



Signal Hill United Methodist Church

October 15, 2009

47 Signal Hill Place, Belleville, IL 62223

618-397-7780

office@signalhillumc.org

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

## Wehrly's World

The church is doing something new this year for the annual 'pledge campaign.' Well, something new since I've been your pastor. I understand Signal Hill UMC has done the Consecration Sunday Celebration in previous years, but not since I was appointed your pastor in 2007.

I hope attending worship and Sunday school is on your calendar every Sunday, but I know for some it isn't. Please make it a priority on October 25. The church is going to host a luncheon that day at no cost to anyone. It's a free, catered luncheon; a 'thank-you' luncheon for the faithfulness of all who make Signal Hill UMC their faith home. It's a 'thank-you' luncheon for being faithful to God's call on your life as you respond to what God is asking of you concerning your financial blessings.

You will be receiving letters about this luncheon (you might have gotten one or two already!) and a request that you get a reservation into the office. We're also going to have a guest speaker at worship on that Sunday. Rev. Paul Garven is an acquaintance of mine from Missouri. Paul and Lisa have two boys - one a senior in high school and an older one who is in the Army. Paul's a United Methodist pastor like me; he serves a church in Lincoln County, Missouri. It's a church a lot like Signal Hill, so Paul knows about the challenges faced by small, community churches.

Plan to attend the luncheon on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Come an hour or so earlier to worship and see what God says through Paul Garven that might transform your life.

See you in church.

## Calendar (check the web site for updates)

### October

- 18 next Sunday evening **LIFE group**
- 19 Ministry Team Meeting, 7 pm
- 20 next Tuesday afternoon **LIFE group**
- 25 Consecration Sunday

### November

- 8 Charge Conference, Bethany UMC,  
Columbia, 2 pm

**Worship Singers** meet Mondays at 6:30 pm.  
**Senior High Youth** every Thursday at 6:30 pm  
 and every Sunday at the parsonage by 6:10 pm  
 to attend St. Matthew UMC Youth Service.

## Consecration Sunday set for October 25

The entire month of October is being dedicated to the spiritual exploration of our Christian stewardship. At Sunday worship on October 4, 11, and 18, members of the congregation have been speaking about how stewardship and tithing are part of their faith commitment.

"Rather than focusing on the need of the church to receive, the Consecration Sunday experience concentrates on the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development," explained Jim Bevirt, Ministry Team Chair.

The month-long focus will culminate on Sunday, October 25 when guest preacher Rev. Paul Garven will bring the message during our worship service, and a catered luncheon will follow. If you have not done so, please return the card confirming your participation on that day.

## UMW Sunday scheduled for November 15



On Sunday, November 15, the Signal Hill unit of the United Methodist Women will celebrate UMW Sunday at the church. Members of the unit will serve as ushers and liturgist. The guest speaker will be Mr. William Kreeb, Executive Director of Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House. The Signal Hill UMW is a long-time supporter of Lessie Bates. For more information, contact UMW President Velma Thompson or any member of the SHUMC UMW.

## Family and friends celebrate 80<sup>th</sup> birthday



On Sunday, October 4, family and friends surprised Barb Ford with a special celebration for her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Many members of Signal Hill UMC contributed pot luck dishes to the celebration and remained for dinner in fellowship hall, decorated in festive fall colors. Barb is an active volunteer at the church and is the Treasurer of the Signal Hill UMC unit.

## Students attend McKendree Youth Day



McKendree University hosted area high school students for a college football game, dinner, prizes and a Christian concert during its third annual Fall Youth Day on Saturday, Oct. 10. Pastor Peter Wehrly, Tony Conrath, and Maureen Stetzen attended.

"This day began as an idea to encourage young people from the area to come to the McKendree campus and experience special college activities and interact with college students," explained Rev. Dr. Tim Harrison, chaplain and director of church relations. Fellowship Day also recognizes McKendree's 181-year tie with the United Methodist Church.

McKendree has a special tie to Signal Hill UMC. The college furnished the first student pastor to the church in 1910. Find more information about McKendree at [www.mckendree.edu](http://www.mckendree.edu).

## Many opportunities to give...

Signal Hill UMC continues our generous tradition of food and material collections for ministries in the area. Here are the latest opportunities for giving:

- ❑ **BEACON** is collecting sleeping bags, blankets and towels for the homeless in our area. Bring your donations to the church by October 25.
- ❑ We continue to fill the shopping basket for one of three ministries for hungry people in the area - **Bethany Place**, **Violence Prevention Center of Southwestern Illinois**, and **St. Clair County Emergency Fund**. Please be generous with your gifts of non-perishable food and cleaning supplies.
- ❑ **Signal Hill UMW** is collecting Campbell's labels and box tops for mission projects. Please place them in the basket in the entry area.

### Signal Hill UMC in our neighborhood

#### SHNA September 2009 newsletter

Letter from Rev. Peter Wehrly

Read more at [www.signalhillna.com](http://www.signalhillna.com)



Coming soon!

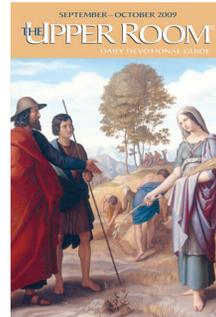
*Holiday on the Boulevard*

Sunday, December 13

Call Jim Bevirt for more information

## Everyone urged to use daily devotional

Signal Hill UMC will soon be giving the Nov/Dec issue of The Upper Room daily devotional to every family of SHUMC. This is so all can continue their journey to spiritual wholeness. Please use it each day during this 60 day period and begin (or maintain) the spiritual habit of being in conversation with God every day.



## Handling the H1N1 virus at our church



A quick note concerning the H1N1 virus, often referred to as swine flu: if you have any flu-like symptoms, please stay home. As much as we like everyone to be in worship and Sunday school, all medical persons are urging

people to stay home at least 24 hours after the fever breaks and flu symptoms subside. This is the same advice your mother probably gave when you were young, yet it still applies today. Signal Hill UMC is not anticipating any changes in our regular worship and activity schedules, so please don't come if you have the flu.

## Recent "thank you" notes...

Dear Signal Hill UMC:

Thank you so much for the delicious luncheon. It was a perfect way to start the new school year. The Kleenex was a thoughtful and great idea. I also appreciate all the love and prayers in the lovely quilt. Thanks for all you do!

*Glenda Hunter, Signal Hill School*

Dear All,

I want to thank all of you for your kindness while I was in the hospital. Your prayers, phone calls, visits and the prayer quilt were and are a blessing to my family and me.

*Yours in Christ, Dowell Holdgraf*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for tying a quilt for me. It helps me not think about how much my knees bother me. Please continue to pray for me, my family and everyone at SHUMC.

*Pastor Peter Wehrly*

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

**Church office hours: 8 - 1, Mon - Thurs**  
**618-397-7780, [office@signalhillumc.org](mailto:office@signalhillumc.org)**

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