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February 2016

Choosing It Makes It So!

"I choose to walk in the Spirit;" choosing it makes it so. Paul used the word "reckon" (Romans [6:11](#)) to describe this decision to depend upon the Holy Spirit's strengths and abilities to live life rather than remaining in our default state of living in the weaknesses and failures of the sin nature handed down to us from Adam. The Greek word is "*logizomai*," and it means to make a calculated choice.

As I am writing this, a winter storm is approaching our region with a wintry mix of snow and rain. I am calculating how to dress appropriately for the weather. Short sleeve shirt or long sleeve? Dress shoes or casual? Heavy coat or jacket? We make calculated decisions every day, based on our setting; what to make for dinner, where to eat lunch, which route to take to work, how to present a new idea... the list is almost endless!

God instructs us to "cross the river" out of the wilderness of the self-life and into the Promised Land of the Spirit-life by choosing to live in the Spirit, and the choice itself makes it a reality. When you choose to live in the Spirit, you are living in the Spirit! You will discover that love, joy, peace, longsuffering, and all of the qualities that flow from Him, are immediately present in your life to share freely with those around you.

It is as easy to choose not to live in the Spirit as it is to live in the Spirit. When you are frustrated, you may choose to become angry, grumpy, fretful; choosing to live in the flesh makes it so! Simply recalculate and choose to live in the Spirit and you will be surprised at how quickly your heart and mind return to His ways.

So, be patient as you learn to walk in the Spirit; God will help you! In the same way that He dried up the Jordan River so Israel could cross on dry ground, He will enable you to live life "more abundant."

Dr. Lynn Hardaway

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Grand Total for Lottie Moon Offering: \$2,494

Blankets for the Homeless

Love offering: \$900+



Lord- Raise up Warriors, who will fight on their knees, who will Worship you with their Whole Heart. - War Room

The WAR ROOM bible study has started on Friday Nights. We have been blessed to have a group of 17 people who have begun the study. The study consist of 5 weekly sessions that focus on battling Satan through prayer. It kicked off with an honest evaluation of our prayer life and spirituality that asked us to reflect on the how hot or cold we were in our prayer life. The second week, we showed the movie film for WAR ROOM and convened for the second session on January 22. We are just getting into preparing for war against Satan as we began the second session which is Christian accountability with one another. Our group meets at 6:30 pm and is finished around 8pm. Our group members are anywhere from early teen to senior citizen. We have a great evening of weekly devotional reflection, video clip and session emphasis with open table discussion and bible study, and conclude with intercessory prayer. We only have 3 more sessions before our group concludes the WAR ROOM prayer bible study. In our upcoming sessions, we will look at Gospel & Grace, Spiritual Warfare, and end with Prayer. I am thankful for those who have committed to coming out for the study. What a blessing it is to serve Christ with this group of individuals.

Hollie Schratwieser

Church Maintenance Work Day



Roll up your sleeves and come join us on Saturday, February 6th for a little church maintenance.

Rain date will be February 13th.

Crochet Club

The Crochet Club is working diligently on lap blankets for the sanctuary to keep elderly members warm.

The Crochet Club members invite you to participate in their ongoing hat donations for cancer patients and the homeless. They always appreciate donations if you have time to make them.

Come out and join them on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8 pm in the Ladies Sunday School class room.

Ruth Walden Circle

Please see Phyllis Arth for information if you would like to become a part of Ruth Walden Circle.

Luta Tebault Circle

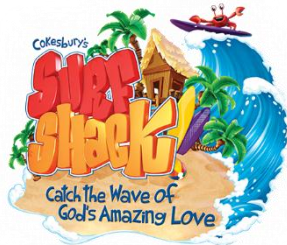
Please see Andrea Daniels for information on participating.

GAs, RAs & Acteens

Our RAs will be participating in a Punt, Pass, and Kick Fundraiser to raise funds for Blankets for the Homeless. They are currently seeking sponsors, so see any one of our RAs today to support. The RAs will complete the challenge on February 14 after church.

Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for this year's VBS, **June 27–July 1**. Our theme this year is Surf Shack, Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love. Keep posted for more updates!



Remember that the Lord is great and awesome! – Nehemiah 4:14b

John 13:34-35 (NIV) "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Blankets for the Homeless

Mariah will be looking for helping hands in February. Please sign up on the sheet in the hallway or see Lynn B for more information.

Ocean Breeze



Mark your calendars for another fun-filled day at Ocean Breeze Waterpark Sunday, August 7. Tickets this year will be \$18.69. There is a sign-up sheet in the back hallway. We need to have 15 people committed to going to lock in this great price **by March 27**. Once we have our price locked in, we can add additional

people right on up to August 7! For more information see Ashley Boyett.

Blood Drive

Mark your calendars!

February 17
2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Please see Leslie to help.

Upcoming Events:

Always subject to change, please refer to the weekly bulletin for any updates.

- 2/6 – Church maintenance
- 2/14 – Youth Sunday
- 2/14 - Baptism
- 2/14 – Youth fundraiser for Blankets for the Homeless
- 2/17 – Blood Drive
- 3/27 – Confirm reservation for Ocean Breeze



If you or a family member are interested in recovery from the mental, physical and spiritual effects of alcoholism and addiction, please contact us at this email: **BBCVB@cox.net** for more information.

Join Us Sundays:

Sunday School 9 a.m.
Service 10 a.m.