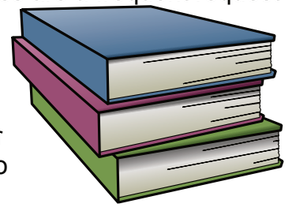
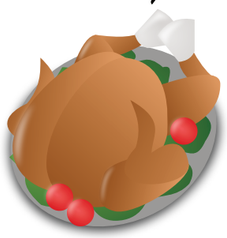
November Study Bible Donation Drive

For the month of November, the United Methodist Students are asking for donations of study Bibles for the Appalachian Prison Book Project (APBP), a non-profit that sends free books to people imprisoned in six Appalachian states (WV, VA, TN, KY, OH, MD). Study Bibles are a frequent request from prisoners, so APBP's inventory is consistently low. Please note that we are only accepting new, softcover books – most facilities do not allow hardbacks and have strict rules on the condition of used books. We are encouraging donations of the Common English Bible (CEB) translation; however, the King James Version (KJV) is a frequent request, also. Please consider donating to help spread the good news of God's love, grace, and mercy with all. Thank you!



Holiday Dinner Fundraiser - Today!



Join us Sunday, November 15th after the 10:45 a.m. service for our Holiday Dinner Fundraiser! Enjoy turkey and ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, rolls, cranberry salad, drinks, and desserts.

Dine-in: Freewill offering | Takeout: $10

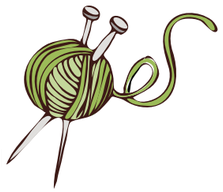
We look forward to seeing everyone there!

-SSUWIF

Advent Study

Mark your calendars! Join us for a special Advent Study on December 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 12:00–12:50 PM. Lunch will be provided! We hope to see you there!

Yarn Ministry



A friendly reminder that crochet items and lap throws are available as needed. They are on display in Seeker's Hall. If you have a special request, please contact Carolyn Carr.

Welcome Kim Matthews, CLM

Kim Matthews is the Vice President of the United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia. She graduated from Marshall University with a Bachelor's of Science and Master's of Science degrees in biology. Prior to joining the staff of the Foundation in 2008, she served for 19 years as Research Associate with Marshall University School of Medicine and its affiliates.

She has earned a Certificate in Nonprofit Executive Leadership from the O'Neil School of Public and Environmental Affairs and The Fundraising School as well as an Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising from the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving (both entities are part of the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy).

Kim is a Certified Lay Minister who is active as a volunteer in her Church, District and in the Annual Conference. She serves as the Associate Conference Lay Leader and Annual Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries. She is married to Steve, and they have two adult sons and one spicy cat.

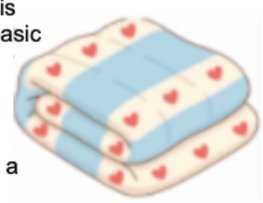
Pastor Bart's D.Min. Project Team Meetings

Meetings will take place on December 5th and 12th from 10:00 AM–12:00 PM.

If you want to come learn about spiritual formation practices the time will be open to those who are prayerfully curious.

GIFTS OF LOVE

Thank you for supporting this ministry. In addition to our basic needs, we need some lightweight blankets and more linens. We also have a few special requests: a dresser, kitchen chairs, and a small dining room table.



Lectionary Readings
Sunday, November 22nd

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46



All notices for the bulletin are due on Mondays each week and for the newsletter they are due by the 24 of each month.

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 am Service on WCLG-AM 1300 or Morgan 92.1FM

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/sprucestreetumc/

Audio Live Streaming: http://mixir.com/sprucestumc/

25th Sunday after Pentecost **November 15, 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 - November 8, 2026

85 In Person / 143 Online / Radio Est. 1440 / Offering $4,568.65 Budget $4,879.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Radio Broadcast: To The Glory of God

Altar Flowers: please sponsor

Refreshments: Holiday Dinner

Liturgist: Bonnie Johnson (8:30) & Sue Johnson (10:45)

