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Greenmont-Oak Park  
Community Church  
1921 Woodman Drive  
Kettering, Ohio 45420

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# Chimes

Greenmont-Oak Park Community UCC



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Website: [www.greenmontoakpark.com](http://www.greenmontoakpark.com)

#### Office Hours

1921 Woodman Dr  
Kettering, Oh 45420  
9 AM—3 PM Mon.—Fri.  
Telephone: 252-6705

Interim

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Robert Smitley

PastorBob

@greenmontoakpark.com

937-307-7874

**Office Manager:** Nova Kigar

office@greenmontoakpark.com

**Youth Leader:** Sheri Parrett

**Admin. Chairperson:**

Suzanne Slaidins-Dull

**Interim Choir Director:**

Laura Von Holle

**Organists:**

Mary Jane McBride

Shelley Outlaw

**Chapel Worship: 8:45 AM**

**Morning Worship: 10:45 AM**

**Sunday School: 9:30 AM**

**Bible Adventure: 10:45 AM**

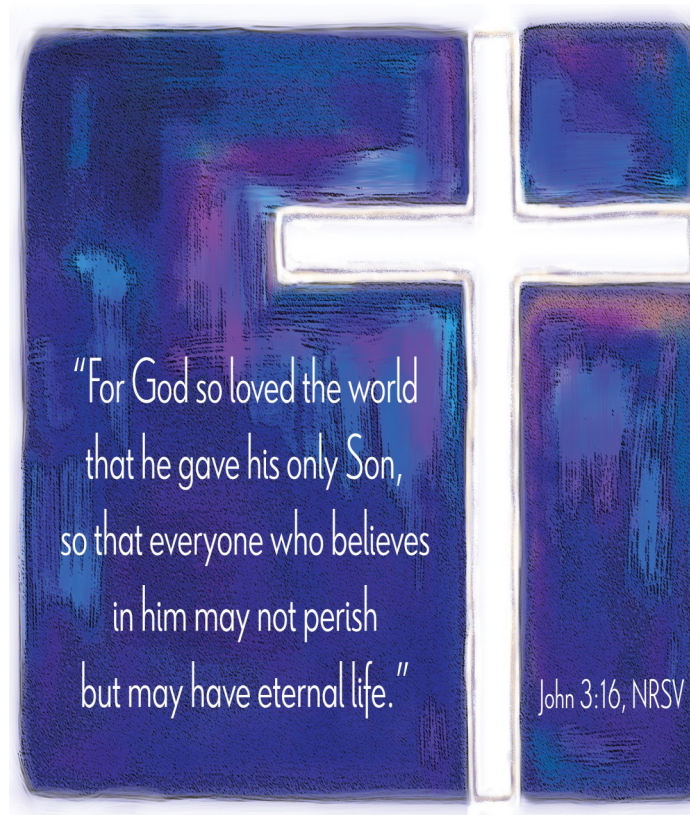
**Ushers:**

**8:45 AM**                      **10:45 AM**

Gary Etter                      Frank Taylor

Arlene Uldrich                Jerry Archer

Charlene Brown



"For God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes  
in him may not perish  
but may have eternal life."

John 3:16, NRSV

**WORSHIP LEADER:**

Loretta Liesch—Apr. 6

John Slaidins—Apr. 13

**GREETER:**

Andrew Cavin—Apr.

