

SENDING FORTH

Blessing
The Lord has forgiven and restored you. You are strengthened for ministry in the name of Jesus Christ. Go in peace and may God's peace flow through you to others. Amen

Postlude



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!



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!



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!



Thank you :)

Greg and I thank everyone for the uplifting prayers, cards, and support during the weeks following my father's death. A poster in our Fellowship Hall downstairs says something like "Spruce Street is like coming home;" your friendships and family-like relationships truly are homelike. We appreciate each one of you.

Grace and peace, Judi McCracken

GOD IS WITH US
Wherever We Are

Church doesn't only happen inside a building.
Join us from your pew, your porch, your kitchen table, your workplace break room, your hospital room, or your favorite chair.

WORSHIP WITH US
in person, online, or on the radio.

 IN PERSON Sundays 8:30 AM Traditional Service 10:45 AM Contemporary Service	 ON THE RADIO Sundays 10:45 AM WCLG-AM 1300 or Morgan 92.1 FM	 ONLINE Watch the service live or anytime. Visit our website: sprucestreetumc.org	 ON FACEBOOK Watch live every Sunday morning. Find us on Facebook: @SpruceStreetUMC	 ON MIXLR Listen anytime on the Mixlr app. Search for Spruce Street UMC Morgantown
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WHEREVER YOU ARE, you are welcome here.

SPRUCE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Loving God. Loving People. Serving Together.
386 Spruce Street Morgantown, WV 26505
sprucestreetumc.org
@SpruceStreetUMC

Whether you're next door or miles away, there's a place for you here.



Gifts of Love

Thanks for supporting this ministry. In addition to our basic needs, we need insect repellent for summertime. Thank you.

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: sprucestreetumc.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://mixlr.com/sprucestreetumc/>



8th Sunday after Pentecost July 19, 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 12, 2026
73 In Person / 131 Online / Radio Est. 300 / Offering \$6,419.49/ Budget \$4,879.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Radio Broadcast: *To the Glory of God.*
Altar Flowers: Please sponsor.

Refreshments: Thank you to Susan, Brandon, and Amelia for providing refreshments for the 8:30 service.

Liturgist: Bonnie Johnson (8:30) & Dan Erenrich (10:45)

THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC	
Sunday, July 19th	
8:30AM	Worship Service (In Person)
9:45AM	Sunday School
10:45AM	Worship Service (In Person & Radio Broadcast)
Monday, July 20th	
7:00PM	Trustees
Wednesday, July 22nd	
11:00AM	Bible Study
Thursday, July 23rd	
10:00AM	Chair Yoga

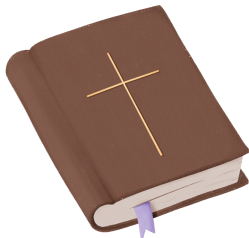
Prayers of the People of God

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

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

Lectionary Readings Sunday, July 26th

Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



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	Liturgist	
Even in the middle of summer, our hearts can be burdened. <i>Stress and worry do not seem to take vacations.</i> You have come to a special place where you can find relief and healing. <i>Thanks be to God for providing us with such blessings.</i> Come, prepare your hearts to receive God's gracious gift of love. <i>We open our hearts and spirits in thanksgiving to God. Amen.</i>		

† Hymn #64 (UMH)	“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”	
First Prayer	Liturgist	
<i>Lord, we come to you this day in the midst of our summer months. For many this is a time of relaxation; but for others, the burdens, worries, and cares continue to weigh them down. Be with each of us as we open our ears to hear your words, our hearts to feel your presence, and our spirits to receive your healing touch. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.</i>		

PROCLAMATION

First Reading	Genesis 28:10-19a	Liturgist
¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place--and I did not know it!" ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." ¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ^{19a} He called that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.		

Children’s Moment	Pastor Bart	
Second Reading	Genesis 29:15-28	Liturgist
¹⁵ Laban said to him, “Just because you are a relative of mine, should you work for me for nothing? Tell me what your wages should be.” ¹⁶ Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷ Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel had a lovely figure and was beautiful. ¹⁸ Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, “I’ll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel.” ¹⁹ Laban said, “It’s better that I give her to you than to some other man. Stay		

here with me.” ²⁰ So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her. ²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife. My time is completed, and I want to make love to her.” ²² So Laban brought together all the people of the place and gave a feast. ²³ But when evening came, he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and Jacob made love to her. ²⁴ And Laban gave his servant Zilpah to his daughter as her attendant. ²⁵ When morning came, there was Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? I served you for Rachel, didn’t I? Why have you deceived me?” ²⁶ Laban replied, “It is not our custom here to give the younger daughter in marriage before the older one. ²⁷ Finish this daughter’s bridal week; then we will give you the younger one also, in return for another seven years of work.” ²⁸ And Jacob did so. He finished the week with Leah, and then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife.

Special Music		
Gospel Reading	Genesis 32:22-31	Pastor Bart
²² The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, “Let me go, for the day is breaking.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” ²⁷ So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” ²⁸ Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed.” ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved.” ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.		

Sermon	“The Grand Story”	Pastor Bart
† Hymn #418 (UMH)	“We are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”	

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People	Pastor Bart	
Affirmation of Faith (on screen)	UMH #881	Eldon Callen, CLM
Prayer of Confession (on screen)	UMH #890	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	
<i>Let these gifts, given in trust, be signs of our partnership in the renewal of all creation. Awaken in us a holy longing, as deep as the groaning of the earth itself, for justice, healing, and new life. May our giving participate in your redemption, until the world rejoices in freedom and glory as your children. We offer this with joy, in the name of Christ our Redeemer. Amen</i>		

The Lord’s Prayer (on screen)	UMH #895	Pastor Bart
† Hymn #145 (UMH)	“Morning Has Broken”	