



Greenmont-Oak Park Community

United Church of Christ

Chimes



Volume XLIX No. 774

Dec. 16, 2015

Website: www.greenmontoakpark.com

Office Hours

1921 Woodman Dr
Kettering, Oh 45420
9 AM—3 PM Mon.—Fri.
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Pastor: Rev. Gabriel Oberholzer
Pastor@greenmontoakpark.com
727—515-6622

Office Manager: Nova Kigar
office@greenmontoakpark.com

Interim

Youth Leader: Colleen Karl

Admin. Chairperson:

Robert Beall

Choir Director:

Monique Cooper

Organists:

Shelley Outlaw

Chapel Worship: 8:45 AM

Morning Worship: 10:45 AM

Christian Education: 9:30 AM

Bible Adventure: 10:45 AM

Ushers:

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

Gary Etter Les George/Nov.

Arlene Uldrich Pasko Evanoff/No

Linda Oxley

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Suzanne Dull—Dec. 6

Bob Colvin—Dec. 13

GREETERS:

Cheryl Barnett

Greenmont Church is called to:

S—Support families & youth

E—encourage spiritual development

R—Reach out with service & fellowship

V—Voice the hope of Good News in Jesus Christ

E—Envision a better world through Christ's example

Church membership is based on the affirmation of the

Biblical covenant:

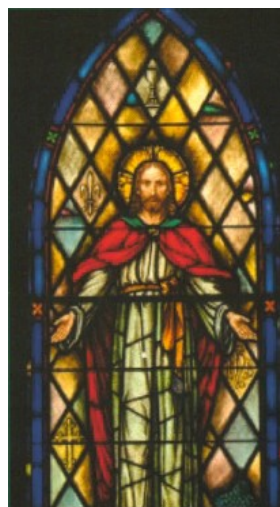
"You shall love the Lord with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. (Mark 12:30-31)

Scripture Readings for weeks:

Dec. 13— Zeph 3:14-20, Isa 12:2-6, Phil 4:4-7,
Luke 3:7-18

Dec. 20— Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:46-55. Ps 80:1-7,
Heb 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45

Dec. 27— I Sam 2:18-20, 26, Ps 148, Col 3:12-17,
Luke 2:41-52



Christmas Eve Service

Dec. 24 @ 10 PM

Inside this Issue:

Page 2— Pastor's message , Christmas Greeting,
prayer list

Page 3— New Studies, Wassail requests,
God Bless YOU

Page 4— Special Offering, WINGS, Sign-ups

Dear GOPC(UCC) Family and Friends,

Many things happened over the past year. It's almost unimaginable the Christmas is here. With many of you I can only say: "WOW! Where did this year go?"

For me, one of the highlights of the year was the unanimous passing of the new Constitution and Policy & Procedures Manual. (Again - Thank You Brian Hager and Brian Donovan!) It might be that most of you will not notice any difference in how we operate because of the new documents - but the Official Board will definitely experience the difference.

A big thank you goes to all who participated in the \$10 Talent Challenge. You really came through and you made a big difference to our budgeted goals. Talking about our budget - we have high hopes to reach our budget numbers this year. Tim and his team are doing a great job in this regard.

I would like to remind you about our Christmas Eve service. It will start at 10 p.m. and will include all your favorite Christmas songs. We have a couple of surprises awaiting you! Please invite family and friends along - and join us in this festive celebration of the birthday of Jesus.

Cindy and I want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May all your wishes come true!

Until next time - God Bless!

Rev. Gabe.

Attendance - Dec. 6, & 13

8:45 service	22	20
10:45 service	77	70
Sunday School	24	70

Offering—operating income

(Monthly budget need is \$14,958)

	Income rec'd	+/- Amt.
Jan. '15	\$11,114	-3,844
Feb. '15	\$10,797	-4,161
Mar. '15	\$17,386	+2,428
Apr. '15	\$11,831	-3,127
May '15	\$15,068	+110
June '15	\$13,201	-1,757
July '15	\$14,876	-82
Aug. '15	\$20,788	+5,638
Sept. '15	\$12,065	-2,893
Oct. '15	\$11,635	-3,443
Nov. '15	\$23,591	+8,633

