

Spruce Street UMC Newsletter

386 Spruce Street Morgantown, WV 26505

304.292.3359

Sunday Worship Times

8:30 a.m. In-Person & 10:45 a.m. In-Person & Online

October Newsletter 2026



October Birthdays

10/3 Christyn Rhodehaver
10/5 Bill Biro
10/7 Shawn Johnson
10/10 Robyn Lindamood
10/13 Layla Johnson
10/16 Carol Thorne
10/16 Judy Kennell
10/17 Dan Erenrich
10/18 Josie Law
10/18 Lena Glowacky
10/21 Beverly Sanders
10/21 Alica McKinney
10/26 Eldon Callen
10/26 Hank Burton
10/27 Doug Stanger
10/29 John Beaumont



Understanding Our Faith and Community Membership

Introduction

This brief overview highlights the church's two sacraments, the three general rules, Wesley's Accountability Questions, and the process for becoming a member. If you would like to discuss joining the Spruce Street UMC community, I am always available.

Every blessing,

Pastor Bart

What God Expects of Us

Colossians 3:12-16a, 17

Living as a United Methodist

To show a sincere desire for salvation, those who attend our prayer and administrative meetings are expected to:

1. Do no harm: Avoid all evil and wrongdoing.
2. Do good: Show mercy, love, justice, and devotion to everyone whenever possible.
3. Attend to God's ordinances: Practice the sacraments and spiritual disciplines, including:
 - Public worship
 - Ministry of the Word (reading, preaching, or teaching)
 - The Lord's Supper
 - Family and private prayer
 - Studying Scripture
 - Fasting or abstinence

Wesley's Accountability Questions (condensed)

- Am I being honest and avoiding hypocrisy?
- Can I be trusted, and do I keep confidences?
- Have I become a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
- Do I spend time reading the Bible every day?
- Do I enjoy praying?
- When did I last share my faith with someone else?
- Do I pray about my spending?
- Do I knowingly disobey God?
- Do I act on things that trouble my conscience?
- Am I jealous, critical, irritable, or distrustful?
- How do I spend my free time?
- Is there anyone I resent or avoid? If so, what am I doing about it?
- Do I complain often?
- Have I followed the Spirit's promptings to serve others?
- Have I listened to warnings that keep me from sin?

"Encourage one another daily . . ." — Hebrews 3:13

The Sacraments of the Church

Baptism

Baptism is a sacred sign of God's promise to be with us. Through baptism, we are born anew by God's grace, welcomed into the church family, and made part of God's continuing story. Baptism reminds us that we are initiated into Christ's church, included in God's saving work, and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

Those seeking baptism are invited to renounce evil, repent, and accept God's power to resist injustice. They are also asked to confess their faith in Jesus Christ and promise to serve him, joining the church that welcomes people of all ages, nations, and races. Responses to these vows are "I do" or "Yes." The church practices infant baptism with confirmation as children mature, and it offers baptism and membership classes for adults. All ages are welcome.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is the sign of God's covenant with the church and a symbol of God's self-giving love. In this sacrament, we remember Christ's life, death, and resurrection. The bread and cup remind us of Jesus' hospitality and miracles, including the feeding of the five thousand. Everyone is invited to Christ's table to seek forgiveness, healing, and grace. Communion nourishes us for our mission, and all are welcome to share in this meal of hope and peace.

Becoming a Member

Becoming a United Methodist begins with a desire to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ in community with others. The first step is baptism and a commitment to active participation in the local church. Baptism marks the beginning of a lifelong journey in Christ. Those who have not been baptized will receive the sacrament, while those who have already been baptized will reaffirm their Baptismal Covenant as part of their membership vows.

New members promise to live faithfully as disciples through their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Anyone interested is encouraged to speak with a pastor to learn more about membership and begin their journey as a follower of Jesus Christ.



October is UNDIE MONTH!!!- Remember to Drop your Drawers here.

