

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 April 15th.

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April 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.

		<u>Hostess</u>
Sunday, April 2	K,L,M,N,O	Judy Skafish
Sunday, April 9	P,Q,R,S,T	Sheri Ashby-Modrak
Sunday, April 16	Easter Breakfast	
Sunday, April 23	U,V,W,X,Y,Z	Stacy Layman
Sunday, April 30	A,B,C,D,E	Jacque Nagy



Please call Sue Squire at 762-1428 to volunteer to be a host/hostess for later dates.

PRIMETIMERS NEWS

People of any age are welcome to attend the Prime Timers meetings and luncheons. The April 18th meeting will feature a presentation by Janet Clem of the Bonner Center in Portage. She will discuss its programs and other services provided by the Portage Township Trustee's office which may be of interest. Luncheon will be served at noon in the Ogden Dunes Community Church Fellowship hall. Cost is a mere \$9.00. Join us for stimulating fellowship and good food. Please give the Prime Timers a try no matter what age you are.



Ogden Dunes Community  
Church

The Dunes  
News

April 2017

www.ogdenduneschurch.org

NOT ASHAMED

*For I am not ashamed of the  
gospel, for it is the power of  
God for salvation  
to everyone who believes."*

- Romans 1:16, ESV



1

Shall atheists dare insult the cross  
Of our Redeemer, God?  
Shall infidels reproach His laws,  
Or trample on His blood?

Then let our faith grow firm and strong,  
Our lips profess His Word;  
Nor blush nor fear to walk among  
The men that love the Lord.

-Isaac Watts

2

Whatever happens, we must, each  
one, extol the Lord! Whether the world  
grows atheistic or devout, our duty and  
our joy are one and the same—we are  
still to magnify the Lord our God.

- C. H. Spurgeon

3

Let me never be ashamed of the truth  
of the Gospel, that I may bear its  
reproach, vindicate it, see Jesus as its  
essence, know in it the power of the  
Spirit. Amen.

- A Puritan Prayer

Inside  
this  
issue:

- Responding to the Resurrection
- Easter Schedule

Special  
Points of  
Interest:

- ◆ Easter Flower Donation
- ◆ Prime Timers News





### SIXTH WEDNESDAY IN LENT

April 5<sup>th</sup>

*Lenten Potluck Dinner at 6:15 p.m.*

Lenten Meditation at 7:15 p.m.  
in the Sanctuary

*Sixth Words: "It is finished."  
(Word of Victory)*

*Seventh Words: "Into Your Hands I Commit  
My Spirit."  
(Word of Commitment)*

*(Word of Commitment)*

*Nursery Provided*

### HOLY WEEK

#### PALM SUNDAY

April 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Adult Classes: 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Service: 10:00 a.m.

*Nursery Provided*

MEDITATION

*"Being Palm Tree Christians"*

Reception of New Members

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

**A Tenebrae Communion Service**

Meditation

*"Following in the Footsteps of Christ"*

### GOOD FRIDAY

April 14<sup>th</sup> -- 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Prayer Vigil**

(Half-Hour Slots)

**Prayer Guide Provided on  
THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### EASTER SUNDAY

April 16<sup>th</sup>

**Sunrise Service at 7:30 a.m.**

Easter Meditation

**Easter Breakfast**

from

8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

**(Hosted by Deacons)**

**Traditional Easter Service**

in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m.

*Nursery Provided*



## Responding to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Today we live in a world filled with skeptics in matters of faith. Many will only believe based on irresistible logic and verifiable facts. But the resurrection of Jesus did not originate from primitive beliefs and dogmatic suppositions. It did take place. There is an empty tomb.

After the death of Jesus was confirmed by the centurion's spear, two of Jesus' secret disciples in the Sanhedrin requested permission to take care of His Body. But what good is the dead to the living?

Belief in a living Christ is very crucial to Christians because it has broad ramifications and profound impact. The implications of the resurrection are not limited to history or philosophy. To deny the resurrection is to deny the Bible. To deny the Bible is to deny the existence of God. To deny the existence of God is to deny the reality of truth or meaning. Even those who reject the resurrection understand this. People who are confronted with the resurrection of Jesus generally respond in one of four ways:

- **Some Believe with Indirect Evidence:** *When the disciples viewed the empty tomb and saw the grave wrappings, they knew Jesus had risen (John 20:1-10).*
- **Some were Slow to Believe:** *They initially responded to the Lord's presence with fear and then slowly accepted the reality of His resurrection (John 20:19-23, 26-28).*
- **Some Believed with Direct Evidence:** *They were either confused or doubtful until they saw the risen Lord with their own eyes (John 20:11-18).*
- **Some Believed Without Evidence—Indirect or Direct:** *They believed based on the premises of the Old testament, the predictions of Jesus, and the testimony of credible witnesses (John 20:29).*

Note that after His resurrection, Jesus appeared only to believers. It was not because they doubted the truthfulness of His claims; they merely thought it was too good to be true.

Faith and evidence are not unrelated in the Christian life; they are crucial elements. Trust in God must come first; then evidence is helpful. Apart from belief, evidence is useless.

The greatest proof of the resurrection is the transformation of lives. Every disciple (apart from John) died in horrific ways. If they were not fully convinced that Jesus was alive, why would they choose to die in such terrible ways and circumstances?

## Flower Donations Sought



The regal white Easter lily is a fitting symbol of Easter, embodying purity, joy, hope and life. The shape of the lily is like a trumpet proclaiming that "Christ has Risen Indeed!" The Worship Committee will be decorating the Sanctuary for the glory of God on Easter Sunday. If there is someone you would like to honor on Easter Sunday, please consider making a donation of Easter Lilies. It could be a small plant (\$9.00) or a large plant (\$16.00). Donations should be placed in the Offering Plate or turned into the office by Sunday, April 10th.

## 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. Please put your coins in a container and we will collect your "love coins" on Palm Sunday. Anyone interested can participate in this redemption program. Thank you for caring!

### The Message of the Empty Tomb

To SCIENCE and PHILOSOPHY:

*"Explain this event!"*

To HISTORY: *"Repeat this event!"*

To TIME: *"Blot out this event!"*