There's no right or wrong way to grieve during the holidays. Allow your emotions — whether sadness, joy, anger, or numbness — to flow naturally.

#### **2. Simplify traditions.**

You don't have to do everything the same as before. Choose what feels comforting and release what feels too heavy. Some families create a new ritual, such as placing a photo or ornament in memory of their loved one.

### 3. Communicate your needs.

Let family and friends know what you are comfortable with. You might prefer a quiet evening instead of a large gathering this year.

### 4. Seek support.

Attend a Compassionate Friends meeting, join an online support group, or talk with someone who understands. Being with others who “get it” can make the holidays more bearable.

---

## Article 3: Gratitude as a Gentle Healing Practice

While gratitude can feel impossible in deep grief, it can also be a quiet guide toward light. Gratitude doesn't deny pain — it helps us notice moments of grace even within sorrow.

Try this simple practice:

- Each night, write down one thing — big or small — that brought comfort today. It could be a kind word, a memory, a sunset, or a friend's call.
- Over time, these moments collect like stars in a dark sky, small points of light that remind us healing is not forgetting — it's learning to see love through the shadows.

---

## Grief Quote of the Month

“Gratitude doesn't eliminate grief; it softly reminds us of what still remains — love.”  
— *Unknown*

---

## November Grief Prayer

### A Prayer for Thanksgiving and Remembrance

Dear Lord,

As the leaves fall and the seasons turn, we pause to remember those we love who are no longer at our table.

Thank You for the gift of their lives — for the laughter, the lessons, and the love they gave. Though our hearts ache, we are grateful for the time we shared and for the bond that even death cannot break.

Grant us peace in the quiet moments, strength in the sorrow, and hope for the days ahead. May gratitude and grief walk gently hand in hand this season.

Amen.

---

## Resources for November

### 1. The Compassionate Friends – Coping with the Holidays

<https://www.compassionatefriends.org>

Helpful articles and webinars about navigating grief during the holiday season.

### 2. What's Your Grief: Holiday Grief Support Series

<https://whatsyourgrief.com>

Guides, journaling prompts, and podcasts for those facing emotional challenges during November and December.

### 3. GriefShare Holiday Survival Guide

<https://www.griefshare.org/holidays>

Tips for managing gatherings, expectations, and emotional triggers.

### 4. Book of the Month: *Bearing the Unbearable* by Joanne Cacciatore. A compassionate and poetic guide to living with grief while finding meaning and connection.

---

## Closing Reflection

As November unfolds, may we give ourselves permission to rest, remember, and find gratitude not in the absence of pain but in the enduring presence of love. The ones we grieve are forever part of who we are — their light continues to shine through our acts of kindness, remembrance, and compassion.

---

## December Information

Every month, we have a chapter meeting on the second Tuesday, EXCEPT in December. We don't have a chapter meeting because we join the "Wave a Light" on the second Sunday to remember children, grandchildren, and siblings who left us too soon. The lighting of a candle on the second Sunday of December is open to everyone — the community, our friends, and family. The first page of this newsletter announces the TCF World Candle Lighting event on Sunday, December 14. Our chapter invites you to **come at 6:30 pm** to share dessert, listen to music, and hear the readings before we light the candles at 7 pm. Enter Christ Lutheran, 510 Luther Drive, Georgetown, at the south end of the building shortly before 6:30 pm. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to this special event. **IMPORTANT: Please bring a framed picture of your loved one for use during the event.**

# JACK'S HOT CHOCOLATE & MORE!



Join us for an afternoon of FUN and FUNDRAISING in memory of Jack Rider Claycomb.

Hot chocolate, fun photo ops, face painting, vendors, family-friendly movie, and a visit from Santa from 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM!



There will be a silent auction from 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM with all proceeds going to the Ascension Seton Williamson Foundation to benefit Labor & Delivery and NICU patients and to promote safe sleep.



**Saturday, December 13, 2025**  
**11:00 AM - 5:00 PM**  
**Dell Children's Medical Center North Campus**  
**9010 N Lake Creek Parkway, Austin, TX 78717**

Special Thank You from the Camp and Claycomb Families



## **The Compassionate Friends 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 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.**



## Contact Information

### TCF Brushy Creek

#### *Committee Members:*

Robin Cassens

Mary Delaney

Penny Leone

#### *Advisory:*

Rebecca Burgman

#### *Sibling Rep.:*

Stephanie Thompson

#### *Newsletter:*

Todd & Joyce Camp

#### *TCF Regional Rep.:*

Gene Caligari

### TCF National Office Information:

The Compassionate Friends

PO Box 46

Wheaton, IL 60187 (or)

900 Jorie Blvd. Suite 78

Oak Brook, IL 60523

Phone (630) 990-0010

Toll-Free (877) 969-0010

[www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)

Email Address:

[TCFBrushyCreek@gmail.com](mailto:TCFBrushyCreek@gmail.com)



Join us on  
**Facebook**

*Thank you to Christ Lutheran Church*

*We really appreciate your generosity!*

## ***We Remember Them*** – By: Sylvan Kamens & Rabbi Jack Riemer

### **We Remember Them**

At the rising of the sun and its going down,  
we remember them.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,  
we remember them.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring,  
we remember them.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer,  
we remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn,  
we remember them.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends,  
we remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live;  
for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength,  
we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart,  
we remember them.

When we have joy we crave to share,  
we remember them.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make,  
we remember them.

When we have achievements that are based on theirs,  
we remember them.

As long as we live, they, too, will live;  
for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.

## **The Compassionate Friends Resources**

Stay connected:



Email: [info@compassionatefriends.org](mailto:info@compassionatefriends.org)



Facebook: [Compassionate Friends Official](https://www.facebook.com/CompassionateFriendsOfficial)



Website: [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)

**The Compassionate Friends of Brushy Creek**

***YOU NEED NOT WALK ALONE; WE ARE THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS***