

Question: What's the difference between the Bird Flu and the Swine Flu?

Answer: Bird Flu you need "tweet"ment  
Swine Flu you need "oink"ment

Your health is no joking matter. That is why our friends at the Delaware County Health Department would like to remind you of a few everyday preventive actions that can help to keep you feeling great this flu season.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get the flu, stay at home from work or school.
- Take flu antiviral drugs if your doctor recommends them.
- Take time to get a flu vaccine shot (the Health Dept. will not be doing a flu clinic in Selma this year, so it is important for you to get the flu shot where ever you can).

Flu prevention suggestions shared with us by our friends at the Delaware County Health Department.

*girlfriends*  
unlimited

**Changing Hearts Changing Lives One Girlfriend at a Time.**

Girlfriends is a dynamic group of women united in purpose, in friendship, in encouragement, and in fun, too! The following is a list of upcoming meetings, activities, and events. Call Gail Yates at 282-1648 for more information or to sign up for a group or activity.

**Friday, October 9**  
**Gamin' Gals** @ the church, 6-9 pm  
Come and get your game on! We will be playing euchre. Bring your own drink and a snack to share. Childcare provided. Sign up at the Connection Point.

**Saturday, October 24**  
**Lit 'n' Lattes** @ location TBA, 10:00am

**Friday, October 30**  
**Sassy Scrappers** @ the church, 7-10pm  
Let's get scrappy!

Sunday Morning Worship:  
9:00 & 10:45 a.m.

Web ..... www.selmaumc.org  
Email..... selmaumc@selmaumc.org  
Phone ..... 765-282-1648  
Mark Elcessor ..... Senior Pastor  
Jeff Ellis ..... The Compass Pastor  
Lisa Elcessor ..... Worship/Arts & Youth  
Kristen Herbst..... LIFE Groups  
Susan Koebecke ..... Children  
Gail Yates ..... Newcomers  
Barb Coon ..... Congregational Care  
Todd Austin..... Communications Director  
Gary Turner..... Ministry Director  
Shelly Harvey ..... Administrative Assistant  
Phil Hughes ..... Custodian  
Little Learners..... 765-288-4777  
Susan Shreve..... Little Learners Director



**SELMA**  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

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## October Calendar

- 1 Shots for Tots (9:30-11:30a & 1-3:30p)  
AA Meeting (8p)
- 2 Back to the Meaning of Christmas Meeting (1:00p)
- 3 Prayer Vigil (6a-6p)
- 4 The Compass Launch @ Northside Middle School (10:45a)  
C.L.A.S.S. (10:45a)  
Adult Choir Practice (6:30-8:30p)  
Youth to Jeremy Camp/Natalie Grant Concert
- 6 Food Pantry (9:30 -11a)  
Exercise Class (6:30-7:30p)
- 7 Superbook KIDS (6:30-7:30p)  
Worship Team (6:30-8p)
- 8 AA Meeting (8p)
- 9 Gamin' Gals (6-9p)
- 10 LIFE Group Leader Training (9-11a)
- 11 C.L.A.S.S. (10:45a)  
LIFE Group Connection Event (12:15p)  
Confirmation #3-"How to Handle Temptation" (5-6p)  
JAM 1A (6-6:30p)  
Youth Group (6:30-8p)  
Adult Choir Practice (6:30-8p)
- 13 Exercise Class (6:30-7:30p)
- 14 Superbook KIDS (6:30-7:30p)  
Worship Team (6:30-8p)
- 15 Little Learners Open House (5:30-7p)  
AA Meeting (8p)
- 18 C.L.A.S.S. (10:45a)  
Confirmation #4-"How to Understand the Bible" (5-6p)  
JAM 2B (6-6:30p)  
Youth Group (6:30-8:00p)  
Adult Choir Practice (6:30-8p)
- 20 Food Pantry (5:30-7p)  
Exercise Class (6:30-7:30p)
- 21 Superbook KIDS (6:30-7:30p)  
Worship Team (6:30-8p)
- 22 AA Meeting (8p)
- 24 Lit 'n' Lattes (10a)  
Youth Service Project @ Blood-n-Fire (3:30-8p)
- 25 C.L.A.S.S. (10:45a)  
Confirmation #5-"How to be Led by God" (5-6p)  
No Youth Group  
Youth Choir Practice (6:30-8p in atrium)  
Adult Choir Practice (6:30-8p in sanctuary)
- 26 Staff Parrish Relations Committee Meeting (6:30p)
- 28 Exercise Class (6:30-7:30p)  
Worship Team (6:30-8p)
- 29 AA Meeting (8p)
- 30 Sassy Scrappers (7-10p)

Selma United Methodist Church is to be a seeker-friendly, disciple-making, servant-equipping, mission-sending, and God-honoring fellowship of believers. Our primary ministry focus will be on youth and children, and serving our community and world in Christ's behalf.

volume 7 issue 16 october 2009



# INSIGHT

sharing God's vision with his family

## Ready to Launch

By Pastor Mark Elcessor

"We have liftoff"  
"The Eagle has landed"  
"That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

Forty years ago, in 1969, these famous words were part of the Apollo 11 Mission that landed the first man on the moon. As an eight year old boy, I vividly remember sitting wide-eyed on the edge of my dad and mom's bed, soaking in this historic moment. These heroic efforts by Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins were the culmination of a decade long vision cast by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, when he said, "I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth." Words, coupled with action, led to a victorious achievement for humankind.

