



Spruce Street UMC Newsletter

386 Spruce Street

Morgantown, WV 26505

304.292.3359

Sunday Worship Times

8:30 a.m. In-Person & 10:45 a.m. In-Person & Online



October Ramblings 2025



Understanding Our Faith and Community Membership

Introduction

A brief overview follows, highlighting the two sacraments of the church, the three general rules, Wesley's Accountability Questions, and the process for becoming a member. If you wish to discuss joining the Spruce Street UMC community, I am always available.

Every blessing,

Pastor Bart

What God Expects of Us

Colossians 3:12-17

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Living as a United Methodist

To show a genuine desire for salvation, those attending our prayer and administrative meetings are expected to:

1. Do no harm: Avoid all evil and wrongdoing.
2. Do good: Engage in acts of mercy, love, justice, and piety toward everyone whenever possible.
3. Attend God's ordinances: Practice the sacraments and spiritual disciplines, including:
 - Public worship
 - Ministry of the Word (reading, preaching, or teaching)
 - The Lord's Supper
 - Family and private prayer
 - Studying Scripture
 - Fasting or abstinence

October Birthdays



10/3	Christyn Rhodehaver
10/5	Bill Biro
10/7	Shawn Johnson
10/10	Robyn Lindamood
10/11	Marie Kidd
10/13	Layla Johnson
10/16	Carol Thorne
10/16	Judy Kennell
10/17	Dan Erenrich
10/18	Josie Law
10/18	Lena Glowacky
10/21	Alice McKinney
10/21	Beverly Sanders
10/26	Eldon Callen
10/26	Hank Burton
10/27	Doug Stanger
10/29	John Beaumont

October Anniversaries

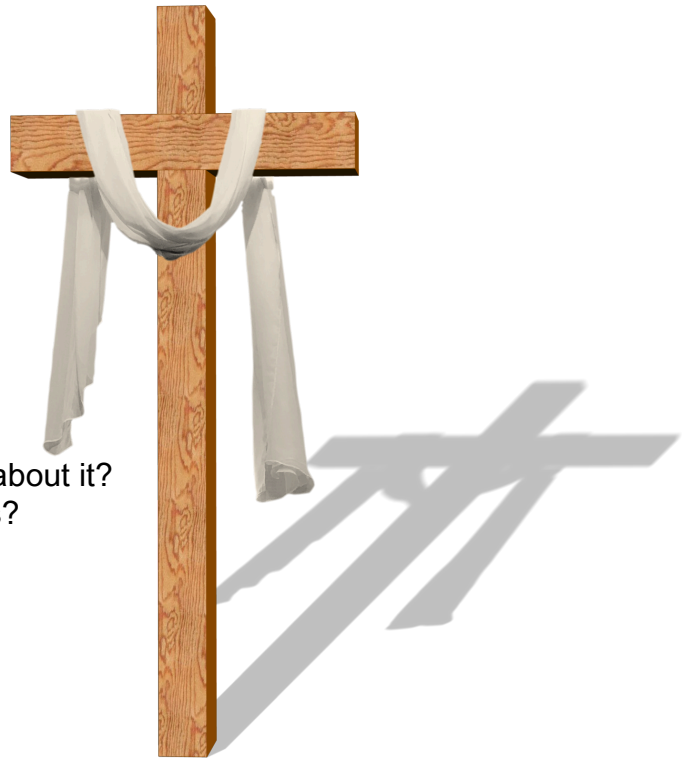


10/7	Lauren & Jason Kennell
10/11	Becky & Christopher Deem
10/19	Courtney & Dale Hetrick



Wesley's Accountability Questions (condensed)

- Am I presenting myself honestly, avoiding hypocrisy?
- Can I be trusted, and do I keep confidences?
- Do I spend time with the Bible daily?
- Do I enjoy praying?
- When did I last share my faith with someone?
- Do I pray about my spending?
- Do I knowingly disobey God?
- Do I act on things my conscience questions?
- Am I jealous, critical, irritable, or distrustful?
- How do I spend my free time?
- Is there anyone I resent or avoid, and what am I doing about it?
- Have I become a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
- Do I complain often?
- Have I followed the Spirit's promptings to serve others?
- Have I heeded warnings not to sin?