## ANSWERED GOD'S WAY

On the last night of his earthly life, Jesus went from the Last Supper to Gethsemane to pray. His disciples followed him, and his counsel to them was, "Pray." Jesus' prayer was not a long one, but it was one of the greatest prayers ever made. "Father, if Thou art willing,, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will but Thine be done" (Lk 22:42). Confronted with suffering and death as the culmination of his mission, Jesus asks the Heavenly Father to remove this cup from him. He gives honest expression to his personal desire. Would he cling to his love of life against the constraint of his mission? A drama is being enacted in Gethsemane. Will he abandon the direction God is guiding him to walk beneath the banner of some plausibility? How easy it would be for him to do that, to ask God to let him carry on the wonderful work of teaching and healing that he had begun, but had had so little time to complete! Which way will it be? Will the claims of self win over the claims of God? Or will he be able to give his life to God in total trust? It is the supreme moment of decision, an agonizing crisis of the soul. "And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down upon the ground". (Lk22:24)

Jesus' prayer was answered, but not in the way he asked for it to be answered. The cup was not taken from him. Would Jesus give himself in total trust to God who would not answer his prayer in the way he wanted it to be answered? Would it be his will or God's will? Could Jesus pray that most difficult of all prayers, the prayer of relinquishment? Could he turn it all over to God, letting God have His will and His way, believing that however dark the appearance, God's answer is only that which is good?

It is the hour of crisis for Jesus and his life mission, and for the destiny of mankind. "Nevertheless" – this is the turning point, the word of relinquishment that yields all personal desires to the guidance of God. And now Jesus says it, "Nevertheless, not my will, but Thine, be done." It is the moment of complete consecration, and the blessing of Heaven is on it. "And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him." It is for us the moment of spiritual victory when all our desires are swept up in the eager consecration of our life to the glory of God.

The artist Hoffman has given magnificent portrayal of the moment of triumph in his painting of Jesus kneeling in Gethsemane. The light falls on the Godward side of tension. Jesus' prayer of relinquishment is rewarded and confirmed by God, whose grace gives a glory and a shining splendor to this tragic hour. Now Jesus is ready to move through the dark experiences of mockery, scorn, and death, not as a victim, but as a Victor; as one who is able to give life because he belongs to God and walks in God's own strength. One feels that the victory was won here in the olive orchard of Gethsemane. The sting and hurt are taken out of the black events that follow – the arrest, the mockery, the condemnation, the scourging, the suffering death of the cross. Already he has won the victory which gives him the secret of power and peace, for he is accomplishing God's mission.

How this dramatic story touches the depths of our spirits! We share the experience of conflict between our desires and the will of God; can we win through to the "nevertheless," that hinge upon which our true life turns? The words that we repeat everytime we say the Lord's Prayer are packed with moral and spiritual dynamite: "Thy will be done." That is a prayer that must give us pause and deep searching of soul. For we are so concerned that our will shall be done, that the purposes we entertain shall be carried out in the fashion we have designated in our own thought, that to say to God, "thy will be done" is to lift a prayer with tremendous consequences. It could shatter our self-centered desires and purposes that we cherish. Is this not what we fear about prayer – not that our prayers will not be answered, but that they will? We are afraid to let go and let God take charge. We fear the awesome splendor of answered prayer!

Prayer is not easy. It is not a matter of asking God to give us what we want. We tend to treat God as a celestial bellhop, so that when we say, "I would like this," He will get it for us. Answered prayer may go against what we want. All prayers are answered, But the answer may not be the one we desire. It may not be the word of approval – "Go." It may be the word that stops us – "No." It may be the word that counsels patience – "Grow." For Christian prayers have to be answered according to God's will - not ours. If it were otherwise, prayer would decline into magic. If you seek to manipulate God to fit your desires and to answer your requests in the way you want by saying the

### Attendance - Mar.23 & 30 2014

8:45 — 22,26  
10:45 — 64, 69  
Sunday school — 27, 28

### Offering—operating income

(Monthly budget need is \$14,958)

	Income rec'd	+/- Amt.
Dec. '13	\$38,886	+ 23,928
Jan. '14	\$9,670	- 5,288
Feb. '14	\$12,075	- 2,883
Mar. '14	\$13,731	-1,227

### Happy Birthday

Peggy Goldberg—Mar. 30  
Jane Simmons—Mar. 30  
Cleta Dicks—Apr. 1  
Greg Robinson—Apr. 1  
Abbey Roalef—Apr. 1  
Les George—Apr. 4  
Ken Hambrick, Sr—Apr. 4  
Tiffany Kalaitzidis—Apr. 9  
Jordan Erbes—Apr. 14  
Frank Heath—Apr. 17



