



The Beacon

[GRAVEL HILL INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY ON PAGE 3.](#)

Happy New Year! Did you know 2019 is a Leap Year?

The Pastor's Pen

**Pastor
Doug Smith**

Inside this issue:

<i>Calendar</i>	2
<i>Worship Leader</i>	4
<i>Christian Education</i>	5
<i>Deep Thoughts</i>	6
<i>Community Information</i>	10

It is hard to believe we have moved into another New Year. Where does the time go? Do you remember all the fuss (and fear) surrounding the end of 1999 and the beginning of 2000, when the experts were predicting the collapse of all computer based programs? That was 20 years ago! And now it is the year of our Lord: 2020. I now have a better appreciation of the swift passage of time, and I am more aware my insignifi-

cance before God, who stands outside of time itself, and my utter need for God's Grace.

It is out of this deeper appreciation of both my need for God's Grace and of the all-encompassing nature of God's Grace already proffered that my resolves for this New Year arise. Therefore, I did not commit to lose any weight in 2020. I have not purchased a gym membership or any exercise machine. I did not decide to

give up chocolate, or potato chips, or even to do a better job of eating everything green. While I believe physical health is important it pales in the face of what God really wants from his children. Expressions of thanksgiving for God's gift of salvation are spiritual in nature not physical.

Offering thanks to God has nothing to do with the ability to bench 260 pounds; it has to do with the willing-

(Continued on page 3)

Prayers please. . .

Please remember the following people with prayer, cards and visits.

Always call before visiting to confirm that the individual would like to be visited.

Please contact the church office with requests for prayer.

Curtis & Sandy O'Brien, Bob Matthews, Patrick Malloy, Jim Yohn, Jr (Bill Yohn's nephew), Gail Trowbridge, Scott Via, Bob Shearer, Wayne Wagner, Pastor Smith and Family, Betty Miller, (Brenda Klinger's mother), Sharon Williamson (Phyllis Beahm's daughter), Greg Cassel, Lauren Forte, Toni Ann Neiland, Jim Ault, Gaby Santiago-Grubic, Gerald

Brown, Becky Zellner, Betsy, Karen, and Rick Smeltz, Sherry Bell (Chad Bell's mother), Arlene Whitman, Bob Bretherick, Adam Gensamer, Rod Stringer, Denny Alquist, Randy Garrison, Amber Dishong & Son, Bentley Cruz

Long-term Requests: Pat Dovey (Shawn Lochinger's Mom), Jean Myers (Joyce

Lochinger's Mom), Karen Ayers, Martha Kleinfelter, Earl & Jean Deimler, Marian Grubb, Peg Holdren (Margie Yohn's Mom), Ken Kline (Cindy Blauch's father), Vicki (Cassel) Groft, Maria Knauth (Dalinda Bohr's mom), Dolly Gordon, Tom Pankake, Naomi Stewart, Donna Wolfer, Paula Coleman, Paula Groves

January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>SPECIAL NOTE: Please call the church office to check on scheduling for a specific date. Everyone must call prior to using any church space. This calendar is printed a month in advance of its publication. Reservations change often.</p>		<p>EVERY SUNDAY MORNING: 8AM Traditional 9:15AM C.L.I.C.K. 10:30AM WALK</p>	<p>1 Happy New Year! GH Office Closed</p>	<p>2 6:00-9:30pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 5:00-9:00pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>6 10:00am GH Staff Meeting 6:00-10:00pm Volleyball League, Gym</p>	<p>7 6:00-10:00pm Volleyball League, Gym 6:30 Bells Practice, 301</p>	<p>8 5:30-6:30pm BITL Meal FH</p>	<p>9 6:00-9:30pm Private Function, Gym 7:00pm Finance Meeting, Heritage Rm</p>	<p>10 6:00-7:00pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 5:00-9:00pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>13 6:00-10:00pm Volleyball League, Gym</p>	<p>14 9:00am Ladies' Bible Study, 201 7:30pm, Partners In Missions, Heritage Room 6:30 Bells Prac, 301 6:00-10:00pm Volleyball League, Gym</p>	<p>15 BEACON Articles Due for Next Month 5:30-6:30pm BITL Meal FH</p>	<p>16 6:00-9:30pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>17 Men's Morning Out Sign up at Welcome Center</p>	<p>18 1:00-3:30pm Member Run Function, Holy Grounds</p>
<p>19 5:00-9:00pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>20 6:00-10:00pm Volleyball League, Gym</p>	<p>21 9:00am Ladies' Bible Study, 201 6:00-10:00pm Volleyball League, Gym 6:30 Bells Practice, 301</p>	<p>22 5:30-6:30pm BITL Meal FH</p>	<p>23 6:00-9:30pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>24 6:00-7:00pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>25 9:00am-5:00pm Basket Making, FH</p>
<p>26 5:00-9:00pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>27 6:00-10:00pm Volleyball League, Gym</p>	<p>28 9:00am Ladies' Bible Study, 201 6:00-10:00pm Volleyball League, Gym 6:30 Bells Practice, 301</p>	<p>29 5:30-6:30pm BITL Meal FH</p>	<p>30 6:00-9:30pm Private Function, Gym</p>	<p>31 6:00-7:00pm Private Function, Gym</p>	

