

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 monthly newsletter) we have a special need for toiletry items, such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, etc. if you have travel size items that would be great. Thank you for your help!



Community Summer Picnics

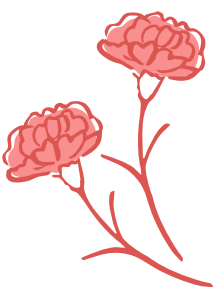
We're planning our summer picnics with Suncrest UMC. The first one is Memorial Day. We will be helping to set up and providing desserts and drinks and perhaps some salads. More details coming soon. We will have sign-up sheets available in Seekers Hall the first part of May.

Come and enjoy!



Mother's Day Carnations

It's time to place your order for Mother's Day Carnations! The cost for each is \$3.00, and the deadline for placing your order is Tuesday, April 28. If you wish to place one in memory of (white carnations) or in honor of (red carnations) a loved one, please fill out a carnation order form in Seekers Hall. Flowers may be picked up following the Mother's Day service.



MCCAC PRESENTS RAISE YOUR SHIELDS

Kids and families are invited to learn about body safety and how children can protect themselves and others in a positive, engaging environment. Children will enjoy games, crafts, and activities before a special author read-aloud of *The Brave Knight* with author Diane Tarantini. This event will be held on Sunday, April 26th from 1-4PM at the Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center.



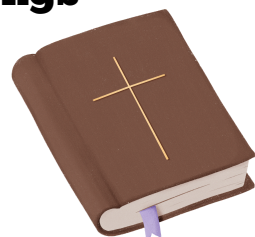
Music Month

May is Music Month here at Spruce Street UMC! Join us in Sunday worship on May 3rd to hear our Chancel Choir Concert. We will be raising funds for our music ministries the whole month of May. These funds go towards new music, guest artists, our intern program, and more! If you would like to support our music program please designate "music ministry" on your gift.



Lectionary Readings Sunday, May 3rd

Proverbs 4:10-18
Psalm 119:9-20
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14



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/>



4th Sunday of Easter

April 26, 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 - April 19, 2026

99 In Person / 105 Online / Radio Est. 300 / Offering \$3,500.84 / Budget \$4,879.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Radio Broadcast: *In memory of Paul Hanko.*
- Katherine Hanko

Altar Flowers: *In honor of the church staff.*
- Katherine Hanko

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

Liturgists: Bonnie Johnson (8:30) & Robyn Lindamood (10:45)

Prayers of the People of God

Sally Collins	Lucy Labin
Rhonda Croston	Brad Minton
Doug Harman	Joyce Moore
Mike Hubbard	David Turley
Alicia Kern	

Prayer updates can be shared with Carolyn Carr. Remember to check the newsletter for our long term prayer list.

THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC

Sunday, April 26th

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

Monday, April 27th

6PM	Finance
7PM	Trustees

Tuesday, April 28th

6PM	UWIF
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Wednesday, April 22nd

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

Thursday, April 23rd

10:00AM	Chair Yoga
6:15PM	Handbells
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

Can you hear the voice of God?

We hear God calling us by name.

Are you troubled or distressed?

We come here to find a place to rest for awhile.

Come and find a guide who knows these lands.

We come to praise our Shepherding God, whose pathways and doors lead to life.

† Hymn #381 (UMH)

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

First Prayer

Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us. When we face darkness and death, journey beside us. When we hunger for your love, fill us with your presence. When we are fearful, feed us at your table. May we dwell in the house of goodness and mercy all the days of our lives. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

Gospel Reading

John 10:1-10

Liturgist

¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Children’s Moment

Pastor Bart

Choral Anthem

Love Will Rise Again by Mark Miller

SSUMC Chancel Choir

Psalter

Psalms 23 NRSV

Pastor Bart

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Psalms 23

as translated by Rev. Dr. Kempton Hewitt

Pastor Bart

Yahweh shepherds me; I lack nothing at all. In green meadows He bids me recline by calm waters, guiding me to a place of peaceful rest. My life force He restores within. He points me into the path of holy living, a testimony to his Holy Name. Yes! Even were I to fall into a dark chasm of chaos, there, even there, nothing will I fear, because THOU are beside me; your shepherd staff and capable cudgel – these bring me comfort. You order that a festive table be spread out before me, an offense to those encamped against me. With finest oil you christen my brow; my cup is ever full to the brim. There can be no doubt! Only good things and your enduring love will surround me, day and night, from beginning to the end of my years. Yahweh’s house will be my dwelling place, as long as life endures.

Sermon

“Listening”

Pastor Bart

† Hymn #174 (UMH)

“His Name Is Wonderful”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

Pastor Bart

Shepherding God, bring us into your fold. Lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Help us see the way we should go, the way we should live. Help us hear your voice calling our name. Move us from this time of worship, to a time of service that we may find our true lives and selves as we join with others: praising your name, celebrating your great goodness, and sharing your love for all people. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith (on screen)

UMH #881

Pastor Bart

Prayer of Confession (on screen)

UMH #891

Pastor Bart

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

Faithful Shepherd, who calls us by name, you invite us into a life that is rich in meaning, deep in joy, and bold in compassion. You speak, and we long to follow—although the world is noisy and the path unclear. In this moment of offering, we quiet our hearts to listen again. Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in you. May they be used to bring abundance to others, to feed the hungry, to strengthen the lost, and to proclaim your voice of love. In coming and going, in worship and service, make us more like Christ, in whose name we give and pray. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer (on screen)

UMH #895

Eldon Callen, CLM

† Hymn #128 (UMH)

“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”

SENDING FORTH

Blessing

Pastor Bart

Beloved, may God bless us with open hearts and minds; together may we pay attention, discern, and follow our Shepherd’s voice, for that is the way that leads to abundant life on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Postlude