This coming Sunday, we are ready to launch something even more significant than a moon-bound rocket ship. **On October 4<sup>th</sup>, The Compass Church will blast off** after nearly two years in the works, with a goal of "going where no man has gone before" in reaching new people for Jesus Christ.

As a campus of Selma UMC, this congregation will meet at **Northside Middle School every Sunday at 10:45 a.m.** Most weeks the sermon will be the video from my sermon at Selma the previous Sunday. Some Sundays, one of our teachers will deliver the message live on the stage at Northside. During the week, The Compass Church will gather in Life Groups, studying the same curriculum as we do at Selma. Together, we will be one church in two locations!

For this endeavor to take flight, it will need to be lifted up with a mighty prayer effort. Would you join me in praying for this outreach? **This Saturday, October 3, there will be a twelve-hour prayer vigil (6:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.)** where we will offer up continuous petitions to God for this ministry.

- You may choose to pray at any of three locations:**
- 1) Selma UMC sanctuary
  - 2) Northside school parking lot and area
  - 3) your own neighborhood—by walking or driving while you pray for your community.

Let's all pray together for God's direction, wisdom and blessing as we become a multi-site church.

Let's all come together and offer support, encouragement and help to those who are starting this new campus of our church.

Let's all join together to make the launch of The Compass Church even more memorable than the launch of Apollo 11.



## All Church Prayer Vigil 3 Great Locations!!

**Saturday October 3, 6:00am-6:00pm**

Prayer is effective and we are excited to have this great opportunity as a church to gather in prayer. Check out these 3 locations to gather for prayer. Sign up or show up.

1. Selma UMC Sanctuary
2. The Compass Church (around the outside of Northside Middle School.)
3. Your Neighborhood

## Youth Local Service Project Blood-n-Fire Fall Festival October 24, 2009

The youth (grades 6-12) will join with Wesley UMC to go together to downtown Muncie to serve at the Blood- n- Fire Fall Festival. We will be serving supper, leading games for children, encouraging the adults, laughing and spreading the love of Jesus Christ. This is one of our favorite local mission projects. Youth need to arrive at SUMC by 3:30 pm on Sat. Oct 24th (with transportation permission slip.) We should be back to church by 8:00 pm.



**NOTE: Each youth please donate 1 bag of individually, wrapped, treat size candy with no Halloween propaganda.**

## WELCOME TO CONFIRMATION! 29 Teens Serious about Faith Growing!



Starting in September twenty-nine teens made a commitment to dig deep in an effort to grow extensively in their faith. We are excited to have this amazing group of teenagers earnestly committing to weekly attendance, "New Life Studies" with Pastor Mark, massive scripture memorization, and faith growing with a personal adult mentor. We thank God, the parents and all of the congregation for allowing us to have a place and time to learn the Christian faith. Thanks to everyone who encourages and supports us.

**Welcome to Confirmation!**



## KIDS HOPE USA

Kids Hope USA builds caring relationships... one child, one hour, one church, one school. We started Kids Hope with Perry Elementary last week with four mentors and four prayer partners. There is such a need in our community to mentor one-on-one with these children. If you are interested in being a mentor to a child--kindergarten or first grade--one hour a week--from 11:00-12 noon, please contact Susan Koebcke at 282-1648. Commitment is for one school year.

### 4th & 5th Grade Lock-In!!!

**Friday, Nov. 20 (6:30 pm) to Saturday, Nov. 21 (8:00 am)**

Join us at the church for an overnight lock-in. There will be lots more to do than just sleep! Here's the plan: Games, food, fun, friends, worship, music, crafts, movies, ice cream and more. Bring your sleeping bags, your pillow and your 4th and 5th grade friends. **Cost: \$5.**

**Call Susan Koebcke (282-1648 or 212-8145) to register.**



## BACK TO THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS BASH

**December 5, 2009 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at SUMC for elementary-aged children (kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade).**

Planning is well underway for this exciting outreach event. The Christmas Bash is going to be one big Birthday party and Christmas celebration for kids, and one big opportunity for their parents to run "Christmas errands." The event will start with a live Nativity drama followed by gift-making for loved ones, games and just plain fun. It will end with a big birthday party for Jesus. Most importantly, the children will be learning the true meaning of Christmas, which is valued less and less in our materialistic society. The first 100 families to attend will receive a meaningful Christmas gift the whole family will enjoy.

