

APRIL 2026

THE PURPOSE OF **DESERT SHORES COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH** IS TO SHARE THE LOVE AND SAVING GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST WITH EVERYONE, THROUGH GOD'S POWER, MAKE DISCIPLES WHO LOVE GOD.



“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” Matthew 28:19

# The Beacon



## THE RESURRECTION

### Matthew 28:1-7

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he<sup>[a]</sup> lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.”

### Mark 16:1-6

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup> And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” <sup>4</sup> And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. <sup>5</sup> And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him.

### Luke 24:1-7

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. <sup>5</sup> And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.”

### John 20:1-16

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>3</sup> So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup> Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, <sup>7</sup> and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup> for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.



## April Events:

### April Birthdays

4/5  
Nathan Young  
4/10  
Leticia Davis  
4/12  
Sandra Holmes  
4/14  
Donald Chovanec  
4/17  
Renee Dixon  
4/19  
Ron Smith  
20th  
Bobby Richardson  
Connie Dunn  
Pat Chovanec  
4/27  
Susan Rowe

### April 5th RESURRECTION SUNDAY

Sunrise service  
6am

### April 8th AST Meeting

### April 11th Women's Fellowship 11:30

### April 19th PotLuck After Service

### April 30th Game Night

## Weekly Events:

Sunday 9:00am Sunday School  
9:00am Faith Builders Class  
10:30am Worship Service  
2:30pm SunRidge Village

Monday 6:00pm Choir Practice  
5:00pm Creation Series  
5:00pm Praise Team practice

Tuesday 9:00am Prayer Team  
10:30am Davis Place  
1:00pm Silver Creek  
2:30 Joshua Springs Memory Care  
3:00pm Joshua Springs  
**6:30pm Men's Bible Study**

Wednesday **8:00am Men's Bible Study**  
**9:30am Women's Bible Study**  
**6:00pm Young Adults Bible Study**  
**6:30pm Bible Study - Galatians**

Thursday 1:00pm Mining for Diamonds Bible Study  
6:30pm Family Game Night  
Last Thursday of the Month  
8:00pm Young Adult Bible Study

Friday 8:00am Men's Bible Study  
7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous  
6:30pm Movie Night  
Last Friday of the Month

Saturday 8:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast  
First Saturday of the Month  
6:00pm Contemporary Worship Serv.

### **THE VISIBLE AND THE INVISIBLE**

**Generally speaking, we can tell what kind of relationship you have with the INVISIBLE God by the way you treat VISIBLE people.**

**1 John 4:20 - "he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"**

### April Anniversaries

2nd  
Ron & Nancy Smith  
9th  
Hemi & Eva Andersen  
10th  
Carl & Betty Walborn  
12th  
Ellen Harlow  
18th  
Tim & Susan Forde

# CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD

## FAVORITE HYMNS BY OCCUPATION

DENTIST - CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS  
METEOROLOGIST - THERE SHALL BE SHOWERS OF BLESSING  
TAILOR - HOLY, HOLY, HOLY  
OPTOMETRIST - BE THOU MY VISION  
ELECTRICIAN - THERE IS POWER IN THE BLOOD  
BUYER - SWEET BY AND BY  
REALTOR - I'VE GOT A MANSION, JUST OVER THE HILL  
MASSAGE THERAPIST - HE TOUCHED ME  
DOCTOR - THE GREAT PHYSICIAN  
PILOT - I'LL FLY AWAY  
GEOLOGIST - ROCK OF AGES  
SHOEMAKER - IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL  
SHEPHERD - LAMB OF GOD  
SURVEYOR - WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS  
TOUR GUIDE - SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER?  
VETERINARIAN - ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

There are lots of perks at the  
SENIOR ENRICHMENT CENTER  
2275 Trane Road  
Bullhead City  
For more information  
(928) 763-0193

## COME PRAY WITH US!

Philippians 4:6  
Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by  
**prayer** and petition with thanksgiving,  
present your requests to God.

*“I have been driven many times to my knees  
by the overwhelming conviction that I had  
absolutely no other place to go.”  
Abraham Lincoln*

Our Prayer Meeting is at 9:00 on Tuesday  
Mornings! Please join us!

