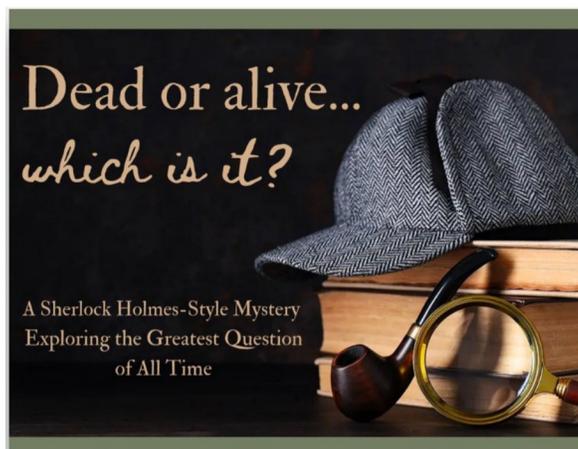




Dead or Alive... Which is it?

Join us as we tackle a cold case with Sherlock Holmes and Watson, investigating the resurrection and the life of Christ. Holmes and Watson will carefully walk through the Scriptures, analyzing the personal accounts of what took place and asking hard questions like: Were the witnesses

deceptive or truthful? Was Jesus really dead? Why are there differences in the Gospel accounts? Did the Roman soldiers truly confirm His death? Is it reasonable to dismiss miracles altogether? And why would the



disciples willingly suffer and die for their belief in the risen Jesus? As we examine the facts together, may you encounter the supernatural power of God through this presentation.

PERFORMANCES

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 | 6 PM

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5 | 10 AM

RAY GURNEY, PASTOR

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A THANK YOU NOTE TO THE CROSS CREEKERS

I've been intending to sit down and write you all a thank you note and progress report for quite a while. So when Vickie called and asked if I could, I promptly told her no. To be honest, sometimes it's just too easy to put my priorities ahead of what the Lord is prompting me to do or reminding me of. My reason for the no... I was too busy trying to get caught up on housework before an upcoming family gathering. Just a reminder that Jesus loved Martha, too.

Then, not 5 minutes after I got off the phone with Vickie, my youngest sister Tammy called to check on me. Although Tammy was born with cerebral palsy, and other serious health issues, I have never heard her complain, ever. Not once in 61 years. Her phone calls are always uplifting and always bring me joy. I realized right then the Lord was prompting me, and He had used Vickie and Tammy's phone calls to get my attention. The housework would wait. I needed to stop, praise God, and share my joy with you all.

This is my long overdue thank you and progress report.

For those of you who are new to Cross Creek, I am married to Vickie's brother Donnie Guffey, and have stage 4 breast cancer. In 2019, Donnie urged me to get a large lump checked out which I had been ignoring, this led to a mastectomy in 2022, five additional surgeries, and finally a 'we got it all' prognosis. In the spring of 2023, I came down with what I thought was the flu, my lungs were filled with fluid that would not go away. This event turned out to be 'The cancer is back and has metastasized in your lymph system, lungs, clavicle, hip, and spine.' The doctors drained my lungs, explaining they would need to put a permanent drain in my lungs and the cancer doctor told me there is no cure, and probably have '5 years at best'.

What the doctors didn't know at that time was the number of Christ followers at Cross Creek Baptist Mission, Schell City Baptist, many friends and family were praying and continued to keep me covered in prayer.

Throughout 2024 and most of 2025, my monthly cancer (CA) numbers would bounce around; up, down and then up again. The quarterly MRI/CT scans would show slower growth in some areas while more active growth in other areas. During the last 6 months of 2025, the monthly CA numbers began to slowly inch in towards the normal mark. Each month the oncologist said "The medicine seems to be working", to which I replied "Praise God, there are a lot of people praying for me". He didn't roll his eyes, but didn't agree either. This became our standard back and forth for several months. Although the last time, his nurse agreed with me, which made me smile. In January, the numbers went down to normal, and last week the numbers were again 'normal'. I'm excited to see what next month brings, more answered prayers, more opportunities for God to reveal Himself.

The most important part of this thank you note is God brought back the joy in my heart, through your prayers and a cancer diagnosis.

The first blessing God gave me was a complete sense of peace. An internal knowing that no matter what, God's love is more important to me, than what I was diagnosed with. A total trust in the fact that only God knows how long my life on earth will be. No one else. Because of this peace God provided, I have no fear of cancer, and no fear of death. Through cancer, God

reminded me of the peace of salvation, and knowing God's gift of salvation included me, reminding me that He was in control and that I need to learn to trust Him. For the first time in my life I am learning to trust everything to God, this has brought me more joy than I have ever had. God used cancer to bring about a very necessary change in my heart and my relationship with Jesus.

The second blessing was strength. God used the love of special people in my life to help strengthen me, my husband, my children, my family, and Christian friends new and old. God has strengthened the love in our family, and helped draw us closer to each other.

The third blessing has been learning to give up control and trust in the Holy Spirit to guide me through whatever comes next. I'm thankful God used pastor Ray to bless me with an introduction to Bob Johnston. Thank you, Bob, for sharing your cancer experiences and research, which helped me talk to the oncologist about the decisions I felt I was led to make. Most importantly for reminding me that I have a Comforter in the Holy Spirit who strengthens me.

I praise God for your continued prayers, and ask God to Bless each one of you.

Your sister in Christ Jesus,

Brenda Guffey

O great and powerful God, whose name is the LORD Almighty, great are your purposes and might are your deeds. Jeremiah 32:18,19



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

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Good Friday Service is **April 3**. Each year we seek to make this sacred evening meaningful and fresh, and as Easter approaches, Pastor Ray and Pastor Tim have been reflecting on the reality that any Good Friday could be the last one we celebrate before the Lord's return. What a day that would be if we have understood the Scriptures rightly. Until then, we gather with grateful hearts, rejoicing that through Christ we have been rescued from eternal death and counted worthy by His grace. Join us at **6:00 PM on Good Friday** as we worship together and share in the Lord's Supper.



LADIES DAY OUT

Ladies, we are headed to **BD's Mongolian Grill**, in Independence. They are a fusion restaurant where we can create our own stir-fry with a little help from our friends. We will meet at the church on **April 21 at 10:45 AM** and head out! Please add your name to our sign-up sheet in the lobby. Hope you will attend!

Vickie

CROSS CREEK BAPTIST

THE CHURCH ON A MISSION

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DON'T FORGET



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
6:00-7:00 PM, APRIL 3rd

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5th

MEN'S BREAKFAST ROAD TRIP, Saturday, April 18 at 7:15 AM - Generations Cafe in Higginsville, MO. Please invite your neighbor or a friend to join us. It's a good time to fellowship with other men in our community.

APRIL MENU

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

- Apr. 1, Smoked Pork Sliders**, Bob's beans, chips, pasta salad & dessert
- Apr. 8, Ham**, mashed potatoes, green beans, cottage cheese, rolls, salad & dessert.
- Apr. 15, Roast Beef**, mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots, cottage cheese, salad & dessert
- Apr. 22, Chicken Gnocchi Soup & Chicken Enchilada soup**, corn bread, chips, cheese & crackers, salad & dessert.
- Apr. 29, Smoked Brisket**, mashed potatoes, gravy, veggies cottage cheese, rolls, salad & dessert.