### In Our Prayers

Liz Ancil  
Cheryl Barnett  
Glenda Boddie  
Jim Coleman  
Ceci (Cobb) Cole  
Jamie Geswein  
Bill Hine  
Dustin Knowlton



Kevin Bader  
Russell Berk  
Ginny Breckler  
Michelle Conn  
John George  
Ken Hambrick  
Don Keltner  
Onu Kolossova

Rosaline Lam  
Bob McCray  
Naysa Morgan  
John Parnell  
Pat Reeger  
Deb Richey  
Beverly Smith  
Wayne Stolich  
Paul Stutz  
Gina Van Camp  
Pat White

Kelly McRonney  
Hilda Mobley  
Karolina O'Donnell  
Cindy Romano  
Calire Riccos  
Tom Scheit  
Diana Smith  
Michelle Strom  
Gloria Van Camp  
Evelyn Wheeler  
Mary Willett

As prayers are answered—please let the church office know.

### Those in Nursing Care

Mary Lou Chaney – Bethany Vlg.  
Margaret Cobb – Walnut Creek  
Margaret Dill – Masonic Home  
Doris Greenwood—Grand Court  
Ginny Hambrick—Walnut Creek  
Vern Hine—St. Leonard Center  
Lottie Jaeger – The Oaks, West Kett  
Verdena Mardis—Sterling House  
Lena Patterson – Liberty Woods

### Military

Kirby Brooks— USA (A Brooks son)  
Scott Certain –Afghanistan (Jay's son-in-law)  
Adam Reeves -S Korea (Edna's grand-son)  
Casey Ryan - USA (Weyrauch son-in-law)

## 5 Rivers Metro Park Clean-Up

Sat. April 19, 2014

Join the Greenmont Church crew for a morning at a Metro Park or River Site. Free T-Shirt, gloves, and garbage bags will be provided!

8:30 to 9—check in

9 to 11:30 work at site

11:30 –1:30 free lunch at Riverscape

Sign-up on Bulletin Board or contact Connie Sink, 654-0205

You will be contacted by Connie with location of our assigned site.

## Gospel Concert - May 4, 7PM



Mark your calendar to enjoy a Gospel Concert presented by, "Hearts of Faith" on Sunday evening, May 4th. A Free will offering will be collected to say thank you to this singing duet. They have presented their program of Gospel songs from the Carolina's to Branson Missouri. Invite friends & family to join us.—Membership/Fellowship

## May, June,

late summer and into fall, we still need volunteers to sign-up.

If you like to smile, shake hands, be one of the first people to meet our guests and introduce our guests to us, then you ought to consider being a Greeter. Greeters usually greet for one month, 10:30 to 10:45, before worship.

This is an important job. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the office. Please sign up. thank you.

Membership/Fellowship Committee

## New Pantry Donation Campaign

The Kettering Meijer's store is promoting a **new donation campaign to benefit our Greenmont-Oak Park Church—Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry.**

From March 30 to May 12, 2014, simply purchase a Meijer Simply Give \$10 donation card at the Meijers at Stroop & Wilmington. Give the card to the clerk at check-out. Our Food Pantry will receive the proceeds. Donation cards are available here at the church, on the Pantry bulletin board in the Gathering Place or on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

This Simply Give program brings community awareness to the hunger issues, so many families face in our local community. This fundraising program really makes a difference in our ability to purchase foods for our pantry. **April 11 & 12 the Meijers store will turn every \$10 donation into a \$30 donation with their corp. matching on these special days, in the campaign.**

**Please consider the pantry as you do your Easter Holiday shopping on April 11 & 12.**

- Food Pantry volunteers

**Meijer's Simply Give Fundraiser  
Kettering—Wilmington/Stroop Store**  
Benefits our Neighbor-to-Neighbor Pantry

**March 30 to May 12, 2014**

**A \$10 donation becomes a \$20 donation**  
(through Meijer's Corp.)

**Special fundraiser days—April 11 & 12**

**A \$10 donation becomes a \$30 donation**  
(through Meijer's Corp.)

right words and performing the right deeds, then your religion has degenerated into magic. But if you are able to pray, in the spirit of trust and acceptance: Thy will be done," then you will accept God's answer, not yours, as the true blessing to meet your need.

