

# Welcome to Spruce Street United Methodist Church

*“A Church at the Heart of Morgantown  
with a Heart for Morgantown”*



January 28, 2024  
*Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany*  
Worship 8:30AM and 10:45AM  
Children's Church 10:45AM  
Sunday School 9:40AM

386 Spruce Street, Morgantown, WV 26505  
304-292-3359 [www.sprucestreetumc.org](http://www.sprucestreetumc.org)  
[facebook.com/sprucestreetumc](https://facebook.com/sprucestreetumc)  
Office Hours: Mon-Thur. 9am-1pm



(\*\*indicates to stand if able)

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME**

Eldon Callen, CLM

***Our Loving, Learning, Leading Prayer***

***God, as You lead us on this journey, may we faithfully follow the pathway of love and kindness built on Jesus Christ, the solid rock. Open our hearts to love everyone always. Open our minds to slow down and focus on Your will. Open our doors to welcome and share Christ's great commission, while making disciples of each of us. May we be led by You, putting You first in our lives and in all our endeavors. Amen.***

**\*\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist

***(based on Psalm 111 and Deuteronomy 18:15-20)***

**Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart in the company of the upright in the congregation.**

**Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.**

**The works of God's hands are faithful and just; all God's precepts are trustworthy.**

**They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

**God's works extend to you and me and the whole community as the Spirit nurtures gifts and graces in each of us.**

**Great are the works of the Lord, whose love and grace endures forever!**

**God raises up some to be prophets to help us follow God's voice, yet all are called to lead by following.**

**We affirm the gifts of those who are called to be truth-tellers in our midst, helping us all to answer the call to be truth-doers. Great are the works of the Lord!**

**Amen. *(Discipleship Ministries)***

**\*\*HYMN**

***Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service***

**UM #581**

- 1 Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed: we, Your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but**

- heart, consecrating to Your purpose every gift that you impart.
- 2 Still Your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread; still the captive long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love Your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.
  - 3 As we worship, grant us vision, till Your love's revealing light in its height and depth the greatness dawns upon our quickened, sight, making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear, stirring us to tireless striving Your abundant life to share.
  - 4 Called by worship to Your service, forth in Your dear name we go to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and heal; good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give, that Your servants Lord, in freedom may Your mercy know, and live.

#### FIRST PRAYER

Liturgist

God of power and might, You sent prophets to Your people, calling us back to Your covenant and teaching us Your ways. In the fullness of time, You sent us Your Son Jesus, teaching with such authority, that our eyes were opened to see Your ways anew. Open our hearts and minds, that we may understand and proclaim Your teachings for all to hear. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen. (*Discipleship Ministries*)

#### PROCLAMATION

##### FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Liturgist

<sup>8:1</sup> Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.

<sup>8:2</sup> Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>8:3</sup> but anyone who loves God is known by Him.

8:4 Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one."

8:5 Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth--as in fact there are many gods and many lords--<sup>8:6</sup> yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

8:7 It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.

8:8 "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.

8:9 But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

8:10 For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols?

8:11 So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed.

8:12 But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.

8:13 Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

### ANTHEM

*You Are My God*

Pethel

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Lay Minister

### GOSPEL READING

**Mark 1:21-28**

Lay Minister

1:21 They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, He entered the synagogue and taught.

1:22 They were astounded at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

1:23 Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, 1:24 and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who You are, the Holy One of God."

1:25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!"

1:26 And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.

1:27 They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching--with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him."

1:28 At once, His fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

SERMON

“Life, Love, Light”

Lay Minister

\*\*HYMN

*Pass It On*

UM #572

- 1 It only takes a spark to get a fire going,  
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.  
That's how it is with God's love  
Once you've experienced it;  
You spread His love to everyone;  
You want to pass it on.
  
- 2 What a wond'rous time is spring,  
When all the tress are budding;  
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.  
That's how it is with God's love  
Once you've experienced it;  
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring,  
You want to pass it on.
  
- 3 I wish for you my friend,  
This happiness that I've found;  
You can depend on Him,  
It matters not where you're bound.  
I'll shout it from the mountaintop;  
I want my world to know  
The Lord of Love has come to me.  
I want to pass it on.

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Hymnal #883

Pat Ryan 8:30AM/Dan Erenrich 10:45AM

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Pat 8:30AM/Dan 10:45AM)

**Holy God, hear our prayer.**

**You send prophets and saviors to help us, to save us, to raise us, and our response is to question You. You heal someone's beloved, and we ask, "Why not this one too?"**

**You shower food upon some who hunger, and we complain that our stomachs are growling. Forgive us. Forgive us not for our doubts, but for our limited perspective.**

**Open wide before us the vista of Your grace, and the expanse of Your love, and the wonder of Your healing power. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**Sisters and Brothers in Christ, hear the Good News: At some time, each one of us has been lost in many different ways. But now we are indeed found, and not simply found, but rejoiced over, and cherished, and beloved. Your sins are forgiven; you have come home. Alleluia! Amen. Alleluia! Amen.**

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

INVITATION TO GIVE

(Pat 8:30AM/Dan 10:45AM)

### OFFERTORY

**\*\*SINGING THE DOXOLOGY**

**U.M HYMN #95 (Unison)**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
praise Him all creatures here below:  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Pat 8:30AM/Dan 10:45AM)