“Encourage one another daily . . .” — Hebrews 3:13

The Sacraments of the Church

Baptism

Baptism is a sacred sign of God's promise to be with us. Through baptism, we are born anew by God's grace and welcomed into the church family, becoming part of God's continuing story. Baptism reminds us we are initiated into Christ's church, included in God's saving actions, and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

Those seeking baptism are invited to renounce evil, repent, and accept God's power to resist injustice. They are asked to confess faith in Jesus Christ and promise to serve him, joining the church that welcomes people of all ages, nations, and races. Responses to these vows are “I do” or “Yes.” The church practices infant baptism with confirmation as children mature, and offers baptism and membership classes for adults. All ages are welcome.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is the sign of God's covenant with the church—a symbol of God's self-giving love. In this sacrament, we remember Christ's life, death, and resurrection. The bread and cup remind us of Jesus's hospitality and miracles, including feeding the five thousand. Everyone is invited to Christ's table, to seek forgiveness, healing, and grace. Communion nourishes us in our mission, and all are welcome to share in this meal of hope and peace.

Becoming a Member

Becoming a United Methodist begins with a desire to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ in community with others. The first step is baptism and a commitment to active participation in the local church. Baptism marks the beginning of a lifelong journey in Christ; those who have not been baptized will receive the sacrament, while those previously baptized reaffirm their Baptismal Covenant as part of their membership vows.

New members promise to live faithfully as disciples through their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Anyone interested is encouraged to speak with a pastor to learn more about membership and beginning their journey as a follower of Jesus Christ.

-Upcoming Missions-

SPRUCE STREET UMC IS A MISSION CHURCH

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

BLESSING OF PETS

- October 5 at 2pm at the pavilion
- Bring pet food and cat litter for our fur friends in local shelters. We will also thank God for the wonderful creatures who give us love and companionship!



TRUNK OR TREAT

- October 12th at 12:15 at the pavilion and in the church
- Decorate a trunk, be a church ambassador, welcome people to our church, and bring some candy. This is a Teal Pumpkin Event, which means that it's safe for kids who have food allergies! There will also be an information fair in Seekers Hall to learn about groups and businesses who serve moms, kids, and families in the area.



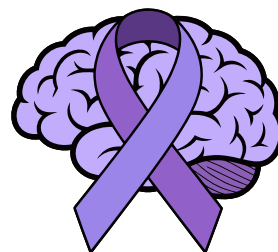
SOCKS for Scotts Run at the Mountain Lair

- October 7th & 14th from 12-3
- Please bring in new socks for our neighbors at Scotts Run WVU-CAMPUS ministry.



ALZHEIMER'S WALK

- October 19th at 5:30 (during Messy Church)
- After the walk we will have dinner, story, prayer, and activity. Wear purple, sponsor a child walking, and pray for end of Alzheimer's disease. Also, watch the purple flower garden grow in seeker's hall. Everyone, come to Messy Church and give to end Alzheimer's disease.



COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE FUND

- Offering taken the first Sunday of each month
- We take up this offering at Holy Communion and it is used to help our friends, neighbors, and members with emergency needs and utilities.



UNDIES MONTH

- Ongoing
- We are collecting new in package undies, socks, and diapers. We need all sizes for children and adults for Scotts Run.



GIFTS OF LOVE

- Ongoing
- We are always collecting housewares to support members of our community who need kitchen items and basic household appliances.





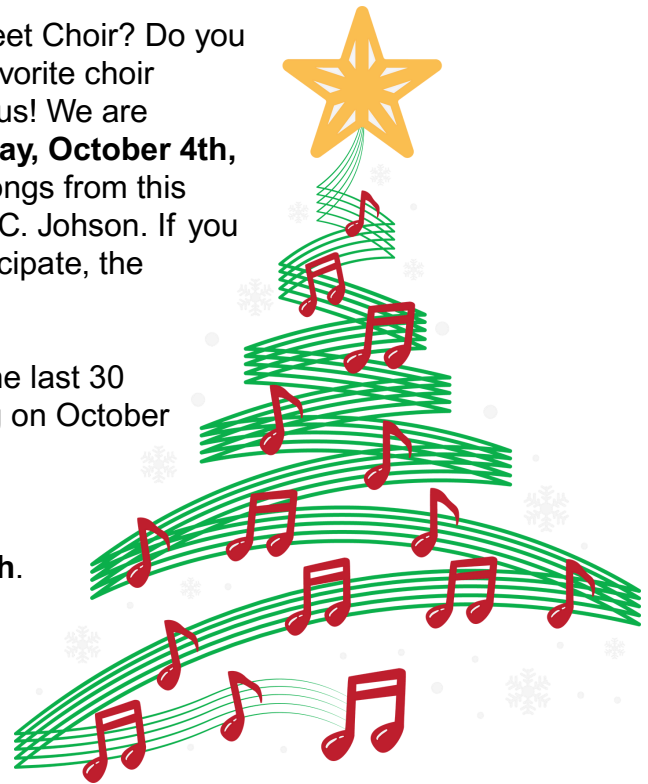
Have you always been curious about joining the Spruce Street Choir? Do you love to sing Christmas music? Is the Christmas Cantata your favorite choir performance of the year?—then now is the perfect time to join us! We are kicking off our Christmas Cantata with a workshop **this Saturday, October 4th, from 9:00-11:00am**. We will be taking our first look at all the songs from this year's selection, *Bethlehem's Child* by Lloyd Larson and Victor C. Johson. If you don't have time to sing with us every week but still want to participate, the Christmas Cantata is a great fit for you!

