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

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Greenmont-Oak Park Community Church



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Website: www.greenmontoakpark.com

Sorrow and Love

Flow Mingled Down



**Comfort those in any
trouble with the comfort
we ourselves have
received from God.**

2 Corinthians 1:4

Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012—the Pastoral Search Committee will be Commissioned at the 10:45 AM service

WORSHIP LEADER:

Matt Julien—Jan. 22

Suzanne Dull—Jan. 29

GREETERS:

Barb Varine—Jan. 22

Office Hours

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

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert Smitley
pastor@greenmontoakpark.com
937-307-7874

Office Manager: Nova Kigar
office@greenmontoakpark.com

Youth Leader: Sheri Parrett

Admin. Chairperson:
Brad Medlin

Choir Director:
Rob Duerr

Organists:
Jacque Fisher
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
Charlene Brown

Thanks for the Memories

Today I was going back and reading over some of the messages left on the Caring Bridges Website for Patti, Kristen, Greg, Tiffany, and Greg. A lot of them contained **memories** that the writer had of Greg as a husband, and a father, and a pastor, and friend. They contained **memories** of how Greg had touched their lives or that of their families. And I read Brittany’s entry in the log (and I hope she won’t mind me using a part of it) *“All of us kids got together before mom’s dinner and while Greg played music, we all shared stories about dad and what a great man he was. How he was always there for us, how important it was for him to send us all cards and letters, how he would wrestle with us and spent time with us. There was laughter, and tears, and music, and more laughter.”*

For some reason the Bob Hope theme song “Thanks for the Memories” popped into my little brain. Memories play a big part in our lives and are indeed something to be thankful about. Memories are even more a part of our lives than actual events because while a “happening” lasts for only moments or hours, a memory can stay with us forever. In both the Old and New Testaments, remembering is a central theme. A rabbi has said, “Much of what the Bible demands can be comprised in one word – *Remember*”

Each of us have our personal memories – good or bad. We tend to remember our first love, our first child’s beginning steps, Christmas and Thanksgiving get togethers with our families, times spent with special friends, maybe times alone such as a hike in the mountains when God’s presence was especially real. Take a trip down “Memory Lane”; count your blessings. Think about how good life has been, and thank God for all the good times because all our good times are gifts from him. And thank God that we have been blessed with the capacity to remember so those happy times can stay with us throughout our lives. Memories bring us joy long after the events are over. Furthermore, happy memories can sustain and encourage us when the present is not a happy time. We are not always happy, and our memories are not all good. Pleasant memories uphold us in the sad times.

So what about the memories of the last few days? Are they useful at all? Yes, they, too, are important parts of our Christian lives. We have all had hard and difficult times in our lives. We have lived through deep sadness, indecision, and turmoil. Sometimes we don’t want to remember the bad times; we want to just wipe them from our memories. But we should not do that because our memories or pain, among other qualities give us the ability to be more effective to those who are hurting around us. If we ourselves have struggled and agonized over the loss of a loved one, dealt with a debilitating illness, are we not able to comfort those experiencing those griefs now because we know what loss feels like? We can become what Henri Nouwen calls “wounded healers”. Because we have been hurt, we can more empathetically minister to others in pain.

Our unpleasant and tragic memories are also valuable because when we think of them we also remember that those sad times did not last forever. With God’s help we did make it through. Some of you may have heard the story about the man who had a dream he was walking along the beach with the Lord. He looked back and saw the tracks of his life. Usually there were two sets of footprints, his and those of Jesus who was walking beside him; at some places though there were only one set of prints. The man realized that those points had been some of the saddest times in his life. He asked Jesus why he had deserted him at those times. Jesus replied; *I would never leave you. During those worst times, where you see only one set of tracks, that is where I carried you through.* Only in looking back can we sometimes realize that God was there all the time even though we didn’t feel it at the time. Memories of having made it through, help us to minister to those who feel alone, and they can also encourage us in difficult time which we still will face.

Through memory, Gods love transcends the limits of time and can offer us hope at any moment of our lives. So we need continually to thank God for the recorded memories we have to look to in our times of trial.

Cont. pg. 3

Attendance Jan. 8, 15, 2012

8;45 — 19, 25
10:45 — 70, 110

Sunday school — 32, 39

Offering—operating income

(Monthly budget need is \$14,958)

Income rec’d +/- Amt.

