

River of Love

1050 SW 15th St.
Oak Grove, MO 64075
crosscreekbaptist.com

CROSS CREEK BAPTIST

Moving Mountains!

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BATTERED BUT NOT BROKEN Part 2

RAY GURNEY, PASTOR

Last month was ups and downs. Emotions ran high then dropped low. Months like that are hard. No matter what negative things were, the end result was amazing. There were 5 dear souls who became Cross Creekers as they joined the kingdom of God. That was my high for the month. It was so exciting.

Baptisms have never been easy at Cross Creek and especially with this 50-year-old baptistry. Annie begins the process by turning on the water then directing it to the hot water tank. Shortly after that she always notifies me that water is leaking. This past week the leaking water was worse than ever. This was the straw that broke the pastors back. I made up my mind that after fighting this big leaking tub for 20 years it's time to replace it. The tub has seen repair after repair. It's been fiber glassed, painted with Red Guard and a dozen other things.

We started filling on Wednesday. Thursday I must have mopped the floor 15 times to keep water from getting into the sanctuary. Friday morning, I stopped by to get something from my desk. I promised Vickie I wouldn't be long. I checked on the leaking water and it needed mopped. The mop hit a water cap (that was fully rotted according to Master Plumber, Pete Lyon) sending a stream of water straight up to the ceiling. I was soaked head to toe trying to stop it. There was not shut off valve in the church. The water meter is located 500 feet away. I stood outside in the 30-degree temperature freezing, called Gregg for help and Vickie called Pete and Darrell. There was a lot of work to be done.

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NOT BROKEN
PART 2

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MARCH MENU

Pete installed a shut off valve and big fans were brought (and a change of clothes). By 5 pm we were all able to go home.

I begged God for a new baptistry. All we need is money to buy a new one, get it shipped here and someone to install it. On Saturday, I collected the mail and laid it on Vickie's desk. During music rehearsal Sunday, Vickie came walking down the aisle holding something in the air laughing and crying at the same time. It was check for more than \$1300 to be used as needed. On Monday, someone gave more than \$600 toward the new baptistry and later that day another man promised \$100. So, we start the week with a significant amount toward the purchase of a new baptistry. I feel certain that what we saw Sunday is the beginning of more to come. Let's all jump in and contribute to the new baptistry fund. God cares about our needs and he is the provider.

Pastor Ray



MEN'S BREAKFAST, Saturday, March 21st at 8 AM - Golden Corral in Independence.

Please invite your neighbor or a friend to join us. It's a good time to fellowship with other men in our community.

TESTIMONY SUNDAY

There are five Sundays in March—so get ready for **Testimony Sunday on March 29th** at Cross Creek! If you'd like to share what God's been doing in your life - even if you've previously shared - talk to Pastor Ray. God is always working, and your story could encourage someone else!



SPRING CHURCH CLEANING

Pastor Ray invites you to join us for biscuits and gravy for breakfast! We're gathering to pick up limbs and sticks, remove stumps, and wash some baseboards and windows. There are also a few simpler tasks to tackle. If you can, come join the fun March 7th 8:00-1:00 PM.!

**Important Business Meeting
March 18 AT 6:30 PM**



LADIES DAY OUT

We're heading to Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen in Independence, Missouri, where it's all about delicious, well-made food at a great price. How do they do it? By cooking everything from scratch! That's their secret ingredient for tasty meals and amazing value. We'll depart at 10:45 AM on Tuesday, March 17. Please sign up at the Welcome table. *Vickie*

2026 Theme: Ask, Seek, Knock



If You Seek Him...

There's a reason many of us hesitate to ask, seek, and knock.

We've been disappointed before.

And sometimes, if we're honest, it feels like God Himself has let us down.

That's not something many Christians feel comfortable saying aloud. It feels risky. What would people think? What kind of testimony would that be?

But God is not offended by honest pain. He meets it far more readily than polished words or empty praise.

To **seek** is not the act of already having found. It means **"to attempt to find."** To keep leaning in, even when the way forward feels unclear.



For those who wish to make contributions electronically, scan this QR code or go to crosscreekbaptist.com and follow the steps!

On the journey toward the greater things God has for you, there will be detours. There will be rerouting. There will be bumps in the road that slow you down and moments that leave you wondering if you can keep going.

And still, God offers this simple promise: **the one who seeks finds.**

If you seek Him, you will find Him.

If you keep going, you will reach Him.

If you do not stop attempting, the story is not over.

So set aside your hesitation. Today is another attempt. Today, you are one step closer.

Chrissy Kirkman

"When We Seek You (Just to Know You)"

by Vintage Worship Collective

*When we seek You
Oh, we find You
When we need You
You are there
You are with us
You are listening
You are closer than our breath*

*Just to know You is to love You
Just to see You as You are
Rich in mercy, boundless beauty
God is with us
Emmanuel*

Listen on YouTube!

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Let us not become weary in doing good,
for at the proper time we will reap a
harvest if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9

DEAD OR ALIVE...WHICH IS IT?

Last year while reading a book about Heaven and what Scripture says, I got an idea: this would make a great Sherlock Homes-style play. Usually my "great ideas" fade quickly, but this one stuck. Around Thanksgiving, I mentioned it to Ray. He said go for it.

So we're doing it! The play is called "Dead Or Alive...Which Is It?" and we've got a team coming together to make it happen. Please pray for this project, and get ready to invite others!

Performances:

- Saturday, April 4th at 6:00 PM
- Easter Sunday at 10:00 AM



\$6.00 per person (ages 7 - adult)
\$3.00 per person (ages 6 & under)

MARCH MENU

Mar. 4, Fried Chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad & dessert.

Mar. 11, Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, veggies, cottage cheese, rolls, salad & dessert.

Mar. 18, Corn Beef & Cabbage, cheesy potatoes, carrots, cottage cheese, salad & dessert.

Mar. 25, Tacos, Spanish rice, black beans, cheese dip, chips, salad & dessert.