We need new, in-package undies for Scotts Run from Diapers to T-Shirts to Underwear in all sizes.

Please bring your pet for a blessing as we celebrate their gift to us from God.





Trunk-N-Treat after worship
on October 4th

At the Farmer's Market
Pavilion. Bring your Kids,
Grand Kids, Treats, Dress
up!! Deck out your Trunk!!!
Fun for the Community and
the Church!!!

ALZHEIMER'S PURPLE PUMPKIN PATCH PALOOZA

CREATE • DECORATE • VOTE • SUPPORT



PUMPKINS DUE
OCTOBER 19, 2025

VOTING
OCT. 19–NOV. 2

WINNER ANNOUNCED
NOVEMBER 9

MAKE A PUMPKIN OUT OF ANYTHING!

- Any size • Any shape • Any type
- Use a real or fake pumpkin—or create one from wood, glass, fabric, yarn, paint, paper, markers, recycled items, sticks, and more.
- Choose any style: scary, beautiful, funny, patriotic, cartoon, hero, religious, animals, or your own creative idea.
- Open to individuals, families, and groups.

ONE RULE
**YOUR PUMPKIN MUST
HAVE SOME PURPLE!**

ENTRY FEE
\$5 PER PUMPKIN

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE
1¢ PER VOTE

Bring pumpkins to Spruce Street UMC

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION IN MORGANTOWN

Sponsored by Spruce Street UMC Children's Ministries • Information: Lena Glowacky, 304-319-4040

SPRUCE STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DOOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT

IN MEMORY OF • IN HONOR OF

Help us replace the doors of our church while honoring or remembering someone special.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Your Name: _____

Phone/Email: _____

THIS GIFT IS:

☐ IN MEMORY OF

☐ IN HONOR OF

PLEASE CHOOSE ONE:

☐ WALLPLAQUE— \$100 MINIMUM PER NAME

☐ REMEMBRANCE BOOK —\$25MINIMUMPER NAME

NAME(S) TO BE REMEMBERED OR HONORED

Additional names may be listed on the back.

MY GIFT

Amount of Gift: \$_____

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Givelify

Checks payable to:
Spruce Street United Methodist Church

Please write **“Door Project”** in the memo line.

GIVELIFY

You may also make your gift through the Givelify app.

IMPORTANT: When giving through Givelify, please include “Door Project” in the designation or notes so we know your gift is for the Door Replacement Project. Please also indicate whether your gift is for the **Wall Plaque or Remembrance Book**, and provide the name(s) you wish to honor or remember.

THANK YOU!

Your gift helps us care for our church home and provides an opportunity to honor and remember those who have been part of our lives and our church family.

Please return this form and your gift to the church office or place it in the offering.

Spruce Street United Methodist Church

A Church at the Heart of Morgantown with a Heart for Morgantown



Greetings!

The United Methodist Students (UMS) is a new student organization at West Virginia University, formed as a combined effort between Spruce Street, Suncrest, and Wesley UMC. I am currently serving as the president and would like to share what we have planned for our first year.

The UMS purpose is simple: to serve others, build community, and share God's grace and love with all.

For our inaugural ministry, we are partnering with the Appalachian Prison Book Project (APBP) to host book drives throughout the year. APBP sends free books and provides educational opportunities to people imprisoned in six Appalachian states (West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Maryland). They are located at the Aull Center, right across the street from Spruce Street UMC.

Bibles are a frequent request from prisoners, so APBP's inventory is often low. For the month of November, we will be collecting new Bibles and study Bibles for APBP, so we can spread the good news of God's love, grace, and mercy with all. 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. More details will be posted in the bulletin.

This will be a continuing ministry with each month having a donation focus. In January, we will be collecting world almanacs, another popular request.

Thank you in advance to those who choose to help with this ministry.

I will continue providing updates on UMS activities through the newsletter and bulletin. If you have any suggestions for the group, please email me at njh0014@mix.wvu.edu.

