

River of Love

CROSS CREEK
BAPTIST MISSION
Moving Mountains!

1050 South West 15th Street,
Oak Grove, MO 64075
www.crosscreekbaptist.com

Pastor Ray Gurney

It Was Fantastic! by Pastor Ray

The Mission trip to Guatemala was fantastic. The church was praying that I'd not get sick from the things that get in the bodies system. Praise God their prayers were answered! I'm sure that was the first time I made it through the 10-day trip without illness. I'm grateful for the prayers.

This past Sunday I spoke about my trip, speaking a long time; sorry. There is so much more that I didn't have time to share. For instance, every one of the mayors welcomed me to pray over them for God's guidance and direction for the next four years. It was a privilege to give those prayers. When I think of the power and responsibility these Mayors have to represent thousands and even millions of people, I'm humbled to think God would choose me to pray on their behalf.

Easter falls on the fifth Sunday in March. I hope you are looking forward to celebrating another Good Friday Lord's supper service and of course Easter Sunday. For the Easter Sunday service, I plan to present a monolog of "My Beloved", a play written for Cross Creek and performed on our stage several years ago. It will be an appropriate message for Easter Sunday. I hope you will attend and bring guests with you.

For men's breakfast this month, Darrell and I are inviting the men to have breakfast at our shop. If there's a chill in the air, we'll fire up the stove with some sweet-smelling pecan firewood and enjoy its warmth. If it's warm outside we might enjoy some morning

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March 1, 2024

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Special points of interest:

- DUNNAM WEDDING
- GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
- "MY BELOVED"

Men's Breakfast

Men; you will have your monthly Breakfast Saturday, March 16th, 2024, 8:00 AM at **the Gurney Shop**, 33409 East Ryan Road, Oak Grove, MO. Darrell and Pastor Ray have been cooking up some ideas for your Breakfast. Join them at their shop for a time together. Please sign up on our signup sheet. Please invite a friend!

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Good Friday Service is **MARCH 29th 6:00 pm**. We will try to make it meaningful and fresh as we hope to do each year. As we approach Easter I've been thinking that with each passing year we could possibly be celebrating the last Good Friday before the Lord's return. Meet us Good Friday and we'll share The Lord's Supper together.

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sunshine drifting through open doors. Either way we'll have some good eating, hot coffee and of course great fellowship. The breakfast will be Saturday, March 16th at 8 AM. The address can be found in the church directory or call for directions. We had breakfast there once before and had a great time. Of course, you can invite a friend to join you for the breakfast. Just let me know in advance who's coming so we can fix enough for everyone. See you there.

Each Wednesday evening the prayer warriors gather around the tables to pray for the needs of people who in some way need divine intervention. We pray for just about anything you can imagine. There is no prayer request too big for God to handle and we approach His throne with that in mind. Some people think that their situation is too big and others think theirs are too small and that God doesn't want to be bothered with small stuff. Hebrews 4:16 is such an encouraging verse to help me in times of feeling down or that God doesn't want to hear these small requests of mine. The verse says; *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.* Just before this verse we are encouraged to see that Jesus understands our every predicament; every temptation or hurt. *Our High Priest can sympathize with us in our weakness because He was in all ways tempted like we are yet He was without sin.* Jesus was tempted in the same way you are. He overcame the temptations. He was victorious and as a result understands your situation, how you feel, how Satan makes you feel shame when we should feel victorious standing at the throne of Grace. Picture yourself standing at the throne of God the next time you feel shame. Rather than feeling condemnation, look into the eyes of Jesus and rest assured that you've journeyed to that place not to be condemned but to receive mercy and grace. You are FORGIVEN! Now let's live it. We have not even started to tap into the power that is available in our prayer life with Jesus Christ. Let's get in front of the Holy Throne of mercy and grace and receive what is available through prayer. Cross Creek needs prayer warriors on the job every day. Will you join us?



Are You Trusting God Well? by *Chrissy Kirkman*

"Total Dependence" is our theme in 2024, but how do you know if you're really trusting God well in your life? Here are five ways to depend on God and a practical test to rate yourself in each area.

*Note: If you find that you aren't where you'd like to be, do NOT allow the enemy to shame you into pulling away from God, worried that He'll be disappointed in you. Jesus wants you to come JUST as you are!

1. Depend on God's wisdom, not yours. Are you talking to God constantly throughout the day and reading the Bible daily? If not, you are depending on your wisdom and not God's. To live with total dependence on Him, give Him the first choice in every decision.

2. Depend on God's strength, not yours. Are you walking in the strength of the Lord (remembering that the joy of the Lord is your strength)? Do other people see God's strength in you?

3. Depend on God's timing, not yours. It's often difficult to wait... how impatient are you? Are you taking matters into your own hands, or are you waiting patiently on God's timing?

4. Depend on God's defense, not yours. When somebody says something mean to you, do you immediately retaliate? When someone spreads lies about you, do you turn around and do the same thing to that person?

5. Depend on God's security, not yours. Where are you looking for your source of security? Are you nervous or full of worry because you think you don't have enough to get by, or are you depending on God to meet your needs?

How are you doing in each of these areas, Cross Creeker? In which of these areas is it hardest for you to be dependent on God? Take some time right now to confess your weakness to God, and ask Him to help you trust Him in each of these areas as you learn to totally depend on Him for wisdom, strength, timing, defense, and security.

"Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God." (Psalm 146:5 NIV).

LADIES DAY OUT

Ladies' Day Out will be **TUESDAY**,

March 19th, 2023

at 10:45 AM. We

will travel to **Café**

Verona, 206 W.

Lexington, on the

Independence

Square. After that

we will go across

the street to Clin-

ton's Soda Foun-

tain for dessert.

Hope you will join

us. If you are

meeting us there

please signup so

we can reserve ta-

bles.

CROSS CREEK

BAPTIST

EASTER SERVICE

"MY BELOVED"

**JOHN'S REFLECTION
OF THE LIFE OF JESUS**

MARCH 31,@10AM

CROSS CREEK BAPTIST

THE CHURCH ON A MISSION

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WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS FAMILY NIGHT!

Wednesday night dinners begin at 6:00 PM. The cost is \$6.00 a person for ages 7 years through adult. 6 years and under are \$3.00. The menu for the month is listed on the right.

Please sign-up on the list on the information table each week. If you are running late that night, please call the church so we can set aside the proper number of meals for you.

Mar. 6, Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, veggie, roll, salad & dessert.

Mar. 13, Corn Beef & cabbage, cheesy potatoes, mixed veggies, cottage cheese, salad & dessert.

Mar. 20, Pork Chops, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, cottage cheese, rolls, salad & dessert.

Mar. 27, Lasagna, green beans, cottage cheese, bread sticks, salad & dessert.



Daylight Saving
Time

begins March 10th