

Non-Profit  
U. S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit No. 338  
Dayton, Ohio

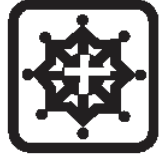
Greenmont-Oak Park  
Community Church  
1921 Woodman Drive  
Kettering, Ohio 45420



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
DATED MATERIAL

# Chimes

Greenmont-Oak Park Community UCC



Volume XLIX No. 734 published bi-monthly

Nov. 10 2013

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. Dr. Robert Smitley  
PastorBob  
[@greenmontoakpark.com](mailto:office@greenmontoakpark.com)  
937-307-7874

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

**Youth Leader:** Sheri Parrett

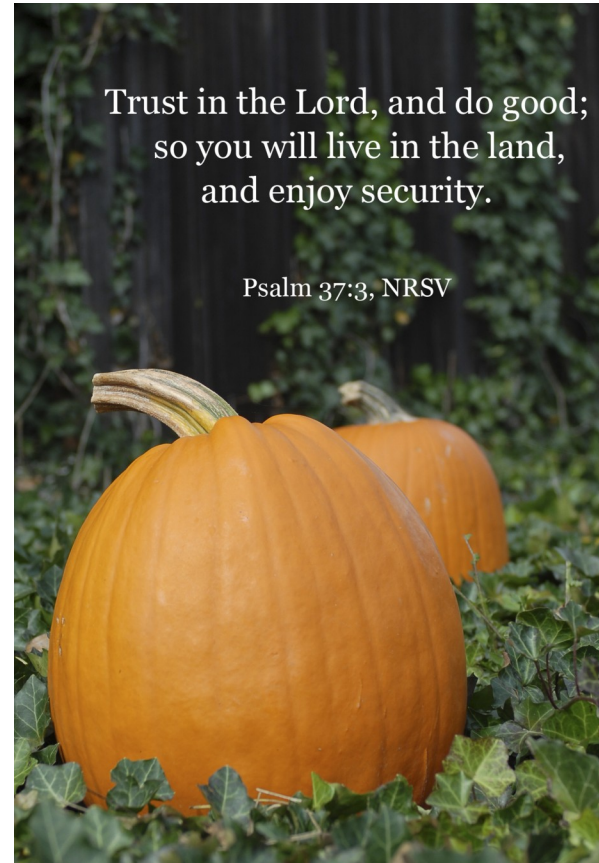
**Admin. Chairperson:**  
Jamie Fisher

**Interim Choir Director:**  
Laura Von Holle

**Organists:**  
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  
Arlene Uldrich  
Charlene Brown



Trust in the Lord, and do good;  
so you will live in the land,  
and enjoy security.

Psalm 37:3, NRSV

**WORSHIP LEADER:**  
Greg Goodner—Nov. 10  
Pasko Evanoff—Nov. 17

**GREETER:**  
Paula Geswein

## STEWARDSHIP

II Corinthians 9:6-8 says; *Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he had decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, For God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

This month we are emphasizing our stewardship in and for the church. Paul is telling us in this passage that people hesitate to give generously to God if they worry about having enough money left over to meet their own needs. Paul assured the Corinthians that God was able to meet their needs. The person who gives only a little will receive only a little in return. Don't let a lack of faith keep you from giving freely and generously.

Our attitude when we give is more important than the amount we give. We don't have to be embarrassed if we can give only a small gift. God is concerned about **how** we give for the resources we have as recorded in the Gospel on Mark 12:41-44: *Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a "poor" widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.*

*Calling his disciples to him Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on".*

In the Lord's eyes, this poor widow gave more than all the others put together, though her gift was by far the smallest. The value of the gift is not determined by its amount, but by the spirit in which it is given. A gift given grudgingly or for recognition loses its value. When you give, remember—gifts of any size are pleasing to God when they are given out of gratitude and a spirit of generosity.

Sometimes we look at our giving as something we are giving to the church instead of really seeing that we are giving back to God the gifts he has given us to work with. Everything secular takes first place in our lives and the spiritual takes second place. We forget that if God was to treat us as we treat him we wouldn't have the gifts we have to spend on ourselves in the first place. We just need to place God first in all things for our lives and his blessings for you will only increase.

I'll share with you a little stewardship story that will bless your heart. It will also serve to refocus our attention to the truth that our giving is directed to God.

Years ago it was the custom for the people to bring their gifts to the front of the building. A well-known preacher was making an appeal to the people to give for a good cause. Many came to present their offerings of love. Among them was a little crippled girl. Who hobbled along at the end of the line. Pulling a ring from her finger, she placed it on the table and made her way back up the aisle.