Pastor's Pen (Continued)

(Continued from page 1)

ness to at least lift a finger to help a stranger in need. It is not about attaining a BMI of 3%; it is about developing a Love index greater than zero. It is not about being able to walk 5 miles at a brisk speed; it is about the willingness to walk a least a few feet in someone else's shoes at the speed true concern demands. It is not even about attending church more often; it is about actually being the church every moment of our lives.

Research and experience clearly show how the decline of common decency in the world is showing up in the Christian community. In the larger world it is now vogue to use harsh, racist, sexist, and/or demeaning language to characterize people who are not part of the accepted group: discretion and the Golden Rule are passé. Unfortunately, as the world becomes a more harsh place it drags the church along with it.

While one might be able to excuse our societal drift (although the loss of common decency is horrible) there is absolutely no excuse for Christians to follow suit. No matter how far the world swings from common decency (including speech, thought, action, lack of action, etc.), the Christian has no choice other than to order his/her life after the example of Christ. So ordering one's life is exceedingly difficult which probably explains why so few Christians actually approximate the life of Christ. But difficulty is not

an excuse to cease striving toward the Christ-like life. In fact, maturing spiritually in Christ demands it.

Therefore, I invite you to join me in several resolutions for 2020 and beyond. First, I resolve to spend more time contemplating and meditating on the nature of God's Grace. How do I cheapen God's Grace? By taking it for granted. How may I limit God's Grace by my finite understanding of the infinite God? This exercise is for the express purpose of developing a deeper appreciation of God's gifted Grace so that I will not take it for granted and so I can do a better job of offering grace to others.

Second, I resolve to be more intentional about striving for the Christ-like life in my everyday walk. This means I will need to take the Golden Rule more seriously and apply it especially when it does not benefit me personally. So ordering my life means that I will need to do a better job at not allowing the immediate demands of life to overwhelm the necessary devo-

tion to Christ.

Third, I resolve to not buy into the demise of common decency in our world. With Christ as my guide, I will be careful in the language I use in conversation with friends and foes. I will be more conscious of my thoughts and confess them when they are less than what Christ desires. In short, this year I resolve to be more intentional about growing deeper in Christ. Let's resolve to so grow as God's Community called Gravel Hill United Methodist Church.

Please call the Church Office (717.838.4721) to be added to the list for:

Prayer Chain Calls: If you are interested in being on the call list for prayers requested, please call the church office so that we may add you to the list.

Email Messages : For an electronic version of the newsletter, the bulletin or special announcements, please notify the church office.

GRAVEL HILL INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Sunday Worship Information: TV Channels 21 or 27; Radio WLBR 1270 AM or WJTL 90.3 FM; call Church for recorded message.

Wednesday Be In The Light Information: If Palmyra Schools have a 2-hour delay/early dismissal or close, there will be **NO:** BITL meal, Childcare, Youth Group, Pioneer Clubs, Kidz Choir or Adult Choir. Bible Studies are held at the discretion of the Class Leader(s). **Key fobs will be needed to enter church.**

SPECIAL WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **Spoken announcements** from any groups within the church must be provided in writing to the Worship Leader by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday during which they are to be announced. Making announcements during worship will be done by the Pastor and the Worship Leader only. Due to the desire to have Worship consistent and on time it is necessary for this change to take place, effective immediately.

