

# November 2020 . . . Brief

**Gravel Hill UMC**

Dan Lebo, Senior Pastor

This year has been a difficult one for nearly everyone that I have talked to. We have spent a lot of time thinking about things we have missed out on and how our lives have changed in ways we were not expecting. As we enter the month of November, in the midst of holidays that we are trying to plan for, we are still in the midst of things that are not as we are used to. November is also a month where we are reminded of the need to be thankful. To be honest, there are days where I find it hard to be thankful. I know that I have plenty in my life to be thankful for, but sometimes I focus on the wrong things. I think we all have times like that. Yet, the scriptures remind us the importance of being thankful. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

I don't think a focus on thankfulness means we can't be honest about the difficulties and struggles that we have in life, but sometimes we need a change in perspective. We can get tunnel vision focusing on the things that we are missing and need a reminder to be thankful that in the midst of uncertain times that God still fills our lives with blessings. German theologian, Meister Eckhart, once said, "If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough." I encourage you this month to incorporate a prayer of "thank you" into your routine and see how your perspective on life changes.

Be Blessed, Pastor Dan

**Thank you for your patience with all of the COVID restrictions and procedures, but our persistence in taking care of our brothers and sisters in Christ is what will help keep us safe. Thank you for your care and concern for each other.**

## Worship Notes:

- Masks are required to attend worship. Even during the service, while in the Sanctuary.
- Please [RSVP using the online option](#) from our website or by calling the church office. It is helpful for planning purposes if your rsvp is received by 2pm on Fridays.
- As the weather turns colder, we ask that you keep your coats/belongings with you.
- Online Worship is available through [our YouTube channel](#) and also on our [FaceBook page](#). If you want to be notified when Gravel Hill goes live, access Gravel Hill UMC on YouTube. Click on the word SUBSCRIBE and click the bell to the right of the word to receive notifications.

### **Christmas Market ONGOING**

Provide donations clearly marked with [2020 Christmas Market](#) or through the [online option](#).

### **November 26**

Happy Thanksgiving!!  
Offices closed today & Nov. 27

### **November 28, 9:00am**

Christmas Decorating at church.  
All are invited to help

Stay in the know: [www.gravelhillumc.org](http://www.gravelhillumc.org) • (717) 838-4721 • 131 Gravel Hill Road, Palmyra, PA 17078

Facebook: [Gravel Hill Church](#) Instagram: [@131gravelhill](#) Twitter: [@GravelHill](#) Visit our Sermons: [GravelHillUMC Video Gallery](#)

**Special Announcements:** The small Bulletin Board just outside the sanctuary was designed for you to write down and share your praises as we approach Thanksgiving! Please take a moment to write down something for which you're thankful beyond measure. This year has been a tough one. Let us lift up our voices in cheerful unison to give attention to the positives in our lives. Psalm 136:1 ❤️

**YOUTH GROUP** — The Gravel Hill Youth Group is planning to participate in a mission trip from July 4– 9, 2021. Please watch for ways to support this effort through various fundraising efforts in the upcoming year. Your support is greatly appreciated!

**Teachers Needed:** Gravel Hill Christian Child Care currently has part-time and full-time openings for teachers and kitchen help. If you have questions, please call 717-838-3620. If you would like to submit your resume, you may email it to [ghcccdirector@yahoo.com](mailto:ghcccdirector@yahoo.com), attention Lori Cheatham.

**Staffing Announcement:** After 10 years on staff at Gravel Hill, Tony Rose will be transitioning to a new full-time position outside the church. He will remain on staff part-time until November 15<sup>th</sup>. I know that many of you have appreciated Tony's work at our church throughout the years and I encourage you to reach out to let him know how his work in full-time ministry has impacted your life during his time on staff. We are grateful for Tony's service on the staff of this church and wish him the best in his new endeavor.

**Online Giving Options:** You can access [online giving](#) from the GH website. There are two new accounts noted online to which you may provide your financial support. The first is shown to the left as Worship Resources and Outreach. This will support the update of our dated audio/visual equipment in order to improve our recorded online presence by look and sound, as well as in person worship experience. The second new fund is for the Christmas Market. The 2020 Christmas Market will be all online due to COVID. If you have any questions, please email Dawn Schaffer at [dawn@gravelhillumc.org](mailto:dawn@gravelhillumc.org).



### **[Christmas Market 2020](#) (For Information: [Sandy Fausey \(jfsf75@outlook.com\)](mailto:jfsf75@outlook.com))**

The [Christmas Market](#) has gone virtual for 2020! To minimize the impact on charities who are in need of these donations, Gravel Hill is asking you to please prayerfully consider providing a monetary donation to the Christmas Market fund. Your donation goes directly to the charities identified as the beneficiaries of the Christmas Market.

Please consider providing a gift in the amount of money you may have spent:

- On the ingredients for baked items for the Bake Shoppe or candy for the Candy Shoppe
- Creating crafts
- On items for the kitchen
- On purchasing items at the Christmas Market

Spread God's love in our community by giving from the heart, knowing that we are shining the light of Christ and providing for those who are in need. Make checks payable to Gravel Hill UMC and write "Christmas Market" in the memo line. For cash donations, please make sure it is marked for the "Christmas Market."

There is also an online giving option available from our website link for online giving. To use this option, please Click on the Share drop down menu and select [Tithing and Giving](#). Click the Online Giving option shown with a basket from that page to provide a donation for the Christmas Market.

Though we will miss seeing everyone during this fantastic event (and we look forward to the possibility next year may hold), let's pull together for the good of those charities and the people relying on them for a successful Christmas Market 2020. Thank you!