

The Lord's Prayer (on screen) UMH #895 Eldon Callen, CLM
† Hymn #480 (UMH) "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"
SENDING FORTH

Blessing Eldon Callen, CLM
Go now in the blessing and assurance that nothing can separate us from the love of God. May this good news inspire us all to take up the hard work of building community and acting for the flourishing of all our neighbors, because we do not act on our own—we act on the power of God's never-ending love. Amen.

Postlude

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!



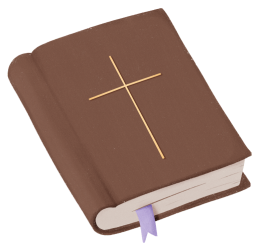
Spaghetti Dinner
We will be holding a spaghetti dinner fundraiser at our church on Saturday, August 1st from 5pm to 8pm. This fundraiser is to support a family with a member who has cancer. The dinner will be take out only. We are still in need of donations of drinks, utensils, and napkins if you are able to give!

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!

Lectionary Readings Sunday, August 2nd

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21



Prayers of the People of God

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| David Barnes | Bill Kennell |
| Lori Britton | Lucy Labin |
| Yvonne Bucklew | Brad Minton |
| Eldon Callen | Charlene Moats |
| Sally Collins | Tim Moats |
| Rhonda Croston | Fred Smith |
| Doug Harman | Penny Turley |
| Brian Hoskinson | Rhoda Carroll Whitney |

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

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/



9th Sunday after Pentecost July 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 - July 19, 2026
80 In Person / 118 Online / Radio Est. 300 / Offering \$5,039.09 / Budget \$4,879.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Radio Broadcast: To the Glory of God.
Altar Flowers: Please sponsor.
Save the Date!
We have many exciting events coming up! Please mark your calendars!

Refreshments: Thank you to Bonnie Johnson for providing refreshments for the 8:30 service.
Liturgist: Gary Schlobohm

THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC	
Sunday, July 26th	
8:30AM	Worship Service (In Person)
9:45AM	Sunday School
10:45AM	Worship Service (In Person & Radio Broadcast)
Wednesday, July 29th	
11:00AM	Bible Study
Thursday, July 30th	
10:00AM	Chair Yoga
Saturday, August 1st	
5:00PM	Spaghetti Dinner

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| August 1 | Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser - please give! |
| August 8 | Innovators and Disciples at the Star City Riverfront Park 10:30-11:30AM. "The Bug Lady" is coming. Bring the kids! |
| August 9 | Baptism and Confirmation of Ms. Andrea Elkins at the 10:45AM service. |
| August 15 | Nina and Andrew's wedding. |
| September 13 | Church Picnic at the Westover senior center pavilion. Time TBD. |
| October 4 | Trunk or Treat! We will start at 12:15 at the pavilion next door. |
| October 11 | Pet blessings at 2:00PM at the pavilion next door. |

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

Beloved, this is the core of our faith: nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
Thanks be to God!
God’s never-ending love surrounds us and calls us, assuring us that through God’s love, all things will work together for God’s good purposes.
Thanks be to God!
God’s never-breaking love empowers us in the face of temptation, distress, division, and scarcity to hold onto our faith and work together for the flourishing of all God’s good creation.
Thanks be to God!
Come, let us worship God who is Love, trusting that through joy and sorrow, happiness and despair, contentment and pain, Love will carry us through.
Thanks be to God who forms, connects, and guides us through Love. Amen.

† Hymn #370 (UMH)	“Victory in Jesus (I Heard an Old, Old Story)”	
First Prayer		Liturgist

God, Your extravagant love has called us together. Long before we even knew You, You already knew us, and had chosen us to be part of Your own family— sisters and brothers with our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. What amazing love You have shown toward us! And so we come before You with praise and thanksgiving, offering You the worship of our hearts and lives, and opening ourselves to the prompting and leading of Your Holy Spirit. Receive our worship—our praise and prayers and offerings— through the intercession of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. May the time we spend here in Your presence bring honour and glory to Your Name. Amen.

	<u>PROCLAMATION</u>	
First Reading	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (CEB)	Liturgist

³¹ He told another parable to them: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and planted in his field. ³² It’s the smallest of all seeds. But when it’s grown, it’s the largest of all vegetable plants. It becomes a tree so that the birds in the sky come and nest in its branches.” ³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast, which a woman took and hid in a bushel of wheat flour until the yeast had worked its way through all the dough.” ⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure that somebody hid in a field, which someone else found and covered up. Full of joy, the finder sold everything and bought that field. ⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one very precious pearl, he went and sold all that he owned and bought it. ⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that people threw into the lake and gathered all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸ When it was full, they pulled it to the shore, where they sat down and put the good fish together into containers. But the bad fish they threw away. ⁴⁹ That’s the way it will be at the end of the present age. The angels will go out and separate the evil people from the righteous people, ⁵⁰ and will throw the evil ones into a burning furnace. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth. ⁵¹ “Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked. They said to him, “Yes.” ⁵² Then he said to them, “Therefore,

every legal expert who has been trained as a disciple for the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings old and new things out of their treasure chest.”

Children’s Moment		Eldon Callen, CLM
Special Music	Piano Solo	Nina Han
Epistle Reading	Romans 8:26-39 (CEB)	Liturgist

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don’t know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans. ²⁷ The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God’s will. ²⁸ We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ We know this because God knew them in advance, and he decided in advance that they would be conformed to the image of his Son. That way his Son would be the first of many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ Those who God decided in advance would be conformed to his Son, he also called. Those whom he called, he also made righteous. Those whom he made righteous, he also glorified. ³¹ So what are we going to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He didn’t spare his own Son but gave him up for us all. Won’t he also freely give us all things with him? ³³ Who will bring a charge against God’s elect people? It is God who acquits them. ³⁴ Who is going to convict them? It is Christ Jesus who died, even more, who was raised, and who also is at God’s right side. It is Christ Jesus who also pleads our case for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from Christ’s love? Will we be separated by trouble, or distress, or harassment, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, We are being put to death all day long for your sake. We are treated like sheep for slaughter. ³⁷ But in all these things we win a sweeping victory through the one who loved us. ³⁸ I’m convinced that nothing can separate us from God’s love in Christ Jesus our Lord: not death or life, not angels or rulers, not present things or future things, not powers ³⁹ or height or depth, or any other thing that is created.

Sermon	“Finding Hope”	Eldon Callen, CLM
† Hymn #130 (UMH)	“God Will Take Care of You”	

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People		Eldon Callen, CLM
Affirmation of Faith (on screen)	UMH #887	Eldon Callen, CLM
Prayer of Confession (on screen)	UMH #893	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

Steadfast God, you search our hearts and know our needs even when we struggle to find the words. In your mercy, you strengthen us in our weakness and bind us together in love that cannot be broken. As we bring these gifts today, may they bear witness to your enduring promise: that nothing—not hardship, nor fear, nor even death itself—can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus. Bless these offerings, that they may bring hope to the weary, peace to the troubled, and joy to the hearts of your people. Through Christ, our Redeemer and Companion, we pray. Amen