St. Paul had a thorn in the flesh, and he prayed that it might be taken from him. It never was, but something greater was given to him in God's answer the glorious message, "My grace is sufficient for Thee." These words are now the center of the Christian world of thought and action. It seemed that Paul's prayer was not answered, but because he was able to accept God's answer instead of his, all Christendom has been invigorated with the mighty impetus and power of the spirit of consecration to God and surrender to His will.

Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane speaks to our condition. It is so hard for us to accept God's doing for things His way. We want to do it our way. When we ask God's help, we want to tell Him how to do it. And we know so little. His Providence is so great! If we could learn to accept the answer God gives! Every prayer needs to include the prayer of relinquishment as well as the prayer of petition. Every prayer should follow the example of the Gethsemane prayer, bringing our desires to God, but adding the "nevertheless" that lets God take charge, and places God's will above our own.

This is to follow Christ, to see in the awful spectre of the Cross the shining splendor of prayer, answered in God's way not ours. If we dare to believe in the wonderful goodness of the will of God, He will be able to use us in His purposes of good. Every prayer should express the thought and deep intent, "Thy will be done, not ours." And the earnest hope that God will lead us into the deeper ways of consecration which bring us our true blessing.

(from Pulpit Digest, March/April 1983, pg. 69 Rev. Lowell M. Atkinson, "Preaching From the Lectionary")

Blessing, Rev. Dr. Robert D. Smitley  
Interim Pastor

## Search Comm./Official Board Announcement

The Search Committee continues to work diligently on the Pastoral Search process. They have identified a potential candidate that they presented to the Official Board as a possible candidate to become our Church's next seated pastor. The Official Board accepted their recommendation and tasked the Staff and Finance Committee with putting together a "Call Package" that lays out the finances and benefits.

We have recently been notified that the Call Package has been agreed to by both the candidate and Staff Committee. The Search Committee will now work with the Official Board to prepare for a Candidating Weekend. On Saturday of that weekend, the congregation will have the opportunity to meet and interact with the candidate. On Sunday, the candidate will lead the worship service and the Congregation will vote immediately following the service.

Per our Church's constitution, the Congregation must be notified in writing at least 2 weeks before the scheduled Congregational Meeting and vote. The Church leadership will be working to establish the date for the Candidating Weekend and notify the congregation of the date.

The Search Committee will also be working to put together an informational packet about our candidate to share with the congregation.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

### Sunday School Schedule

The schedule :

- 9:30 AM—High School/College  
lead by Bob Colvin/Meg Roalef
- 9:30 AM—Adult Bible class  
- lead by Frank Taylor
- 9:30 AM—Adult Contemporary  
- lead by Laura Von Holle
- 10:45 AM—Bible Adventure  
(during worship - continues for  
all 4yr. Olds to 5th graders)
- 10:45 AM—Nursery (babies to 3yrs)

### Youth Programs

- Jr & Sr High Youth** - meet every  
SAT. 8 to 11PM (7th to 12th grade)
- Crusaders/ Footprints** ( K to 6th  
grade) - meet the 1st & 3rd Sun-  
days following worship.
- Girls of Grace** ( Jr & Sr High girls)  
- meet 1st & 3rd Sundays at 6 pm



### Fitness & Nutrition Group

**We will meet on the 2nd & 4th  
Tuesdays of the month at 7 PM**

The Fitness group is hosting a  
guest speaker from the American  
Heart Association on Tue. April 8th  
at 7 PM. All are welcome to attend.  
If you have any questions, please call  
Lori Keltner at 293-5140.