Can't make it this Saturday? Don't worry. Come join us for the last 30 minutes of our weekly Thursday rehearsals (7:45-8:15) starting on October 9th to work on the cantata. All are welcome!

Whether you'll be singing with us or just enjoying from the congregation, mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 12th**. We can't wait to share this beautiful music with you all!

"Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." – Psalm 100:2

-Ashley



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 support the refurbishing efforts.

We are very close to meeting our goal of \$1,662.14! To date we have received donations of \$1,010.00.

Thank you for your generosity and dedication to our church!

-Judy K

Finance Secretary





ALZHEIMER'S PURPLE PUMPKIN PATCH PALOOZA

Pumpkins due: October 19, 2025, at Spruce St. UMC with a \$5 entry fee.

- Voting: October 19-November 2, 2025
- Winner announced November 9. One cent per vote
- Use any materials (real or fake pumpkin, wood, glass, fabric, yarn, paint, paper, markers, recycled items, sticks, etc.) to create and/or decorate your pumpkin in any style (scary, beautiful, funny, patriotic, cartoon, hero, religious, animals, etc.).
- Open to individuals, families, or groups.
- **All proceeds support the Alzheimer's Association in Morgantown**



VOTE FOR YOUR
FAVORITE PUMPKIN
ONE CENT PER VOTE

USE YOUR MIND AND
BE CREATIVE TO
MAKE AND/OR
DECORATE A
PUMPKIN OUT OF
ANYTHING!!!!

ANY SIZE ANY SHAPE
ANY TYPE

MUST HAVE SOME
PURPLE ON
YOUR PUMPKIN

\$5 DOLLAR ENTRY
FEE PER PUMPKIN

SPONSORED BY
SPRUCE STREET UMC
CHILDREN'S
MINISTRIES

INFORMATION

Contact Lena Glowacky

304 319 4040



United Women in Faith



Greetings from the United Women in Faith!

We invite all the women of the church to join us for our meetings/activities. Meetings are usually every 4th Tuesday of the Month at 6 pm.

Ongoing activities –



The United Women in Faith focus on community and global missions supported by a variety of fundraising efforts. **In order to assist with those fundraising efforts, we have established a Facebook Group page titled “Spruce Street Women in Faith Fundraising”.** This is a private group which means that you must be a member of the group to see the posts or to comment in the group. Anyone can find and join the group and we welcome you to join and to invite your friends who would support our fundraising efforts.



Part of the Facebook group will be an **ongoing fundraiser through Park Lane Jewelry** with the commission earned by sales through the Facebook group being donated in whole to Spruce Street Women in Faith to use at their discretion to support missions. Additional fundraising activities supported by the group will also be promoted on the Facebook page.

- Link to the Facebook group page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1372896213732346>
- Park Lane Jewelry Link: <https://parklanejewelry.com/a/681306-9>
- Or go to parklanejewelry.com - Find stylist Mary Wilson - Shop with a Party “Faithful Women”



The UWIF Mon Valley District has started a Book club. The purpose of this book club is to encourage fellowship and encourage people to participate in the UWIF Reading program. **The next book club meeting will be Tuesday, October 7th at 6pm at Spruce Street UMC and via ZOOM.** The Book will be So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo.



Mon Valley UWIF District Meeting will be held on Saturday October 4 at Life Church in Fairmont from 9-12 am



UWIF Annual Conference will be held October 16-17 in Keyser WV – Teresa Johnson, Suzy Slaughter, Judi McCracken, Sue Johnson, and Amy Carr will be attending.

Upcoming activities –



Thanksgiving Dinner – November 9th after 2nd service. This is a fundraising dinner with a free will offering. To go dinners will be \$10 and will include turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, a vegetable, cranberry salad, dessert, and a drink.