After the service an usher was sent to bring her to the preacher's stand. The preacher said, *My dear, I saw what you did. It was beautiful. But the response of the people has been so generous that we have enough to take care of the need. We don't feel right about keeping your treasured ring, so we have decided to give it back to you.*

To his surprise the little girl vigorously shook her head in refusal. *You don't understand, she said, I didn't give my ring to you, I gave it to God!*

Continued pg. 6

### Attendance - Oct. 20 & 27, Nov. 3 '13

8:45 — 22 & 27, 21  
10:45 — 71 & 59, 88  
Sunday school — 24 & 27, 19

### Offering—operating income

(Monthly budget need is \$14,958)

	Income rec'd	+/- Amt.
Dec. '12	\$13,272	-1,686
Jan. '13	\$10,411.91	-4,547
Feb. '13	\$10,323	-4,635
Mar. '13	\$14,314	-644
Apr. '13	\$8,745	-6,212
May '13	\$10,436	-4,522
June '13	\$10,768	-4,190
July '13	\$11,204	-3,754
Aug. '13	\$9,635	-5,323
Sept. '13	\$13,100	-1,858

### Happy Birthday

Sasha Taylor—Nov. 9  
Paula Geswein—Nov. 12  
Shelby Harshbarger—Nov. 16  
Caitlin Karl—Nov. 16  
Joy Von Holle—Nov. 16  
Dawn Gilmore—Nov. 18  
Riley Steinbrunner, Nov. 19  
Stacy Stiles—Nov. 19  
Bob Colvin—Nov. 22  
Sandy Conn—Nov. 22  
Caroline Smith—Nov. 22



### In Our Prayers

Liz Ancil	Kevin Bader
Parker Lee Balsan	Cheryl Barnett
Russell Berk	Glenda Boddie
Ginny Breckler	Charlene Brown
Jim Coleman	Michelle Conn
Norm Conn	Ceci (Cobb) Cole
Dennison family	Michelle Earwood
John George	Jamie Geswein



Dawn Gilmore	Ken Hambrick
Bill Hine	Don Keltner
Dustin Knowlton	Onu Kolossova
Kelly McRonney	Bob McCray
Marcella Miller	Hilda Mobley
Karolina O'Donnell	John Parnell
Cindy Romano	Calire Riccos
Deb Richey	Tom Scheit
Beverly Smith	Diana Smith
David Stockton	Wayne Stolich
Paul Stutz	Gloria Van Camp
Gina Van Camp	Evelyn Wheeler
Pat White	Mary Willett
Cathy Winn	

As prayers are answered—please let the church office know, so we may give God thanks with you.

### Those in Nursing Care

Mary Lou Chaney – Bethany Vlg.  
Margaret Cobb – Walnut Creek  
Margaret Dill – Masonic Home  
Doris Greenwood—Grand Court  
Ginny Hambrick—Walnut Creek  
Vern Hine—St. Leonards Center  
Lottie Jaeger – The Oaks, West Kett  
Lena Patterson – Liberty Woods  
Vera Westfall—Elm Croft, Washington Tnsp

### Military

Ian Bader - USA, (Brown's grandson)  
Kirby Brooks— USA (A Brooks son)  
Scott Certain –Afghanistan (Jay's son-in-law)  
Nathaniel Nicholas—USA  
Brian Nicholas—USA (Nicholas family sons)  
Adam Reeves -S Korea (Edna's grandson)  
Sam Rogers— USA (Jen Roger's son)  
Casey Ryan - USA (Weyrauch son-in-law)

A request to review our current Officers and the newly elected or open Officer positions was made at the Congregational Meeting. Here is that information.

**2013 Official Board Members and Committee Chairs:**

Chairperson—Jamie Fisher  
Vice Chair—Suzanne Slaidins-Dull

**Recording Secretary—open**

Treasurer—Lisa Bleeke  
At Large Member—Brian Donovan  
At Large Member—Joyce Kelley  
At Large Member—Diana Knowlton  
At Large Member—Dawn Gilmore  
Trustee Liaison—Gary Etter  
The Financial Secretary position is elected, but not a Board member—Anna Slaidins

\* **2013 Standing Committee Chairs are:**

Finance/ Stewardship—Frank Lakins  
Christian Education—Open  
Membership/ Fellowship—Cheryl Barnett & Marilyn Foskuhl  
Mission Outreach/ Social Action—open  
Music/ Worship—Toni Bailey  
Staff Relations—John Slaidins  
Trustees—Gary Etter  
Food Pantry Coordinator—Craig Kigar  
Preschool Director—Valarie Baker ( not an elected position)

