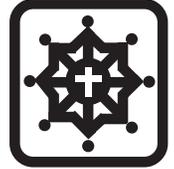


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Greenmont-Oak Park Community Church
Chimes



Volume XLIX No. 542 published weekly

Mar. 2, 2008

Website: www.greenmontoakpark.com

*I will make you
Fishers of MEN*



March 2 Sermon Bible readings are
Luke 12:15-21

WORSHIP LEADER:
Darrin Harvey
GREETERS:
Brad & Jamie Medlin

Office Hours

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Telephone: 252-6705
Fax # - 252-4093

Pastor:

Rev. Gregory King
pastor@greenmontoakpark.com

Youth Pastor:

Darrin Harvey
dharvey@kascable.com

Admin. Chairman:

Suzanne Slaidins-Dull

Church Secretary

Nova Kigar

office@greenmontoakpark.com

Choir Director:

Robert Duerr

Organists:

Jacque Fisher
Mary Jane McBride
Shelley Outlaw

Chapel Worship:

8:45 a.m.

Morning Worship:

10:45 a.m.

Sunday School Hour:

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Nursery - Adult

Ushers:

8:45 -

Gary Etter

Loren Houck

10:45 -

Les George

Pasko Evanoff

Ron Dill

Mike Hanes

Dear Church family,

Herb Miller wrote an article entitled, "Attracting New People: Are We Building the Bridges?" He starts with a story about a pastor who attended a civic club luncheon. The president asked each member to stand up and tell how many new members he or she had recruited for the club. Every person had recruited at least one new member. One man, during his forty-year membership, had influenced more than 100 people to join. The pastor asked, "What would happen if next Sunday morning in worship we asked each person to stand and answer a similar question? Would everyone be able to say that he or she had influenced at least one person toward Christ and this congregation?" I'm afraid that if that question was presented to me, that I could answer, "very few." Part of my failure to evangelize, to share my faith, and to invite others to church is because of the bad connotations that go with "evangelism." The word signifies things or images I don't want to be: dogmatic, disrespectful of other's faiths, and the repulsion from those who act superior. A lot of horrible things have been done in the name of sharing the good news.

However, our churches where Christ is proclaimed and emulated are dying. In our own congregation, our worship attendance has considerably declined. Lately, we have looked at programs that promise renewal and have participated in a re-visioning program and "Flight School training". In the past month several of us went to a "UCC Vitality Training program." It was very informative and inspiring." A conclusion I am coming to from these training events is that **church revitalization must include faith revitalization.**

So our leadership and I are trying more ways to grow spiritually. But even our spiritual growth seems to reinforce an inward, self-focused orientation of our congregation. It seems to foster a kind of faith that is more about ourselves than it is about the world. Our faith is still private and not public.

Christ evangelism and spiritual growth are not an either / or activity. They are two sides of the same coin. There is an old phrase that says, "If you don't use it, you lose it." So it is with our Christian faith. To develop a faith that lives and grows alongside our daily lives we need to find a way to use it and act on it outside our churches. We need to find a way to express what we hold to be true in the words we use every day. We need to talk about it and not just with each other. We need to share our faith with the world. Conversations about faith are about exploration, engagement, and building relationships. We find out that people often are yearning for conversation about things that really matter. We find out that we actually do have a faith to share. We find out that our spirituality is not just for ourselves. It is a gift we have to offer the world.

Herb Miller writes, "The New Testament Church served in three ways: a) as a memorial center that remembered, not just the past, but Christ; b) as a service center, reaching out to a pagan world with Good News, better news than it had ever heard; c) as a recruiting center for the kingdom of God, into which they invited people to step up spiritually connecting with Christ." As a church of Jesus Christ and as Christians, we are called to serve and fulfill our service in all three ways.

