



# The Dunes News

November 2014

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

## The Pastor's Pen "Thanksgiving"

The words "thank" and "think" come from the same root, reminding us that thanksgiving comes from thinking about our blessings. That's what David did in Psalm 34. He declared: "Bless the Lord at all times, I sought the Lord and He heard me and delivered me from all my fears."

As the 90-ton Mayflower sailed from the New World on August 5, 1620, the 102 Pilgrims huddled in dark, low-ceiling holds. The Pilgrims prayed and praised during their seven-week voyage. Upon landing "they fell upon their knees and blessed the God of heaven, who had brought them over the furious ocean and delivered them from all their perils and miseries..."

God deserves our thanksgiving too. He calms our storms and guides us to our desired haven. America's greatness is due to the deep convictions of her founders. Unfortunately, many have forgotten that half the Pilgrims died during their first winter in Plymouth. The onset of Spring found them wondering if any of them would survive, but that's when God intervened. An Indian named Squanto taught the Pilgrims how to catch eels, plant corn and survive by stalking deer, refining maple syrup, using herbs for medicine and trading beaver pelts. Without him, the Plymouth Colony would not have survived, and that's why at the end of growing season the Pilgrims and Indians celebrated Thanksgiving.

Similarly, our heavenly Father knows our needs before we ask and at unexpected moments, He will send us the right person or provision to help us. Just when you need Jesus, He is near—"ready to secure" says Thomas Jefferson, "when we recognize that those liberties are from God.." That's why we should make everyday a Thanksgiving.

Horatio Alger, Jr., was a 19th century author who wrote more than 130 novels ("divine novels") with one consistent theme: "rags-to-riches" story. Every story told how a poor boy was able to rise to middle-class comfort and security by hard work, perseverance, morality, and good deeds. Alger wrote at a time when the

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### Inside this issue:

- Food Drive
- Activities for November

### Special Points of Interest:

- ◆ Why we give to the church
- ◆ Thoughts on Veterans Day



Industrial Revolution was transforming the western World—especially America. There seemed to be no limit to what anyone could create. We need to remember, however, that the so-called “self-made person” who has achieved prosperity, did not do it on his or her own. Our creative minds, the air we breathe, the food we subsist on, the money we earn, they are all gifts of God. Were God to withdraw His supportive grace from this world, all our “self-made” achievements would crumble in an instant.

This biblical truth is not to make us feel guilty, but to make us grateful. The next time you enjoy an achievement or success, thank God for making it possible—“Give thanks with a grateful heart.”

Your friend and pastor,  
Rev. Sewdin

## **ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER**

Freewill Offering for Ebola victims will be held **on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Also, we will be partaking of Holy Communion.

### **Stewardship**

The first three Sundays of November (2, 9, 16) are our Stewardship Campaign for 2015. Kindly give prayerful consideration for your pledges for next year.

#### **Sunday, November 16**

- **Consecration Sunday (taking of pledges)**
- **Reception of New Members!**
- **Dinner in Honor of our New Members and A Time of Fellowship**

#### **Sunday, November 23**

On this Sunday, we will be celebrating our Thanksgiving Service.

#### **Sunday, November 30**

First Sunday in Advent

**Fall Back**

Don't forget to turn your clocks back an hour on Sunday, November 2nd!



## **Food Drive**



The deacons are sponsoring their food drive to benefit the Portage Food Pantry on November 14th, from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Drop off your grocery bag or monetary donation in front of the church.

## **THE RIGHT TO VOTE**

Exercise your right to vote on Tuesday, November 4th. Vote for the candidate who is good for our county and state. One who will promote justice and peace and will enhance our economic welfare. Remember, that no matter if your candidate does not get elected, you have exercised your right to vote.

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## Honoring Bill Warrick

Historical Society of Ogden Dunes will honor our own news and history recorder, Bill Warrick. The program and celebration will be held at the Ogden Dunes Community Hall on Sunday, November 16, at 4:00 p.m. This visual program will be on the history of Ogden Dunes. Historical Society of Ogden Dunes invites all of you to attend to honor Bill Warrick, a master of visual history. If you would like to be included in the program to recognize Bill, please contact Susan Clouser or Dorothy Kurtz. Refreshments will be served.

Prior to the Warrick Recognition at the Ogden Dunes Community hall, the Hour Glass Museum at 8 Lupine will be hosting its monthly Open House between 2:00– 4:00 p.m. Stop by to view the displays at the Hour Glass.

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## It's Pledge Time

### Why we give to the church

We give to the work of Christ's church a portion of the gifts that God has already given us. We give:

- in response to God's grace in sending His Son;
- in response to the love of Jesus Christ's dying for us;
- in response to the gifts of life which we have so abundantly received;
- in response to the opportunities God gives us to discover the meaning and purpose of life;
- in response to His presence in our lives when we need Him the most.

### ***The Bible according to kids***

Children say the funniest things about Scripture. Here are a few examples:

- "In the first book of the Bible, God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off."
- "Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients."
- "The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterward, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Amendments"
- "The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him."
- "When Mary heard that she was the mother of Jesus, she sang the Magna Carta."

## **PRIMETIMERS NEWS**

Come join the Prime Timers' at noon on Tuesday, November 18, in the Church fellowship room for a catered lunch (\$8.00), a great program and fellowship with friends and neighbors.

The program is all about the Port of Indiana in Burns Harbor and will be presented by Rick Heimann, Port Director, and Nikolas Szymarek, Operations Manager. If you don't know what goes on at the Port and about everything that is there you will be amazed!

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

Also save the date – December 16. **The Choraliers are back!** Twenty-six talented kids from Portage High will present a Christmas program performing in song and dance

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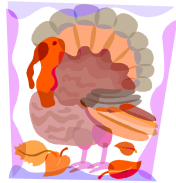
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**Ogden Dunes Community Church seeks to joyfully lead people to the transforming love of Christ.**

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

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## November Refreshment Schedule

### Hostess

Sunday, Nov. 2	U, V, W, X, Y, Z	Sue Squire
Sunday, Nov. 9	A, B, C, D, E	Liz Crouch
Sunday, Nov. 16	Consecration Sunday (Potluck)	
Sunday, Nov. 23	F, G, H, I, J	Patty Harbaugh
Sunday, Nov. 30	K, L, M, N, O	Amy Norris

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.



## Thoughts for Veterans Day

Abraham Lincoln gave his second Inaugural Address on March 4, 1865, as the Civil War

was raging. He said, "Fondly do we hope — fervently do we pray — that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away." Lincoln's next paragraph is especially appropriate for Veterans Day:

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan — to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

When President Lincoln finished his classic oration, he reportedly kissed the Bible and left the platform. He was assassinated the next month.