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Jamie Geswein | Jack Gilmore |
| Bob Karl | Lori Keltner |
| Ken Hambrick | Edna Holland |
| Crystal Hudson | Sean Humphrey |
| Kristen King | Dustin Knowlton |
| Rosaline Lam | Kelly McRonney |
| Bob McCray | Phyllis McCray |
| Steve Mills | Susan Mills |
| Jim Murphy | Delbert Newhouse |
| Ester Oxley | John Parnell |
| Sheri Parrett | Joyce Pratt |
| Cindy Romano | Calire Riccos |
| Deb Richey | Kay Rearick |
| Roalef Family | Beverly Smith |
| Diana Smith | Marion Steel |
| Wayne Stolich | Elizabeth Sumner |
| Stutz family | Joe Trevan |
| Lynn Uldrich | Gloria Van Camp |
| Gina Van Camp | Larry Van Camp |
| Chloe Wakefield | |



Happy Birthday

- Katie Goodner—Dec. 8
- Patti King—Dec. 11
- Jessica Parrett—Dec. 12
- Diane Yost—Dec. 12
- Cheryl Barnett—Dec. 13
- Anna Slaidins—Dec. 13
- Linda Oxley—Dec. 14
- Alyssa Erbes—Dec. 15
- Craig Kigar—Dec. 16



Those in Nursing Care

- Angie Brooks—St. Leonard Center
- Doris Greenwood—Oak Creek Terrace
- Ginny Hambrick—Walnut Creek
- Vern /Betty Hine—St. Leonard Center
- Verdena Mardis—Sterling House

Military

- Adam Reeves
- Casey Ryan

In Our Prayers

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Judy Admundson | Liz Ancil |
| Kevin Bader | Cheryl Barnett |
| Glenda Boddie | Ginny Breckler |
| Nancy Carter | Kara DePew |
| Robert Davis | Leigh Davis |
| Ahmad Doucet | Gary Etter |
| Laura Etter | Pasko Evanoff |
| Marilyn Foskuhl | John George |



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Share the Newsletter with a friend

Prince of Peace ~ Immanuel ~ Son of God ~ Messiah ~ Jesus ~

*Focus on Christ
this Season*



**May ALL that Christ our Lord is be with you this
Christmas Season and always!**

Merry Christmas—the Chimes Staff
This is the last issue of the year.

Good Shepherd ~ Light of the World ~ Alpha & Omega ~The Door

King of Kings ~ Great Teacher ~ Redeemer

Bread of Life ~ The Vine ~ Lamb of God

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 Colleen Karl
 10:45 AM—Nursery (babies to 3yrs)



Christmas Eve Service will be at 10PM on December 24th.

Join us in a celebration of Jesus' Birth with a candlelight worship enjoying many Christmas carols.



Wassail and Goodies to follow

We will be having a Wassail and Goodie Tea following the Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Please sign up on the bulletin board across from the office to bring cookies, fruit, or veggies. Also, please join us for this fellowship and goodies.

Church Office Holiday Schedule
 The Church Office will be closed between Christmas and New Years.

Contemporary Sunday School change

In response to recent current events, the contemporary Sunday School class has opted to suspend their current video series and engage in a 3 week study of gun violence. We will begin this review on Sunday, Jan 3. The study, "Kingdom Dreams, Violent Realities" is published by the United Methodist Church and is based on the old testament scriptures of Micah: 4:1-4. Each session begins with a discussion of the prophet Micah's text including the context in which it was written. It is followed by parallel observations in our current context and a narrative about individuals affected by gun violence. Discussion prompts are also included.

We feel this study will help include theological knowledge in our thinking and conversations about a significant social problem. As written in the introductory statement: "Yet even more discouraging are many of the discussions that swirl around the issue of gun violence. The use of tiresome clichés and unsubstantiated anecdotes robs us from genuine and thoughtful dialog and becomes a roadblock to achieving lasting peace. As faithful Christians we must approach the issue of gun violence through a theological and biblical lens." Please consider joining us for meaningful, respectful dialogue about this very important issue. The study can be found in pdf format at

<http://umc-gbcs.org/content/general/Kingdom-Dreams-Violent-Realities.pdf>

Chimes Article Deadlines are:
 Jan. 4 & 18, 2016

Think, Act, Be Like Jesus—New Study

The Christian Education ministry is gearing up to begin a Bible based study on Tuesday evenings in January, 2016 using the book "Think, Act, Believe Like Jesus" by Randy Frazee. Randy Frazee is the Senior Pastor at Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas. Randy teaches and leads in partnership with Pastor and author Max Lucado.

The book asks three big questions: What do I believe? What should I do? Who am I becoming?

In *Think, Act, Be Like Jesus*, bestselling author and pastor Randy Frazee helps readers grasp the vision of the Christian life and get started on the journey of discipleship. After unfolding the revolutionary dream of Jesus and showing how our lives fit into the big picture of what God is doing in the world, Frazee walks readers through thirty short chapters exploring the ten core beliefs, ten core practices, and ten core virtues that help disciples to think, act, and be more like Jesus Christ. Either way, readers will deepen their understanding of what it means to not just know the Story of God, but to live it.

