



Ogden Dunes Community Church

The Dunes News

December 2014

www.ogdenduneschurch.org

The Pastor's Pen "Advent"

We are now in the season of Advent. Over 300 prophecies were actually fulfilled at the coming of the Christ Child. This is unlike the National Enquirer which makes its physic predictions in January only to reveal at the end of the year that just a certain percentage of the predictions had actually been fulfilled.

The Bible says that the Christ Child would come from the Tribe of Judah; that He would be born of a virgin; that He would be born in Bethlehem; that He would have a miraculous ministry; that He would suffer and die; but three days later, He would resurrect from the dead. Everything was fulfilled as the Bible said.

The Christ Child is not a figurine. He cannot be found in a crèche. He is the ascended Lord sitting at the right hand of Father God. To acknowledge Jesus as "Lord," means to turn full control over to Him.

The next time you pray and address Jesus as "Lord," here is the A, B, C of what you are really saying:

- You **A**ffirm your allegiance to Him
- You **B**ow to His authority in all areas of your life
- You **C**ommit to Him all you are, have, and hope to be

The Christmas season can be summed up in one word - INCARNATION. It means: "God became flesh." It is beyond human understanding that the Creator of the universe, who is infinite and eternal, condescended to be born of a virgin in an Insignificant town called Bethlehem. How amazing!

- Though many have made Christmas a smorgasbord of commercialism, don't allow it to keep you from celebrating GOD DID BECOME FLESH!
- Remember that to experience Christmas, it is necessary to have Christmas (The Christ Child) in your heart, for you will never find it under a tree.
- Let the Season remind you that God is not distant, too busy, or engrossed with other challenges not to care for you; after all, GOD DID BECOME FLESH and has identified with all of us.

Have a Blessed Christmas,
Pastor Sewdin

Inside this issue:

- Advent Schedule
- Angel Tree


Special Points of Interest:

- ◆ Deacon Match Program
- ◆ Duneland Advent Festival



Angel Tree

The Deacons will have an Angel Tree to help send needed Christmas presents to boys and/or girls in our area. Some children in our area are in families that are currently struggling and these presents can help make their Christmas special. The Angels are provided by the Portage Trustee. We would like to encourage you to participate in our Angel Tree this year as we have a list of 15 Angel Tree Children. Gift due date is December 14th.





Advent 2014
Ogden Dunes
Community Church

December 24th, 9:00 P.M. Candlelight Service

Donations for decorations/poinsettias need to be turned in to the church office or placed in the collection plate by Sunday, December 8th. Donation cards can be found in the Narthex.

Poinsettias 6 ½" will be \$ 9.00 each
Poinsettias 7 ½" will be \$20.00 each

Ogden Dunes Community Church
Deacon's 2014 Match

The Deacons are pleased to offer a dollar for dollar matching challenge to double the impact of your end of the year giving. \$1,500 has been designated by the Deacons to enhance the Ogden Dunes Community Church's mission giving.

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|---------------------|
| Salvation Army | Sojourner Truth | Red Cross | Portage Food Pantry |
| Gabriel's Horn | Caring Place | Brad Harry | By the Hand |
| Frontline | NWI Food Bank | | |

To have your gift matched simply make a donation to the Ogden Dunes Community Church between now and December 31 designating the organization you wish to benefit on the attached form.

The following organizations might be considered for your giving and have benefited from our mission giving in the past:

Or you may choose to recommend another organization. All gifts must be for qualified not for profit organizations (501 (C) (3)).

Recommended minimum gift of \$25 and maximum of \$100.
Together we can make our gifts greater!

♪ Duneland Advent Festival ♪

Sanctuary Choir and Chancel Ringers will be performing at the Duneland Advent Festival on Friday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church in Chesterton.

Come out and support Ogden Dunes Church Sanctuary Choir and Chancel Ringers!



Historical Society of Ogden Dunes

"Downton Abbey" Holiday Tea

at Hour Glass Museum

Sunday, Dec. 7

2 sittings-Noon and 3 p.m.

\$15 per person

If interested in attending, please enclose a check along with your name and the time of the sitting that you would like to attend and put it in the Historical Society of Ogden Dunes mailbox by the entry of the Ogden Dunes Community Church by December 1.

HEAVEN'S CHRISTMAS PRESS RELEASE

Whenever an organization of the White House wants to announce some news worth knowing, they do so through "Press Releases." Likewise, on the very first Christmas, God sent His angel with a "Press Release" to all humanity on earth. Here it is:

- "I bring you good "tidings" . . .it is Good News!
- ". . .news of great joy". . .it is Joyful News!
- ". . .which shall be to all people". . .it is Global news!
- ". . .there is born". . .it is Nativity News!
- ". . .to you". . .it is Personal News!
- ". . .this day". . .it is Breaking News!
- ". . .a Savior". . .it is Saving News!
- ". . .who is Christ". . .it is Messianic News!
- ". . .the Lord". . .it is Life-Changing News!

PRIMETIMERS NEWS

Come join the Prime Timers' at noon on Tuesday, December 16, in the Church fellowship room for a catered lunch (\$8.00), a great program and fellowship with friends and neighbors.

The Choraliers are back! Twenty-six talented kids from Portage High will present a Christmas program performing in song and dance.

Visitors are welcome! Age is irrelevant. For reservations or questions call Karel Kears at 763-6493.



Ogden Dunes Community Church

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Ogden Dunes Community Church seeks to joyfully lead people to the transforming love of Christ.

The deadline for the next Dunes News is Dec. 15th.

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December Refreshment Schedule

Sunday, Dec. 7	P, Q, R, S, T
Sunday, Dec. 14	U, V, W, X, Y, Z
Sunday, Dec. 21	A, B, C, D, E
Sunday, Dec. 28	F, G, H, I, J

Hostess

Julia Hoham
Claudia Kleyweg
Jeri Kris
TBA

If your last name begins with the letters of the day, please consider bringing something to share for about 8-10 people. The Hostess will be responsible for preparing coffee, setting out refreshments, and cleaning up for that morning. If you are interested in volunteering to be a host /hostess for a future date, please call Jeri Kris at 926-8451.



Ogden Dunes Annual Tree Lighting

Please join us for the traditional Ogden Dunes Christmas tree lighting, cookies and hot cocoa, and visit from Santa on Sunday, December 7th at 4:30 p.m. at the Christmas tree to be followed at the Ogden Dunes Community Church for cocoa and cookies.