Thank you, Pastor Smith

Originally printed Nov 2018

2. If you are in need of any type of **projection or music** in the sanctuary for funerals, weddings, special church announcements etc., please follow proper protocol and give them to our worship leader with as much advanced notice as possible. This will provide time to determine if your presentation can be created and/or if it is compatible with the intricate computer software which is used in the sanctuary. Thank you for your understanding! SEND ALL INFO TO: joyce@gravelhillumc.org

Originally printed June 2018

In an effort to keep the church as safe as possible, we are asking that you please remember to bring your key fobs to all church activities and functions. Thank you.

Worship Leader

**Joyce
Lochinger**

Any questions? Please contact Joyce Lochinger at joyce@gravelhillumc.org

- ◆ Picture attached by Harper Zimmerman referencing Pastor Smiths December 8 sermon! If you have a child who is artistic during worship let me know and we will try to publish their work in the newsletter.



- ◆ Thank you from Shawn and I for all the Christmas greetings, well wishes and gifts. We appreciate serving the congregation of gravel hill. Happy new year all! And God bless!
- ◆ Thank you to all who transformed the church for the Christmas season. The musicians, singers, speakers and decorators did a wonderful job and it is noticed and appreciated. Thank you again.

Merry Christmas!

GH Bell Ringers & Chimers

**Barb
Miller-Nelligan**

Bell Ringers practice in room 301 on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm.

Chimers practice on Sundays from 10:30-11:15 in Room 301.

Home: 717-820-4909

Cell: 717-265-4637

Bnelligan165@comcast.net

Christian Education

Shauna
Dowdrick

Unit 4 Lessons

Trailblazers, Pathfinders and PeeWees – God Says I’m Special

- Jan 1 NO CLUB-HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!
 Jan 8 Meeting 1 I’m Loved
 Jan 15 Meeting 2 God’s Plan to Save Me
 Jan 22 Meeting 3 God Gives Me Courage
 Jan 29 Meeting 4 God Gives Me Talents
[Award Night and Game Night-Wear Sneakers]

Scooters- I Am Special

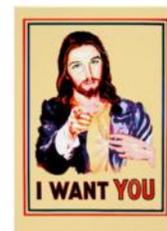
- Jan 1 NO CLUB-HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!
 Jan 8 Meeting 1 God Made Me
 Jan 15 Meeting 2 God Gives Me Abilities
 Jan 22 Meeting 3 God Cares for Me
 Jan 29 Meeting 4 God Protects Me
[Award Night and Game Night-Wear Sneakers]

The Activity for this Unit is: Community Helpers



URGENT NEED:

We are still urgently in need for Sunday school teachers.
 We are looking for folks to volunteer in our Preschool room and our 2nd/3rd grade room.
 We follow a great curriculum which makes lesson planning a breeze. If you love the Lord and think it's important for our children to know Him too, please consider donating some time. See Shauna or email at shauna@gravelhillumc.com
At least a six month relationship with our church and clearances required.



Youth News!

Judy
Kennedy

Keep checking on social media for updates on any other youth activities.
 Questions can be directed to Judy Kennedy (717-202-5449) or kennedyx5@comcast.net.



Have a blessed and happy New Year, everyone! And remember this Deep Thought: “Probably the saddest thing you will ever see is a mosquito sucking on a mummy. Forget it little friend!”
~ Jack Handey

20/20 is Perfect Vision

**Tony
Rose**

I think the year being 2020 is also a perfect metaphor for what we as Christians—and more specifically Gravel-Hillians—need to seriously take into consideration as we continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in this world and within our community.

Our numbers may be down but that needn't influence our resolve and conviction to make a positive impact in and around Palmyra. We did a lot of good in 2019 with fewer bodies, and to me that speaks volumes for our church community. If Gravel Hill was a solitary entity, living and breathing, its heart would be 100x the size of our physical building. We have people in this church who truly exemplify what it means to be servant-leaders—truly sacrificing their time, personal comfort, and finances to help others.