2014 newly Elected \* and continuing positions and Open Positions

**Official Board :**

Chairperson—\*Suzanne Slaidins-Dull (1 Yr)  
Vice Chair—Open (2 Yr)  
Recording Secretary—open (1 Yr)  
Treasurer—\*Lisa Bleeke (2 yr)  
At Large member—Brian Donovan (1 Yr)  
At Large member—Joyce Kelley (1 yr)  
At Large member—Diana Knowlton (1Yr)  
At Large member—\*Jane Simmons (2 yr)  
Trustee Liaison—Gary Etter (1 Yr)  
- Financial Secretary—Anna Slaidins (1 yr)

\* **2014 Standing Committee Chairs are:**

Finance/ Stewardship—Frank Lakins - 1 yr  
Christian Education—open - 1 yr  
Membership/ Fellowship—Cheryl & Marilyn  
Mission Outreach/ Social Action` open 1 yr  
Music/ Worship—Toni Bailey—1 yr.  
Staff Relations—John Slaidins - 1 yr  
Trustees—Gary Etter - 1 yr

***Stewardship Cont.***

*Stewardship isn't the giving to the "Church" it is giving it back to God where it came from to start with so that His ministry—not yours or mine—can be spread throughout the land. If you feel that you are giving to Greenmont -Oak Park Community United Church of Christ then maybe we need to refocus our thinking and return more to God what is His.*

*In His Service, Rev. Dr. Robert Smitley, Interim Pastor*

**Endowment Committee**

2013: Susan Beall, Steve Simmons, Bob Beall

2014: Bob Beall, Connie Sink, Cheryl Barnett, Craig Kigar, Frank Lakins

**MANY THANKS**

**Dear Greenmont church,**

Thank you to all who prayed and sent get well cards and calls to me. They worked! I have been doing exceptionally well on my first complete knee replacement. My second complete knee replacement is scheduled for Nov. 11. \_ Thank you for all your love. - Cheryl Barnett

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dear Greenmont Friends,**

Thanks for all your many cards and prayers. I have recovered nicely from my surgery and am feeling great. - Rodney Finley

**Ever wonder what your Search Committee is REALLY doing and the process behind calling a new pastor?**

Just outside the pastor's office there is a Search Progress Chart that outlines the 8 steps for calling a new pastor. We would like to take this opportunity to dig a little deeper into a few of these blocks so you can see just how complex and uncertain the process is. More specifically, blocks 2 - 5 are where the bulk of the work gets done. Block #2 calls for a congregational description. To accomplish this, your search committee collected information on the local community, church history, finances, previous pastors and numerous other elements to complete a church profile. For those areas where a congregational perspective was needed, we collected information from various surveys and distilled the information down into specific points reflective of our congregation as a whole. We encourage you to review this document. Copies are available in the back of the sanctuary. Block #3 is where we consider potential candidates. How do we do that? When a potential candidate's profile is sent to us, it is distributed to all member of the committee. The profile is then independently reviewed by all members of the committee with full consideration of our church profile and the needs of the congregation. At this point we independently vote, the votes are recorded, and pros and cons discussed at our meetings. If we agree to keep a candidate, we send them our church profile for their review and consideration of us. Assuming there is a mutual connection, we move on to block #5. Block #5 on the progress chart is where interviews are conducted. The search committee has prepared several general questions for both first and second interviews. We also develop candidate unique questions if we feel the need to dig a little deeper or are concerned about a response given from the first interview. In addition to interviews, the search committee listens to or views sermons available on the internet. Towards the end of the interview process we contact candidate references and pose a series of general questions in order to learn more about the candidate's qualifications. Following the interviews it is important to observe the pastor in action and this is accomplished through a neutral pulpit sermon. Through SONKA, a neutral pulpit location will be established and the committee members will attend. Assuming there is still interest in the candidate, the search committee will make a formal recommendation to the Board (Step #6). With Board approval, we will make arrangements for the pastor to lead a future worship service at our church followed by a congregational vote. If the congregation votes yes, notification will be made to the interim pastor and a 60-90 day notice given. You're now to Block #7 on the Progress Chart.

Question: Is it possible for the Search Committee to be conducting second interviews in Block #6 and at the same time reviewing new candidate profiles back in Block #3? **Absolutely!** This process can, and does, bounce back and forth on a regular basis. At any time we may determine that a candidate is not the right fit for our congregation. Similarly, a candidate pastor may feel as though we are not the right congregation for them. Unfortunately, this has happened to us on a number of occasions.

We truly hope this brief explanation helps you to better understand the work of the Search Committee and all the work going on behind the scenes. We ask for your continued support, encouragement, and regular prayers.

