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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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Dec. 7, 2014

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

**Pastor:** Rev. Gabriel Oberholzer  
Pastor@greenmontoakpark.com  
727—515-6622

**Office Manager:** Nova Kigar  
[office@greenmontoakpark.com](mailto:office@greenmontoakpark.com)

**Youth Leader:** Sheri Parrett

**Admin. Chairperson:**  
Suzanne Slaidins-Dull

**Choir Director:**  
Ryan Jenkins

**Organists:**  
Shelley Outlaw

**Chapel Worship: 8:45 AM**

**Morning Worship: 10:45 AM**

**Christian Education: 9:30 AM**

**Bible Adventure: 10:45 AM**

#### **Ushers:**

<b>8:45 AM</b>	<b>10:45 AM</b>
Gary Etter	Bob Berk
Arlene Uldrich	Pasko Evanoff
Linda Oxley	Frank Taylor



#### **Scripture Readings:**

Week of Dec 7— Isa 40:1-11, Ps 85:1-2,8-13,  
2 Pet 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8

Week of Dec. 14 – Isa 61:1-4,8-11, Ps 126,  
Luke 1:46-55, I Thess 5:16-24, John 1: 6-8, 19-28

#### **WORSHIP LEADER:**

Bob Colvin—Dec. 7  
Diana Knowlton—Dec. 14

#### **AVENT READERS:**

Roalef family—Dec 7  
Von Holle family—Dec. 14

#### **GREETER:** Dec.

Arlene Uldrich,  
Charlene Brown



**Ultimate Kindness**

What greater proof could God have given of his mercy than by taking upon himself that which needed mercy? Where is there such fullness of living-kindness as in the fact that the Word of God became perishable like the grass for our sakes?

Let man infer from [Christmas] how much God cares for him. The humanity of God shows the greatness of his kindness. - Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)

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**With humble hearts**

Bethlehem’s Church of the Nativity, which marks the likely spot of Jesus’ birth, has a four-foot-high entrance. Throughout the centuries, the height of the entrance has been lowered twice; once to prevent looting and once to keep out camel and horse– riders.

Because visitors must bow as they enter, this has become known as the Door of Humility. It’s a reminder of the reverent, submissive posture our hearts should take as we approach our newborn Lord and Savior. It’s also a reminder that Jesus is the narrow door ( Luke 13:24) - the only path to eternal life.



As you worship this Christmas season, whether or not you’re physically able to kneel, enter Jesus’ presence with a humble and thankful heart. He alone deserves our reverence because he alone is able to save.

**Christmas  
Eve  
Worship**



**Dec. 24 at 10 PM**

We will hold our traditional candle light Christmas Eve service at 10 PM on December 24. The choir will sing and we will sing favorite carols. Come join us as we celebrate the birthday of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**Attendance - Nov 23 & 30 '14**

8:45 —	32,	22
10:45 —	107,	86
Christian Education —	28,	17

**Offering—operating income**

(Monthly budget need is \$14,958)

	Income rec'd	+/- Amt.
Jan. '14	\$9,670	- 5,288
Feb. '14	\$12,075	- 2,883
Mar. '14	\$13,731	-1,227
Apr. '14	\$12,713	-2,245
May '14	\$11,911	-3,047
June '14	\$10,893	- 4,065
July '14	\$12,479	- 2,479
Aug. '14	\$11,530	-3,428
Sept. '14	\$13,418	-1,540
Oct. '14	\$ 12,791	-2,167

**Happy Birthday**

- Katie Goodner—Dec. 8
- Megan Weyrauch—Dec. 9
- Patti King—Dec. 11
- Jessica Parrett—Dec. 12
- Diane Yost—Dec. 12
- Cheryl Barnett—Dec. 13
- Anna Slaidins—Dec. 13
- Alyssa Erbes—Dec. 15
- Craig Kigar—Dec. 16
- Don Keltner—Dec. 19
- Adam Donovan—Dec. 22
- Sean Humphrey—Dec. 22



**In Our Prayers**

- Liz Ancil
- Russell Berk
- Ginny Breckler
- Ceci (Cobb) Cole
- Kara DePew
- Margaret Foster
- Jamie Geswein
- Ken Hambrick



- Kevin Bader
- Glenda Boddie
- Michelle Conn
- Don Craig
- Gary Foskuhl
- John George
- Jack Gilmore

