SENDING FORTH

Blessing — Pastor Bart

May the Spirit who dwells in you bless you with open minds to receive God's wisdom, open hearts to follow God's guidance, and open doors that we may together build God's kingdom of life and peace on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Postlude

You're Invited!

You're invited to the wedding of Andrew Marvin and Nina Han. The ceremony will be held at Spruce Street UMC on Saturday, August 15, and a reception will be held after. There will also be a luncheon hosted by UWIF after the 10:45 service on August 16. More details and an RSVP form can be found in Seeker's Hall, next to the sanctuary entrance. Please RSVP by Sunday, July 12. If you have any questions, please call us at 908-235-7383. We hope to see you there!

Give to Scotts Run

Scott's Run currently has an urgent need for **peanut butter, canned soup, and canned protein.** Please consider donating these items to support their ministry!

Back to School for Scotts Run

As you are doing your shopping, start thinking about our Back to School Ministry with Scott's Run! Needed items include backpacks, notebooks, pencils, colored pencils, tissues, sanitizer wipes, hand sanitizer, boxes of tissues, glue sticks, and 24 packs of crayons. Thank you for your support of Monongalia County schools!

Vacation Bible School This Wednesday!

VBS will be held on July 15 starting with dinner at 5:00pm at SSUMC. We will have classes for kids and adults. All are welcome!

Donations Needed for VBS

Bible school would appreciate donations of cookies or chips to support the meal being offered on July 15th. Thank you for all your support. Please drop off any donations at the church prior to July 15th. Reminder - Bible School is open to everyone! Any questions please contact Lena Glowacky. Thanks so much!

Run to Mundy's Please Sponsor!

The Run/Walk to Mundy's Place 5K for Special Olympics will be held on Sunday, August 2nd at 6:00. This is a great race for a great cause! Spruce Street UMC will be sponsoring the race. Please consider donating to help us cover the sponsorship and support the Special Olympics!

Special Olympics

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/

7th Sunday after Pentecost July 12, 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 - July 5, 2026

74 In Person / 122 Online / Radio Est. 300 / Offering $5,302.17 / Budget $4,879.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Radio Broadcast: *To the Glory of God.*

Altar Flowers: Please sponsor.

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

Liturgist: Greg McCracken (8:30)

THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC	
Sunday, July 12th	
8:30AM	Worship Service (In Person)
9:45AM	Sunday School
10:45AM	Worship Service (In Person & Radio Broadcast)
12:00PM	UWIF Ice Cream Social
Wednesday, July 15th	
5:00PM	VBS
Thursday, July 16th	
10:00AM	Chair Yoga

Prayers of the People of God

Marguerite Bostonia	Lucy Labin
Lori Britton	Brad Minton
Yvonne Bucklew	Charlene Moats
Eldon Callen	Tim Moats
Sally Collins	Em Pechon
Rhonda Croston	John Simpkins
Doug Harman	Fred Smith
Brian Hoskinson	Vonda Tharp's family
Ray Hubbard's family	Penny Turley
Bill Kennell	Rhoda Carroll Whitney

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

Lectionary Readings Sunday, July 19th

Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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 (on screen) Liturgist

† Hymn #62 (UMH) "All Creatures of Our God and King"

First Prayer Liturgist

Loving God, you created life in us and all around us. Open us to receive your gifts of your world and your word that we may be not just hearers of the word, but doers also. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

First Reading Genesis 25:19-34 Liturgist

19 These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, 20 and Isaac
was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram,
sister of Laban the Aramean. 21 Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the
Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. 22 The children struggled together within her,
and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. 23 And the Lord
said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall
be stronger than the other; the elder shall serve the younger." 24 When her time to give birth was at
hand, there were twins in her womb. 25 The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they
named him Esau. 26 Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel, so he was
named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. 27 When the boys grew up, Esau was a
skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. 28 Isaac loved Esau
because he was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob. 29 Once when Jacob was cooking a stew,
Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. 30 Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red
stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) 31 Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright."
32 Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" 33 Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So
he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. 34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he
ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Children's Moment Pastor Bart

Second Reading Romans 8:1-11 Liturgist

1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit
of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 3 For God has done what the
law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to
deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in
us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the
flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds
on the things of the Spirit. 6 To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life
and peace. 7 For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to
God's law--indeed, it cannot, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in
the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the
Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin,
but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead
dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through
his Spirit that dwells in you.

Special Music Saxophone Solo Gary Schlobohm

Gospel Reading Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 Pastor Bart

1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 Such great crowds gathered
around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he
told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some
seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where
they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the
sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell
among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought
forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 If you have ears, hear!" 18 "Hear, then, the
parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the
evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As
for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with
joy, 21 yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution
arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. 22 As for what was sown among
thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the
word, and it yields nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word
and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in
another thirty."

Sermon "The Good Soil and Our Birthright" Pastor Bart

† Hymn #420 (UMH) "Breathe On Me, Breath of God"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People Pastor Bart

Affirmation of Faith (on screen) UMH #883 Eldon Callen, CLM

Prayer of Confession (on screen) Eldon Callen, CLM

Assurance of Forgiveness 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 (on screen) Eldon Callen, CLM

The Lord's Prayer (on screen) UMH #895 Pastor Bart

† Hymn #363 (UMH) "And Can It Be that I Should Gain"