God Bless You!

Nina Han

"but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." John 4:14



Musical Musings: Wordlessness



I want to state right away my gratitude to God for answer to prayers about various surgeries, healing, and medical concerns that have helped me return to being the Choir Director at SSUMC. During some months of transition, I am most grateful for other musicians who have helped to continue our music ministry: Dr. Sam Spears, and soon-to-be Dr. Ashley Lewis. Their unique talents built up our choirs and enhanced our worship services. I look forward to renewed stamina to be back to the position! I thank all of you, also for your prayers.

When the Church Newsletter deadline hits, I often look at the idea of “Music Musings” or “Music Notes” with a complete blank in my mind! Everyone loves music! What more can I say about it? Surely it all has been said by more eloquent writers than I! Do you have Scriptural phrases that just stick in your mind at odd times? I do, and one of them is from Romans: Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words. RSV 8:26

Do you also like to compare your favorite Scriptural phrases with other English translations? I do, too, and www.biblegateway.com is very handy. “Sighs too deep for words” connects to our emotions in the same way as do many musical experiences. Other translations call it: inexpressible groanings, groanings which cannot be uttered, unspoken, cannot be expressed, cannot be uttered, wordless groans.

In those moments, we must always remember that the Spirit is with us, as Paul states, interceding, helping, giving strength to our weakness. We may not like making emotional decisions or having emotional outpourings, but if the Spirit is already with us, then we can trust that Presence, even if it is unexplainable. After all, words have limitations. Wordless prayer will be heard.

Music touches us just as directly, and it is a gift designed to reach us spiritually and emotionally. We know it when it happens and can be grateful for it. This is the ministry that our brothers and sisters in the Chancel Choir hope to bring to your worship each week, as we praise the Lord as one Christian family. We trust our music will connect!

Expand thy wings, celestial Dove, brood o’er our nature’s night;

On our disordered spirits move, and let there now be light.

Charles Wesley, in UMH #603, 1740



- *Marquerite*



Soup/Roll/Cookie Sale

Order Form

The United Women in Faith are holding a Soup/Roll/Cookie Sale:

We will have:

- Potato Soup/Vegetable Soup/Chicken Noodle Soup/Chili \$8 for a Quart
- Rolls \$4 for ½ Dozen
- Pepperoni Rolls \$8 for ½ Dozen
- Kiss Cookies/Chocolate Chip Cookies/Brownies \$6 for ½ Dozen

Orders will be accepted September 13 - October 11. Orders will be Available for Pickup on October 18.

Orders must be paid for at the time order is placed.

Checks need to be made payable to **SSUMW**.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

What	Number Quarts Wanted	Total Due
Vegetarian Chili		
Chili with Meat		
Potato Soup		
Vegetable Soup		
Chicken Noodle Soup		
	½ Dozen	
Rolls		
Pepperoni Rolls		
Peanut Butter Blossoms		
Chocolate Chip		
Brownies		
Total Due		

October Lectionary Scriptures

October 4 - 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalms 19

Acts 4:5-12

Matthew 21:33-46

October 11 - 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:1-14

Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23

Acts 8:14-25

Matthew 22:1-14

October 18 - 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 33:12-23;