Nov. '11 - \$10,027 - \$5,823

Happy Birthday

- Dixie Archer—Jan. 20
- Kevin Johnston—Jan. 20
- Mary Marcum—Jan 22
- Elizabeth Sumner—Jan. 22
- Ivy Risch—Jan. 22
- Evelyn Johnston—Jan. 22
- Jack Mobley—Jan. 23
- Emily Smitley—Jan. 23
- Robert Davis Jr—Jan. 27
- Julia Medlin—Jan. 27
- Garrett Rayney—Jan. 27
- Jon Roalef—Jan. 28
- Linda George—Jan. 29
- Eric Sink—Jan. 30



In Our Prayers

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Glenda Boddie | Jim Coleman |
| DeAnn Decker | Cletta Dicks |
| Jerry Edwards | Gary Etter |
| Jamie Geswein | Beverly Guffey |
| Ken Hambrick | Vern Hine |
| Bill Hine | Carol Hildebrecht |
| Edna Holland | Mollie Huggins |
| Ruth Ingles | |
| Marilyn Jones | Dan Jones |

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Nova Kigar | King family |
| Dustin Knowlton | Vince Knowlton |
| Erik Landing | Mary Lehman |
| Nancy Lyttle | Bob McCray |
| Lauren McClure | Marcella Miller |
| Karolina O’Donell | |
| Harriet Shawhan | Mary Reynolds |
| Calire Riccos | Laura Ruppert |
| Tom Scheit | Wayne Stolich |
| Paul Stutz | Danny Tomaz |
| Gloria Van Camp | Flo Warner |
| Evelyn Wheeler | Mary Willett |
| Paul White | Diane Yost |

Those in Nursing Care

- Ginny Breckler—Trinity Home
- Mary Lou Chaney – Bethany Vlg.
- Margaret Cobb – Walnut Creek
- Margaret Dill – Masonic Home
- Marion Farren—Trinity Home
- Sharon Gilmore—Heartland—Kett.
- Peggy Goldberg—Heartland—Kett.
- Ginny Hambrick—Walnut Creek
- Mildred Heath – Walnut Creek
- Lottie Jaeger – The Oaks, West Kett
- Dan Jones – Patriot Ridge Nursing
- Lena Patterson – Liberty Woods
- Charles Warren – East Moline, IL
- Vera Westfall—Elm Croft, Washington Tnsp.

Military

- Ian Bader - USA, (Brown’s grandson)
- Scott Certain – USA
(Jo Anne Jay’s son-in-law)
- Andrew Hayden – USA
(Edna Holland’s grandson)
- Tyler Mantia – Afganistan
- Michael Mantia – USA (Mantia family sons)
- Nathan Nicholas—USA
- Brian Nicholas—Korea (Nicholas family sons)
- Adam Reeves—USA (Edna’s grandson)
- Sam Rogers— USA (Jen Roger’s son)
- Casey Ryan - USA (Weyrauch son-in-law)
- Kevin Stites— USA (S Stites grandsons)

"In Sympathy"



We extend our prayers to the family of Mary Lou Chaney, upon the passing of her daughter, Judy Hirshman onto eternal life. May God comfort Mary Lou and the family at this time of loss. - Your GOPCC family



Dear Members of Ascension and Greenmont-Oak Park Church,

Just a little card to send a gigantic thank you for the very generous Christmas basket that I received from you this year. It was truly appreciated!!

I am 52 years old and have been unemployed, with no unemployment for over a year, for the first time in my life. For almost 25 years I have spent my career helping children and families improve their lives. It has been a very humbling experience accepting that I am now in the similar situation. One positive outcome is that my relationship with God has greatly improved and I believe He has great plans for me in 2012!

Thanks again for your compassion and generosity. Sincerely, Ann

The Bob & Robin Congelli family also sent us a lovely Christmas letter and photo, all may read their news on the church bulletin board.

"Thank You All"

Dear Church Family and Friends,

Just want to thank everyone one who supported Jim in his long illness. Thanks for the cards, visits, phone calls and prayers.

Special thanks to Rev. Smitley for his visits to the nursing home, Jim always looked forward for his visits. Also thank you for a beautiful service that captured so much of his life.

Special thanks to all the ladies who prepared a lovely lunch.

Jim is in God's care now and what better care could he have.

Now I ask for your prayers as we move on with our lives that God will direct us in all that we do. In Christ's Love, Ellen Farra

To everyone at GOPCC, my family and I would like to offer our sincerest thanks for all the phone calls, cards and kind wishes we received at the passing of my father, Jim Farra. The luncheon after the funeral was exactly what we needed after a very long day. It gave our family a moment to catch our breath and be together with each other, sharing our love for Dad.

It is such a blessing to be part of this church family and I love you all more than I can say. Sincerely, Diana Knowlton

Dear Friends at Greenmont-Oak Park Community church,

Thank you for all the kind notes and cards I have received during Jack's illness and death. We are planning a Memorial Service in June when school will be out and weather is improved for traveling. And please add my deepest sadness and concern for Greg King and his family.

What a tragedy for such a young, vibrant family. - Mary Schwarz

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES, of

your servant, husband and father and friend. May they bring to us laughter, tears, strength, encouragement and love of God the Father he shared while with us on this earthly plain. When things get too difficult in the days ahead, God will be there to carry all of you through it.