Pre-orders for Christmas cookie sale will be taken from November 9-23. Cookies will be available for pickup on December 7.

Teal Pumpkin Event

SPRUCE ST TRUNK OR TREAT

UNDER THE MARKET PAVILION AND INSIDE SPRUCE ST UMC

OCTOBER 12, 12:15PM

Hosted by Spruce St Playgroup
Email psgoulet88@gmail.com
for more info



Decorate your trunk and bring typical candy and treats (does not need to be allergy-friendly).

Bring fliers, brochures, or other materials about your group/business. We provide families with folders to keep all their materials they collect!



We'll provide an allergy-friendly teal bucket AND allergy-friendly treats as a 2nd option for trick-or-treaters. You don't have to worry about this part unless you want to bring your own!

We're collecting candy for our allergy-friendly trunk-or-treat! Teal pumpkin events avoid the "Big-8" most common food allergens: Wheat, Soy, Milk, Eggs, Fish and Shellfish, Peanuts, and Tree Nuts.

FOOD ALLERGENS THE BIG-8



SAFE TREATS TO DONATE

- Skittles
- Dum Dums
- Starburst
- Yum Earth candies (found at Target)
- Nerds
- Smarties
- Sour Patch Kids
- Ring pops
- Life Savers Gummies
- Fruit Roll Ups and Gushers
- Fun Dip
- Non-food items like stickers

THE BIG 8 | ALLERGY-FRIENDLY



HALLOWEEN CANDY

SCOTTS RUN DONATIONS

We collect nonperishable food and other items for Scotts Run Settlement House in our Overflow Area.

The “meal” we are collecting ingredients for this month is pancake breakfasts. Please consider donating boxes of pancake mix and syrup. You might also consider canned fruit or peanut butter to add a little something extra to the meal! If you have even more room in your shopping cart, here are some additional ideas:

PRIORITY NEED – CAN OPENERS

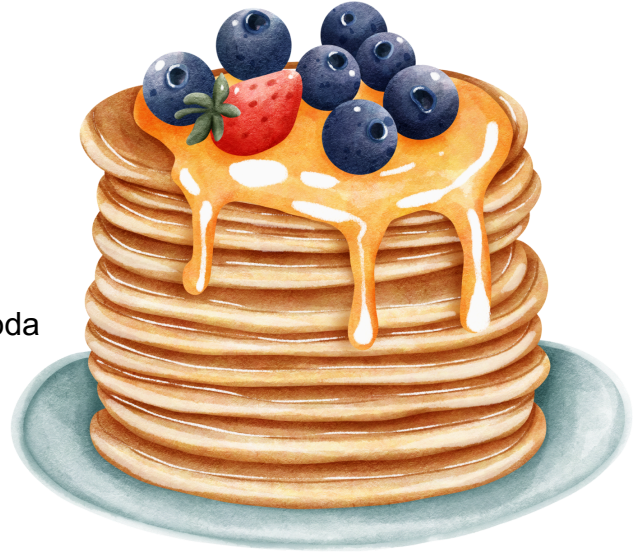
- Simple manual non battery/not electric can openers
- A few electric can openers
- Any color

CONDIMENTS

- Heinz Ketchup
- Mustard
- Mayonnaise
- Salt
- Pepper

STAPLES

- Flour
- Baking Powder & Baking Soda
- Yeast
- Sugar
- Spices



SCOTTS RUN – LOOKING FORWARD

We will be focusing on a different meal pairing each month through the end of the year! Upcoming donation drives are as follows:

MONTH	MEAL PAIRING ITEMS
October	Pancake mix and syrup <i>*Also consider - canned fruit, peanut butter</i>
November	Taco shells and canned refried beans <i>*Also consider - jar of salsa, taco seasoning</i>
December	Oatmeal, boxes of cereal and/or cereal bars, and a can of fruit <i>*Also consider - peanut butter, honey</i>
January	Cans of tomato sauce, diced tomatoes, and chili beans <i>*Also consider - cornbread mix, chili seasonings</i>

Prayer Chain

Our prayer ministry is very active. If you are part of the prayer chain and have not been receiving the emails or if you'd like to join the prayer chain, please send your email address to Carolyn at coccarr@yahoo.com. Short term prayer list can be found in the bulletin each week. Names are moved to the long-term list in the Newsletter after a month in the bulletin.



