



Ogden Dunes Community Church

# The Dunes News

December 2012

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

## "....An Elder shares..."

Nearly 400 years ago this celebration we now know as Thanksgiving began, currently such an abundant time for Americans, but not so for this small group of pilgrims. I can barely imagine the bleakness, disease and starvation facing them or their level of desperation and hardship as they faced this "New World" until the Indians showed them how to grow their own food and survive. Thus came the three day autumn festival shared with their new friends.

During the Civil War, President Lincoln declared the first national Thanksgiving holiday, quoting at the time "These bounties which are so constantly enjoyed as gracious gifts attributed to the Most High God. . . I do therefore invite my fellow citizens to set apart a day of *Thanksgiving and Praise to thank our benevolent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens*".

I have recently been reminded to give thanks for family. It is an easy enough thing to take for granted in the pursuit of the good and productive life. But, I was quickly drawn into reflection by the loss of a beloved uncle who had lived a charmed and successful life, surviving world War II in some of the most devastating places in Europe. He was an inspiration, as at the age of 94, he greeted each day with humility and gratitude for the life he had been given, a life well beyond his youthful imagination. May I endeavor to set apart time in these coming days and during the blessed season to come to express both praise and thanks to our benevolent Father.

Jane Dickey

### Inside this issue:

- Advent Schedule
- Deacon's Gift Match

### Special Points of Interest:

- ◆ Prime Timers
- ◆ Duneland Advent Festival

### December Pulpit Supply

December 3	Chuck Smothermon
December 9	Rev. Phil Smith
December 16	Rev. Phil Smith (Communion)
December 23	Bill Bailey
December 24	Rev. Phil Smith
December 30	Rev. Phil Smith





## ♪ Duneland Advent Festival ♪

Sanctuary Choir and Chancel Ringers will be performing at the Duneland Advent Festival on Friday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church in Chesterton.

This is a wonderful addition to all of the holiday festivities as Christmas music is performed by groups from many churches.

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



## A Note from the Stewardship Committee

A reminder from the Stewardship Committee: Pledges are slow coming in this year so we are not where we need to be in order to meet a budget comparable to last year's budget. If you need a pledge card you will find them in the narthex or church office. After you have filled it out you may drop it in the offering plate during worship or return it to the church office. We pray that this Advent Season will be an especially joyous season for Ogden Dunes Church.

## Thanks to All for Attending the Ogden Dunes Community Church Pumpkin 5K Run/ Walk

On October 21st, we held the Pumpkin 5K Run/ Walk following the 10 a.m. service. We had a great turn out with over 60 participants. Thanks to everyone that volunteered, attended the event, and/or provided a donation to Heifer International. The proceeds from the event totaled \$1,133.72 and will go towards Heifer International to purchase 2 heifers, 1 lamb and \$13.72 to go wherever it is most needed to Heifer International. These animals will help families own/raise livestock to provide a better future for themselves and their communities. We would like to thank everyone for their participation for Heifer International.



## PRIMETIMERS NEWS

Come join the Prime Timers Tuesday, December 18, 2012 at 12:00 noon in the Church fellowship room for their monthly program and luncheon.

The program for this month is to be announced.

The luncheon will be catered by Town and Country. Join us and bring a friend. We welcome guests and potential new members. Please honor your reservation. If you have any questions, call Anne Muntean at 763-4989.

# DIDuKnow?

## Christmas Holiday

In observance of the holiday, the church office will be closed on Monday December 24, Tuesday, December 25 and Wednesday, December 26.

### Ogden Dunes Historical Society

Ogden Dunes Historical Society presents its Annual Traditional English Tea on December 9. There is one tea seating at 12:00 p.m. and another at 3:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Hour Glass Museum on Lupine Lane. For reservations call Judy Petrou at 763-2186 or Susan Clouser at 763-2322



## Advent 2012

### Ogden Dunes Community Church

November 28<sup>th</sup> Hanging of the Greens

(4:30 P.M. Decorating, 5:30 P.M. Supper)

December 24<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 P.M. Family Service

December 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 P.M. Candlelight Service

Donations for decorations/poinsettias will be taken after Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Cards will be in the Narthex.

## Ogden Dunes Community Church

### Deacon's 2012 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.

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:

Salvation Army	Sojourner Truth	Red Cross	Portage Food Pantry
Gabriel's Horn	Caring Place	Brad Harry	Tom Becker
Linda Crouch	By the Hand	NWI Food Bank	Frontline

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!**



## Ogden Dunes Community Church

116 Hillcrest Road  
Ogden Dunes, Indiana 46368

Phone: 219-762-1184

Fax: 219-763-1189

E-mail:

office@ogdenduneschurch.org

www.ogdenduneschurch.org

**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.**

Non-Profit Org  
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Ms. Julia Hoham or Current Resident

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## December Refreshments

Following the 10:00 a.m. Worship service, refreshments, including coffee, will be available in the Fellowship hall. If your last name begins with the letter of the day, please provide snacks of your choice. The host/hostess for the day will set snacks and coffee out for everyone's enjoyment after the service.

### Hostess

Sunday, Dec. 2—U, V, W, X, Y, Z

Patty Harbaugh

Sunday, Dec. 9—A, B, C, D, E

Sunday, Dec. 16—F, G, H, I, J

Sue Squire

Sunday, Dec. 23—K, L, M, N, O

Jeri Kris

Sunday, Dec. 30—P, Q, R, S, T

## 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 plan to have a list of 15 Angel Tree Children. Gifts are due by noon on December 13th.



## December Movie Night - The Nativity Story

December 8 at 7:00 p.m.

"The Nativity Story", a family inspirational movie telling of the birth of Christ, PG, Dove rated.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, December 23 and Sunday, December 30.