Having a clear, 20/20 vision for 2020 on what servanthood and servant-leadership look like in your life will help our church body to continue its influence in and on our area. Pray. Join a Bible Study. Or better yet, START a Bible study. Get involved. Make it a resolution to sit down with a calendar at the beginning of every month and, before entering any other obligation, purposely put down time for God, for Gravel Hill, for community work. We have so many opportunities to get involved on a weekly and monthly basis. Be intentional putting God first. With age our eyesight will falter and we will take drastic measures to make sure our vision is corrected. Likewise, serious action needs to be taken to make sure our Spiritual Vision does not falter. And if it does, we need to fix it. We need it to be 20/20.

Here are a few things you can consider as we head into the New Year:

- ◆ Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study, 9:15am, Run by Joyce Lochinger begins on January 14
- ◆ Men's Fraternity, Wednesday evening, 6:30-8 pm
- ◆ We have three services every Sunday: 8:00am, 9:15am and 10:30am
- ◆ We support many local organizations through the following events:
 - Super Bowl Can Drive happening Jan. 19-Feb. 2
 - Ash Wednesday and Lenten Services happening Feb. 26-April 1
 - The Spring Run happening on March 21
 - Maundy Thursday Service happening on April 9
 - Palmyra's Great Give/Charity Motorcycle Ride/Palmyra Area ChiliFEST on September 19
 - The Fall Feeding Frenzy 5K happening on October 31
 - Veteran's Luncheon happening on November 8
 - The Christmas Market happening on Friday, November 20 and Saturday, November 21
 - Advent Services happening Nov. 25-Dec. 16

Plus the following Isaiah 6:8 opportunities:

- Caitlin Smiles:** Feb. 25, March 12, April 2, May 20, June 11, July 15, Aug. 19, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, and Dec. 16
- Food Bank:** Jan. 16, May 14, July 16, Sept. 17, Nov. 19
- Downtown Daily Bread:** Feb. 23, April 26, June 28, Aug. 23, Oct. 25, and Dec. 27
- Caring Cupboard:** Feb. 29, May 30, Aug. 29, Oct. 31
- American House Bingo:** March 10 and August 18.
- Susan Dowhower house Bingo:** April 13 and September 22.
- Columbia Cottage Bingo:** Jan. 16, March 19, May 14, July 16, Sept. 17, Nov. 19
- Adopt-a-Highway:** 4 times a year: one per season

This doesn't even include Missions opportunities, Operation Christmas Child, Kidz Choir, Adult Choir, Adult and Children Christian Ed Teachers, Vacation Bible School, Nursery Attendants, etc...So you see...if your Spiritual Vision is faltering and you look at 2020 as an opportunity to get back to 20/20 Spiritual Vision, rest easy knowing that Gravel Hill will continue to give you the tools, treatments, opportunities, and therapy needed to rectify your circumstances.

January Birthdays

1/1 Christina Foutz	Zachary Grumbine	Anna Palmer
Robert Koch	Kristen Schaffer	1/22 Shane Eisenhour
Cailen Schaffer	1/11 Matthew Sholley	1/23 Ronald Berman
1/2 Pauline Matthews	1/12 Jean Deimler	Michael Sis
Kenneth Parker	Bobby Dorta	Scott Mickalonis
Britanni Bishop	1/13 Denver Sandiford	1/24 Donna Wolfer
1/3 Mr. Curtis O'Brien	1/14 Jane Cornett	Dylan Fausey
Avery Gullett	Dan Houser	Camden Edwards
Romaine Ulrich	Amanda Davies	1/25 Connor Funck
1/4 Terry Seltzer	1/15 Melvin Dorta	1/26 Jeffrey Kennedy
Karen Smith	William Sheffy, Jr.	1/27 Sharon Gussler
Blaine Jones	1/16 James Fausey	Natalie Allwein
Tiffany Rettew	Yvonne Bump	Vanessa Hoffer
Hailee Sis	Dale Lingle, Jr.	1/28 Debra Reedy
1/5 Michael Einzig	1/17 Sash Schaeffer	Payton Berry
1/6 Robert Gernert	1/18 Sarah Sis	1/29 Colin Ward
Terry Nagle	1/19 Lane Lehman	1/30 Gretchen Miller
Megan Ballard	Andrew Miller	1/31 Rodney Stamm
Jeremy Richard	Joan Farabaugh	Christine Stamm
Brianna Cottingham	Hannah Barrett	Chase Hess
1/7 Naomi Umberger	Sarah Mickalonis	
Braden Landis	Andrew Miller	
Erika Sweigard	1/20 Phoebe Smith	
Alex Buffington	Cameron Mitchell	
Krissa Zohn	1/21 Carla Janes	
1/8 Jeremy Plummer	Maurice Ballard	
1/9 Brandi Anske	Jessy Miller Jr.	
1/10 Zachary Landis		



Confirmation Classes To Be Offered Winter 2020!