If you have any requests or praises you can  
email them to  
[Ljneitz57@gmail.com](mailto:Ljneitz57@gmail.com)  
Or text them to  
928.201.8924

## VOLUNTEERS

① don't get paid

NOT because they  
are worthless

*but* BECAUSE THEY  
ARE PRICELESS

I would like to thank all mt brothers and sisters for  
helping with the Rummage Sale! You are so much  
more appreciated than I could ever say!  
Donations were awesome! And I was so blessed  
with so many hard-working volunteers!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Roberta Oleson

HE IS  
**ALIVE**  
and I'm forgiven

## Where enthusiasm and wisdom flourish side by side

Dear Beloved Family in Christ,

I hope this letter finds you all in peace and health, and I want to take a moment to express how grateful I am for each one of you. As we journey together as a community of believers, I am inspired by the enthusiasm of our new members and regular attenders, and I am equally appreciative of the wisdom and maturity that our seasoned Christ followers bring to the table.

This has been evident with the recent Foreign Mission trip to Germany fundraiser which exceeded the goal of \$2500 and Jimmy John fundraiser for the Joy After School program.

In our new time of increasing attendance and in our collective walk of faith, it is crucial to appreciate the unique contributions that each generation adds to our fellowship. The zeal of new believers stimulates our gatherings and reminds us of the joyful excitement of first discovering the love of Christ. Their fresh perspectives can ignite a renewed passion within us all, prompting us to embrace the fullness of our faith with open hearts and minds.

Meanwhile, the wisdom and maturity that our long-standing members provide are invaluable. They serve as spiritual anchors, encouraging us to remain steadfast in scripture and faithful in our walk. Their wisdom and experiences remind us that faith is both a journey and a commitment, and they teach us the importance of patience, resilience, and deep-rooted trust in God.

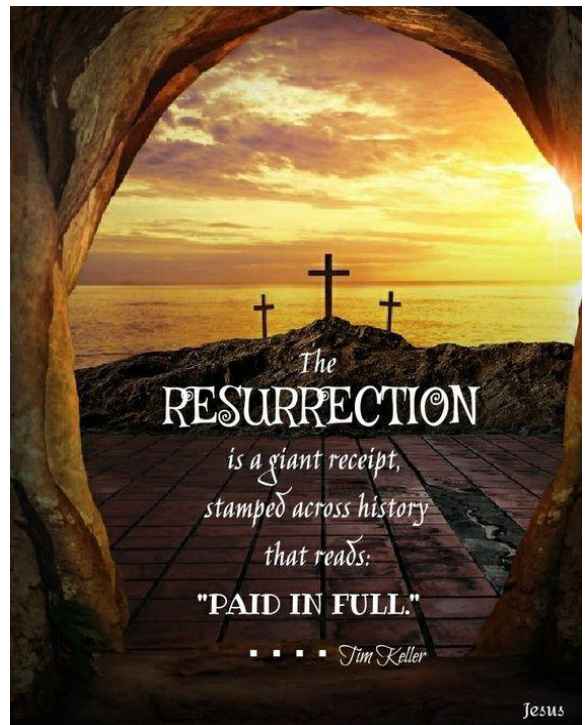
As we strive to achieve this beautiful balance within our church, I also want to take this opportunity to discuss the important biblical principle of tithing and giving. Scripture teaches us that giving is not just about financial contributions but about the heart behind the act and honoring Him as the source of all blessings (Proverbs 3:9 and 2 Chronicles 29:14). 2 Corinthians 9:7 reminds us that "each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Tithing is an act of faith and gratitude, recognizing that everything we have comes from our loving God. It fosters a spirit of generosity, enables us to support the work of the ministry of our church, and helps us reach out to those in need. For our new believers, I encourage you to take this step of faith and trust God with your finances. For those of you who have walked this path for years, let us continue to model generosity, demonstrating to newer believers the joy and blessing that come from trusting God with our resources and confidence that comes from trusting Him with the outcome.

Together, let us cultivate an atmosphere where enthusiasm and wisdom flourish side by side. May we encourage each other in our giving, share stories of how God has provided in our lives, and inspire transparency and discussion about our financial stewardship.

I pray that as we gather, we remain open to learning from one another, fostering a culture of encouragement, support, and love. Thank you for being a part of this family of Christ. Your contributions, whether through your time, talents, or treasures, are deeply valued and make a significant difference in our community and beyond.

