



Greenmont-Oak Park Community

United Church of Christ

Chimes



Volume XLIX No. 774

Dec. 2, 2015

Website: www.greenmontoakpark.com

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:

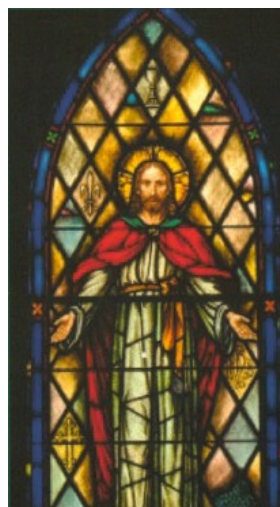
"You shall love the Lord with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. (Mark 12:30-31)

Scripture Readings for weeks:

Nov. 29— Jer 33:14-16, Ps 25:1-10, I Thes 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

Dec. 6— Mal 3:1-4, Luke 1:68-79, Phil 1:3-11,
Luke 3:1-6

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



*Come, let us
adore him!*

Inside this Issue:

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Page 3— New Bible Study, Christmas Programs

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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

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



Words from the Past shared in the Advent and Christmas Season

“God, do your thing! Give us peace!”

With that agonizing plea, the Thanksgiving Prayer on the Ed Sullivan show, Nov. 23, 1969 ended.

The pray-er had chided God somewhat for so long permitting man /woman to continue in his/her inhumanity to each other. He asked God why did God not do something to stop us from on-going quarrelling with our fellow man/woman. In a final near desperate appeal, he cried out: “God, do your thing! Give us peace!

I was in Boulder, Col., comfortably relaxed before the fireplace flames with their warmth and cheer, when this prayer stirred me. No sooner did the final prayer plead for God to do God’s thing that I was gripped by the realization that God had already done God’s thing on the first Christmas. Didn’t God send Jesus into the world to give us peace? Is that not God’s supreme doing?

God counted on Jesus to lead us..to ENABLE US...to live together in peace. Is there really any other way for God to answer our plea for peace? Any other way would take away our freedom reducing us to mere puppets or slaves. We would thereby no more be God’s children made in God’s likeness.

That thought excited me...I’m not quite over it yet. I pray that it will not subside...for it is God’s thing...God’s doing in sending Jesus to this world to enable us to do what we cant’ do ourselves, the greatest single event and fact of all life?

Advent comes to shake us into the awareness that somehow our lives severely lack unless we permit Jesus to lead us into living according to His style. Just as the calendar is split B. C. and A. D. in response to Jesus Christ, so all life is separated into blessed and damned depending on its degree of Christlikeness.

Advent Comes to remind us that God Himself guarantees that right will overcome evil, that love will do away with hate, and that peace will replace war, and that life eternal overcomes death. What else really matters?

“Joy to the world, the Lord is come!”

May each person, old and young, thrill to this fact!

Pastor Ray Hilty, Dec. Chimes 1969



Happy 69th Birthday to our church 1946-2015

“Friend you have come to this church; leave it not without a prayer. No one entering a house ignores the one who dwells in it. This is the House of God and God is here.

Pray then to God who loves you and bids you welcome and awaits your greeting. Give thanks for those who in past ages built this place to God’s glory and for those who, dying that we might live, have preserved for us our heritage.

Praise God for gifts of beauty in painting and architecture, handicraft and music. Ask that we who now live may continue to build the spiritual fabric of our church in truth, beauty and goodness, and that as we draw near to God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we may draw nearer to one another in perfect union.

(Adapted from thoughts written for a church in England many years ago.)

Attendance - Nov. 23, 29

8:45 service	16	19
10:45 service	76	74
Sunday School	19	26

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

Jack Gilmore	Bob Karl
Lori Keltner	
Ken Hambrick	Edna Holland
Sean Humphrey	Kristen King
Dustin Knowlton	Rosaline Lam
Kelly McRonney	Bob McCray
Phyllis McCray	Steve Mills
Naysa Morgan	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
Sue Wagner	

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



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 | Laura Etter |
| Pasko Evanoff | Marilyn Foskuhl |
| John George | Jamie Geswein |



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



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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)



Purchase a
Poinsettia

Plants can be purchased to beautify the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve service. The plants cost is \$9.00. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. You may take your plant home after the Christmas Eve service.

