

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.



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.

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!

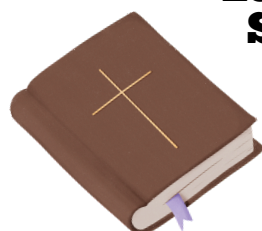


Parents' Place Enrollment

Parents' Place has limited enrollment for the Spring term! For more information or to register your family, visit 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 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/>



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 Hillerary

Carolyn Hubbard

Connie Johns

Carolyn Keech

Marlene McCarty

Charlotte Murphy

Susan Presley

Doug Stanger

The family of Jeanne Stoughton

Angie Thompson

Linda Wise

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

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 or by phone at 304-290-7142.

<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
So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. <i>You will do well to be attentive to this,</i> as to a lamp shining in a dark place, <i>until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.</i> (2 Peter 1:19)		
† Hymn #240 (UMH)	“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”	
First Prayer		Liturgist
<i>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</i>		
<u>PROCLAMATION</u>		

First Reading	Isaiah 60:1-6	Liturgist
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¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ² 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. ³ Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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
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Piano Solo	<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear/ Silent Night</i> arr. Phillip Keveren	Ashley Lewis
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Gospel Reading	Matthew 2:1-12	Pastor Bart
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¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ ‘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.’” ⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ 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.” ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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
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Our New Year Response	Pastor Bart
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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”	
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<u>RESPONSE TO THE WORD</u>		
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Prayers of the People (on screen)		Pastor Bart
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Affirmation of Faith (On Screen)	UMH #881	Eldon Callen, CLM
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<u>SERVICE OF TABLE</u>		
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Invitation		Eldon Callen, CLM
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Prayer of Confession (on screen)	UMH #12	Eldon Callen, CLM
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<u>WORSHIPPING THROUGH GIVING</u>		
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Invitation To Give		Eldon Callen, CLM
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Offertory		
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† Doxology #95 (UMH)	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”	
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Prayer of Thanksgiving (on screen)		Eldon Callen, CLM
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Great Thanksgiving Prayer (on screen)	UMH #17A	Pastor Bart
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The Lord’s Prayer (on screen)	UMH #895	Pastor Bart
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Sharing of the Sacrament		Pastor Bart
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† Hymn #254 (UMH)	“We Three Kings”	
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<u>SENDING FORTH</u>		
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Call to Discipleship		Pastor Bart
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May you follow the Epiphany Star into a closer covenant discipleship with Jesus Christ in the New Year.

Blessing	Pastor Bart
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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		
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<u>ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY</u>		
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Liturgist		Bonnie Johnson
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