**Our group is also walking to-  
gether now that the weather is  
nicer, all are welcome to join us.**

**Chimes Article Deadlines are:  
Apr. 14, May 5**

### Women of the Bible

Summer Sunday School will be doing  
a series, "The Women in the Bible".  
Ladies if you have a favorite women in  
the Bible and would like to talk about  
her, do your research and let me know  
who you have chosen.

**Computer Instructions for women  
in the Bible.** Go to Google. Write in—  
list of Women in the Bible. Scroll down  
to—Chapter 2—and click on it. Choose  
the person you would like to present.  
Click on her name. Choose the Sunday  
you would like to present this woman  
from the Bible and sign up on the  
church Bulletin board.

- Barbara Richards

### Community Easter Egg Hunt Coming



Our community Easter Egg Hunt will  
be Saturday, April 19 at 10 AM sharp!  
We are planning on 300 children. We  
need individually wrapped candy to fill  
over a thousand Easter eggs. Please  
bring your individually wrapped candy  
to the church office.

The Easter Bunny will also be available  
for pictures, all morning. We will have  
four groups: 0-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12 age  
groups. Besides eggs with candy, there  
will be many prizes for each age group.  
Only one special prize per person  
please. If you find more than one spe-  
cial prize egg, please share it with some  
one else.

We thank those who support us with  
the many donations of candy.

- Fellowship/Membership



### CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY

**Apr. 12 - 8:30 to 11:00 AM**  
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help spring  
clean both the inside and outside of the  
church. From dusting pews & the sanc-  
tuary to raking up old leaves, there are  
jobs for all ages and abilities. Let's work  
together in preparing God's home for  
Easter week & Easter services.

- Trustees

### All Church Tent Sale—Apr. 25 & 26

**SAVE YOUR UNWANTED TREAS-  
URERS FOR THE SALE.**

Our tent will be set up on Monday,  
April 21st. We will begin accepting  
your items on Tuesday. If you can  
bring them yourself, you may stop by  
the tent any time that is convenient for  
you, but if you need pickup service for  
your items, please call the church of-  
fice, 252-6705, ext. 0 and we will make  
arrangements for pickup.

**Volunteer help is needed all week in  
the afternoons or evenings, sorting  
and pricing, and receiving items.** If  
possible stop by for a couple hours,  
your help will be very appreciated.

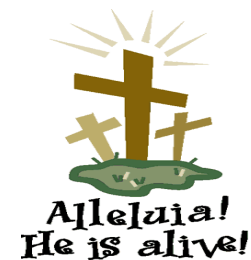
**On Friday & Saturday—Sales volun-  
teers are needed. Talk to Gary Etter,  
Greg Goodner, or Ray Urbanas about  
helping out.** - Trustees

### Midweek Lenten Services

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 7  
pm, for Lenten services, as we remem-  
ber, reflect and travel our way to the  
cross with our Savior, Jesus Christ.

### Easter Offering

Our Special Easter Offering will be  
equally divided between: One Great  
Hour of Sharing, Bread for the World,  
Good Neighbor House and local St. Vin-  
cent DePaul Ministries. We strive to  
assist both global and local ministries  
that serve people in their time of need  
and promote self sustaining training to  
help lift persons up and out of poverty.  
Special Easter Offering envelopes are  
included in this Chimes issue. Please  
give as God directs you. - Official Board



### Easter Lily's for the Sanctuary

We will again have Easter lily plants  
for purchase, to beautify the sanctuary  
for Easter services. The plant cost is  
\$9.00/ea. Please sign up if you wish to  
buy one. Indicate if the plants are given  
in thanksgiving or memory of someone.  
Following the Easter morning services,  
your plant may be taken home. - Wor-  
ship Committee