We have received a few inquiries about Confirmation Classes. We have decided to offer the classes in the winter sometime after the New Year. Classes are generally open for students in 7th-12th grades who are interested in joining the church. The sessions are designed to help students explore their faith journey and information about the United Methodist Church. They usually take place on Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:30. The classes will be scheduled for 8 weeks and an additional retreat session to do some special activities. Our hope is that winter may not be as busy and it will be easier for students to commit to the sessions. If your youth is interested in attending confirmation classes, please let Sandy Fausey know so she can be in touch with students and families to see what timeframe will work best. Email address – jfsf75@outlook.com.

World Wide Mission Work

You may or may not know that there are some members of our congregation who make items to be distributed world wide! Whether you make the items, purchase the supplies or help to package or ship items that are made, you are part of the Gravel Hill Mission Field! It's so lovely to see the joy and happiness brought to people around the world because of your efforts! Thank you for being faithful and supportive to the many Gravel Hill missions.



Special Thanks to Ruth Wise and Yvonne Bump for these adorable knitted dolls!



United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR)

100% of any monetary gift you provide to UMCOR is given directly to the specific area in which it was intended. If you are able to help please use:

#982450: Use this number in reference to disaster response and helping people worldwide, including the residents of the Bahamas.

#901670: Use this number in reference to helping the U.S. Disaster Response efforts through UMCOR.

Christmas Market—Final Wrap Up

**Sandy
Fausey**

The final amount taken in by the Christmas Market this year is \$12,248.77. Thanks again to all who contributed to the success of the Christmas Market through your donations of items and most especially of your time.

Checks have been mailed to the Ronald McDonald House, the Agape Family Shelter, the Phoenix Youth Center and the Lebanon Rescue Mission. In addition, a special gift was sent to the Lebanon Rescue Mission for the Agape Christmas Project. This project provides gift bags to seniors in our communities who might otherwise be forgotten. Our choices of charities reach all groups – families who

are able to stay close to their children receiving treatment at Penn State Health Hershey Medical Center; women and children at the Agape Family Center, youth at the Phoenix Youth Center, men at the Lebanon Rescue Mission and now seniors throughout our communities.

In addition, the leftover yard sale items are given to The Purple Heart Foundation to assist with the needs of veterans, leftover children’s clothing and coats were shared with a mission in Liberia, other clothing was donated to the Community Aid organization and extra kitchen supplies were placed in the Harvest Home display to be

shared with Caring Cupboard.

Thanks again for serving. It is with grateful hearts that we can share our blessings with other organizations that minister to those in need in our communities.



**PHEONIX
Youth Center**

**AGAPE
Family Shelter**

The Caring Tree

**Beth
Hoy**

Because of your generosity and thoughtfulness, 20 families will be able to experience the joy of Christmas and know the unconditional and unrelenting love God has for each one of us. There were 335 tags on the Christmas tree. More tags than any year in the

past. All tags were taken and will be delivered today after worship. Thank you for hearing the call to support this local mission to help families in our own community.

Merry Christmas!



Community Information

Men's Morning Out

Food & Fellowship to Shady Maple Restaurant. Every 3rd Friday morning of the month. The van leaves at 7:00am from the Gravel Hill UMC parking lot.

Limited seating = 13 people Sign up at the Welcome Center!

For more information: contact Bill Yohn 717-679-3592



Londonderry Village News

Our church, one of about 20 churches, supports Londonderry Village Auxiliary (formerly the Lebanon Valley Brethren Home, located at 1200 Grubb Road, Palmyra, PA). Your annual membership in the Auxiliary provides funds to purchase Health Care and Therapeutic equipment for LV Skilled Care, Dementia and Alzheimer residents. An ANNUAL membership is a DONATION of any amount. Membership is open to anyone interested in the welfare of residents at Londonderry Village. All donations and memberships are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your kind considerations. Contact Nancy Bordner - (717) 838-4888.

