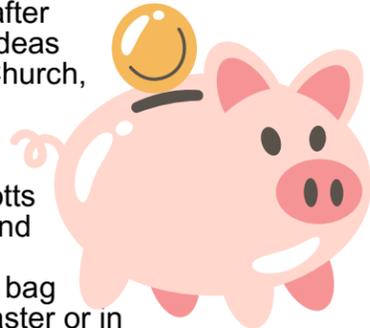


Coins for Lent

During Lent, we are reminded to examine our lifestyles and ask, "What can we do for others?" Lent is a good time to commit to giving money to a project that helps those in need. One way to involve the family is to collect coins during Lent and donate the money after Easter. Here are some ideas for your giving: Messy Church, Gifts of Love, Circle of Friends, Advent and Lent Studies, Confirmation Class, Scotts Run, Apportionments, and the Building (Trustees). Please put a note in the bag when you turn it in at Easter or in the Eastertide season. You can follow our Coins for Lent Giving Calendar in the February newsletter if you need some inspiration! Pick up a Lent bag and join us!



Random Acts of Kindness

**BE KIND
TO ALL
KIND**

Have you been showing kindness? Have you recorded the acts of kindness? Good! When you come into church services please remember to put a heart in the basket in Seekers Hall and share a special act of kindness that you observed.

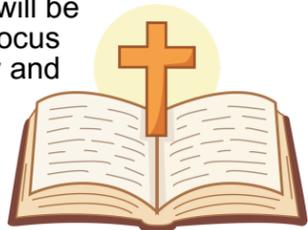
Barnabas Donations Needed!

Barnabas is currently in need of thinking of you, encouragement, and scriptural cards. Thank you all for your support of this ministry!



Join Us for Lent Study

Our church's Lenten study will be on Tuesdays at noon. Our focus will be on the creation story and the meaning of our place in the created order. Lunch is provided. We will also, Zoom the lessons, using our Bible Study link available on the website. Please come and join us!



Gifts of Love

Thank you to everyone who donates to this ministry. It is a very active and ongoing service to our community. Besides the items on our basic list (available in our February newsletter) we have a special need for blanket, bed linens, & towels. Thank you.



We'll Miss You, Penny!

Please join us in saying goodbye to Penny Turley as she starts her next adventure! **We will be having a luncheon in Penny's honor today, March 1st, after second service.** Feel free to bring cards, photos, or stories! Food will be provided by UWIF.



Penny, as you prepare for your journey to North Carolina, our hearts are full of gratitude and sadness. You have been our congregation's beloved first lady ever since you and Rev. Bill Turley were appointed to us, and all you have ever shown is kindness and love. Your warmth, encouragement, and unwavering support have made a lasting impact on us all.

We will miss your gentle presence and the way you brought our community together. Though distance will separate us, we will always carry your spirit in our hearts. May North Carolina welcome you with the same love and joy you have given us. Thank you, Penny, for everything.

Remember, you can zoom all our studies, our prayer meetings, and watch our services every week. You can still be connected to us. We can still mail you a bulletin if you wish.

With love,

Your Church Family at SSUMC



Lectionary Readings Sunday, March 8



Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

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/>



2nd Sunday in Lent

March 1, 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, February 22nd

86 In Person / 133 Online / Radio Est. 300 / Offering \$3,743.39 / Budget \$4,879.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Radio Broadcast: *In honor of Judi McCracken's birthday, by Greg.*

Altar Flowers: *Judy's birthday - from Doug Harmon.*

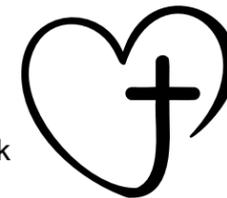
Refreshments: Join us for a luncheon in Penny Turley's honor after second service!

Prayers of the People of God

Prayer updates can be shared with Carolyn Carr.

David Barnes
Fran Barnes
David Barnett
Lori Britton
Saundra Britton
Dolly Cale
Matt Drabidh
Judy Harman
Courtney Hetrick
Dale Hetrick
Sharon Hillerary
Carolyn Hubbard
Mike Hubbard

Carolyn Keech
Judy McFarland
Joyce Moore
Charlotte Murphy
Bren Nichols
Susan Presley
Julia Rife
Dr. Wilbur Sine
Syndy Slaughter
Angie Thompson
Viv Wilson
Linda Wise
Mick Yanak



THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC

Sunday, March 1st

8:30AM	Worship Service (In Person)
9:45AM	Sunday School
10:45AM	Worship Service (In Person & Radio Broadcast)
12:00PM	Luncheon in honor of Penny Turley

Tuesday, March 3rd

12:00PM	Lent Study 2
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Wednesday, March 4th

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

Thursday, March 5th

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

Scouter

God calls us to walk paths of courage, service, and integrity.

We come seeking direction for the journey ahead.

Just as a compass points true north, Christ points us toward love, justice, and truth.

Just as a map guides our steps, Scripture shapes our choices.

On this Scout Sunday, we give thanks for the tools that guide us — in the wilderness and in life.

Lead us, O God, as we follow Your way.

† Hymn #159 (UMH)

“Lift High the Cross”

First Prayer

Scouter

Holy and gracious God, You have given us the tools we need to walk faithfully in this world.

You place a compass in our hearts — the presence of Your Spirit — and You give us a map in Your Word, so that we may choose paths of kindness, courage, and service. Bless the Scouts, leaders, families, and all who gather today. Teach us to follow Your direction and trust Your guidance. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Guide and Shepherd. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

Children’s Moment

Lena Glowacky

Choral Anthem

Because He Lives by Gaither

SSUMC Chancel Choir

Gospel Reading

John 3:1-17

Pastor Bart

3¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2 He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." 3 Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' 8 The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." 9 Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" 10 Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 11 "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Sermon

“How are these things possible?”

Pastor Bart

† Hymn #389 (UMH)

“Freely, Freely”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Cub Scout News

Samantha Goulet & Simon (10:45)

Scout Oath

Scouter

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

Scouter

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

Scouting Prayer

Scouter

O God, your will is that all your children should grow into fullness of life. We lift to you the ministry of scouting. We offer you thanks for camping, to teach us that the world is our great home; for study and work, to build character; for service, to see our responsibility to those in need; for encouragement in genuine patriotism and vital faith. Bless the work of scouting, in this place and around the world, that, through its efforts, the young may, like our Lord, increase in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with you and all people. Amen.

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”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eldon Callen, CLM

As Nicodemus discovered, your love is not earned but freely given. Receive now these gifts we offer—not as payment or proof, but as signs of our belief, our hope, and our gratitude. Use them to share your transforming love with a world still searching in the dark. In the name of your Son, given in love, we pray. Amen

Great Thanksgiving Prayer (on screen)

UMH #17A

Pastor Bart

The Lord’s Prayer (on screen)

UMH #895

Pastor Bart

Sharing of the Sacrament

† Hymn #100 (UMH)

“God, Whose Love Is Reigning o’er Us”

SENDING FORTH

Blessing

Pastor Bart (8:30); Ken Shanes (10:45)

May the God who lights our path go before us to guide our steps, beside us to steady our hearts, and within us to give us courage. May Christ, our true North, lead us in the way of love and service. And may the Holy Spirit empower us to be people of character, hope, and compassion in all we do. Go in peace, to love and serve God and our neighbor. Amen.

Postlude