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Find us on the web: [www.signalhillumc.org](http://www.signalhillumc.org)

## Wehrly's World

**"Each year you will celebrate it as a special festival to the Lord."** *Exodus 12:14 (NLT)*

Our Jewish friends celebrate Passover each year as a special festival to the Lord to remember that God delivered them. This celebration is decreed by God in the OT book of Exodus.

Methodists don't have specific "God-decreed" festivals, but we at Signal Hill have decided to begin our own annual festival to the Lord. The first weekend of May has been designated as Heritage Weekend, with special events this year on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

We're going to have an open house from 3:00 – 5:00 with some special music by students from Signal Hill School, a few speakers, and other events. The main purpose is for all of us to gather and remember all that God has done for us. We will share stories and renew acquaintances. When our children ask, "What does all this mean? What is this ceremony about?" (Exodus 12: 26 NLT) We can answer, "God has been in our midst, on this hilltop for many decades. God has seen us through joy and through sorrow. We gather so that you will know all that God has done for us."

So, remember the date and invite others to come and celebrate and remember with you!

See you in church,

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## Calendar

### April

- 16, 23 & 30 Kids Kount, 2:10 – 4:30
- 21 Finance Committee, 6:15 pm
- 23 Ministry Team Meeting, 7 pm
- 24 Confirmation Dinner @ Marco's, 6:30 pm
- 27 Confirmation Sunday – Reception 9:30 am

### May

- 1 UMW meeting, noon
- 4 Heritage Sunday Celebration, 3-5 pm
- 11 Mother's Day/Pentecost Sunday

***Check the web site Worship Calendar for additional service and meeting information.***

## Meet your ministry team Finance Committee

The Finance Committee identifies and manages finances for the congregation - the processes of raising, managing, and dispersing the finances so that the mission and vision of the congregation can be achieved. The members of the 2008 team are Chair Don Buser; Pastor Peter Wehrly; Lay Leader Sandy Smith; Lay Member to Annual Conference Richard Rawlings; Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Chair Paul Vallina; Treasurer Ray Helfer; Financial Secretary Kim Hutchinson; Trustee Representative Dennis Jobin; Nurture Representative Liz Reichert; Outreach Representative Marge Buser; Witness Representative Velma Thompson; Ministry Team Chair Jim Bevirt; Recording Secretary Carolyn Rawlings; and Member At-Large Ed Bott.

"The Bible speaks frequently about money and wealth and emphasizes the importance of generous giving and wise management," explained Pastor Peter Wehrly. "I am grateful that we have a generous congregation and wise management of our resources."

A first quarter status report on gifts and expenses was sent to all giving units in early April. If you did not receive a copy, contact the church office.

## Easter invitations increase attendance

Thanks to the friendly invitations of the members of Signal Hill UMC, the attendance at the two Easter Sunday worship services topped 130 persons. The sanctuary was filled with the joyous celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Two moving worship services earlier in Holy Week on Holy Thursday and Good Friday led those in attendance through those solemn events in preparation for Easter.

"I urge our members to continue to invite their friends and families to come to Signal Hill to experience the power of Jesus!" exclaimed Pastor Wehrly.

Our church "business cards" are still available to help you make your invitations. Contact Velma Thompson, chair of our outreach team at 398-7835, or the church office for extra cards.

## Remember to check the web site often



[www.signalhillumc.org](http://www.signalhillumc.org)

Check the Signal Hill UMC web site weekly for announcements, news and helps for your walk of discipleship.

## Focus on ministry

### Prayer Team

Liz Reichert and Allen Toberman are the leaders of the Signal Hill UMC Nurture Team's Prayer Ministry. At each Sunday service, worshippers are encouraged to write prayer joys and concerns on small grey cards in the pews and give them to the pastor for prayer. In addition, persons can e-mail prayer requests to the church address, [shumcoffice@compu-type.net](mailto:shumcoffice@compu-type.net). Peter Wehrly passes these requests along to Liz and Allen for weekly prayer sessions.

"A praying church is connected to God," said Wehrly. "We support each other in our Christian walk through prayer. I am also convinced that a praying church is a growing church."

For more information about the prayer ministry and to participate in the weekly prayer meetings, contact Liz at 397-3508.

### Heritage Sunday, May 4, 3 - 5 pm

The agenda for Heritage Sunday has been finalized.

Invitations have been sent to former pastors and special guests, and additional publicity is in the works. Make your plans today to join us on Sunday, May 4!



### 3 - 5 pm Open House

Church Building & Rainbow Kids

**Meet Chalk Artist David Carr**

**Musical performances**

**Refreshments**

Memorial Hall

**Ministry Displays**

McKendree College

Lessie Bates Davis

Neighborhood House

BEACON

United Methodist Women

Missions & Outreach

Scouting

**Historical Displays**

Slide show, Sanctuary

Photos, Asbury Hall

**3:15 - 4:00 pm**

**Hempels Magic Show**

**4:15 - 4:45 pm**

**Celebration Service**

## Confirmation Sunday, April 27

On January 27, Pastor Wehrly began a Confirmation Class with students Sam Brannon, Tony Conrath, Maureen Stetzen, and Natalie Walsh. The young people have been studying the resource *I Believe*. On Thursday, April 24, the confirmands, their families, the pastor and church guests will gather for a celebratory dinner at Marco's Restaurant. On Sunday, April 27, the young people will be confirmed at the 10:45 am worship service.

"I am also asking the young men and women to help me serve Holy Communion at both worship services," said Pastor Wehrly. "It has been a great time of learning and exploration for all of us."

The United Methodist Women will host a small reception for the confirmands in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am (between worship services) on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Plan to come and congratulate them on their study and participation in the life of our church.



## Thank you!

Thank you to all the members and friends of Signal Hill UMC who are helping the church live out its mission in our community! God will bless your efforts to spread the Good News of the Gospel in Belleville and throughout the world.

For more information about the ministries of Signal Hill United Methodist Church, contact

**Rev. Peter J. Wehrly**, Directing Pastor

**Eda Hackmann**, Director of Music Ministry

**Kim Hutchison**, Secretary

**Jeff Nelson**, Custodian

Church office hours: 8 - 1, Mon - Thurs

**618-397-7780**

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