



## A Note from Pastor Bart

During this season of joy and reflection, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation for the beautiful cards, thoughtful notes, heartfelt prayers, and generous gifts I have received. Your kindness and support have been a source of comfort and encouragement, making this Christmas even more meaningful. Every gesture has reminded me of the true spirit of the holidays—compassion, generosity, and goodwill. Thank you for your continued friendship and care. May each of you have a Happy and blessed New Year.

## 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.



## CHRISTMAS MESSY CHURCH

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



## 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 events such as birthdays, housewarmings, and showers. All proceeds go to the music intern program.

## Parents' Place Enrollment

Parents' Place has limited enrollment for the Spring term! For more information or to register your family, visit [parentsplacewv.org/enrollment](http://parentsplacewv.org/enrollment)



## Lectionary Readings Sunday, January 11



Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 29  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matthew 3:13-17

# 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/>



## Epiphany Sunday

**January 4, 2026**

**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 - Christmas Eve

**104 In Person / 232 Online / Radio Est. 300**

**Sunday, December 28**

**74 In Person / 129 Online / Radio Est. 300 / Offering \$8,763.06 / Budget \$4,903.00**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Radio Broadcast:** *To the glory of God.*

## Prayers of the People of God

Prayer updates can be shared with Carolyn Carr.

Lori Britton  
Dolly Cale  
Mike Glowacky and family  
Sharon Hillery  
Carolyn Hubbard  
Connie Johns  
Carolyn Keech

Marlene McCarty  
Charlotte Murphy  
Susan Presley  
Doug Stanger  
The family of Jeanne Stoughton  
Angie Thompson  
Linda Wise

### Please Note!

Pastor Bart will be away for his schooling through January 16th. For pastoral concerns, please contact our Certified Lay Minister, Eldon Callen, at [eldonc45@gmail.com](mailto:eldonc45@gmail.com) or by phone at 304-290-7142.

### THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC

#### Sunday, January 4th

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

#### Wednesday, January 7th

11:00AM	Bible Study
6:00PM	Prayer Meeting (Zoom)
6:30PM	Barnabas Group

#### Thursday, January 8th

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

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed.

**You will do well to be attentive to this,**

as to a lamp shining in a dark place,

**until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.** (2 Peter 1:19)

† Hymn #240 (UMH)

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

Liturgist

First Prayer

**Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to O God, you made of one blood all nations, and, by a star in the East, revealed to all peoples him whose name is Emmanuel. Enable us who know that your presence is with us. Be able to proclaim Christ's unsearchable riches that all may come to his light and bow before the brightness of his rising. We pray to you, Lord who with the Son lives and reigns with the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen**

## PROCLAMATION

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Liturgist

<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Children's Moment

Pastor Bart

Piano Solo      *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear / Silent Night* arr. Phillip Keveren

Ashley Lewis

Gospel Reading      Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor Bart

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” <sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his

mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sermon

“Going Home by a Different Road”

Pastor Bart

Our New Year Response

**The Covenant Service in the Wesleyan tradition dedicates the year to God and it starts the New Year in a place of love and service. We are like the Holy family returning home to start a new life in a new place and for us the new place is a new year. May we seek the Lord like the Magi by following the light of Jesus and the hope of peace. Also, let us be open to the Holy Spirit during the pilgrim walk of 2025 and let it guide and shine the light of Christ's path through us as we live and witness our faith as Disciples of Jesus Christ.**

† Hymn #2071 (UMH)

“Jesus, Name Above All Names”

Pastor Bart

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People (on screen)

Pastor Bart

Affirmation of Faith (On Screen)

UMH #881

Eldon Callen, CLM

## SERVICE OF TABLE

Invitation

Eldon Callen, CLM

Prayer of Confession (on screen)

UMH #12

Eldon Callen, CLM

## WORSHIPPING THROUGH GIVING

Invitation To Give

Eldon Callen, CLM

Offertory

† Doxology #95 (UMH)      “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Eldon Callen, CLM

Prayer of Thanksgiving (on screen)

Eldon Callen, CLM

Great Thanksgiving Prayer (on screen)

UMH #17A

Pastor Bart

The Lord's Prayer (on screen)

UMH #895

Pastor Bart

Sharing of the Sacrament

Pastor Bart

† Hymn #254 (UMH)

“We Three Kings”

Eldon Callen, CLM

## SENDING FORTH

Call to Discipleship

Pastor Bart

May you follow the Epiphany Star into a closer covenant discipleship with Jesus Christ in the New Year.

Blessing

Pastor Bart

**May God, who led the wise men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. Amen!**

Postlude

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Liturgist

Bonnie Johnson