Prayers For

Laurie Audria

Lori Britton

Roger Britton

Sandra Britton

Cindy Cramer

Dianne DeAngelis

Rubyann Downes

Barbara Fox

Sara Fuqua

Judy Harman

Jerry Holt

Brian Hoskinson

Aly Hutzel

Teresa Johnson

Ben Lee

Lacey Lewis

Sharon Richman

Mary Belle Rowe

Pat Ryan

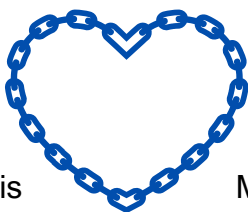
Janet Schlobohm

Ken Shanes

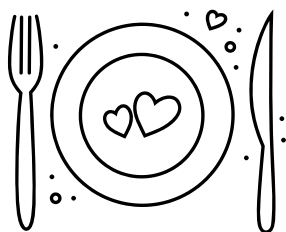
Linda Sweetman

Penny Turley

Mary Lynn Withrow



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS



Our weekend meals will be October 18&19. If you would like to help serve, please contact Carolyn Carr at coccarr@yahoo.com.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS BOOK SALE

We're doing it again – our gently used Book Sale! We will be collecting books for the sale over the next 2 weeks. Proceeds from the book sale will go to Circle of Friends! Any questions, please ask Carolyn Carr.



Gifts of Love

Thank you for supporting this ministry and donating your gently used kitchen and bathroom items. Please no knives. Suggested items include but are not limited to:

- Dishes
- Pots & pans
- Silverware
- Glasses/mugs
- Cutlery
- Cooking utensils
- Can openers
- Mixing bowls
- Serving dishes/spoons
- Dishcloths/towels
- Cookie sheets
- Bakeware
- Measuring cups/spoons
- Canisters
- Potholders/mitts
- Paper towel holders
- Dish drying racks
- Cutting boards
- Coffeemakers
- Toasters
- Blenders



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.



Clergy Appreciation Month

October is Clergy Appreciation Month. We will be filling a basket each for Eldon and Bart if you would like to give a prayer, note, or card.

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 16th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 10:45 AM Worship 10AM Sunday School	29	30	1 11AM Bible Study 6PM Prayer Meeting 6:30PM Barnabas Group	2 10AM Chair Yoga 6:15PM Handbell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir	3	4 9AM Christmas Cantata Workshop
5 17th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 10:45 AM Worship 10AM Sunday School 2PM Pet Blessing	6 1:30 PM Heritage Bible Study	7 6PM UWIF Book Club	8 11AM Bible Study 6PM UMM @Eat N Park 6PM Prayer Meeting	9 10AM Chair Yoga 6:15PM Handbell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir	10	11
12 18th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 10:45 AM Worship 10AM Sunday School 12:15PM Trunk or Treat	13	14	15 9:30AM Scotts Run Backpack Ministry 11AM Bible Study 6PM Prayer Meeting 6PM Finance	16 10AM Chair Yoga 6:15PM Handbell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir	17	18 4PM Circle of Friends
19 19th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 10:45 AM Worship 10AM Sunday School 4PM Circle of Friends 5:30PM Messy Church & Alzheimer's Walk	20 6PM Finance 7PM Trustees	21	22 11AM Bible Study 6PM Prayer Meeting	23 10AM Chair Yoga 6:15PM Handbell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir	24	25
26 20th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 10:45 AM Worship 10AM Sunday School	27 6PM Admin Council	28 6PM UWIF	29 11AM Bible Study 6PM Prayer Meeting	30 10AM Chair Yoga 6:15PM Handbell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir	31	1

October Lectionary Scriptures

October 5 - 17th Sunday After Pentecost

Lamentations 1:1-6; Psalm 137;
2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

October 19 - 19th Sunday After Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104;
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

October 12 - 18th Sunday After Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; Psalm 66:1-12;
2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

October 26 - 20th Sunday After Pentecost

Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65;
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14



Spruce St UMC Office Hours & Contact Info

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)

304-292-3359

sprucestumc.org

SPRUCE STREET STAFF DIRECTORY

Pastor	Rev. Bart Thompson	304-813-7213 pastor@sprucestreetumc.org
Lay Minister	Eldon Callen	304-290-7142 eldonc45@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant	Em Pechon	304-292-3359 secretary@sprucestreetumc.org
Financial Secretary	Judy Kennell	finance@sprucestreetumc.org
Music Director	Marguerite Bostonia	margbos6@gmail.com
Choir Director	Ashley Lewis	jashleylewis@gmail.com
Children's Ministry	Lena Glowacky	childrensministry@sprucestreetumc.org
Building Supervisor	Bonnie Johnson	johnson26541@yahoo.com
Prayer Focus	Carolyn Carr	cdccarr@yahoo.com