**So, what can YOU do to help?** Look for opportunities to donate food/craft items and to VOLUNTEER! This event is very much like VBS and will require lots of people to make it a success. Contact Staci Buck to get involved.

## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. Since 1993, more than 61 million shoe boxes have been packed, shipped, and delivered across the globe. People of all ages can be involved in this simple, hands-on missions project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas - Jesus Christ.

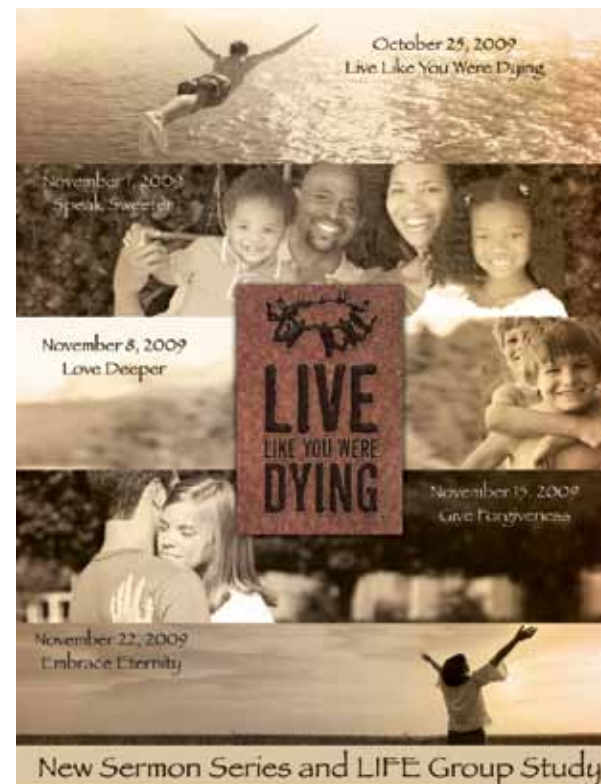
**Look for the information coming in your bulletin about how to get involved and fill a shoe box for a child in need this year.**

**Mark your calendars now!**

Shoe Box Dedication Sunday, November 15.



**Operation  
Christmas Child**  
A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE



# live like you were dying

**Begins Sunday, October 25th for SUMC and Sunday, Nov. 1 for The Compass.** Would you change the way you were living if you were told that you only had 30 days left to live? While addressing the reality of death, this study promises to help you focus on what really matters in life. Based on Tim McGraw's Grammy award-winning song--and THE BIBLE--this series will challenge you to live a more meaningful life because, in reality, we are all dying!

**Topics:** Living Deeper, Speaking Sweeter, Giving Forgiveness and Embracing Eternity

This 5-week sermon series is accompanied by a 5-week LIFE Group study.

Books go on sale Sunday October 11th for \$7 each and includes LIFE Group study guide and inspirational daily readings.

### Don't have a group?

Be looking for opportunities to join a LIFE Group starting Sunday, October 11th with our LIFE Group Connection Event. It will be immediately following second service. Childcare provided. Contact Kristen Herbst.



Finding your place in ministry  
to build the Kingdom  
**Ministry Fair - November 1**



## FILL THE GAP

Did you know that spiritual growth requires fellowship and accountability with other Christians? Did you know that LIFE Groups can offer that?



### SUMC is in need of LIFE Group Leaders!

Shepherding a group is an extremely rewarding ministry. Please consider this amazing opportunity and join the LIFE Group Leadership Team. Contact Kristen Herbst (SUMC) or Heather Bright (the Compass) for more information. Also attend our Team Training for LIFE Group Leaders to find out more (see below).

### Team Training for LIFE Group Leaders

**Saturday, October 10th from 9 to 11 am.** Join the Team! come to this training event where you will interact with other LIFE Group Leaders, discuss a small groups related topic and have fun. Contact Kristen Herbst or Heather Bright. Childcare provided.

**Don't forget to set  
your clock back one hour  
before you go to bed October 31.  
Daylight Saving Time  
ends November 1**

## *The Heart of Christmas God's Greatest Gift, Our Greatest Choice*

### A Christmas Musical Call Out to Singers.

The musical presented this year, "The Heart of Christmas" will confront you, with the truth of the Gospel. The message tells of Jesus as God's gift to all who will receive Him. You will, in turn, be encouraged to realize the choice that must be made concerning Jesus, the infant King and Savior of the World. The music in this Christmas collection ranges from traditional carols and inspirational ballads to joyous gospel songs. There are wonderful moments of drama and flair.

### YOU ARE INVITED TO SING IN THE CHOIR.

We are currently looking for volunteers (ages 11-100) to join the choir so we can work, rehearse, fine-tune and deliver this musical on **Sunday December 20, 2009.**

**Choir Practices begin  
Sunday October 4, 2009  
6:30-8:00pm at SUMC and  
continue on Sunday evenings at  
the church. For information  
contact: Carolyn Kistler or  
Lisa Ellcessor**

