

**From the Pit to the Pulpit**  
**Turning Desperation into Dependence**  
**Gene Kiepora**

**When We're in the Pit**

Extreme desperation convinces us:

There's no way out, No way forward, No strength left.

**The Man in the Pit**

Jesus doesn't shout advice from heaven - He enters our pit.

**What Desperation Can Produce**

When surrendered to God, desperation becomes:

A Deeper Faith - We rely on Him, not ourselves.

Authentic Prayer - Honest cries, not routine words.

Transformation - Weakness becomes strength.

Spiritual Power - God's grace shines brightest in broken places.

**Paul: Weakness Turned to Strength**

Pressed beyond endurance, Paul wrote:

*"We felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God" (2 Corinthians 1:8-9).*

**A Biblical Pattern for Surrender**

Pause before reacting (James 1:19)..

Pray instead of panic (Philippians 4:6-7).

Take thoughts captive (2 Corinthians 10:5).

Long for God (Psalm 42).

**Final Encouragement**

The pits in our lives feel like endings.

But often, they are invitations.

If God can turn a prison into a pulpit, He can turn your pain into purpose.

Desperation whispers, "It's over." Faith replies, "God isn't finished."

March 15, 2026



**Turning Desperation into Dependence**

**Welcome to Living Creek!**

It's a joy to have you worshipping with us.

*Helping people follow Jesus*

**Living Creek**  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## TODAY

Join us for **Pre-Service Prayer, 15 minutes before each service**, in the Church Office Conference Room.

This month we would like to encourage you to lift up in prayer our partners at **American Border Ministries**. Located in Eagle Pass, Texas, this group is working with Iglesia de Christo. We specifically pray for Phyllis Garza, the late Ranulfo's wife, as she continues his ministry legacy. More information can be found on our website under the Ministries tab.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The **Monee Easter Egg Hunt** will be held on **Saturday, March 28** at Firemen's Park. Refreshments will be served at 10 AM followed by the Egg Hunt at 10:30 AM. We have been asked to **donate completed, ready-to-go Easter baskets** for ages 1-12. The deadline for basket donations is **March 22**.

**Good Friday** is **April 3**. The livestream and in-person service will be at **6:30 PM**, with Birth-PreK Ministry available.

**Easter** services on **April 5** will be at **8, 9:30** (livestream) & **11 AM**. The 9:30 & 11 AM services will have full Children's Ministry.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**The Well** meets **TONIGHT**, from **6-8 PM**. Join us for our series called **Hyped**. Session three is "Proclaiming Jesus to the End."

Registration for **Summer Camps at Little Galilee** is open! We're going to **HS Main 2 June 21-26** and **JH Main 2 July 5-10**. By using code **LCCC75D** when registering, you will save \$75. Go to <https://littlegalilee.org/registration> to register **NOW!**

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

**For more on our Building Updates** visit [livingcreek.org/our-future](http://livingcreek.org/our-future).

**For more on our Pastoral Search Updates** visit [livingcreek.org/lead-pastor-search](http://livingcreek.org/lead-pastor-search).

## FINANCIAL UPDATES

Our weekly budgeted need for the General Fund is \$9,724. The average weekly giving for February was \$9,351. The Welcome Home fund balance is \$574,334.

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Smart Phone & Tablet Users** can follow today's message and scriptures on the **Bible** app. Click on More > Events and Search for Living Creek to follow along.

Have you joined our online directory: **Church Community Builder (CCB)?** Visit [livingcreek.ccbchurch.com](http://livingcreek.ccbchurch.com) to take a look!

### **The Lord's Supper**

If you are a Christian, we invite you to join us in receiving the Lord's Supper (gluten-free communion is available). There are two stations in the back of the room. We use a two-cup system. The bottom cup contains the bread and the top cup contains the juice.

### **Giving**



*We also invite you to continue in worship with your giving as a sign of support for our ministry. You may mail in or drop off your gifts at the Church Office. Online giving is available by scanning the QR code or via our website at [livingcreek.org](http://livingcreek.org) > Contribute or by texting **GIVE** to 833.245.8300.*

### **What's your Next Step?**

Find it at [livingcreek.org](http://livingcreek.org) > Welcome > Your Next Step.



### **Communication Link**

Do you have a **prayer request, praise or comment?** Are you ready to take your **next step?** Would you like more information about **baptism or membership?** We'd love to hear from you! Scan the QR code to connect with us.

### **Worship Service Experiences**

- **Livestreaming** at 9:30 AM on YouTube
- **Online** at [livingcreek.org](http://livingcreek.org)
- **Children's Worship Service** at 11 AM (Birth - 5th grade) at The Wave, 4854 W Court ST, Monee
- **Worship Service** at 9:30 & 11 AM at The Well, 4840 W Court ST, Monee

#### **Ministry Center/Office**

4820 W Court ST, Monee, IL 60449

Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

[livingcreek.org](http://livingcreek.org) • 708.672.6515

[facebook.com/livingcreekchurch](https://facebook.com/livingcreekchurch)

***Bibles are available as a free gift from Living Creek.***