Yours in Christ,  
Janie Tucker, Treasurer



## The Vitalant Blood Drive

The Community Outreach of the Vitalant Blood Donor Drive at Desert Shores Church was a great success first time ever. Susanne Boswell of Vitalant helped us reach the community as far away as Kingman, Mohave Valley, & Laughlin. It put us on the map. We were given a goal of 18 pints of blood products which we surpassed, 22 PINTS!!! Every pint saves three people. Thank you Church Family for your support



## CHRIST AROSE By Robert Lowry

*Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my savior? Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord! 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 arise!*

What can exhausted pastors do to relax on Sunday nights after a hard day's work? Baptist preacher Robert Lowry went home to his wife and three sons – and wrote hymns. Many of his hymns were written after the Sunday evening service when his body was weary, but his mind refused to rest.

“Music, with me has been a side issue,” he once said. “I would rather preach a gospel sermon to an appreciative audience than write a hymn. I have always looked upon myself as a preacher and felt sort of deprecation when I began to be known more as a composer.”

This hymn, “Christ Arose!” was written one evening during the Easter season of 1874 while Lowry was engaged in his devotions. He became deeply impressed with Luke 24: 6-8, especially the words of the angel at the tomb of Christ: “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here but is risen! The words and music began forming together in his mind. Going to the little pump organ in his home, Lowry soon completed what was to become one of our greatest resurrection hymns.



## ***AND THE ANGELS WERE SILENT – THE FINAL WEEK OF JESUS*** By Max Lucado

*A book review by Kathy Cole. Books are found in our church library.*

Though Pilate asked it first, we've all asked it since. A fair question. A necessary question. What do you do with a man such as Jesus? He called himself God but never marshalled an army. He was regarded as a King, but his only crown was of thorns. It's the final week. The players are nearing the stage. The props are being put into position. All of heaven watches. It is the long-awaited week. A week when no angel dared sing, A hush fell over heaven as the God-man faced his final days. Note the firmness in his walk. Hear the conviction in his voice. Witness the courage of his deeds.

See his passion ..... the Savior who will not give up on his children until they are found.

See his power.....the God who will not tolerate hollow religion.

Hear his promise.... the Redeemer who would rather go to hell FOR you than to heaven WITHOUT you!



## My Morning Walks with God El Loco!

My friend Mario was sharing part of his testimony at a Bible study that he and I led at a Drug Recovery Home for Men. He mentioned that before he got saved he had a reputation (both on the streets and in prison) for being someone “you didn’t want to mess with.” He said, “It wasn’t that I was so strong and muscular. It was more that I had an ‘I don’t care’ attitude about whether I lived or died.” Strangely enough, when he said those words I gave a hearty “Amen.” I was surprised that those words impacted me in that way.

When somebody doesn’t care whether they live or die they can do a lot of crazy things. Mario said that most people who knew him back in those days called him “El Loco” ... The Crazy One. When somebody doesn’t care whether they live or die you just don’t know what they might do ... they’re unpredictable ... they’re kind of scary ... they keep you “on-edge.” Even their enemies know not to mess with them. Even though I don’t condone this kind of behavior from a street thug, I think it’s the exact kind of behavior that Christians need to have towards our enemy, the devil. Let me explain...

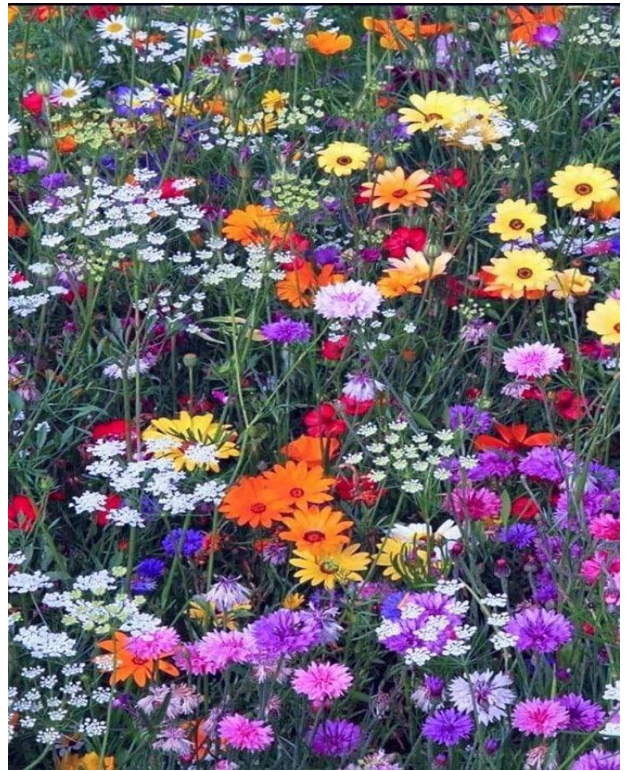
There’s a verse in Revelation 12 that I often hear people quote when dealing with the devil: "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony" (Revelation 12:11). But that verse doesn’t end there. It continues on “AND THEY LOVED NOT THEIR LIVES UNTO THE DEATH.”

