



Salt Creek News! July 2026

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250 years is a reason to celebrate! Has our country changed since 1776?

Absolutely! Has it changed for the better or for the worse? I'll let you decide, in the exercise of your freedom of speech. But overall, I pray you sense a deep joy and gratitude for "the land of the free and the home of the brave" this 4th of July. You are blessed to be a Christian living in the United States of America. And as you "hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." May you use this freedom and favor to tell others about the "better country, that is, a heavenly one" that is found through faith in Jesus Christ.

(Hebrews 11:16).

May God continue to bless America, you, and your family!

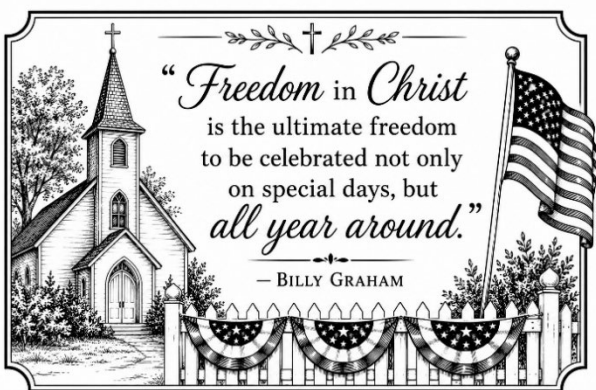
Respect the Blood,

Dalton Mathis

Bible Verse of the Month:

"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." Galatians 5:13

Church History Quote of the Month



Hymn Line of The Month:

Free from the Law, O Happy Condition

*Free from the law, O happy condition,
Jesus hath bled, and there is remission;
Cursed by the law and bruised by the fall,
Grace hath redeemed us once for all."*

Philip Bliss - 1871

Trivia with the Trinity

1. "It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ..." Which famous Founding Father spoke these words? (Hint: He is well known for another quote about liberty.)
2. This president was a devout Southern Baptist who taught over 2,000 Sunday School lessons.
3. Which president pushed to have the "under God" added to the Pledge of Allegiance and adopted "In God We Trust" as the USA Motto?
4. Which president said these words: "When I left Springfield I asked the people to pray for me. I was not a Christian. When I buried my son... I was not a Christian. But when I ... saw the graves of thousands of our soldiers, I then and there consecrated myself to Christ. Yes, I do love Jesus."
5. Which son of a president spoke these words: "In the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior. The Declaration of Independence laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity."

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE CREEK?

†	Wednesday	July	1	-	New Members Fellowship @ 6:30 p.m.
†	Sunday	July	5	-	Trail Life @ 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
†	Fri.-Tues.	July	10-14	-	Youth's Journey Camp - Highland Lakes - Spicewood, Texas
†	Wednesday	July	15	-	Good Samaritan @ 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
†	Fri.-Sat.	July	17-18	-	Trail Life - Camping Trip at Inks Lake State Park

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES AT SALT CREEK

- † CARE Nursing Home Ministry: 2:00 p.m.
- † Prayer Meeting: 5:45 p.m. Join us as we go over our prayer list and pray to the Living God!
- † Children's Ministry: 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
All kids 5th grade and under— Bible Study - Fun - Light Meal Served
- † Youth Ministry: 6:30 p.m. Keep up with our Salt Creek Youth on their Facebook page @Salt teens and Instagram @saltteens_youth
- † "Encouraging Words" Ladies Bible Study: All women are invited as we let the Living Word encourage us and help us walk in the footsteps of Jesus at 6:30 p.m. We have begun a study of Psalms.
- † Men's Bible Study: All men are invited to meet at 6:30 p.m. We are studying the book of Isaiah.

IN THE SHADOW OF MY FATHERS

I am from a small oil boom town in deep south Texas. My parents moved to Freer in Duval County when Daddy returned from serving in Korea as an Army Medic. I am their only surviving child. I accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior when I was 9 years old. Soon afterward I met a missionary serving in Africa and became enthralled at what he shared. I began repeatedly having a dream in which I was a missionary nurse in the mountains somewhere traveling from small village to village.

My dad was a very kind, giving, and strong Christian man. In Freer, he served as the volunteer fire department fire chief and ambulance crew. Through his actions he taught me that I was no better than anyone else. He taught me to give freely to those in need. He taught me it was not up to me to judge anyone. Daddy was always willing to help anyone with whatever they needed, money or physical labor. It did not matter what the need was. Daddy was killed in a plane crash 2 ½ weeks after his 39th birthday. He had stood up to the wrong powerful man, and I was aware of that; but that is something to be shared at another time. We attended First Baptist Church in Freer, Texas. The church capacity was approximately 400. At Daddy's funeral, the sanctuary seating was packed tight, and people were standing along all sides two and three deep. I remember looking around and wondering who all the people were. I knew most of the people in town and many of these people were strangers to me. I learned later that many of the people were from all over Texas. Apparently, Daddy's kind heart had taken him far from home. Daddy lived as Jesus instructed us. Since his death I've heard from many people he had helped. I was not aware of him helping the vast majority of them.

I learned well from the examples my Heavenly Father and my earthly father have given me. As an adult, I continued sporadically having the dream about being a missionary nurse. One day, Sandy, a friend from Wisconsin, called me and asked me if I'd like to go with her to Haiti. I knew about Haiti because it was the only country I'd had much interest in when studying world geography. We would need to leave in 6 weeks, and I did not have a passport! I filled out the paperwork, provided the required documents, and mailed it to the government. I did not expect to get a passport back in time, since it usually takes at least 2 months to begin processing any request. I had a passport back in only 2 weeks! I decided it was God's answer to my prayer, asking for guidance if I was supposed to go or not. As I stood on the edge of a mountain looking at several small villages on various mountainsides, my dream came flooding back. I stood there with tears rolling down my cheeks as Sandy approached me from behind. She said, "I think I know what we are supposed to do." I told her, "I do, too." Sandy and I started an independent mission organization because we were not impressed with the way most missionary organizations worked. We felt if we were to have an impact we needed to live in the villages where the people we served were living. We faced distrust, voodoo curses, unclean food, malaria, dengue fever, an earthquake, a lot of walking up mountainsides, and even the wrong end of a gun. Through it all, Jesus faithfully provided and protected. Twelve years of working in Haiti filled my heart and emptied my bank account. And Jesus was with me, each step of the way!

As a child, I learned from my Daddy. As an adult, my Heavenly Father taught me to follow His call and to serve His people.

Thank you, Janis, for sharing your beautiful testimony for Christ and His Glory! May God richly reward your faithfulness!

Salt Creek Baptist Church

7775 FM 3100

P. O. Box 3349

Early, Tx. 76803

SALT CREEK GOOD NEWS!