Psalms 99

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 22:15-22

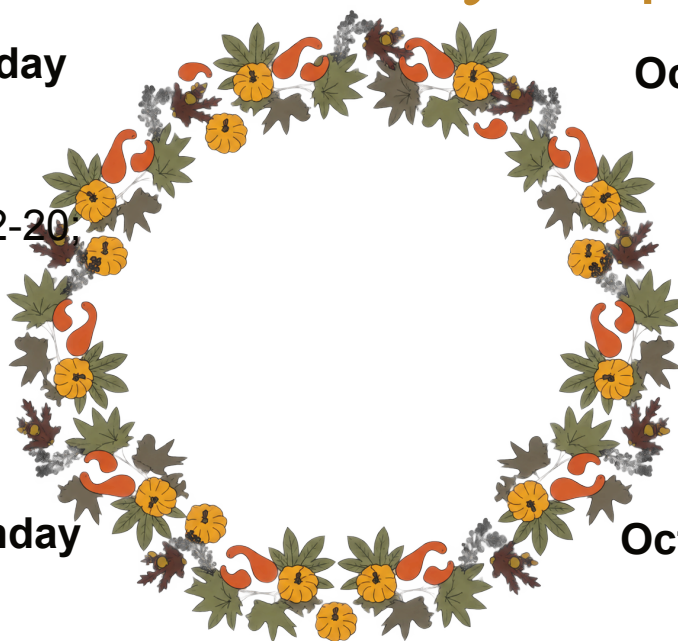
October 25 - 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17

Acts 10:44-48

Matthew 22:34-46



Prayer Chain

Our prayer ministry is very active. If you are part of the prayer chain and have not been receiving the emails or if you'd like to join the prayer chain, please send your email address to Carolyn at cdccarr@yahoo.com. Short term prayer list can be found in the bulletin each week. Names are moved to the long-term list in the Newsletter after a month in the bulletin.

Lori Britton
Saundra Britton
Becky Davis
Rubyann Downes
Sara Fuqua
Mike Grant
Judy Harman
Carolyn Hubbard
Mike Hubbard

Aly Hutzler
Carolyn Keech
Ben Lee
Charlotte Murphy
Sharon Richman
Mary Belle Rowe
John Simpkins
Syndy Slaughter
Philip Stanger

Linda Sweetman
Penny Turley
Carlton Withrow
Mary Lynn Withrow
Tim Moats
Mike Roberts
Charlene Moats

GIFTS OF LOVE

Thank you for your continued support of this ministry. If you have items that you no longer need that are gently used, please consider donating those items to our Gifts of Love.

Suggested items include but are not limited to:

- Dishes
- Pots & pans
- Silverware
- Glasses/mugs
- Cooking utensils
- Can openers
- Mixing bowls
- Serving dishes/spoons
- Tupperware
- Cleaning supplies
- Coffeemakers
- Toasters
- Blenders
- Microwaves
- Dishcloths
- Towels
- Baking sheets
- Bakeware
- Measuring cups/spoons
- Potholders/mitts
- Cutting boards
- Storage organizers
- Blankets/quilts
- Linens
- Backpacks
- Flashlights/lanterns
- Batteries
- Tents
- Sleeping bags
- Basic hygiene items

We've had requests for a dresser, kitchen chairs, and a small dining table.

SCOTTS RUN DONATIONS

We're collecting donations to support Scott's Run Community Center! Right now, they need non-perishable food for their school weekend backpack program, general community pantry items, and local grocery store gift cards for their upcoming Thanksgiving giveaway. Thank you for helping nourish our neighbors!



Be sure to purchase your 25% off discount pass from the United Women in Faith for \$5 usable on Wednesday, October 21. You can use the coupon in person or online! For \$5, your discount adds up fast, especially if you buy lots of items for Undie Sunday or Gifts of Love. See a UWF member to get your October 21 Friends Helping Friends shopping pass! (We take checks.)

Join Spruce St United Methodist Church

ON OUR ANNUAL TOUR TO

Lancaster THIS SPRING!

as we partner with
Almost Heaven Tours

to provide a fun 2 days at Amish Country
and to see *Live Jonah* at Sight & Sound Theatres.

