



Ogden Dunes Community Church

# The Dunes News

January 2012

[www.ogdenduneschurch.org](http://www.ogdenduneschurch.org)

## The Spirituality Self-Seeking Church

The following is a page from “My Utmost For His Highest”: \*

‘ . . . till we all come . . . to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ . . . ’  
(Ephesians 4:13)

Reconciliation means the restoring of the relationship between the entire human race and God, putting it back to what God designed it to be. This is what Jesus Christ did in redemption. The church ceases to be spiritual when it becomes self-seeking, only interested in the development of its own organization. The reconciliation of the human race according to His plan means realizing Him not only in our lives individually, but also in our lives collectively. Jesus Christ sent apostles and teachers for this very purpose—that the corporate Person of Christ and His church, made up of many members, might be brought into being and made known. We are not here to develop a spiritual life on our own, or to enjoy a quiet spiritual retreat. We are here to have the full realization of Jesus Christ, for the purpose of building His body.

Am I building up the body of Christ, or am I only concerned about my own personal development? The essential thing is my personal relationship with Jesus Christ—” . . . That I may know Him . . . ” (Philippians 3:10). To fulfill God’s perfect design for me requires my total surrender—complete abandonment of myself to Him. Whenever I only want things for myself, the relationship is distorted. And I will suffer great humiliation once I come to acknowledge and understand that I have not really been concerned about realizing Jesus Christ Himself, but only concerned with knowing what He has done for me.

*My goal is God Himself, not joy nor peace,  
Nor even blessing, but Himself, my God.*

Am I measuring my life by this standard or by something less?

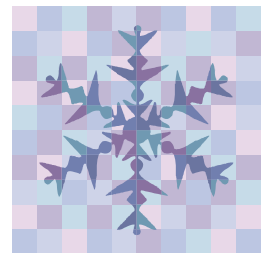
\* this book was a gift to Sunday School teachers at Ogden Dunes Church selected by Rev. Raafat Zaki.

### Inside this issue:

- Session Highlights
- Stewardship Update

### Special points of interest:

- ◆ January Pulpit
- ◆ Usher Thank-you



# DIDuKnow?

## Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will be held on January 22, 2012 at 11:45 a.m. All members are expected to attend.

## Annual Reports

Annual Reports from Committee Chairpersons and Staff are due in the office, in digital form (email, MS Word, etc.) no later than Jan 7<sup>th</sup>.

## New Year Holiday

In observance of the holiday, the church office will be closed on Monday.

## Meals on Wheels

2 hours  
(10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)  
2 days a month



If you have 2 days a month to spare, Meals on Wheels is in desperate need of volunteers to deliver meals to the elderly and shut-ins in the Portage Area.

If you would like to help with this worthy service, please call:

Janelle at (219) 531-8106  
Irene at (219) 947-7604

## January Pulpit

Jan. 1	Kenny Easton
Jan. 8	Rev. Phil Smith
Jan. 15	Bill Bailey
Jan. 22	Rev. Phil Smith (Communion)
Jan. 29	Kenny Easton



## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE ON PLEDGES

<u>Nov. Actual</u>	<u>Nov. Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
\$7,592.00	\$13,954.05	\$129,255.25	\$153,494.55

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# Session Highlights

December 13, 2011

**Congregational Petition:** A two part motion was made that Session formally present the Congregational Petition regarding Rev. Morrison to the Presbytery Council at the Council's January 24, 2012 meeting for a decision to rescind COM's decision to not renew Rev. Morrison's interim contract, and in addition, to lodge a formal complaint against COM's action pursuant to the book of order, if appropriate to a judicial consideration. The motion was seconded. Discussion was supportive of the motion because Presbytery has taken no action on the petition or responded to it. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.

**Presbytery Letter:** A motion was made to respond to the Presbytery's letter sent December 7th requesting a "town hall" meeting with the Congregation on January 1, with the following:

- Move the meeting to January 8<sup>th</sup> after the second service
- The Presbytery commit to report the findings of the "reconciliation sessions" including providing the written report
- A substantial portion of the Presbytery leadership team actually attend

Next steps in the pastoral search are clearly spelled out.

Motion seconded. Discussion: January 1 is New Year's Day and numerous people who have indicated a desire to attend will not be in town at this time. The Presbytery letter states that the findings of the reconciliation sessions would be one of the items it would like to discuss at the meeting. The letter indicates that the full Presbytery leadership team would attend. Session and the congregation need specificity on what the next steps are in finding a pastor. Without these conditions, the meeting would be a repeat of the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Annual Meeting:** The Congregational Annual Meeting has been set for January 22<sup>nd</sup>, after the second service.

The Worship Committee has the pulpit filled through January 29<sup>th</sup>.

# Ogden Dunes Community Church

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

«AddressBlock»

**The deadline for the next Dunes News is Jan. 15th .**

## January Refreshments

Hostess:

### 8:30 Service

Judy Selund Jan. 1  
Judy Selund Jan. 8  
Judy Selund Jan. 15  
Judy Selund Jan. 22  
Judy Selund Jan. 29

### 10:45 Service

Judy Selund  
Judy Selund  
Judy Selund  
Judy Selund  
Judy Selund

Refreshment Providers (last names beginning with letters shown):

Sunday, Jan. 1 —I, J, K, L  
Sunday, Jan. 8 —M, N, O, P, R  
Sunday, Jan. 15—S  
Sunday, Jan. 22—T, V, W, Z  
Sunday, Jan. 29—A, B, C, D



If you are providing refreshments, please offer to help the Hostess setup (8:30 service) or cleanup (10:45 service).



## Thank You

A big thank-you to all those who are helping as ushers. We know a lot of you are doing the job more than your share of times. We thank you enormously for doing "overtime".

Roger and Sue