



Signal Hill United Methodist Church

November 18, 2009

47 Signal Hill Place, Belleville, IL 62223

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office@signalhillumc.org

Find us on the web: www.signalhillumc.org

Wehrly's World

"Give my greetings to Nympha and the church in her house."

(Colossians 4:15 NIV)

Early Christians met in the homes of the fellow Christians. Church buildings, as we know them, weren't common until the third century. It seems to me that the 21st century church needs to "go back to the future."



Signal Hill Methodists have been meeting in homes (2 of them, at least) for the past few months. About 30 of you have spent time sharing and learning from each other. These meetings will continue

after the first of the year. L.I.F.E. Groups topics for the first six months of next year will focus on living as a disciple of Jesus and how to "do church" as a Methodist. Both are essential as we move into our future.

We need additional hosts. The requirements to be a host are simple: have an open heart as to offering your home to fellow Christians, be willing to do that two days a month, and have a DVD player and TV. The video and discussion questions are provided for you, so you don't need to be a Bible scholar in order to be a host.

In order for us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, I believe these small groups are essential. Your involvement will enable Signal Hill to do what God is asking of us.

See you in church (and at a L.I.F.E. Group meeting).

Calendar (check the web site for updates)

Every Monday, Worship Singers rehearsal, 6:30 pm
Every Thursday, Sr. High Youth Group, 6:30 pm

November

26 & 27 Thanksgiving Thursday and Friday
Office closed. No Youth group
29 First Sunday of Advent

December

24 Christmas Eve Service, 7 pm
28 to 31 Church office closed

Preparations underway for Advent & Christmas celebrations at SHUMC



Pastor Peter Wehrly has announced the schedule for worship and Sunday school for the upcoming seasons of Advent and Christmas 2009.

"In just two short weeks, we will enter this joyous season!" Wehrly exclaimed. "Given the commercialism of Christmas, it is often difficult to remember that 'Jesus is the Reason for the Season.' At Signal Hill UMC, we will focus on the birth of the Christ Child and what it means for our discipleship."

The theme for Advent and Christmas worship will be **All I Want for Christmas...**, with sermons on these Scripture texts:

Nov 29, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	...Time
Dec 6, Philippians 1:3-11	...Significance
Dec 13, Phil. 4:4-7	...Not to be depressed
Dec 20, Micah 5:2-5a	...a Savior
Dec 24, Isaiah 9:2-7	'Friending' Jesus
Dec 27, Luke 2:41-52	

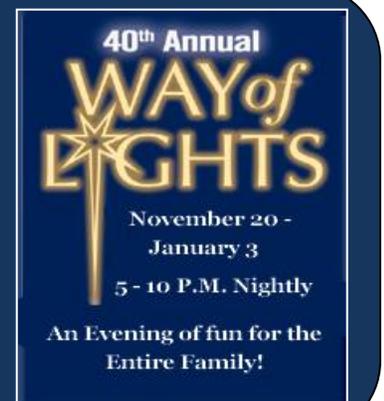
The Resolution to End All Resolutions

Rev. Wehrly will once again lead an all-adult Sunday school Class on the four Sundays of December in Fellowship Hall. All adults are invited, even if they are not currently part of a Sunday school class.

Dec 6, Luke 1:5-25	Zechariah
Dec 13, Luke 1:26-38	Mary
Dec 20, Matthew 1:8-25	Joseph
Dec 27, Matthew 2:10-12	The Magi

Remember, Jesus is the reason for the season!

This year, use every opportunity to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.



Boiler on line, temporary units removed

On Friday, November 13, Baer Heating & Cooling completed the needed repairs on the boiler ancillary systems and brought the heat back on line. Temp-Air removed the temporary units from the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and Memorial Hall early the next week. The gas & electric units had been in place for nearly a month after the problems with the boiler were discovered during the seasonal switch-over. The SHUMC Trustees continue to evaluate the long term situation.



Pledges down 23% from 2009 figures

SHUMC appreciates Ray Helfer, Liz Reichert and Bill Wimmer for their help in planning Consecration Sunday. Kim Hutchison reports that pledges for 2010 are currently 23% below 2009 amounts.

Rev. Paul Garven, an ordained elder from the Missouri Conference, brought the message to the congregation, **How to be a Cheerful Giver.**



After worship, about 50 persons stayed for a catered meal. Because a number of persons who had reservations did not stay to eat, an abundance of extra food was donated to Bethany Place, a HIV/AIDS ministry in Belleville.

UMW leads worship on November 15

The United Methodist Women of Signal Hill had a glorious celebration on November 15. Mr. William Kreeb, Executive Director of Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House (LBDNH), E. St. Louis, was the keynote speaker. The theme for the day was "Food and Faith." The backdrop for this celebration was conducted by women of UMW of Signal Hill. Sue Beach provided guidance for youth who gave the message which was an understanding of Holy Communion. Tony Conrath played "The Cookie Monster" and Maureen Stetzen played "The Teacher." The UMW presented a Special Mission Recognition pin to Mr. Jim Bevirt, chair of SHUMC Ministry Team. Thanks go to all the women who helped with the worship service and who provided food for the fellowship following. OOPS! Carolyn Rawlings' name was inadvertently omitted when mentioning members of the Resource Development committee of LBDNH.

Submitted by Janet Hollinberger



BEACON Clearinghouse Director Maggie Daugherty came by the church to pick up sleeping bags, blankets, and towels donated by members of Signal Hill UMC for the homeless. BEACON needs more volunteers! Please call them at 222-8942 if you can help.

Recent thank you notes...

...for the prayer quilt

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for a ministry that reaches out to all. You gave me comfort, support, and hope through prayer. . . . Prayers are powerful and have held me up so far. Thank you for being with me on my journey.

Lorraine Linder



...for a birthday celebration

I would like to thank you all for helping my kids put on a surprise 80th birthday party for me on October 3. Thank you for coming and bringing all those yummy side dishes – and not a one of you "spilled the beans." It really was a surprise. Just let's not be as secretive about the good news of God's great gift of love in Jesus Christ. Thank you all.

Barb Ford

Church seeks volunteers to help with communications ministry

The SHUMC Staff Parish and Ministry Teams are seeking volunteers willing to help write stories and take photos, publish the monthly newsletter, maintain the web site, design worship slides, manage brochure development and advertising, and maintain the outdoor marquis sign.

Susan Meister will be stepping out of her work in communications on the first of January, 2010.

Rev. Peter J. Wehrly, Directing Pastor
Diana Starr, Music Director
Kim Hutchison, Administrative Assistant

Church office hours: 8 – 1, Mon - Thurs
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