If a Christian has these 3 things in their life they will be an intimidating force against their enemy: 1) The power of Jesus’ blood, 2) The word of their testimony, and 3) not loving their life so much that they’re afraid of death. That’s how a person overcomes the devil. You see, the number one fear that Satan intimidates people with is “the fear of death.” But when you’re not afraid of death, Satan has no leverage against you to intimidate you. **YOU OVERCOME HIM BECAUSE YOU’RE NOT AFRAID!**

If you want to live an “overcoming life” somewhere along the line you will have to take hold of this idea ... that the devil can never defeat you if you’re not afraid of anything in his arsenal. Not only will it bring you victory in your life, it will also make you an intimidating person for the devil to deal with ... you might just get the reputation of “El Loco” ... and I mean that in the most flattering way possible.

### Hebrews 2:14-15

**Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,<sup>15</sup> and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.**



## SANDWICH MINISTRY

Thank you to all the volunteers who make sandwiches for feeding the hungry at the homeless shelter. Feeding the hungry is one of the commands of our Lord Jesus. The new schedule is out and if you did not receive your copy, it is in the folder just outside the office. Please pick yours up. It has your name on it.

Remember to bring your sandwiches no later than Wednesday at noon. That is when they will be delivered to the shelter.

If you did not sign up to make sandwiches, you can still help out. The homeless shelter is always in need of snack items that are individually wrapped and water. With the increased temperatures, water is essential for those who are without a home and are living in their cars or in the desert. These items can be brought to the office and will be delivered along with the sandwiches on Wednesdays.

**THANK YOU! YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!**

# **CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST**

*By Skip Heitzig*

If someone's been found guilty of murder and given a life sentence, but dies while serving that sentence, will the justice system continue to enforce that judgment? No; the convicted person is no longer subject to that penalty. They're dead—they've been released from the sentence they were required to serve.

One of my favorite verses is Galatians 2:20: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

Jesus died on the cross. And because I have faith in Him, I died with Him. Because I've died, the law has no power.

If I am crucified with Christ, I'm dead to the law that condemned me. I'm free in Christ. I don't have to serve my sentence. Paul continued in verse 21: "I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

So many people will say their friends or family members didn't want anything to do with God. But then I hear this at the funeral: "He was so sincere, and such a good person. God must have forgiven him."

If you're saved by your sincerity or your religiosity, Jesus' death on the cross was pointless. All God needed to do is send Him down to teach people to love each other, pat babies on the head, and heal a few people.

In the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus said, "Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will" (Matthew 26:39). There is no other way except the cross. And we want to make much of it, because if righteousness comes through works, Christ suffered and died in vain. That's why we boast in it.

I know many churches today don't mention the blood and don't mention the cross. But Paul said, "God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Galatians 6:14). We want to make much of that because we "do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain" (2:21).

He conquered death by His resurrection. The work He did on the cross is done.

Are you still trying your best to make sure you deserve it? It's time to give it up. If you're honest with yourself, you know you could never be good enough—even on your best day.

Here's the point: You don't have to be good enough. So stop striving and start abiding. Start living in the freedom He paid for with His life. He's already served your sentence. *That* is the gospel of grace.

A false religion, a cult, will say you have to give your life for your god. The gospel says your God gave His life for you.

As simply as that, we have been made right. We have been justified. May we make much of the cross!

In His strong love,

Skip Heitzig