- Bill Hine
- Sean Humphrey
- Kristen King
- Rosaline Lam
- Bob McCray
- Naysa Morgan
- John Parnell
- Cindy Romano
- Deb Richey
- Beverly Smith
- Wayne Stolich
- Paul Stutz
- Gloria Van Camp
- Sue Wagner
- Diane Yost
- Edna Holland
- Don Keltner
- Dustin Knowlton
- Kelly McRonney
- Phyllis McCray
- Delbert Newhouse
- Joyce Pratt
- Calire Riccos
- Jane Simmons
- Diana Smith
- Michelle Strom
- Joe Trevan
- Gina Van Camp
- Mary Willett

**Those in Nursing Care**

- Mary Lou Chaney – Bethany Vlg.
- Margaret Dill – Masonic Home
- Doris Greenwood—Oak Creek Terrace
- Ginny Hambrick—Walnut Creek
- Vern /Betty Hine—St. Leonard Center
- Lottie Jaeger – The Oaks, West Kett
- Verdena Mardis—Sterling House

**Military**

- Kirby Brooks
- Adam Reeves
- Casey Ryan

## Kroger Rewards Earnings

Our 20 household supporters who use the Kroger Reward Program have earned the church \$100.05 in donations from the second quarter.

We appreciate your commitment to providing extra income to our church through your regular shopping.

If anyone new would like to participate in the Reward program, just go on-line to the Kroger Reward web site and enroll. Our church NPO # is 80028. It takes a couple weeks to get into the system, but when you do, your receipt will have a notice at the bottom—thanking you for giving to Greenmont-Oak Park Church.

## Many Thanks

I Jasmine thank you for the gift you have sent for me for my birthday and Christmas. I'm going to get something nice with it today. - Jasmine Ramirez  
\*\*\*\*\*

Jasmine is one of our two Child Fund sponsored children. She lives in South Dakota with her family.

In addition to our regular sponsorship, we send out \$20 gifts for their birthdays, and at Christmas and Easter.

## January Book Club Reading Choice

"A Place At The Table" by Susan R White. Anyone interested in joining this reading club is welcome. Since this is a busy time of year, we just wanted to let people know so they could get an early start on reading if they want.

We will meet on Monday, Jan. 26 at 6:30 pm for a light meal and discussion here at the church.

## Big Creek Mission Newsletter News

THANK YOU for partnering with us over the past year. Volunteer Hours served in 2014 were: 102,000. Over 40 major home renovations were done.

Every home repair opportunity is an opportunity to show and share the Gospel. We show the Gospel by giving gifts of Grace: undeserved and unearned. We share the Gospel by telling each homeowner about the Grace of God shown to us in Jesus Christ. Make no mistake: we don't exist to "just" make home repairs. We exist to see lives repaired by His transforming power. Please continue to pray for these, and many more homeowners, who need to experience Christ.

## Peace

"God is not selfish. He sacrificed himself for us. Sacrifice yourselves then for each other! Give up your own pride, your own selfishness, your own interest for each other, and you will be at peace.

This a lesson given from the angels. Luke 2:14— "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."



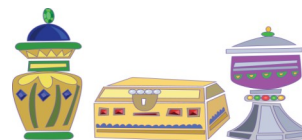
If you would like to give an appreciation gift to the Staff for

their good support to the church over the past year, staff gift envelopes will be available on the sanctuary table. You may return your gift in the offering plate over the next several Sundays. Thank you and Merry Christmas from the Staff Committee



## Worship Special Music—Dec. 14

We are grateful for Bethanne Bleeke and Fairmont High school friends for bringing their chamber group music to our 10:45 morning worship service. Thank you for sharing in this Christmas Season.



WHAT SHALL WE GIVE HIM?

## Special Offerings Chosen

The Official Board has selected six mission organizations to equally share in the combined Thanksgiving & Christmas Special Offerings. They are; House of Bread, Daybreak, Big Bear Creek Mission, Veterans of the Cross, YWCA's Battered Women's program and Neighbors-in-Need. They will equally share up to a value of \$2,100. Any amount in excess of \$2,100 will then be given to the operating fund. Special Thanksgiving & Christmas offering envelopes are included in this Chimes mailing.

## Celebrate Christmas with a Celtic Flair Sunday, Dec. 14 at 6 PM



### "The Collins Connection" A Celtic Ensemble

### Special Guest—Tim Schaiper on the Hammered Dulcimer and Bagpipes

The Ascension & Greenmont—Oak Park Churches Partnership Committee invite All to join us in this Special Musical Program at Greenmont-Oak Park Community UCC. With refreshments to follow the program.

The program includes some Sacred and Secular Holiday Favorites and some carol sing-a-longs.

The WINGS will host the refreshment fellowship following the program. Donations of Christmas treats will be appreciated.



