



Ogden Dunes Community Church

# The Dunes News

March 2014

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

## The Pastor's Pen

As we enter the Lenten season with the focus on the Passion of the Christ, I want to consider the importance of Jesus Christ in the lives of people. Millions of people seem satisfied in their non-Christian faith. More people than ever doubt that any single religion has a corner on truth. So why do Christians insist that "Jesus is the way, the truth and the life" to God? Christianity sees Jesus Christ as the exclusive way to God—and not one of the ways to God.

Jesus Christ is the living embodiment of God's character. To discover how God acts in the world, we have to look to Jesus. As the divine incarnation of God's love and mission, Jesus exemplifies the Way of God in the world. He was with God "in the beginning" and was sent into the world, not only to tell us about God, but to demonstrate how God wants us to live.

How does God want us to live? The short answer is that God calls us to love one another: "Let us love one another, for love comes from God...Whoever does not love does not know God because God is love" (1 John 4:7,8).

The affirmation of Jesus as "The Way" means that He shows us who God is and how God acts in the world. All roads do not lead to God. The Way of Jesus is the Way of love, the Way of humility and self-denial for the sake of others. Denial of the uniqueness of Jesus makes null and void his redemptive work He accomplished on the Cross.

Furthermore, "Jesus is the Truth." He is the Son of God and the living embodiment of truth. Jesus is categorically different from all religious leaders in every other religion. He is not a mere Teacher, a Prophet, a Messenger from God - rather, He is the Son of God. Jesus was with God at Creation. "Through Him all things were made...In Him was life and that life was the light of all people." (See John 1:1-5)

In Jesus, truth is not abstract, intellectual or moral but personal and relational. Other religious leaders point us to the truth of God, but Jesus is Truth itself.

Finally, Jesus is not only the Way, the Truth, but He is also "the Life" (John 14:6).

Every religious leader has died. There is no claim of a

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### Special Points of Interest:

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- ◆ Easter Cantata



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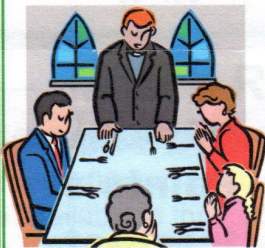
Resurrection. But Jesus did not only die, and was buried, but He rose again from the dead on the third day. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father. Jesus conquered Death at Easter. He is the Supreme Lord of Life and of Death.

As a result, Christianity does not propose one more way to God or another way of enlightenment. Rather, it claims exclusivity that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God, and that "He is the Way, the Truth and the Life." He is not a distant God, immune to the human condition. Jesus suffered immeasurably on humanity's behalf. He is the only way to Father God. Trust Him today! Recommit your life to Him! He loves you with an everlasting love.

May the blessing of the Lord be upon you during the season of Lent!

Pastor Sewdin

### Lenten Services and Potluck Dinners



Beginning on Ash Wednesday (March 5th) and every Wednesday there after during the Lenten season, there will be a Potluck Dinner at the church from 6:00 to 7:00 pm.

followed by a Lenten service from 7:15 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The meditation (sermon) during this season will be on the Seven Last Words of Jesus from the Cross.

Kindly make a special effort to come for fellowship and worship. **ALL ARE INVITED!** You don't have to be a member to join us!

### Lent and repentance

Lent is a season of repentance. But for many of us, "repentance" is an offensive word. It sounds so remorseful.

In reality, it isn't remorseful at all. The root word for "repentance" is the Greek word *metanoia*, from which our word "metamorphosis" comes. The great image of this is the butterfly emerging from its cocoon; the caterpillar being transformed into new life.

No one is remorseful about that! Nor should we be with repentance, which involves leaving the past and emerging into new life.

## PRIMETIMERS NEWS

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

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 Karel Kears at 763-6493.



## DIDuKnow?

### Daylight Savings Time

Kindly note that Sunday, March 9th, Daylight savings Time Begins. So don't forget to TURN YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD BY ONE HOUR at midnight before you go to bed on Saturday, March 8th.



## EXCITING UPCOMING EVENT

### Easter Cantata and Drama

A special Easter Cantata along with Drama will be held on Sunday, April 6th at 10:00 a.m. at the Ogden Dunes Community Church. You just wouldn't want to miss this.

### INSTALLMENT SERVICE

The installment service of our new minister, The Rev. Dr. Lloyd Sewdin, will be on Sunday, March 2nd at 3:30 p.m. at the Ogden Dunes Community Church. A reception will be held following the service. Everyone is invited to come and join in this celebratory service.



### A Puritan Prayer



*Blessed Lord Jesus,  
Before Thy Cross I kneel and see the heinousness  
of my sin,  
My iniquity that cause Thee to be  
'made a curse'.*

*Thy blood is the blood of incarnate God, its worth  
infinite, its value beyond all thought. Infinite must be  
the evil and guilt that demands such a price...  
Yet thy compassions yearn over me, Thy heart hastens  
to my rescue. Thy love endured my curse,  
Thy Mercy bore my deserved stripes.*

*Let me walk humbly in the lowest depths of humiliation,  
bathed in Thy blood tender of conscience,  
triumphing gloriously as an heir of salvation.*

## Sermon Titles

The emphasis on the sermons for the month of March will be on "Inner Healing." Each sermon will deal with a specific inner pain. You wouldn't want to miss this exciting series.

Sunday, March 2	Overcoming Silent Frustration
Sunday, March 9	Inner Healing for the Bruised
Sunday, March 16	Inner Healing for the Hopeless
Sunday, March 23	Inner Healing for the Depressed
Sunday, March 30	Inner Healing for the Sad and Helpless



## 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 March 15th.**

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## March Refreshments

After the 10:00 am. service, refreshments, including coffee, will be available in the Fellowship hall following worship. 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.

Sunday, March 2	A, B, C, D, E
Sunday, March 9	F, G, H, I, J
Sunday, March 16	K, L, M, N, O
Sunday, March 23	P, Q, R, S, T
Sunday, March 30	U, V, W, X, Y, Z

### Hostess

Cheryl Engel  
Barbara Sewdin  
Judy Selund  
Jill Wirth  
Barb Homme

Please call Jeri Kris at 926-8451 to volunteer to be a host/hostess for later dates.



## 30 Pieces of Silver



Judas betrayed Christ for 30 pieces of silver, As Christians, we will redeem

Judas' money by giving 30 pieces of silver for a worthy mission cause. Containers are available at the church to put your "silver coins" in. We will collect your "love coins" on Palm Sunday. Anyone can participate in this redemption program.