

SENDING FORTH

Call to Discipleship
Sing in the New Year, knowing that the glory of the Lord has been revealed to you in the birth of Jesus.

Blessing
Beloved of God, depart now in peace, knowing that you have encountered Christ, our Savior. Go now to watch, to wait, and to spread the light of Christ to the ends of the world, that God’s kingdom might reign on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Postlude
Liturgist
Robyn Lindamood (8:30 & 10:45)

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY



CHRISTMAS MESSY CHURCH

January’s Messy Church will have a Christmas theme! Keep the holiday excitement going by joining us on Sunday, January 18th at 5:30 for a meal, a lesson, and a craft.



SCOTTS RUN MEAL DRIVE

January’s meal is chili! We are looking for items such as canned diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, and chili beans. You might also add cornbread mix and chili seasonings!



Rada Knife Fundraiser



Support the SSUMC Chancel Choir by purchasing Rada Cutlery! Use the QR code to check out the Rada Kitchen Catalog for practical gifts for Christmas, birthdays, housewarmings, and showers. All proceeds go to the music intern program.



Lectionary Readings
Sunday, January 4

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:1-18

MY ENJOY COUPON BOOKS

The United Methodist Men will be selling My Enjoy Coupon Books through the end of December. These books contain discounts of up to 50% at Morgantown, Fairmont, and Uniontown area restaurants, florists, golf courses, and other businesses. Books may be obtained after the 10:45 service in Seeker’s Hall, through the church office, or from any United Methodist Men member. Price remains \$40.00. For questions or free home-delivery, call Roger Britton at 304-292-8832.



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/>



1st Sunday After Christmas December 28, 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, December 21
84 In Person / 202 Online / Radio Est. 300 Offering \$8,470.28/ Budget \$4,903.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Radio Broadcast: *For the Glory of God.*

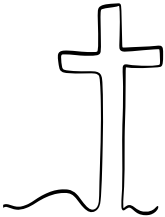
Altar Flowers: *In memory of Dewey and Mary Hastings. Love, Dan and Family.*

Refreshments: Thank you to Bonnie Johnson (8:30) and Sue Johnson (10:45) for providing refreshments.

Prayers of the People of God

Prayer updates can be shared with Carolyn Carr.

Lori Britton
Dolly Cale
Sharon Hillerary
Carolyn Hubbard
Connie Johns
Carolyn Keech



Marlene McCarty
Charlotte Murphy
Susan Presley
Angie Thompson
Linda Wise

THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC	
Sunday, December 28th	
8:30AM	Worship Service (In Person)
9:45AM	Sunday School
10:45AM	Worship Service (In Person & Radio Broadcast)
Wednesday, December 31st	
Church Office Closed	
Thursday, January 1st	
Church Office Closed	
Happy New Year!!	

<i>The Church in Worship</i>		
Congregational Responses and Prayers are in <i>bold italic print</i>		
† Congregation Standing (<i>as you are able</i>)		
Prelude		
Announcements and Welcome		
Our Loving, Learning, Leading Prayer (on screen)		
† Call to Worship		Liturgist
We have welcomed the Christ child and declared the glory of God’s salvation that comes to live among us. And yet, still, we wait. <i>We watch and work for God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.</i> We prepare to welcome a new year, thankful for how God has brought us through the past year and anxious to discover what the new year might bring. <i>We watch and work for God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.</i> We join generations of Simeons and Annas who learned and taught us how to listen, notice, and discern divine love at work in the world. <i>We watch and work for God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.</i> Come, let us worship God, whose love endures from generation to generation, guiding us from one year to the next. <i>Come, let us worship as we live in anticipation of God’s kingdom on earth as it is heaven. Amen.</i>		
† Hymn #246 (UMH)	“Joy to the World”	
First Prayer		Liturgist
<i>Light of life, you came in flesh, born into human pain and joy, and gave us power to be your children. Grant us faith, O Christ, to see your presence among us, so that all of creation may sing new songs of gladness and walk in the way of peace. Amen.</i>		
<u>PROCLAMATION</u>		
First Reading	Isaiah 63:7-9	Liturgist
⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸ For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully," and he became their savior ⁹ in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.		
Special Music	<i>Carols</i>	Gary Schlobohm, Saxophone
Psalm Reading	Psalm 148	Liturgist
¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! ² Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! ³ Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! ⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! ⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. ⁶ He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. ⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, ⁸ fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! ⁹ Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! ¹⁰ Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! ¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! ¹² Young men and women alike, old and young together! ¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. ¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!		

Children’s Moment		Pastor Bart
A Chalking of the Doorway (on screen)		Pastor Bart
Epistle Reading	Hebrews 2:10-18	Pastor Bart
¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." ¹³ And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." ¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.		
Gospel Reading	Matthew 2:13-23	Pastor Bart
¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." ¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." ¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."		
Covenant Service in the Wesleyan Tradition (see insert and on screen)		Pastor Bart
<u>RESPONSE TO THE WORD</u>		
Prayers of the People		Pastor Bart
Affirmation of Faith (On Screen)	UMH #881	Pastor Bart
<u>WORSHIPPING THROUGH GIVING</u>		
Invitation To Give		Eldon Callen, CLM
Offertory		
† Doxology #95 (UMH)	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”	
Prayer of Thanksgiving (on screen)		Eldon Callen, CLM
The Lord’s Prayer (on screen)	UMH #895	Eldon Callen, CLM
† Hymn #2099 (TFWS)	“Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine”	