



Salt Creek News! April 2026



Beloved of God,

We hope to see you on Easter Sunday and the 51 other Sundays of the year!

Here is a Passion Week Bible reading plan that you can use to walk with

Jesus from the shouts of Palm Sunday to Temple Tuesday, to the Upper room on that sacred Thursday night, to Calvary's hill on Friday, and out of the grave on that first Resurrection Sunday!

Saturday: John 12:1-11

Sunday: Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-36

Monday: Mark 11:12-19

Tuesday: Mark 11:20-25, Matthew 21:23-23:39, Matthew 24:1-26:2 (Olivet Discourse)

Wednesday: Luke 21:37-22:6

Thursday: Luke 22:7-30, John 13:1-14:31, Matthew 26:30, Psalm 118, Matthew 26:31-35, John 15:1-17:26, Luke 22:35-65

Friday: John 18:12-24, Luke 22:66-23:16, John 18:33-40, Luke 23:18-23:54

Saturday: Luke 23:55-56, Matthew 27:62-66

Sunday: John 20:1-18, Luke 24:10-49

Respect the Blood, Dalton Mathis

Bible Verse of the Month:

"When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished," and He bowed His head and gave up His Spirit." John 19:30

Church History Quote of the Month

**"For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last
He will stand upon the earth."**

Job

Hymn Line of the Month:

Christ Arose

1. Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior,
waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

Refrain:

Up from the grave He arose;
with a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
and He lives forever, with His saints to reign.

He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Robert Lowry (1874)

My Story + His Story = HIS GLORY

Please be blessed by the testimony of Larry Shields.

Testimony of Larry Shields

The horrific, pandemic year of 2020 was like a twilight zone, terroristic nightmare to me. I'm sure it was to everyone, but my wife was diagnosed with the fatal ALS disease in December 2019. Therefore, we were already strictly quarantined at home with our own children and grands!

I cannot adequately explain the hurt and sorrow of watching my angel slowly die a little each day with ALS. Every single day becomes THE best day of the rest of your life; for tomorrow will be a degree worse. I prayed hard and sincere every day and asked God, "How could all of this be true? I cannot possibly understand 'why'?"

One late night, I felt like God spoke to me, "You are NOT REQUIRED to understand!

You ARE REQUIRED to TRUST!" There is a purpose and my purpose is to fulfill His purpose.

I don't believe it is wrong to ask "why." Jesus and Job both asked "why." Nothing could possibly be worse than what they both went through. I do believe it is wrong to DEMAND an answer now in order to move on. So now, I believe He left me here to hopefully help someone else going through unbearable grief! There are plenty of them. I thank God for experiences to learn from because...

EVERY SINGLE DAY IS THANKSGIVING!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE CREEK?

- † Sunday April 5 - Resurrection Sunday - He is Risen!
- † Thursday April 9 - FCA - Early High School @ 7:15 a.m.
- † Sunday April 12 - Deacons' Meeting - 2:30 p.m. Business Meeting - 4:00 p.m.
- † Wednesday April 15 - Good Samaritan - 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- † Sunday April 19 - Trail Life 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- † Sunday April 19 - Beginning Bids Accepted for Silent Auction Fund Raiser for our Youth
- † Sunday April 26 - Meal and Silent Auction Fund Raiser for our Youth
- † Wednesday April 29 - New Members' Fellowship

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 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 Galatians.
- † Men's Bible Study: All men are invited to meet at 6:30 p.m. We are studying the book of Galatians.

JESUS SAVED MY LIFE.

Please be blessed by the testimony of Dan Leckemby.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believe in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16 KJV This is the bible verse that many Christians point to, that starts their walk with Christ and their journey in life reborn in Christ Jesus. Although the Bible has many equally valuable verses, this one seems to be a doorway into a better life with Jesus and a better life lived as a Christian. I am jumping ahead a bit but, in my life, and throughout my life I have taken another verse and placed it like a light house that I would always guide myself by and strive to reach. "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15 KJV. In that I was wrong. I was not a little wrong, I was horribly wrong. What it took to show me that; I wasn't aware of it until it happened. It wasn't a grave revelation or anything so dramatic. It was just a matter of opening my eyes to see what was there in front of me all along.

In studying the Bible I became very conceited in the word. Sounds crazy, it is, I leaned so heavily into this that I became judgmental of all those around me, those in the churches I would attend. I judged what was told to the congregation. If the sermon veered too far from the scripture I walked on out. Quickly and without confrontation. But they always knew I did it, some asked why, most just ignored me. Over the years this had become normal for me. I didn't need church or churchgoers. I had God and my salvation tucked under my sleeve with my KJV Bible. Nobody could tell me I was wrong.

Many of you know of the medical diagnosis I received in July/August and through September. I had brain cancer (multiple tumors) originating from lung cancer, I was given multiple death sentences by the doctors. One Doctor even stated I had about "two weeks to live" I told everyone willing to listen. You don't know me. You don't know my God. My God is the God of Abraham, Joseph, and David. My God parted the Red Sea. My God saved my life through His son Jesus Christ. My faith would not be shaken. Ever. I believed in my God. I believed in Jesus and the Holy Spirit. That doesn't mean I wasn't afraid. I was afraid. I was scared for Tifanie, my wife, and Levi, my stepson. I was afraid of what they might face if I were no longer here. But for myself, I was not afraid. I may leave this planet, but I would go on forever. Jesus was there in me. I knew I would be with him should I die.

There are many miracles I could write to you about but that really gets ahead of what was really happening. Somehow Tifanie had gotten me admitted to M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. The premier cancer hospital in the US. But that again is jumping ahead. What happened was I had an MRI in Abilene. They wanted to operate, immediately. I lay on the table and signed my own death certificate. I had to ok that it was okay that the brain surgery could and probably would kill me. I signed it and closed my eyes. I prayed for Tifanie and Levi and my family. I hoped that my passing would not hurt them all too much. As they inserted the anesthesia, I asked the Lord for these things and never once asked for myself, but as I closed my eyes, I felt the hands of God envelop me and the arms of Jesus surround me, and then I was awake. It was over. To me it was that fast. I was fine. Not a little fine. 100% successful brain surgery. For that I thank my surgeon. Dr. Lyon. I thanked God, of course. Daniel had lived through the lion's den once more. I thought it funny as I am Daniel and my Doctor was named Dr. Lyon.

I'm very grateful and thankful, to God being the most important of all. Did you ever think you were as important to God? Of course, you are. He told you in John 3:16 way back in the beginning of this. He gave His son to die for you to live eternally with the Father in heaven. Throughout all this there is someone I have not thanked enough. Even though they were as equally important in my journey as my surgeon, nurses, doctors, and other staff.

I want to thank you, the members of Salt Creek Baptist Church and Pastor Dalton. There are so many of you that I have not personally said thank you to, but I do thank you. I do appreciate your prayers, support, and guidance. I am astounded and like I said above, the foolishness and conceit didn't blow up in a big climax. It all changed in me because each of you asked my God, your God, to save someone's life. That someone is me. Jesus saved my life. Again. But this time he showed me my errors in my judgments. I was wrong and I do apologize to each one of you as fellow Christians. Thank you for your continued prayers and support, I hope to spend some time at Salt Creek when all these procedures are done. Until then thank you, from me and from Tifanie and Levi. God bless you all.

Albert D Leckemby (Dan)

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SALT CREEK GOOD NEWS!