Thank You! Your GOPCC Search Committee **3**



### Fall Sunday School Schedule

The Fall schedule will resume on Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013.  
 9:30 AM—High School/College  
 - lead by Bob Colvin  
 9:30 AM—Adult Bible class  
 - lead by Frank Taylor  
 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)  
 10:45 AM—Nursery (babies to 3yrs)

### Youth Programs

**Jr & Sr High Youth** - meet every SAT. 8 to 11PM (7th to 12th grade) Fellowship, games, snacks and scripture based discussion are a part of all youth meetings.  
**Crusaders/ Footprints** ( K to 6th grade) - meet the 1st & 3rd Sundays following worship. Bring a sack lunch.

### Seeking Christian Education Chairperson

If you are interested in the Christian Education program, we invite you to join us at the November 7th, meeting at 7 PM. - Barbara Richards



3-T's

The next 3-T's event will take place at noon on November 19th, at MCL Cafeteria. The hosts for this month are Toni Bailey and Joyce Kelley. If you are 50 years or older, please come join us for some good food, fellowship, & fun.

### Chimes Article Deadlines are:

Nov. 18 & Dec. 2

### Playing Catch Up

Dear Church, at the end of September our **operating income is \$30,000 below budget**. This means we are not meeting our Church's operating needs. \$30,000 is well over half of Pastor Bob's compensation package. \$30,000 is our budget for utilities and custodial services alone. These are things we cannot pay without your tithes and offerings. **Our church cannot survive with a \$30,000 deficit!**

Just so you know, the ramp we are building and the new parking lot and roof were not taken out of operating funds. We were blessed with additional funding for these projects. Our operating expenditures are the basic needs of the church: staff salaries, church utilities and maintenance, committee program expenses and a small portion going to mission outreach programs.

We know it's too late in the year for us to make up that kind of loss, but if you could pray about this and find a little more to give to your church before the end of the year, it would make a big difference. Maybe you could do some personal or group fundraising with the proceeds going to our operating budget. If you are not up to date on your pledge or you know you haven't done your part this year, now would be a great time to **CATCH UP!** Thank you very much for considering getting us back on track this year.

Pledge cards are included in this Chimes issue. So please start praying with your family about what your commitment will be.

By God's grace, The Finance and Stewardship Committee



The holiday season is approaching and the Kettering Meijer's store is promoting a **donation campaign to benefit our Greenmont-Oak Park Church—Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry.**

From Nov. 3 to Jan 4, 2014, simply purchase a Meijer Simply Give \$10 donation card at the Meijers at Stroop & Wilmington. Give the card to the clerk at check-out. Our Food Pantry will receive the proceeds. 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. We have so many families in need in our community, please join in this project, to help make a difference. **On Nov. 15 & 16<sup>th</sup>, the Meijers store will double match the giving cards received on those days.** - Food Pantry volunteers

### Stewardship Campaign Begins

November is our Stewardship Campaign month. The Time & Talent Survey was distributed in the worship service, Nov. 3 and pledge cards are included in this Chimes issue.

We will have members share Stewardship moments with the congregation on Sundays, Nov. 10 and 17th. Rev. Smitley will speak on Stewardship on Nov. 17th in his sermon. The campaign will culminate on Sunday, Nov. 24, when we ask you to hand in your pledge card and Time & Talent survey during worship. - Stewardship Comm.

Thank you everyone for attending the SOUL PURPOSE—Gospel Quartet evening worship in song on Oct. 20th.

We had 90 people, including several guests, and collected a love offering of \$356 for the group.

- Membership/ Fellowship

### Community Invited to Thanksgiving Dinner— We have 9 RSVP's already.

The Membership/Fellowship Committee is inviting the Pantry families and community to join us in worship and our Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday, Nov. 24. They have been asked to RSVP to the church office, by calling 252-6705. If you would like to invite friends or neighbors to our worship and dinner, please do, and let the church office know, so we may have a good estimate of those planning to attend by Nov. 19.

Requests for volunteer help to set-up, cook, and serve or clean-up has been posted on the church bulletin board.



### Home-Bound Card Shower

It is time to share Holiday greetings with our Shut-Ins. We will collect Christmas Cards for them throughout November. The deadline to have your cards at church is Dec. 2. There will be a box in the sanctuary to receive them. Here is our Shut-In list:

Lottie Jaeger, Karolina O'Donnell, Virginia Breckler, Jack Gilmore, Margaret Cobb, Ginny Hambrick, Evelyn Wheeler, Bob Hildebrecht, Howard Jordan, Gloria Van Camp, Liz Ancil, Verdena Mardis, Mary Lou Chaney, Kenny Hambrick, Lena Patterson, Mary Willett, Vera Westfall, Margaret Dill, Pat White, and Doris Greenwood

