

988
SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

There is hope



Talk with us.



If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org



PEP22-08-03-004

Empty Bowls Monongalia Soup & Bread Luncheon

Empty Bowls Monongalia is having their annual Soup Luncheon on Saturday, February 28th from 11:00-2:30 at the Hazel and J.W. Ruby Community Center at Mylan Park. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. **All proceeds support local hunger programs in Monongalia County!** For tickets, see Gale Truman.



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.

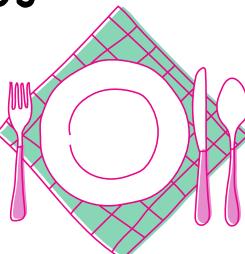
Gifts of Love

Thank you for your prayers & support. Besides our basic list we urgently need - cookware, pots & pans, bath towels & linens, and blankets. Please bring to the church or contact Carolyn Carr if you need help.



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Circle of Friends weekend. Attendance was down, but we served 30+ meals. Folks were very grateful for the meals.



Mark your Calendars



Lectionary Readings Sunday, February 1

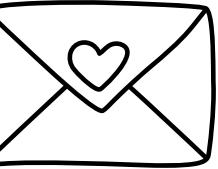
Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12



2026 Contribution Envelopes

If you wish to have personal giving envelopes, please contact the office and request "weekly" or "monthly" envelopes.



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!



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/>



3rd Sunday after the Epiphany **January 25, 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.

2026 SSUMC Attendance & Stewardship - Sunday, January 18th

90 In Person / 138 Online / Radio Est. 300 / Offering \$6,305.78 / Budget \$4,879.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Radio Broadcast: *In memory of Alan Lindamood. By Family.*

Altar Flowers: *In memory of Alan Lindamood. By Family.*

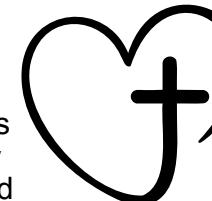
Refreshments: Thank you to Judi McCracken for providing refreshments for the 8:30 service.

Today's Liturgists: Greg McCracken (8:30) & Gary Schlobohm (10:45)

Prayers of the People of God

Prayer updates can be shared with Carolyn Carr.

David Barnes
Fran Barnes
Lori Britton
SaRita Britton
Dolly Cale
Amy Carr
Matt Drabidh
Joanna Hastings
Sharon Hillary
Carolyn Hubbard
Mike Hubbard
Connie Johns



Carolyn Keech
Neal & Nancy Johnson
Marlene McCarty
Charlotte Murphy
Susan Presley
Dr. Wilbur Sine
Syndy Slaughter
Jeanette Stanger
Angie Thompson
Linda Wise
Mick Yanak

THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC

Sunday, January 25th

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

Monday, January 26th

6:00PM Administrative Council

Tuesday, January 27th

6:00PM United Women in Faith

Wednesday, January 28th

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

Thursday, January 29th

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

We walk in darkness.

We live in a land of deep darkness.

We have seen a great light!

Light shines upon us!

God brings us the light!

Rejoice before our God, who gives us the Light in Jesus Christ!

† Hymn #256 (UMH)

"We Would See Jesus"

First Prayer

O God, our light and our salvation, shelter us in your love. O God, our stronghold, protect us from danger. We come with shouts of joy to worship you this day. We come with song and music to celebrate your love. We come with longing to seek your presence. Be with us now, O God, as we sing your praises. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

First Reading

Isaiah 9:1-4

Liturgist

9¹ But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-on them light has shined.³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.⁴ For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Pastor Bart

Children's Moment

Choral Anthem

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross by Pethel

SSUMC Chancel Choir

Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:12-23

Pastor Bart

4¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵ "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles--¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea for they were fishers.¹⁹ And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fisher of people."²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him.²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Sermon

† Hymn #430 (UMH)

"Fishing and Light"

"O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee"

Pastor Bart

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

Pastor Bart

Peace with Justice Candle

Laity

The light shines in the darkness.

We stand in this light, unshaken, knowing that the darkness has never overcome the light.

Let us recommit ourselves to walking in Jesus' ways of justice.

Empower us, Jesus, boldly to use the freedom and power given to us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

Affirmation of Faith (on screen)

UMH #881

Eldon Callen, CLM

Prayer of Confession

Eldon Callen, CLM

God of light, we live in the darkness of despair: worried about our lives, concerned for our health, fearful that we are lost from you. The yoke of our burdens lies heavy upon us: our unwillingness to forgive, our fears of one another, our reluctance to share what we have, our divisions and quarrels. We long to turn from the dark and live in the light. We yearn to leave what is evil and follow the paths of righteousness. Shine the light of your love upon us and transform us with your love, that your promised realm may draw near. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Eldon Callen, CLM

The light of God's love shines into the dark places of our world, healing its brokenness, and bringing hope to places of despair. The light of God's love makes us a forgiven people. Thanks be to God!

Passing the Peace of Christ

Eldon Callen, CLM

The light of Christ shines brightly in the darkened places of our lives, bringing healing and hope. The light of Christ shines brightly in the faces of our neighbors. Look for that light as we share Christ's peace.

WORSHIPPING THROUGH GIVING

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

O God, we have seen your glory, felt the touch of your love, and felt your presence with us. With joyful hearts, we offer you our gifts. Having heard your call, we offer you our lives and our service. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (on screen)

UMH #895

† Hymn #2130 (TFWS)

"The Summons"

SENDING FORTH

Blessing

Pastor Bart

May each of you go in peace to love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously with the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Postlude