**Chimes Article Deadlines are:
Dec. 14 & Jan. 4, 2016**

OUR TALENTS CHALLENGE

GRAND TOTAL IS \$7,082.19.

What a marvelous response to Pastor Gabe’s challenge to us, you the congregation did a great job. We have lived out our Lord’s teachings in this challenge. May these gifts praise God and serve God.



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

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

3T's will be having its holiday party Tuesday, December 15, at MCL Cafeteria. Shelley Outlaw & Laura Von Holle will be entertaining us by playing Christmas music. Anyone 50 and over is welcomed to join us for lunch and entertainment. Cheryl Barnett is the hostess.

JOIN the FELOWSHIP Ministry

The Fellowship Ministry will be doing the Christmas Eve Wassail and Goodies. Please sign up to bring some Goodies. Thank you.
Calling all people who enjoy fun, fellowship and food to join the Fellowship Ministry. We will have a short meeting after the second service on December 6 to plan some of next year's activities.

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 are taking 180 families for the Christmas Baskets this year.

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

Youth Sunday’s

Thank you to all our church youth who so bravely join in the leadership of services on the 3rd Sunday of each month! The youth have been sharing in reading scriptures, ushering and leading Children’s Moments. We continue to see improvement in their leadership skills! Thank you to the generous folks who happily share their spare change with the little ones for the Noisy Can Offerings too!

Looking for 18" Doll

Anyone downsizing who would like to sell their 18" doll (similar to American Girl) please call Cheryl Barnett. I am looking for one to make some clothes for my granddaughter for Christmas. Thank you.

Cheryl Barnett

Help Needed

Gloria Van Camp, a shut-in friend of our church is looking for someone to help her package up some children's gift bags for the Christmas season. She has all the supplies and just needs a helper to come over a time or two and make up the packages. If you would like to help Gloria, please call her, 396-0858

Thanks for all the people who helped make the Thanksgiving Dinner successful. Your hard work is greatly appreciated. - Anna Slaidins

2016 Bulletin and Flower Calendars

are ready for donors to sign-up to assist worship by purchasing bulletins or flowers.

Bulletin sponsorship is \$14.00 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.

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

Dear Partners in Ministry,

This letter brings greetings and gratitude from SONKA. We are 78 churches spanning Northern Kentucky, Cincinnati, Dayton, Springfield and surrounding towns and rural communities in our UCC Association. Each congregation is unique but we all have one thing in common; we are followers of Jesus, engaged in ministry that shares grace within our congregations, our individual neighborhoods and across the globe.

We are in covenant together, each doing ministry in our unique settings.

Many of you are involved in the wider church. Your service is invaluable.

I thank you for the ministry you do. I thank you for the support you offer to SONKA and other ministry settings of the United Church of Christ through your OCWM contributions.

I pray that God will bless you, your congregation, and all the people that are touched by your ministry.

Peace,
Rev. Kathryn Anadein
Association Minister
Southwest Ohio Northern Kentucky Assoc.



Youth—Children's Christmas Program

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Dec. 13 at 9:30 AM. The youth will present their Christmas play on the stage in the Donut room. Please support our youth by attending this event.



Monique & Friends

Musical Evening

The Choir and Music Committee would like to announce the special music program offered to the church by our new Choir Director, Monique Cooper on Friday, Dec. 4 at 7 pm. It will be an evening of musical variety and fun. Refreshments will follow the program.

Monique is a senior at Wright State University, working on her vocal, choral degree. As part of her program of singing, she will be taking a trip to Italy with a choral group from the University in late February. A free will—love offering will be taken

White Gift Sunday—Dec. 6, 2015

In preparation of the Christmas Baskets -gifts of socks, mittens, hats, gently used toys/games/ books or new toys/ games/books will be collected to be given out with the food basket on Saturday Dec. 12th. The children ages 6 to 12 is the group needing more support with the gifts. We have a total of 208 children between age 1 and 12, this year. We will present these gifts at worship on Sunday, Dec. 6th. Place in a white plastic shopping bag to put under the Chrismon tree.

If you wish to place your socks, mittens and hats on the tree in the upper Gathering Place, that works as well. Christmas card greetings in December can also decorate this tree.



Special Offering

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.