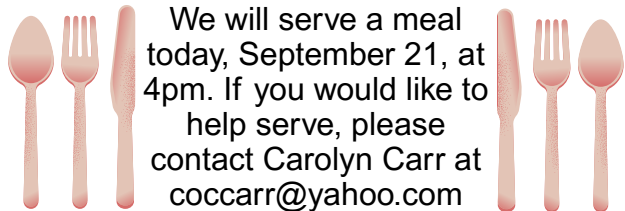


## Gifts of Love

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.



## Circle of Friends



We will serve a meal today, September 21, at 4pm. If you would like to help serve, please contact Carolyn Carr at [cocarr@yahoo.com](mailto:cocarr@yahoo.com)

## 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!



## Altar Guild Meeting

Interested in being part of our altar guild? Stick around for a brief meeting next Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, after second service!



## Undie Sunday

We will be collecting undergarments for those in need through the month of October. We are taking donations of underwear, bras, socks, and diapers.



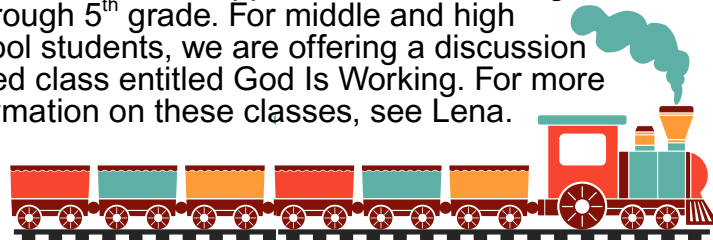
## Blessing of the Pets

Join us under the pavilion for our pet blessing on October 5<sup>th</sup> at 2pm! Please bring pet food to donate to a local shelter. All pets are welcome!



## Sunday School - Back on Track!

We will offer two classes for Sunday School this year. Both classes will be held at 10:00 between services. Our Big Faith class is a one room schoolhouse approach for children ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. For middle and high school students, we are offering a discussion based class entitled God Is Working. For more information on these classes, see Lena.



## MESSY CHURCH TONIGHT

Messy Church's next session will be tonight from 5:30-6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We offer a short message, a meal, and hands-on activities for all ages. We hope to see you there!



## CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED!



We are collecting candy for Trunk or Treat! While all candy is accepted, we have a high need for donations of safe treats that are free from allergens. Safe treats to donate include skittles, starburst, nerds, smarties, sour patch kids, fun dip, and non food items like stickers.



## Lectionary Readings Sunday, September 28

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15  
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16  
1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

# 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](http://sprucestumc.org) Email: [secretary@sprucestreetumc.org](mailto:secretary@sprucestreetumc.org)

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

Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/sprucestreetumc/](https://facebook.com/sprucestreetumc/)

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



15th Sunday after Pentecost September 21, 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, September 14

79 In Person / 139 Online / Radio Est. 300 / Offering \$3,666.25 / Budget \$4,903.00

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers: Please sponsor.

Radio Broadcast: *In honor of Abby Erenrich's Birthday. Love, Mom and Dad*

Refreshments: Thank you to Judy and Greg McCracken (8:30AM) for providing refreshments.

### 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  
David Chipps  
Dolly Cole  
Corden  
Randy & Pam Courtney  
and Family  
Cindy Cramer  
Dianne DeAngelis  
Jay DeFabio  
Justin Dierkes  
Rubyann Downes  
Janice Erenrich  
Barbara Fox



Mike Grant  
Robert Hollis  
Carolyn Hubbard  
Stacy Jordan  
Carolyn Keech  
Tom McBee  
Glenn McCracken  
Judi McCracken  
Charlotte Murphy  
Joy Perilli  
Susan Presley  
Bob Ridgeway's Family  
Pat Ryan  
Syndy Slaughter  
Fred & Nancy Smith  
Doug Stanger  
Gwen Thornburg  
Penny Turley  
Mary Lynne Withrow

### THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC

#### Sunday, September 21st

8:30AM	Worship Service (In Person)
9:45AM	Sunday School
10:45AM	Worship Service (In Person & Radio Broadcast)
4:00PM	Circle of Friends
5:30PM	Messy Church

#### Monday, September 22nd

6:00PM	Administrative Council
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#### Tuesday, September 23rd

6:00PM	UWiF
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#### Wednesday, September 24th

11:00AM	Bible Study
6:00PM	Prayer Meeting (Zoom)

#### Thursday, September 25th

10:00AM	Chair Yoga
6:15PM	Handbell Choir
7:00PM	Chancel Choir

# 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

Our world is hurting in every way:

***injustice in the shadows, injustice in broad daylight,***

worship of wealth, worship of doctrine,

***homeless people under freeways,***

hungry children in our schools,

***stolen pensions, destabilized nations,***

politicians wine and dine, judges wooed and won,

***exploding grenades, cherished grudges.***

Is there any medicine to heal us? Is there any physician?

***Help us, God of our salvation! Help us!***

† Hymn #480 (UMH)

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

First Prayer

Liturgist

***God of all the ages, in your sight nations rise and fall, and pass-through times of peril. Now when our land is troubled, be near to judge and save. May leaders be led by your wisdom; may they search your will and see it clearly. If we have turned from your way, reverse our ways and help us to repent. Give us your light and your truth, let them guide us; through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of this world, and our Savior. Amen.***

## PROCLAMATION

First Reading

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Liturgist

8<sup>18</sup> My joy is gone; grief is upon me; my heart is sick. <sup>19</sup> Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people from far and wide in the land: "Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?" ("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?") <sup>20</sup> "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." <sup>21</sup> For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken, I mourn, and horror has seized me. <sup>22</sup> Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of the daughter of my people not been restored? <sup>9</sup> <sup>1</sup> O that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

Choral Anthem

*Amazing Grace* by Althouse

Chancel Choir

Children's Moment

Pastor Bart

Gospel Reading

Luke 16:1-13

Pastor Bart

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup> So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' <sup>3</sup> Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' <sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup> He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' <sup>7</sup> Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred

containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' <sup>8</sup> And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. <sup>10</sup> "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Sermon

“Mr. Manager”

Pastor Bart

† Hymn #405(TFWS)

“Seek Ye First”

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

Pastor Bart

Affirmation of Faith (on screen)

UMH #881

Pastor Bart

Prayer of Confession (on screen)

Eldon Callen, CLM

Assurance of Pardon (on screen)

Eldon Callen, CLM

## WORSHIPPING THROUGH GIVING

Invitation To Give

Eldon Callen, CLM

Offertory

† Doxology #95

***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.***

Prayer of Thanksgiving (on screen)

Eldon Callen, CLM

The Lord's Prayer (on screen)

Pastor Bart

† Hymn #428 (UMH)

“For the Healing of the Nations”

## SENDING FORTH

Call to Discipleship

Pastor Bart

You cannot serve God and Wealth, so choose life by choosing to serve God.

Blessing

Pastor Bart

Be faithful with little.

***Be faithful with much.***

Be faithful with what belongs to another.

***Be faithful with what is your own.***

Serve only one master.

***There is one God. We will serve this God alone.***

And may the grace, mercy, and peace of the blessed Trinity be with you all.

***Amen.***

Postlude

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Liturgist

Greg McCracken (8:30) & Sue Johnson (10:45)