

Calling all singers!

We will begin Chancel Choir rehearsals this week! Choir will meet every Thursday at 7:00pm. We would love to have you join us! For more information, contact Ashley Lewis at jashleylewis@gmail.com



Adopt A Chair!



Our chairs in the fellowship hall are in need of some TLC! For just \$10, you can "adopt a chair" and help that chair to start a new life, clean, refurbished, and reupholstered.

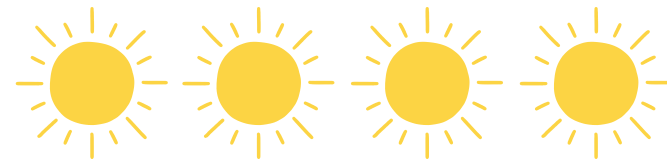
CHURCH PICNIC

Our church picnic is scheduled for September 14th at 4pm at the Westover Senior Center Pavilion. We are in need of drinks, side dishes, desserts, and salads. Bart will get a pie in the face at 5:15!!



COMMUNITY LABOR DAY MEAL

It's the end of summer! We will be working with Suncrest UMC to provide a Labor Day Meal for our unhoused community as well as the general community. The meal will be served underneath the Marketplace Pavilion (beside our church) on Labor Day from 11:30am-1:00pm. Both churches will donate food. We hope to see you there!



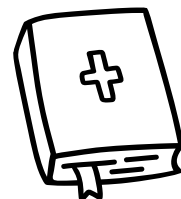
Gifts of Love

Thank you for supporting this ministry and donating your gently used kitchen and bathroom items. Please no knives. The basic list is in the newsletter if you need more ideas. Thanks to everyone.



SCOTTS RUN MEAL DRIVES

September's "meal" is cake! Donation items are cake mixes and cans of frosting. You might also consider donating sprinkles, cake decorations, or birthday candles. Thank you for your donations!



Lectionary Readings Sunday, August 31

Jeremiah 18:1-11;
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33

Welcome to Spruce Street United Methodist Church



"A Church at the Heart of Morgantown with a Heart for Morgantown"

386 Spruce Street, Morgantown, WV 26505 304.292.3359

Website: sprucestumc.org Email: secretary@sprucestreetumc.org

10:45 a.m. Service on WCLG-AM 1300 or Morgan 92.1FM

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/sprucestreetumc/

Audio Live Streaming: <http://mixir.com/sprucestumc/>



12th Sunday after Pentecost August 31, 2025 8:30 & 10:45 AM

WELCOME TO SPRUCE STREET CHURCH

We are glad you are here. Whether you are here for the very first time or a lifelong member of Spruce Street United Methodist Church, you are welcome. May this day be filled with God's presence and blessing.

2025 SSUMC Attendance & Stewardship Sunday, August 24

77 In Person / 141 Online / Radio Est. 300 / Offering \$4,987.59 / Budget \$4,903.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers: Happy birthday to Carolyn Carr.
-Keith Carr

Radio Broadcast: In thanks for Judy, Greg, & David for all their support so I can be with my family camping all summer! -Lynn Yanak

Refreshments: Thank you to Pastor Bart for providing refreshments for both services!

Prayers of the People of God

Prayer updates can be shared with Carolyn Carr

Fran Barnes
Steve Blinco
Lori Britton
Roger Britton
Saundra Britton
Lee Brown
Brett Carpenter
Keith Carr
Dolly Cole
Randy & Pam Courtney
and family
Cindy Cramer
Dianne DeAngelis
Jay DeFabio
Justin Dierkes
Rubyann Downes
Barbara Fox



Mike Grant
Carolyn Hubbard
Stacy Jordan
Tom McBee
Glenn McCracken
Charlotte Murphy
Joy Perilli
Susan Presley
Bob Ridgeway
Pat Ryan
Syndy Slaughter
Nancy Smith
Doug Stanger
Gwen Thornburg
Penny Turley
Linda Weber
Mary Lynne Withrow

THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC

Sunday, August 31st

8:30AM	Worship Service (In Person)
9:45AM	Sunday School
10:45AM	Worship Service (In Person & Radio Broadcast)

Monday, September 1st

Labor Day	Church Office Closed
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11:30AM	Labor Day Picnic
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Wednesday, September 3rd

11:00AM	Bible Study
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6:30PM	Barnabas Group
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Thursday, September 4th

10:00AM	Chair Yoga
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7:00PM	Chancel Choir
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The Church in Worship

Congregational Responses and Prayers are in ***bold italic print***

† Congregation Standing (*as you are able*)

