

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 Jan. 15th.

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January Refreshment
Schedule

		Hostess
Sunday, Jan. 7	K,L,M,N,O	Jayne Mann
Sunday, Jan. 14	P,Q,R,S,T	Lauren DeFauw
Sunday, Jan. 21	U,V,W,X,Y,Z	Sherry Ashby Modrak
Sunday, Jan. 28	A,B,C,D,E	Judy Spornick

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 Sue Squire at 762-1428.



THERE ARE NO
DO-OVERS IN REAL
LIFE...RIGHT?
WRONG!!

You can't erase the mistakes of the past but God can do better. He can use those mistakes to transform your life and give you an incredible destiny. Remember:

- Sarah as a Doubter
- Moses was a Murderer
- Rahab was a Harlot
- Peter as an Apostate...

and yet God transformed their lives in a big way. THINK OF



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The Dunes
News

January 2019

www.ogdenduneschurch.org

The Pastor's Pen

"Looking Ahead and Not Behind"

The tradition of making resolutions for the new year dates back to ancient Babylon. It was connected then with the New Moon, which signaled the end of the winter season. It was in 153 B.C. when the romans declared January 1 as the New Year.

Today, many of us will begin the New year making resolutions. Here is an example of the great revivalist, Jonathan Edwards, his New Year's resolutions.

Be it resolved, I promise:

- To live with all my might while I do live.
- Never to lose one moment of time, to improve it in the most profitably way I can.
- Never do anything which I should despise or think meanly of others.
- Never to do anything out of revenge.
- Never to do anything which I would be afraid to do if it were the last hour of my life.

As we face the tradition of "resolutions" as Christians, we should remember three important restrictions from Scripture:

First, whatever we promise must be genuine, truthful and from our hearts. The Bible says: :Let your Yes be Yes and your No be No or you will be condemned." (James 5:12)

Second, God takes your vows seriously. "When you make a vow a vow to God," the Bible says, do not delay in fulfilling it. God has no

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this
issue:

- "A New Leaf"
- The Best Gifts

Special
Points
of
Interest:

- ♦ Throwing Out The Old
- ♦ Sandpiper Pre-school Open House



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those parts of our personalities that are not pleasing to God and, in some cases, tend toward sin. If you see an area in your life that needs God's help—attitude, thought-life, words, lifestyle, etc.—acknowledge it to God. If there is an area from which you are excluding God, confess it to God and make a fresh commitment to Christ.

Make a determined purpose to stay close to God this year. Seek to produce the fruit of the Spirit in your life. Allow the Holy Spirit to grow His fruit in you. Plan to be a better person in 2018 than you were in 2017. Let your life be an example of Christ in words, actions and lifestyle.

Have a Blessed New Year!

"A New Leaf"

*He came to my desk with quivering lip -
The lesson was done.
"Dear Teacher, I want a new leaf,"
he said,
"I have spoiled this one."
I took the old leaf, stained and blotted,
And gave him a new one all unspotted,
And into his sad eyes smiled,
"Do better, now, my child."

I went to the throne with a quivering
soul —
The old year was done.
"Dear father, hast Thou a new leaf for
me?
I have spoiled this one."
He took the old leaf, stained and
blotted,
And gave me a new one all unspotted,
And into my sad heart smiled,*

Throwing Out The Old

Those inventive people, the Italians, have a custom. As midnight on New Year's Eve approaches, the streets are clear. There is no traffic; there are no pedestrians; even the policemen take cover. Then, at the strike of 12, the windows of the houses fly open. To the sound of laughter, music and fireworks, each member of the family pitches out old crockery, detested ornaments, hated furniture and a whole catalogue of personal possessions which remind them of something in the past year they are determined to wipe out of their minds.



Sandpiper Preschool Open House

- Please join us on Saturday, January 27th from 9:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Meet the teachers and learn about our programs.
- Applications for the 2018-2019 school year will begin being accepted on that date. For more

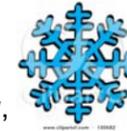
PRIMETIMERS NEWS

There will be no Prime Timers meetings during January and February of 2018. Our next scheduled event is March 20, 2018. See you in 2018. If more information is needed, call Judy Petrou at

DID u Know?

Communion

Communion will be served for the New Year on Sunday, January 7th .



Annual Meeting

Our Annual Congregational Business Meeting will be held on February 25th following the morning worship. 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,



The Best Gifts

The best gifts are not those we buy, wrapped in colored paper and adorned with tinsel, but those we give from the treasures of our hearts and wrapped in the intangibles of grace and goodwill:

To little children—Smiles of encouragement and words of cheer as they step, a little bewilderingly, into the first experiences of life;

To youth—A helping hand in their quest for good romance and adventure, without which youth cannot live;

To old age—Some opportunity for dreaming dreams;

To life and the things of life—Some measure of devotion which will enliven the common ways and ennoble the common tasks;

And to posterity—The legacy of a good name and good work well done.

ONGOING INCARNATION

When Mary gave birth to the Christ-Child, she participated in an act of divine creation that continues to this day. Christina Rossetti puts it this way—

"What can I give Him poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring Him a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part. O what can I give Him? GIVE HIM A HEART!"

But wouldn't it be wonderful if we can intentionally give the gift of forgiveness and grace? Through Christ's incarnation, sacrificial death, and resurrection we have received a wholly undeserved gift. "For God demonstrates His own love for us in this—while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.: (Romans 5:8)

Because God has given this Gift to us He calls "to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10)