### Christmas "JOY-Story" Sunday, Dec. 21st, at 9:30 AM

The youth invite all the church to attend their Christmas Breakfast and Program, during the Sunday school hour in the Donut room. Enjoy a light breakfast of donuts, juice and coffee, followed by a Christmas program.

This time was chosen, so all church members might consider attending, as the children share the Christmas story with us. - Sheri Parrett.

**Christian Education Schedule**

The schedule :

- 9:30 AM—Confirmation  
lead by Dave Roalef
- 9:30 AM—High School/College  
lead by Bob Colvin/Meg Roalef
- 9:30 AM—Adult Bible class  
lead by Frank Taylor/Gary Etter
- 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)  
Lead by Sheri Parrett/ Colleen Karl
- 10:45 AM—Nursery (babies to 3yrs)

**Chimes Article Deadlines are:  
Dec. 15 & Jan. 5**

**Remember Pastor Gabe’s Q & A sessions will be held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month following 10:45 AM worship.**



**Mitten & Card Tree**

We will have a mitten/ glove and card tree up in the upper Gathering Place area, for those who wish to share warm clothing items for the Christmas baskets or to share Christmas greetings with the church family. Just bring your card or warm clothing items and place them on the tree.

**3T’s Christmas luncheon**

**Dec. 16th at noon**

All 50 + adults are invited to join in the fellowship lunch gathering at MCL Cafeteria on Far Hills at noon. Please join us in this festive lunch.

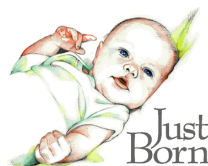


**Poinsettias**

A sign-up list is posted on the church bulletin board to purchase poinsettia plants. The cost is \$9.00/ ea. The plants will be used to beautify the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve service, and may then be taken home by the families who purchased them.



Recently Baptized



**Baptism & Birth Announcements**

We shared in the act of Baptism with little Scarlett Ann— Marie Nevin, daughter of Dennis & Stephanie Nevin, on Sunday Nov. 23, 2014. Scarlett is the great-grandchild of Ray Hilty. It is good to have the new generations bring their children to be God’s children.

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Proud grandparents Ben & Cheryl Barnett have a new grandson, Liam James Barnett, born to proud parents, Kyle & Brittany Barnet. Liam weighed 7 lbs. 5 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches long. The new family are doing well.

We offer our congratulations to both families upon these special events.

**Dec. 7th—White Gift Sunday  
HOW DID IT GET THAT NAME?**

We used to wrap our gifts for the baskets in white tissue paper, mark them for a boy or girl and age, and bring them to the Chrismon tree. The Chrismon tree with only white and gold ( sometimes silver) Christian symbolic ornaments and lights represents the purity, majesty and holiness of Christ. Wrapping our gifts in white shared in this identity of Christ. May our gifts reflect Christ.

Today many of us still place our gift in a white shopping bag. We do not wrap them now because the families with children pick out the gift themselves, so they are a part of the process and can select the item that fits their child best. This is the history of the tradition.

The Food Pantry committee wants to share that we have begun basket preparations FOR 180 FAMILIES.

**These 180 families combined have 309 children that we help provide Christmas gifts for,** as well as the food baskets for the families. Gifts of hats, mittens, scarves, socks, books, new or gently used toys or games, will be collected on White Gift Sunday, Dec. 7, during the offering time in worship. The 9 to 12 year old group receives the least selection, if you want to help provide for this group. We appreciate your support of this community outreach.

As always, food items collected for the pantry, or baskets, is always appreciated , and bath soap and TP are in great need now. Paper bags are also needed.



**If you want to help prepare baskets , we need volunteers on Friday, Dec. 12 and Sat. Dec.**

**13th. A sign-up information poster is in the Gathering Place.**

Friday we prepare cardboard boxes , move foods and organize gifts in the Ascension gym in the afternoon, in the evening families or anyone can come help fill baskets ( boxes ) with food items. Saturday morning there are jobs like, carrying baskets, elf family gift helpers, hats/gloves helpers, gift wrapping helpers, gift helpers. So you can see there are many different ways to help. As Pastor Gabe said, “ let us share the Christmas experience with those less fortunate.” Let us shine the light of Jesus brought into the world with our neighbors.

**Winter Donation Campaign**

**Remember the Kettering Meijer’s store donation campaign to benefit our Greenmont-Oak Park Church—Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry continues through Dec. to Jan. 4, 2015.**

The Meijer “Simply Give” \$10 donation cards program is for the Meijers at Stroop & Wilmington. Give the card to the clerk at check-out. Your \$10 donation is doubled to \$20 by the Meijer’s Corp. 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.

**Please consider the pantry as you do your coming Holiday shopping in Dec.**