But some of you will say, "But I don't know enough!" That is okay. Did you know that the first disciples were called out and to go from village to village, sharing the gospel, before they knew the end of the story, before they made a public confession that Jesus

Vital Statistics

Attendance Feb. 24, 2008

8:45 - 24

10:45 - 111

Sunday School - 39

Offering - General Fund

(monthly budget need - \$14,543)

	<u>Offerings rec'd</u>	<u>+/-- Amt.</u>
Jan. '08	\$9,714	(-\$4,829)

Happy Birthday

Gary Etter - Mar. 1

Laura Ruppert - Mar. 4

Katie Smitley - Mar. 4



Lent

Making room for God actions

- 1- Make special prayer time for something needed for someone else'.
- 2- If you give up anything that costs, save the money and help someone else with it
- 3- Pursue joy and peace. Let happiness find you.

In Our Prayers

Mildred Berk
Ginny Breckler
Margaret Cobb - Walnut Creek
Mindy Collins
Margaret Dill - Masonic Home
Jamie Geswein
Gene Gibson
Beverly Guffey
Judy Hirshman
Opal Hunter - Liberty Woods
Sgt. Matt Kleinsorge -in Iraq
Lottie Jaeger
Dan Jones - Patriot Ridge Nursing
Howard Jordan
Ann Ketteman - Oak Creek Terr.
Dustin Knowlton
Peggy Lewis
Nancy Lyttle
Barbara Lyttle
Bob McCray
Marcella Miller
Mr/Mrs Patterson - Liberty Woods
Guy Robinette - Walnut Creek
Louis Romano
Mary Sampson - Liberty Woods
Sue Shroyer
Kathy Steele
Connie Swanson
Gloria Van Camp
Flo Warner
Evelyn Wheeler
Marlene Wimpy
Vera Westfall
Roy Wright
Diane Yost
Megan Young



"African Mission Trip Postponed"

In January 2008 Greg King and Sarah Goodner were interviewed by a Global Partnership team from our Southwest Ohio Northern Kentucky Association. The interviews were to select youth and young adults for a mission trip to Rubate in Kenya, Africa. Both Sarah and Greg were selected to the mission team. Sarah Goodner was going as a youth representative and Greg was going as the young adult chaperone. Shortly after they heard the good news, civil unrest and violence erupted in Kenya. Since the violence has continued and the Global Partnership could not guarantee their safety, the Global Partnership team has postponed their departure until next summer, hoping that peace will again rule the land.

Congratulations to Sarah and Greg for such an important mission enterprise. You have our condolences for its postponement.

Let us keep our Rubate friends and the people of Kenya in our prayers, asking God to help the country obtain peace and sensibility again to their homeland.



Upcoming Activities

Mar. 2 - 2PM attend play at Xenia

"Dead Serious about Life
(meet at church at 1:30 pm to car pool)

Mar. 9 - 6PM - Jr & Sr Youth
bring instruments for band
+ skit practice

Mar. 16 - 6PM - Jr & Sr Youth
bring instruments for band
+ skit practice

Mar. 23 - Easter - no meeting,
family day

Mar. 30 - Youth leadership for
worship at both services.
3PM - go to "The Other Place"
to serve meal to homeless.

"Spring Parenting Class is being planned"

Darrin Harvey is planning a Parenting class to begin after Easter. Each class will focus on an individual topic.

If interested in joining this six week class beginning Wed. April 9, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, please sign-up on the bulletinboard by the church office. Childcare if needed can be provided.

Preschool Registration Begins

On Monday, Feb. 25, we began Registration for all classes for parents who have children currently enrolled at Green-Oak or parents who are members of Greenmont-Oak Park Church. We have classes for children who will be 5, 4 or 3 by Oct. 1, 2006. If you would like any more information please call Ruth Fulmer 252-7840 or visit our website at www.greeoakpreschool.com. Registrations will be accepted all week. If you need a specific class or time, I recommend that you register as soon as possible.

Green-Oak will be having an OPEN HOUSE on Sat., Mar. 1, from 1-3 pm. the "Voyageur Puppets" will perform. Prospective students and their families may wish to tour the facility, meet the teachers and have some refreshments. All are invited to join the festivities free of charge.



"Across the Miles"

Mary Schwarz sent us an update about Jack.

