Dear Families:

This week, we studied a passage from Deuteronomy in the Old Testament. The Israelites had just finished wandering in the desert for 40 years and were preparing to enter the land that God had promised them. Moses had led them all this time. However, he was old and was not to go with them any farther. While bidding the people farewell, Moses reminded them of some important advice. God had given His chosen people some rules to follow-rules that set them apart from all other people on Earth. They were not hard rules, but as everyone knows sometimes rules are still hard to follow! Moses reminded the people that God was giving them a choice: follow my rules and be my people, and you choose eternal life with God. Ignore my rules and ignore me, and you choose death. God does not want us to be His people by force; He gives us the choice. A relationship is no good unless people choose to be in it. So- what is your choice?

The next Hot Chocolate sale will take place after church today! We are planning to hold a hot chocolate sale after church each Sunday in February. All proceeds will benefit Literacy of Love. \$1 per cup!

We continue to collect bottle receipts to donate towards Literacy of Love. Any help would be appreciated.

Our Ash Wednesday service will be on February 22 in the chapel. Please plan on joining us. The congregation will also be working with the Sunday School on a Lent Challenge this year- stay tuned for more information!

We welcome all the scouts who joined us for Scout Sunday today! It was so wonderful having you here with us!

Thanks for joining us today! Carol McClellan CE Director