



**Happy New Year!**  
The Church Office will be closed on  
Monday, January 2nd.

**Fellowship Meal & Bible Study**

Join us for a fellowship lunch on  
Wednesday, January 4th at 11 AM  
in the Fellowship Hall.



**Church Council**

The Church Council will meet on January 12th at 7 PM.

**Backpacks for Hope Cards**

If you are interested in sending the 10 middle  
schoolers who receive food backpacks holiday cards,  
please drop them off in the church office.



**Offering Envelopes**

There has been a delay in the shipment of our 2023 offering envelopes.  
Generic offering envelope will be available in the SS classrooms and  
vestibule until the shipment arrives.



**Christmas Cards**

Don't forget to check the tables near the  
church offices for Christmas cards.

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**

Total Received: \$710.00  
Thank you for giving to the  
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering!



**January 1, 2023**



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### Sunday, January 1, 2023

Courage in Place of Fear (Matthew 14:22-33)

**The Point:** Courageously follow Jesus, even in fearful circumstances.

**The Bible Meets Life:** Some years ago, I chaperoned some students on a team-building excursion. One exercise involved standing on top of a thirty-foot pole and jumping to catch a trapeze bar. Of course, we would be harnessed in, but a lot of fear can run through your mind when you're standing thirty feet in the air. I know. I was "volunteered" to be the first one to make the jump.

Climbing the small pegs to the top of the pole was daunting; standing on the small platform was frightening. But the worst was yet to come.

Even though I was wearing a harness, fear gripped me as I looked at the trapeze bar six feet away. With a crowd of teenagers eyeing me, I counted to three and leaped. I grabbed the bar!

What was interesting is that fear didn't leave me. I leaped despite of it. That's courage: leaping in the face of fear. Jesus's disciples in Matthew 14 had an opportunity to exhibit such courage—and we do too. The key is fixing our eyes on Jesus, trusting that He will do what only He can do.

**Live It Out: Pray.** Identify those things that you might find intimidating or scary about following Christ in faith. Pray and ask God to strengthen your faith and trust in Him. **Speak.** It takes courage to talk to someone about forgiveness or to exhort someone to repent and come to Christ. Identify someone whom you need to talk with, pray for the opportunity, and courageously trust God to lead you in that conversation. **Go.** One of the scariest steps I have ever taken was to step out of my comfort zone and go on a mission trip. Talk to your church leaders about opportunities to go and serve Christ courageously for a week, two weeks, or for a lifetime.

### Upcoming Sunday Sermon Series

#### Putting Fear in its Place

Sunday, January 8 Joy in Place of Fear  
(Zephaniah 3:9-20)

#### Valued By God

Sunday, January 15 Valued By God  
(Psalm 139:1-10, 13-16)



### Opportunities for Ministry & Service

#### Sunday

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM Indoor Worship

10:00 AM Online Worship

#### Wednesday

11:00 AM Fellowship Lunch &  
Bible Study (Online)

6:30 PM Youth

#### Thursday

Jail Ministry

#### Deacon's Meeting

TODAY at 1 PM in  
the sanctuary.



#### Service Attendance

Sunday, December 25

No Indoor

Online: 128



Wednesday, December 28

Online Reach: N/A

No Youth

#### Monthly Budget & Offerings



Budget Needs:

\$18,566.08

December Offering

To Date: \$13,214.00

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering:

\$710.00

### Prayer Requests

Candy Anderson

Mike Helms

Nan Helms

The Hillman Family

Christine Hinson

Gabe Horne

Rich Majewski

Jenny Modesitt's Sister

Laura (Irene's daughter)

Rebecca (Susan's sister)

Norma Kilgore

The Stewart Family

Global Missions

Local & NAMB

Area Schools/Admin

1st Responders

The Sick & Elderly

The Poor

Backpacks of Hope Students



### A New Year's Prayer

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace."

Numbers 6:24-26