THIS WEEK AT SPRUCE STREET UMC	
Sunday, November 15	
8:30 AM	Worship Service (In Person)
9:45 AM	Sunday School
10:45 AM	Worship Service (In Person & Radio Broadcast)
12:00 PM	UWIF Holiday Dinner
5:30 PM	Messy Church
Monday, November 16	
6:00 PM	Finance Committee
7:00 PM	Trustees
Wednesday, November 18	
9:30 AM	Scott's Run Backpacks
11:00 AM	Bible Study
6:00 PM	UMM
Thursday, November 19	
9:00 AM	Chair Yoga
6:00 PM	Bell Choir
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir

Prayers for the People of God

Tia Biro
Doug Harman
Teresa Johnson
Rubyann Downes
Bill Kennell
Charlotte Murphy
Fred Smith
Nancy Smith
Dolly Cale
Tammy Harvey
Ruth Stokwell
Slyvia Elmore
Connie Gaspar
Cheryl Poling
Dawn Yost
Michael Hubbard
Ernie Carlson
Tim Moats
Chasity Goodwin
Penny Turley
Susan Presley
Terry Lee Price
Chrissy Rodeheaver
Janet Kennedy
Judy Harman
Marlin Robinson

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

The Church in Worship

Congregational Responses and Prayers are in bold italic print
† Congregation Standing (as you are able)

Prelude

Announcements and Welcome

Handbell Choir (10:45am) "Wonders of Love" by Wagner

Vision Prayer (on screen)

† Call to Worship Liturgist

Family of God, whom do you serve?

We serve God, who calls us to love our neighbors, tend creation, and care for the least of these.
(Discipleship Ministries)

† Hymn No. 150 (UMH) "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"

First Prayer Liturgist

O Holy God, open unto me light for my darkness, courage for my fear, hope for my despair. O loving God, open unto me wisdom for my confusion, forgiveness for my sins, love for my hate. O God of peace, open unto me peace for my turmoil, joy for my sorrow, strength for my weakness. O generous God, open my heart to receive all Your gifts. Amen. *(Book of Worship)*

PROCLAMATION

First Reading Matthew 25:14-30 Liturgist

14 “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them.
15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag,[a] each according to his
ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put
his money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more.
18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.
19 “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who
had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of
gold. See, I have gained five more.’ 21 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have
been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s
happiness!’ 22 “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two
bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’ 23 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant!
You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your
master’s happiness!’ 24 “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew
that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered
seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ 26
“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather
where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers,
so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. 28 “‘So take the bag of gold from him and
give it to the one who has ten bags. 29 For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an
abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 30 And throw that
worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Children's Moment Carolyn Carr

Choral Anthem "Jesus Paid it All" arr. by Spears

Second Reading Mark 12:28-34 Kim Matthews, CLM

28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a
good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?” 29 “The most
important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.[a] 30 Love the
Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’[b]
31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’[c] There is no commandment greater than these.”
32 “Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but
him. 33 To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love
your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.” 34 When Jesus saw that
he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one
dared ask him any more questions.

Sermon "Investments and Risk Tolerance" Kim Matthews, CLM

† Hymn No. 413 (UMH) "A Charge to Keep I Have"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith Nicene Creed (on screen) Hymnal No. 880 CLM

Prayer of Confession (on screen) CLM

WORSHIPPING THROUGH GIVING

Invitation to Give

Offertory

†Doxology Hymnal No. 95 (Unison) "Praise God, From Whom all Blessings Flow"

Prayer of Thanksgiving (on screen)

The Lord's Prayer Hymnal No. 895

† Hymn No. 508 (UMH) "Faith, while Trees are Still in Blossom"

SENDING FORTH

Blessing

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

I am no longer my own, but Yours. Put me to what You will, rank me with whom You will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by You or laid aside for You, exalted for You or brought low for You. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to Your pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You art mine, and I am Yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, be ratified in heaven. Amen. May we now go in peace to love and serve both God and our neighbors. Amen.

Postlude

SPRUCE STREET UMC VETERANS

We are grateful for the men and women who have served our country. Thank you for your courage, sacrifice, and dedication. We honor you and are especially thankful for the veterans in our church family!

Richard Lee
Ernie Carlson
Dale Hetrick
Thomas Mersing
Doug Harman

Mike Wolfarth
Keith Carr
Art Hahn
Neal C. Johnson
Eldon Callen

Joshua Cook
Mark Clingan