Puerto Rico Mission Trip, 1/26-2/28

John
Stewart

Partners In Missions Meetings Scheduled!

January 14

March 10

May 12

7:30-8:30pm

Heritage Room

(Library)

The mission team is getting ready to embark on another adventure accomplishing God's work. Thirteen people will be traveling to Puerto Rico on January 26th. During the first week, they will be working in the central mountains at a Methodist church camp and a Methodist church in Ponce, a city on the southern coast of the island. During the second week, the team will be in Old San Juan, working at the oldest Methodist church in Puerto Rico.

The main project for Camp Corson will be widening doorways to facilitate handicap accessibility. Keep in mind, walls are made of concrete block on the island, not like here. In Ponce, the team will be fixing a leaky church office roof, of course, this roof is solid cement. In Old San Juan, the team will be working on the stain-glass windows, replacing the ¼ inch thick plexiglass that is protecting these historical works of spiritual inspiration.

During this 2-week pilgrimage, the team will be accomplishing many other smaller projects at these locations and thanking the Lord for the opportunity to accomplish God's work.

Please help us with these efforts by keeping this mission team in your thoughts and prayers. When you are in a situation or somewhere outside your comfort zone, knowing someone is praying for you is truly inspirational. Thank you for your support!

Book Reviews

Happy Reading from the Church Librarians,
Kristen Capion and Janell Ault!

Listed below are three book reviews from the church library which is located in the Heritage Room. One review is from the children's section, one is from the teen's section and there is one from the adult section of the library. Enjoy!

My Christmas List

by Amy Parker

"Dear God, on this Christmas, instead of toys and lots of stuff, I want Christmas for the whole wide world, especially those without enough." *My Christmas List* is a thoughtful children's book written as a rhyming prayer that will remind kids of the true needs people have during the holiday season and all year long around the globe, from starving children in Third World countries to adults in need of work and all who don't yet know Jesus as Savior.

Stories for the Extreme Teen's Heart

by Alice Gray

Compiled with the help of teenagers, *Stories for the Extreme Teen's Heart* features true stories of teens living committed lives for Christ. These inspiring selections show teens making a difference in their families, schools, and world. Captivating stories with themes specific to teen interests instruct by example, not preaching, while encouraging wise choices and a deeper walk with the Lord. This wonderful resource will intrigue nonbelievers and move believers closer to God as they receive affirmation of His presence.

In God We Trust – Stories of Faith in American History

by Timothy Crater and Ranelda Hunsicker

Down through our nation's history, men and women have taken a stand for right. They came seeking religious freedom and found that their faith in God played a role in many life-changing decisions – in discovering new territories, in setting up new governments, in establishing what was fair and just for all. These are their stories ... *In God We Trust* presents factual information in a fun and lively way. Each narrative story highlights a person in history, focusing on how that person's faith in God played an important part in the development of America. Christopher Columbus, Father Marquette, Abigail Adams, Daniel Webster, Abraham Lincoln, Hiram Revels, and many more, come alive through the colorful illustrations, delighting young and old alike. These men and women of differing backgrounds and nationalities, brought to our nation a collective heritage of faith in God that stands the test of time and allows us the freedom of religion today. Their stories will build your faith and strengthen your trust in God for the future of our nation.

Would You Like To Volunteer?

Gravel Hill UMC needs your help with all the events and missions that happen here and through our church community!

We operate under a Safe Sanctuary Policy to ensure the safety of everyone in attendance at any given event. PA law states that your background check, criminal clearance and fingerprints are good for 5 years from the date you obtain them. You DO NOT need to obtain a fingerprint clearance if you have been a PA resident for 10 or more years. If your clearances are within 5 years of an event's date, please provide a copy of them to the office. We need to keep them here on file. If you need them, you can obtain them online fairly easily. Call 838-4721 for more Information.

To obtain your Criminal Background Check: <http://epatch.state.pa.us>

To obtain your Child Abuse History Clearance: www.compass.state.pa.us

TO VOLUNTEER:
You **must** fill out one of
these Volunteer
Applications per year!



UMCOR Advance Specials

100% of any monetary gift you provide to UMCOR is given directly to the specific area in which it was intended. If you are able to help please use:

#982450: Use this number in reference to disaster response and helping people worldwide, including the residents of the Bahamas.

#901670: Use this number in reference to helping the U.S. Disaster Response efforts through UMCOR.



