

April 2021. . . Brief

Christ
is
Risen!

Gravel Hill UMC

Dan Lebo, Senior Pastor

This past month we marked the one year anniversary since the COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we have done things. Worship went virtual. Restaurants became take out only. Toilet paper became a prized possession. Clorox Wipes became air fresheners. We all wished we owned stock in Zoom. It is hard to quantify the difficulties that this year has brought our way. Members of our community experienced the devastating effects of this disease or lost a loved one to it. Others felt the economic impact on businesses being unable to function at full capacity. Still others have felt the mental health toll of being unable to see loved ones and friends regularly. At times things have been tough. Very tough as we have learned to navigate a new way of being in the world, even if for a temporary period.

If there is any year that we collectively can relate to the season of lent it has been this year. We have experienced sacrifice, sorrow, death, and illness. We have witnessed political unrest and violence as we argue over different paths forward. Yet in the midst of all this, we look ahead to the end of the Lenten season with our eyes trained on the cross and the empty tomb. Roman Catholic Archbishop Basil Hume said, "The great gift of Easter is hope." Hope is something we could all use right now and hope is what God offers us. Even in the midst of darkness and suffering, we are reminded of Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf and, even more importantly, the victory over death we find in the resurrection. I am praying that you all find a bit of hope this Easter season. No matter what this year has brought your way, I pray you find comfort in the glory of the resurrection.

Christ is Risen! The Lord Is Risen Indeed!

Hallelujah and Amen
Pastor Dan



Special Announcements:

1. For those interested in summer camping at Gretna Glen, summer registration for overnight and day camps is now open! Please view more information by accessing the following, <https://www.gretnaglen.org/summer-camp>
2. Gravel Hill UMC will be reaching our 175th Anniversary this year! We would like to organize an event in the fall to celebrate. If you are interested in helping on a planning team, please contact [the Office](#). We hope to schedule a meeting in the next couple of months to explore ideas.

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



Attention 2021 Graduates...

Your Gravel Hill family would like to celebrate your achievements! Graduate recognition will be held on Sunday, May 16th during both services. During service you will be called to the front to receive a small gift. If you would like to participate in this event, we need a little information from you. Please complete the form below, either on-line or in paper form (please place in Shauna Dowdrick's mailbox) by April 18th. A gift during service is not guaranteed for any form received after this date.

*****By May 2, please send 2-3 photos to be shown during the recognition to joyce@gravelhillumc.org *****

Graduate Name: _____ Attending: 8:00am OR 10:30am

Graduating from (name of high school, college, trade school, etc.):

Will be attending: _____ Major: _____

Or other future plans you would like to share:

Worship Notes: Worship is available at 8:00am (Traditional) and 10:30am (Praise).

Please continue to provide Joyce Lochinger with your feedback, photos and thoughts to include on a **How We Worship** page for the newsletter! Everyone appreciates seeing and hearing from you!

Online Giving Options: Thank you for your continued faithfulness in providing your weekly giving. Because of your generosity, the work of Gravel Hill continues! If you haven't already, [creating an online account](#) for handling your [giving online](#) is simple and quick to set up, start, stop and change as you continue throughout the year. If you have any questions, please email Dawn Schaffer at dawn@gravelhillumc.org.

Teachers Urgently Needed: Gravel Hill Christian Child Care currently has part-time and full-time openings. If you have questions, please call 717-838-3620. To submit a resume, email it to ghcccdirector@yahoo.com, attention Lori Cheatham.

Deadline reminder: If you'd like something to be included in the Beacon Brief, please submit it to Dawn Schaffer by the 15th of the month before you wish your information to appear. (e.g. To print something in the April Brief, please submit it no later than March 15th) Thank you!

Gravel Hill Staff:

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