APRIL
23RD - 24TH

COST FROM
\$325
— DEDUCT \$55 —
FOR CHILDREN AGES 3-12

INCLUDES:



Lodging



Motorcoach Transportation
Motorcoach pick-up from Morgantown



1 Hot Breakfast



1 Dinner Hosted by
the Amish at Their Home



Admission to Sight &
Sound Theatres' Jonah



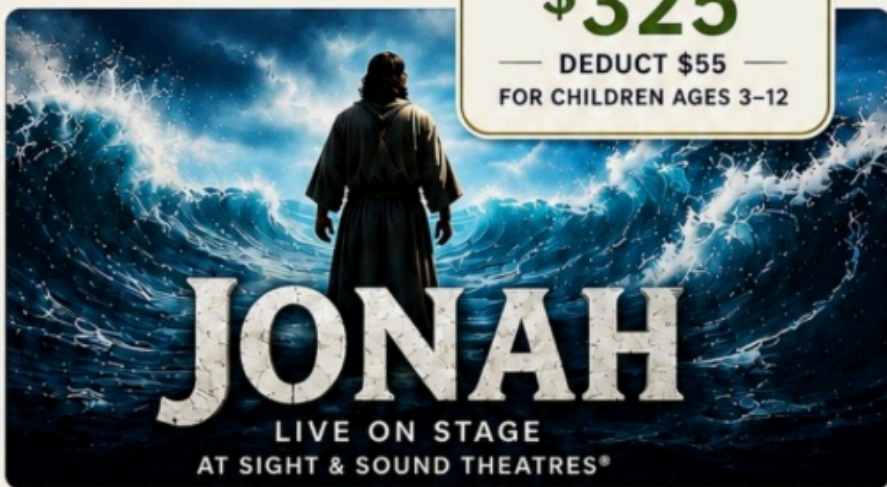
Time for Shopping
at Local Places



Visit Hershey
Chocolate World



and MORE!



Almost Heaven Tours

To be added to the reservations,
Teresa Johnson
681-209-3961

Spruce St UMC Office Hours & Contact Info

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)

304-292-3359

sprucestumc.org

SPRUCE STREET STAFF DIRECTORY

Pastor	Rev. Bart Thompson	304-813-7213 pastor@sprucestreetumc.org
Lay Minister	Eldon Callen	304-290-7142 eldonc45@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant	Tara Cook	304-292-3359 secretary@sprucestreetumc.org
Financial Secretary	Judy Kennell	finance@sprucestreetumc.org
Music & Choir Director	Marguerite Bostonia	margbos6@gmail.com
Children's Ministry	Lena Glowacky	childrensministry@sprucestreetumc.org
Building Supervisor	Bonnie Johnson	johnson26541@yahoo.com
Prayer Focus	Carolyn Carr	cdccarr@yahoo.com

OCTOBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 9AM Chair Yoga 6PM Bell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir	2	3 2pm Set up for Trunk or Treat
4 19th Sunday after Pentecost 12:15PM Trunk or Treat 3PM Cub Scouts	5	6 6PM Meditation Workshop	7 11AM Bible Study 1:30PM Charge Conference 6PM Prayer Meeting (Zoom) 6:30PM Barnabas Group	8 9AM Chair Yoga 6PM Bell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir	9	10
11 20th Sunday after Pentecost	12 6PM SPPRC	13 6PM Meditation Workshop 6PM PP Board Meeting 6:30PM Quota Meeting	14 11AM Bible Study 6PM UM Men	15 9AM Chair Yoga 6PM Bell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir WVU Campus Ministry @ Fairmont State	16 WVU Campus Ministry @ WVU Homecoming Parade	17
18 21st Sunday after Pentecost 3PM Cub Scouts 5:30PM Messy Church	19 7PM Trustees	20 6PM Meditation Workshop	21 6PM Finance Meeting	22 9AM Chair Yoga 6PM Bell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir	23	24
25 22nd Sunday after Pentecost WVU Student Lunch after 2nd service	26 6PM AD Council	27 6PM Meditation Workshop	28 11AM Bible Study 6PM Prayer Meeting (Zoom)	29 9AM Chair Yoga 6PM Bell Choir 7PM Chancel Choir	30	31