In His Service,
Dr. Bob

(see page 5 of newsletter for sympathy and comfort article for the King family)

"Our Deepest Sympathies Upon the Passing of Rev. Jack Schwarz

Our church family would like to offer our prayers and love and support to Mary Schwarz and family upon the passing of Rev. Jack Schwarz in Uplands Retirement Village, in Pleasant Hill TN on Dec. 13, 2011.

Rev. Jack Schwarz was our Pastor from 1971 to 1983. Jack had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease in 2001 and struggled valiantly to find ways to live with this relentless disease. Jack had been in care at the nursing home for 4 1/2 years.

Our sympathies go out to wife, Mary, sister, Ruth Bohrer, daughter, Elizabeth Sellers and family, & son, David Schwarz and family.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Pleasant Hill Community Church in June 2012.

Mary wrote a note to us last week. She shared that Jack was very strong and brave in his battle with Alzheimer's disease. She sends her love to everyone at Greenmont Church. (See Note and full obituary Posted on Bulletin Board)

Our Official Board is working on a Memorial tribute in honor of Rev. Schwarz and offering our love and support to Mary and the family.

The families request for Memorial gifts be made to the Alzheimer's Research Association, 228 N Michigan Ave., FL 17, Chicago IL 60601m Attn: Donor Services

Messages of love and support may be sent to Mary Schwarz at:

P O Box 606
Pleasant Hill, TN 38578

Pastor Search Committee Selected



At the December Official Board Meeting, the Pastor Search Committee candidates were presented and approved by the Board. **They are Frank Lakins, Anna Slaidins, Loretta Liesch, Greg Goodner, Nikki Taylor, Brian Hager, Laura Von Holle, Ken Hambrick, Jr., John Slaidins, Ron Lyttle, Meg Roalef, Jane Simmons, Joyce Kelly, and Don Keltner. Rev. Dr. Bob Smitley, our interim pastor, will be a part of this team as well.**

They have met for the first time as a committee. The next step in the process is that of developing a church profile. Soon after meeting with Rev. Brandon, the Search Committee will select a chair, a recording secretary, and any other position within the committee that will help it perform in the best way. As they move forward, they will provide updates on how the process is moving along. There will probably be a time when they will request input from the congregation. When they do, let's all commit to providing the information the committee needs.

Thank you, Pastor Search Committee, for volunteering your time and talents!

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion... (Phil 1:6a)

Take Care, Bob Beall

Administrative Chairperson, 2011

Youth News

Youth Groups Fall Schedule



Footprints— (K to 2nd grade)

1st Sunday of month

Crusaders - 3 to 5th grade

3rd Sunday of month

Girls of Grace—Jr High girls

Last Sunday of month, 6to 8pm

Christian Nighthawks—Sr High boys - TBA

Jr High youth—6th to 8th

1st & 3rd Saturday evenings
8 to 11PM

5th Quarter—Sr High youth

2nd & 4th Saturday evenings
8 to 11PM

A BIG THANKS

Mission Outreach thanks all the youth who helped us prepare baskets and offered free gift wrapping. Through our church youth program and many Kettering Fairmont High School youth, our work in preparing the food baskets and serving the families in carrying their baskets to the cars was made so much easier by their enthusiasm and energy.

We estimate we had over 70 youth and over 200 volunteers help on Friday & Saturday.

Chimes Article Deadlines are:

Jan 30, Feb. 13, Feb. 27.

Official Board 2012 RETREAT

All 2012 Official Board Chairpersons are asked to mark your calendar for Saturday, Jan. 28, @ 9 AM for the annual planning Board RETREAT.

Please let the church office know if you will be unable to attend.

- Brad Medlin,

Administrative Chair, 2012

2012 Bulletin Chart posted

If you wish to donate Sunday Worship bulletins, please sign-up on the Bulletin Chart posted across from the church office. The cost of the bulletins is \$14. You can drop your payment into the offering plate, just mark it for bulletins. Your participation in our worship services by this gift is greatly appreciated.

- - Worship Committee

WINGS

The WINGS officers are busy planning upcoming events for 2012. We can promise some very exciting things, some of the same and some new. Please watch for the WINGS "Flyer" that will be out very soon.

Also, don't forget that book club will be meeting to review our January selection of "The Help" on Monday, Jan. 30, at 6:30 PM. As always, we will have a carry-in dinner so be thinking about what you would like to bring.

- Blessings, The WINGS Officers

Sub Sale 2012



The church is going to work with the Preschool on the sale. This year the profits from sandwiches sold by Preschool parents will go for many of our special programs. The profits from sandwiches sold by church members will go to their special projects. The profits from sandwiches sold by church members who are also Preschool parents will be equally divided between the church and preschool. Last year we sold 2170 sandwiches.