We have a limited number of books available for purchase @ \$10.00 each. Or you may purchase your book individually.

A sign up sheet is posted to register for the study class.

Please read up through the first chapter before attending the first study group on Jan 12, 2016.

Contact Nikki Taylor or Loretta Leisch with any questions.

The Youth Group will be using the Student version of this book at their youth group meetings also to begin in January. We hope you will consider joining in this study, everyone is welcome to be apart of this. Please plan to join us!

Holiday Food Pantry "Simply Give" Campaign.

Our Food Pantry will benefit from the Meijer Simply Give holiday campaign running through the end of the year.

We THANK YOU for supporting-the Christmas Baskets in all the ways that you do.

"Simply Give" donation cards are available from the Food Pantry bulletin board in the Gathering Place.

God Bless YOU

I would like to thank all of you who helped with our Christmas Basket Program this year with your time and your donations of food, money and gifts. It was so appreciated by those who received baskets.

I also want to thank all of you who have generously supported the pantry this year with food & many needed items such as bath soap & toilet paper, all the people who go twice a month to the Foodbank & Meijer's to pick up large quantities of food, the Meijer's shoppers, those who have supported our food program with Meier's, and those who work at our food pantry during the week.

Yesterday I received from those who were receiving their baskets MANY THANK YOUS, Merry Christmas & God Bless You and I share all of those with you! - Barb LeBlanc, Pantry volunteer

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

Kroger Rewards' Earnings

Our last quarter of Rewards participants have earned the church \$127.78. We thank our Kroger shoppers for designating our church to receive the rewards.

Save Unwanted Christmas Cards

We will need cards for the "Christmas in July" fellowship program—July 23, 1-3 PM. Mark your calendars.

—Cheryl Barnett

Thanks for all the people who helped with Christmas decorating. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

- Toni Bailey

2016 Bulletin and Flower Calendars are ready for donors to sign-up to assist worship by purchasing bulletins or flowers. Sponsoring either bulletins or flowers is a nice way to remember a loved one or special event. Thanks to all who sign up!

Bulletin sponsorship will be \$15.00 next year, 2016 and can be placed in the offering plate, indicate what payment is for.

Flower donations are \$20.00 and must be paid for in advance by at least two weeks. Again, place in the offering plate and indicate what payment is for.

2016 Greeter Sign up is Posted

Please consider greeting as an added bonus to the worship hour. Sharing a hello and hug with those joining us in worship, starts the service with a very good feeling, releasing or empowering the Holy Spirit within.

If you would like to be a greeter for just a Sunday or an entire month, please sign up on the sheet posted across from the church office.



The Great Train Race

On Saturday, January 9, 7:00 to 9:00 pm the Fellowship Ministry will be having a fun time racing and learning about trains. All ages are welcomed. If you are a train buff, please tell us your stories. Please join us in this fun, fellowship, and food.

Cheryl Barnett



Staff Gifts

If you would like to contribute towards end of the year bonuses for our Staff, please mark your envelope or check and drop your donation in the offering plate on Sundays throughout December. Thanks very much. The gifts are truly appreciated! - Staff Committee

Overcoming –Stepping Forward

Many have stepped forward this year to help our church overcome our deficits. Thanks to all.

This congregation has a great heart. We are gaining on it. Next year we face similar challenges, but we have the advantage of a reduced budget, increased giving and plans at work to expand the ministry.

Your service and time donated to the church, your church, along with our increased tithes will find the path to growth and blessings .

We can measure our own blessings by the way we bless others!

THANKS TO YOU

Greenmont-Oak Park church is growing! -Stewardship



Christmas Lunch—WINGS

WINGS will host a Christmas luncheon for all the ladies of GOPCC on Sunday, December 20, 2015 immediately after worship service. Please bring 3 dozen homemade cookies (and your recipe for those who might like to have it!) for a cookie exchange, a Christmas tree ornament and a salad or dessert to share with everyone. We have a fun afternoon planned and hope to see all of you there.



The Official Board moved to combine our Thanksgiving and Christmas Special Offerings this year. We will split the two special collections, 50% toward our church operating budget and 50% divided equally between six ministry programs that serve the community and the world.

These six organizations are: House of Bread, Daybreak, Big Creek Mission, Veterans of the Cross, YWCA's Battered Women's program and Neighbors-in-Need.

Special Christmas envelopes have been mailed out to you with the December Stewardship letter. Respond as God guides you. This offering will be combined with the Thanksgiving offering.