Dear Greenmont Friends,

Jack has been at Wharton Nursing Home, here in Pleasant Hill, TN, since July 5th. He still walks, can feed himself, and enjoys people and music. At our weekly worship service at the nursing home, he sings most of the hymns and always says the whole Lord's Prayer. I'm grateful that he is receiving good, loving care. In the spring Uplands will break ground to build a new, Eden alternative home which will bring more family feel to care. - Mary

"Thank You"

Thank you for the \$25 for my birthday, last Oct. I am now 8 years old. I love to play with my toys and I am going to buy a baby doll with my birthday money. Love you and Happy Valentine's Day, Thank you, Skyla

"Dear Greenmont Church members"

Thank you for your gift of \$700 to support the education of two Honduran youth through the Missionary Health Services education program. The students are blessed by your ongoing support. Sincerely, Meg Atkins, Treasurer





Submarine Sandwich sale a Big success

Green-Oak Preschool would like to thank each and every person who helped with our submarine sandwich sale. It was a tremendous success! Parents, teachers and church members made and sold 2,766 sandwiches. The Preschool sold 2,471 and the church sold 295 sandwiches. The Preschool earned \$5,973.

The church earned \$713 in profits from the sale and the Preschool added as a gift \$287 to give a total of \$1,000 toward the defibrillator. We thank everyone who helped buy or make sandwiches for this very worthwhile project. - Ruth Fulmer, Preschool Director.

"Tax Rebate Information"

Some useful Tax rebate information was shared by JoAnn Jay, especially significant for senior citizens, who normally do not file any tax returns. In order to be eligible to receive the tax rebate this year, you must file a tax return, by April 17th. She shared that H& R Block can assist you for a fee of \$35. JoAnn is our church Financial Secretary.

"Connecting & Serving Opportunities"

Meet our Ohio Conference Minister

Join us in meeting Rev. Bob Molsberry, our new Ohio Conference minister on Sunday, March 9, at 3PM, at Oak Creek UCC, on Bigger Rd. in Kettering. Pastors and lay people are encouraged to take advantage of this chance for conversation and connecting.

New Orleans Mission Trip

The mission trip to New Orleans scheduled for May 10-18 still has room. The due date for registration of \$150 has been extended to Mar. 15. The total cost is \$300, which includes van rental, fuel, two nights in a motel, a donation to the church where we are staying, a donation for materials used on the site and most meals. Send your check to George Siddall, 403 Green Gate Dr., Lebanon, Oh 45036 to hold your place.

is the Christ? To be a disciple is to listen, learn, talk and travel, all at the same time. I am reading a couple of study books and have found a book that can help us begin a class where we learn to share our faith, however tentative it may be and before we know everything there is to know about the Bible and the basic tenets of the Christian faith. Within each of the eight sessions we will sing, pray and share our faith with one another. Engaging in these practices during our sessions and then throughout the week, we will move from thinking and talking about faith to living a life considerably shaped and formed by faith. Look for more information later this spring. Your friend, Pastor Greg



"I Found Comfort"

Starting February 21st from 6 to 8 PM, our Grief Share program will explore our needs to seek and use nationally guided materials, comforts and resolutions for our personal losses with those that have had the same or similar experiences. You will find that you are not alone with your questions and what you are going through. I have attended these programs and they were a great experience to share with others to help me cope with my loss. - Charles Warren, #426-6373. Please sign up or contact Rev. King or myself so we may better serve you.



WINGS is hosting a ladies night out for a meal and movie at the Shakertown Retreat Center on Friday, March 14th at 6:30 pm. Please join us in preparing a meal together and enjoy a movie after dinner. The cost is \$10. You can sign-up to attend on the WINGS bulletinboard.

"Blanket & Tools of Hope Offering"

Due to the nature of our emergency last Sunday, Blanket & Tools of Hope offerings will be collected again this Sunday, March 2nd. Envelopes will be available in the pews and on the table at the back of the Sanctuary for your convenience or you can bring your envelope from last week. We appreciate your support of this important life & hope sustaining program. - Social Action

"Kitchen News"

Just a reminder - if you have donated food to any recent meals, your help is appreciated. Please pick up your dishes from the church kitchen. They can be found on the counter or by the disposal. We also discovered that the large steele soup pot is missing, if you borrowed it, please return it. - thank you