The sandwiches are really delicious! They are prepared with Pepperidge Farm buns. We are offering an option of ham, salami and pepperoni with pizza sauce, cheese and mild peppers. You may order them with or without the peppers. The other option is turkey with provolone cheese and lettuce. They are wrapped individually in plastic bags. They cost \$3.50 each.

All orders must be turned in by Sun., Jan. 29. You may put orders in the offering plate, Church office or Preschool office. Then on Fri., Feb. 10 at 3 PM all the fun begins! From 3 to 7 PM we need as many helpers as can come and make sandwiches. We also need a few people to help with baby-sitting from 5 to 7 PM. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the church bulletin board. Baby-sitting will be available for young children from 5 - 7 PM.

We really need you to pick-up all of your orders on Friday night, Feb. 10 from 7 to 8 PM. In the Donut Room downstairs. We also require that you pay for all your orders at the time of pick-up. If you cannot pick up your

orders on the pick-up date, please notify Ruth Fulmer by Fri. Feb. 3.

Thank you so much for all your help! If you have any questions please call me at 252-8740 or 298-0703.

- Ruth Fulmer, Director of Green-Oak Preschool

HOMEMADE ITALIAN DINNER

Sponsored by

Ascension Boy Scout Troup 167

Greenmont Church will be the site of this fundraiser dinner to support the boys American Heritage Tour of Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg MD, Memorial Day weekend 2012.

All are invited to their dinner, Saturday, February 18, 2012, 5 to 9 PM. Tickets are: Adults \$10, Youth 12 and Under—\$7. Presale tickets are recommended to ensure raffle entry—there will be limited door tickets. Carry-out is available.

Tickets may be purchased by texting or calling:

Dan Accrocco 937-271-4636

CeCe Accrocco 937-271-4635

Our Trustees are happy to support these young men in their efforts toward their trip, by offering use of our church.

Words of comfort, prayers and condolences for the King family.

Last Wednesday afternoon, January 11th, 2012, Dr. Smitley received a phone call from Chamberlain, S.D. advising of the tragic loss of their pastor, our former pastor, colleague and friend, Greg King in an automobile accident on Interstate 90 just outside Kimball, S.D.

The area of Interstate 90 where the accident occurred was very icy and treacherous from a winter storm that was passing through. Greg and Patti were returning Kristen to Sioux Falls to catch a flight back to school when the accident occurred. Reports indicated that the King family were headed eastbound on I-90 when they hit black ice and Greg lost control crossing the medium and was hit by a westbound SUV. The impact was on Greg's side of the vehicle and he died at the scene. Patti sustained serious injuries and was taken by care flight to Sanford Health Center in Sioux Falls for treatment of fractures and broken bones. Kristen also received a bad ankle sprain from the accident along with bumps, cuts, and bruises. The other driver was taken by care flight to the hospital with serious injuries.

At this time Kristen is recovering from her injuries and Patti has undergone surgery to put a rod in her arm to help it heal. Tiffany, Greg, and Brittany have been by her side in Sioux Falls, and the Chamberlain UCC has secured a couple of hotel rooms for them across the street from the hospital so they can stay close to their mother. The King family has also been in Sioux Falls to be with the children and their mother. Patti is on the mend and started therapy and is becoming a little more mobile. The children have been strong in support of each other and their mother. They have now had some time to share memories of their dad and husband, sing some songs, and shed some tears together as they begin to work through this devastating loss.

The hospital has set up a website called: Caring Bridge which allows you to leave a message of strength, prayer, and remembrance for the family. The website is www.caringbridge.org/visit/pattiking.

The family has appreciated these words and messages so much and all the prayers they feel coming their way to lift them up in love and support. We continue to lift them up and the Chamberlain congregation as they had been looking so long for a Pastor like Greg to minister to their church and community.

Many have asked if there is some way they could help monetarily. This past Sunday a special offering for the King Family was received here at the church and then wired to the family through a bank there in Chamberlain that has set up an account to receive funds for them. If you would like to make a donation you can still do that. We will continue to receive money at the church and then forward to the Bank in Chamberlain. We are lucky that a member of the congregation in Chamberlain works at the bank and was able to quickly open up an account for them. If you would like to make a donation to them it would be greatly appreciated I'm sure. If it is by check please make it out to Greenmont-Oakpark Community Church and then indicate in the memo it is for the "King family". This would help them offset some of the living expense while there and a great blessing for them.

Many have inquired about arrangements and of this time we have no details. As they are forth coming we will notify all of you. (2 Cor. 1:3-4) *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.* We pray God's loving and healing hands be upon the hearts and souls of the King Family and their extended family. May the love of God through his spirit working within them raise them up in these difficult days ahead and his peace and comfort fill them spiritually knowing a very loving father and husband as it home with the Father of all love, God himself.