

The Compassionate Friends

of Brushy Creek Supporting Family After a Child Dies

The Candle Lighting Ceremony will be our next time together. Christ Lutheran Church 510 Luther Drive.Georgetown.TX.78628 512-348-7885 <u>TCFBrushyCreek@hmail.com</u> (*If you have problems finding us call: 512-966-1651*) NO CHAPTER MEETINGS IN DECEMBER





BRING A FRAMED PHOTO OF YOUR LOVED ONE

# We invite you to join us on December 10, 2023 at 6:30pm!

The Chapter will supply refreshments, beverages, & candles.

A short program with readings and music will start at **6:30pm** on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> followed by the beautiful and touching candle lighting. (You will be taking the framed photo you bring home with you after the event.)

**Invite** your friends and neighbors to attend with you! The Worldwide Candle Lighting gives bereaved families everywhere the opportunity to remember their children so that *their lights may always shine*!



#### 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 7pm. The virtual chapter meetings are on the fourth Thursday of the month. The Compassionate Friends is a mutual assistance, self-help organization offering friendship, understanding and hope to bereaved 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, along with the feelings and issues that evolve around the death experience of a child. There is no religious affiliation. There are no membership dues.

#### NO CHAPTER MEETINGS ARE HELD IN DECEMBER – January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 is the next Chapter <u>Meeting</u>



# **BIRTHDAY DATES**

*Matt, Stepanie, Henry* Rylan, Carolee and Aaron



# **ANGEL DATES**

*Matt, Scott, Shawn, Stepahnie,* Antonia, Matt. Jeremy, And Carolee



The Mission of The Compassionate Friends:

When a child dies, at any age, the family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated.

The 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.



## **Monthly Topic for Discussion**

As we cover these subjects something might be said to help you cope a little bit better. We are open to suggestions for additional subjects you might like to see discussed.

# December: We will have the Candle Lighting Ceremony



#### 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 and to laugh, to share how you feel or just 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.



"Christmas In Heaven" Song by Scotty McCreery

December hasn't changed This town looks the same They still light that tree in the city square There's red, white, and green shining everywhere And I wish you were here And I wonder

Is the snow falling down on the streets of gold Are the mansions all covered in white Are you singing with angels "Silent Night" I wonder what Christmas in heaven is like

There's a little manger scene Down on Third and Main I must have walked right by it a thousand times But I see it now in a different light 'Cause I know you are there And I wonder

Are you kneeling with shepherds before him now Can you reach out and touch his face Are you part of that glorious Holy night I wonder what Christmas in Heaven is like

Is the snow falling down on the streets of gold? Are the mansions all covered in white? Are you singing with angels "Silent Night" I wonder what Christmas in Heaven is like



## 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.



The Brushy Creek Chapter of The Compassionate Friends Is grateful for your presence at the meetings and your donations throughout the year. A special thanks to those who took flyers or made calls to invite family and friends to the TCF Annual Candle Lighting

> YOU NEED NOT WALK ALONE WE ARE THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS



### **Contact Information**

TCF Brushy Creek Chapter Leadership:

Robin Cassens Mary Delaney Penny Leone Stephanie Thompson –Siblings Rep. Rebecca Burgman-Advisory Newsletter – WE NEED YOUR HELP Gene Caligari – TCF Regional Rep.

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### **TCF National Office**

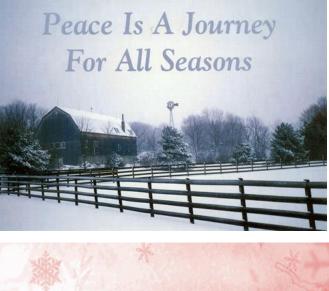
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