Prelude	
Announcements and Welcome	
Our Loving, Learning, Leading Prayer (on screen)	
†Call to Worship	Liturgist
Jesus said, "Love one another, even as I have loved you." Love is more powerful than fear; it is mightier than hatred. Let the love which God has lavished upon us be poured out to those in need. Help us, O Lord, to witness to you by the ways in which we care for others. Remind us, Lord, that we are called to be your disciples. As we worship this morning, heal our hearts and spirits and prepare us for service. Amen.	
† Hymn #432 (UMH)	“Jesu, Jesu”
First Prayer	Liturgist
<i>O God, you have bound us together in this life. Give us grace to understand how our lives depend on the courage, the industry, the honesty, and the integrity of all who labor. May we be mindful of their needs, grateful for their faithfulness, and faithful in our responsibilities to them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</i>	

PROCLAMATION

First Reading	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 (CEB version)	Liturgist
¹ Keep loving each other like family. ² Don't neglect to open up your homes to guests, because by doing this some have been hosts to angels without knowing it. ³ Remember prisoners as if you were in prison with them, and people who are mistreated as if you were in their place. ⁴ Marriage must be honored in every respect, with no cheating on the relationship, because God will judge the sexually immoral person and the person who commits adultery. ⁵ Your way of life should be free from the love of money, and you should be content with what you have. After all, he has said, I will never leave you or abandon you. ⁶ This is why we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper, and I won't be afraid. What can people do to me? ⁷ Remember your leaders who spoke God's word to you. Imitate their faith as you consider the way their lives turned out. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever! ¹⁵ So let's continually offer up a sacrifice of praise through him, which is the fruit from our lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Don't forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices.		

Special Music	<i>My Tribute</i> by Andrae Crouch	Art Hahn, vocal solo
Children's Moment		Pastor Bart
Gospel Reading	Luke 14:1, 7-14 (CEB version)	Pastor Bart
¹ One Sabbath, when Jesus went to share a meal in the home of one of the leaders of the Pharisees, they were watching him closely. ⁷ When Jesus noticed how the guests sought out the best seats at the table, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When someone invites you to a wedding celebration, don't take your seat in the place of honor. Someone more highly regarded than you could have been invited by your host. ⁹ The host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give your seat to this other person.’ Embarrassed, you will take your seat in the least important place. ¹⁰ Instead, when you receive an invitation, go and sit in the least important place. When your host approaches you, he will say, ‘Friend, move up here to a better seat.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. ¹¹ All who lift themselves up will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up.”		

¹² Then Jesus said to the person who had invited him, “When you host a lunch or dinner, don't invite your friends, your brothers and sisters, your relatives, or rich neighbors. If you do, they will invite you in return and that will be your reward. ¹³ Instead, when you give a banquet, invite the poor, crippled, lame, and blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they can't repay you. Instead, you will be repaid when the just are resurrected.”

Sermon	“Invitations”	Pastor Bart
† Hymn Sing		
RESPONSE TO THE WORD		
Prayers of the People		Pastor Bart
Affirmation of Faith (on screen)	UMH #881	Pastor Bart
Prayer for a New School Year		Pastor Bart
<i>Lord, thank you for new beginnings, such as the beginning of this new school year, we pray for the students, teachers, faculty, staff, security, and administration of our schools. We pray that we might develop close relationships with our neighbors from home, school, and church. Enable us to always show love and compassion to others. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who seeks to develop an ever-closer relationship with us. Amen.</i>		

Prayer of Confession (on screen)	UMH #481	Pastor Bart
WORSHIPPING THROUGH GIVING		
Invitation To Give		Pastor Bart

Offertory	
† Doxology #95	
<i>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.</i>	
Prayer of Thanksgiving	Pastor Bart
<i>Bless these gifts we offer today, that they may extend your love to those who hunger, who seek justice, and who long for hope. Shape us into a people whose generosity reflects your own, that through our giving, we may proclaim your unshakable kingdom. In the name of Jesus Christ, our constant and faithful guide. Amen.</i>	

The Lord's Prayer (on screen)		Pastor Bart
† Hymn #672 (UMH)	“God Be with You till We Meet Again”	

SENDING FORTH

Call to Discipleship		Pastor Bart
God is with us, so invite everyone, to the dinner, feast, the banquet, church, and the kingdom. Be welcoming. Show hospitality to all.		
Blessing		Pastor Bart
<i>May each of you go in peace to love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously with the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Amen.</i>		

Postlude	ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY
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Liturgist Judy Kennell (8:30) & Em Pechon (10:45)