Social Media

**Katie
Landis**



Check us out at: www.gravelhillumc.org Are you on social media? Join us by searching: Gravel Hill Church (Facebook) & like our page @GravelHill (Twitter)

Would you like an electronic version of the Sunday Bulletin?

You can have the Sunday bulletin sent to your inbox! It is easy to sign up to receive it! Open the Gravel Hill homepage (gravelhillumc.org). Click on Media. Select newsletter. When the newsletter page opens, scroll to the bottom to fill out the form. Select Hill Highlights (Digital Sunday Bulletin), and click Submit. Your Sunday Bulletin will appear in your email Sunday morning. Please contact me with any questions: katie@gravelhillumc.org

APPLICATION FORM

For ADULTS working with children, youth, and vulnerable adults.

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- Volunteer**
- Paid Staff
- copy of PA Criminal Background Check attached?
- copy of PA Child Abuse History Clearance attached?

Today's date: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Phone: Home _____ Mobile _____) Work _____

Emergency Contact : 1. _____ 2. _____

Member of Gravel Hill? YES OR NO If no, please note home church: _____

Have attended Gravel Hill UMC since: _____ *Resident of Pennsylvania for _____ years

This information is ONLY necessary if you will be offering to assist children or youth groups by driving them to/from functions.

Driver's License #: _____ Vehicle Make, Model, Year: _____

I agree to keep this vehicle covered under a current insurance policy during the time I offer to use my personal vehicle to help transport anyone to or from Gravel Hill UMC. Initials: _____

Graduated: High School College Post Graduate Other

Specific areas of expertise/knowledge:

Experiences working with children/youth:

Organization	Describe experience	Date(s)
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____

- Christian Education Teacher
- Youth Ministry Assistant
- PAID Staff Position
- Vacation Bible School Teacher/Assistant**
- Music Ministry Lead/Assistant
- PAID Nursery Staff
- Nursery Volunteer
- Missions Programs
- Other: _____

Provide two (2) references of individuals (Name/Address or phone/relationship), not related to you.

1. _____
2. _____

Have you ever been convicted of a crime or crimes other than a summary offense (for example, a traffic ticket)? YES OR NO If yes, please explain: _____

Has a determination of abuse of a child of any nature ever been made by a government agency against you? YES OR NO If yes, please explain: _____

Is there any other reason, including those related to the safety and well-being of children, youth and vulnerable adults, that would render you unsuited for the position for which you have applied? Please explain: _____

I understand that to be considered for a position having a direct and regular contact with children, youth and/or vulnerable adults, a background check shall be performed by the staff of Gravel Hill UMC. I hereby consent to such contacts, including but not limited to the references listed above and criminal and agency background clearances related to child abuse. I agree to further provide all such information and permissions necessary for the background clearance process to be completed. **Signature:** _____

I hereby certify that all information contained in this application is true and complete. I agree to abide by the Safe Sanctuary Policy of Gravel Hill UMC. **Signature:** _____

***If you have not been a Pennsylvania resident for more than 10 years, an FBI fingerprint clearance is a state requirement and must be obtained in order to volunteer at GHUMC.**

www.gravelhillumc.org

Email Us!



Gravel Hill UMC
131 Gravel Hill Road
Palmyra, PA 17078
Phone: 717-838-4721
Email: office@gravelhillumc.org

Pastor: Reverend Douglas E. Smith revsmith@gravelhillumc.org

Associate Pastor: Shawn Lochinger sdlochinger@gmail.com

Worship Leader: Joyce Lochinger joyce@gravelhillumc.org

Lay Mobilizer: Tony Rose tony@gravelhillumc.org

Education Director: Shauna Dowdrick dowdmom22@comcast.net

Social Media Manager: Katie Landis katie@gravelhillumc.org

Youth Leader: Judy Kennedy youth.ghumc@gmail.com

Business Administrator: Dawn Schaffer dawn@gravelhillumc.org

Congregational Visitation: Joe Royer jroyer100@gmail.com

General Questions: office@gravelhillumc.org

**Submit all Articles for the
February BEACON by
January 15.**

**PLEASE EMAIL ITEMS TO:
dawn@gravelhillumc.org
*Thank you!***



Stay warm Busy Bees!
All your efforts are very
much appreciated!