God of justice, mercy, and compassion; we bring our tithes and offerings to Your altar and pray they will be used to make Your amazing love known to all. Then, most often we leave and return to our weekday lives, expecting someone else to make that happen. Remind us that Your prophets, Your leaders, Your missionaries, were called and raised up from “among the people.” Help us open our lives and our minds to the possibility that we might be the ones You would call and send. We pray this in the name of Christ, our teacher, and our redeemer. Amen. (*Discipleship Ministries*)

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

**UM #895**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

**\*\* HYMN**

*Whom Shall I Send?*

**UM #582**

- 1 Whom shall I send: our Maker cries; and many when they hear God’s voice, are sure where their vocation lies; but many shrink from such a choice.**
- 2 For who can serve a God so pure, or claim to speak in such a name, while doubt makes every step unsure, and self confuses every aim?**

- 3 And yet, believing God who calls knows what we are and still may be, our past defeats, our future falls, we dare to answer; Lord, send me!
- 4 Those who are called God purifies, and daily gives us strength to bend our thoughts, our skills, our energies, and life itself to this one end.

### SENDING FORTH

#### CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

Lay Minister

Sisters and Brothers: We are known by God by our love for God, and to honor God, ourselves, and each other, we share God's light and love with one another in real, practical, everyday ways. How may you "love one another" in your mission and ministry this day, week, and year as God has called you, "for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God"? (1 John 4:7)

#### BLESSING

Lay Minister

Beloved disciples, as you go from this place, may God bless you with open hearts to recognize the gifts and graces in one another and in your neighbors, open minds ready to dream with the Spirit, open the light of the Spirit within you to quench the darkness and open doors ready to welcome the reign of God's love right here and right now. Amen.

#### POSTLUDE

**THE WORSHIP HAS CONCLUDED, OUR SERVICE BEGINS**

#### **Post-Service Refreshments**

*Thank you Robyn*

#### **Altar Flowers**

*In Memory of Alan Lindamood - from Family*

#### **Radio Broadcast**

*In Memory of Betty Truman's birthday by Jim and Gale Truman*

**How to Give Online: [www.givelify.com/givers/](http://www.givelify.com/givers/)**

*\*Please remember to sign up in Seeker's Hall for radio and altar flower sponsors and for liturgists!\**



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## RADIO, WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

Listen on 1300am and 92.1FM

Church Website: [www.sprucestreetumc.org](http://www.sprucestreetumc.org)

Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/sprucestreetumc](https://www.facebook.com/sprucestreetumc)

<http://mixlr.com/sprucestreetumc/> to connect to hear the live stream of our worship.

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### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD:

(Prayer updates can be shared with Carolyn Carr at

[cdccarr@yahoo.com](mailto:cdccarr@yahoo.com))

- Henry Lee & Family
- Charlotte Murphy
- Rich Hilleary
- Linda Sweetman
- Melinda Staley
- Baby Hazel and the Taddie family
- Edith Gibson
- Sue Olcott
- Sue Nutt
- John Nutt
- Gary Lindamood
- Mary Kay McQuain
- Betty Anderson
- Dottie Harman
- George Watson
- Sandra Britton
- Alan Dunaway
- Dwaine McKinney
- Dave Turley
- Helen Davis
- Nathan Drumheller
- Dusty & Jeanne Rhodes
- Jeanette Stanger

(The long-term prayer list can be found in the current Newsletter on our website under News and More)

- Pray for peace.
- Our community folks who need our care and prayers
- Pray for the state, city and county police, fire and emergency services.
- Job losses in Morgantown and the area

### THIS WEEK:

Sunday, Jan 28

Tuesday, Jan 30

Wednesday, Jan 31

Thursday, Feb 1

Worship and Christian Formation

Crochet Ministry 10:00AM

Bible Study 11:00AM

Prayer Mtg. 6:00PM

Yoga 10:00AM

Choir 7:00PM

### The Staff at Spruce Street UMC

- Bishop Rev. Dr. Sandra Steiner Ball
- District Superintendent Rev. Amy Shanholtzer
- Pastor Rev. Bart R. Thompson
- Lay Minister Eldon A. Callen
- Lay Leader Ken Shanes
- Building Supt.s Bonnie Johnson
- Children's Ministry Coordinator Lena Glowacky
- Choir Director Dr. Sam Spears
- Organist Dr. Marguerite Bostonia
- Admin. Asst. Cathy Calkins
- Finance Sect. Judy Kennell
- Lay Servant Don Davis
- Parent's Place/Playdates Coordinator  
Samantha Goulet

### RADA CUTLERY UPDATE

RADA SUCCESS! Holiday sales were great! Popular items were popping corn, tomato slicers, dips, and sharpeners. Choir sales are ongoing so check them out.

### CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Our January's meals numbered almost 100 over the 2 days. Many thanks to all who helped by serving, donating money for supplies, and keeping those we serve in your prayers.

### GIFTS OF LOVE ❤️

Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated. In addition to our basic list current needs include blankets, gloves, socks, pots & pans, and coffee makers. Please remember we do not accept knives. Blessings to you for your help with this ministry.

### PRAYER CHAIN 🙏🙏

Our e-mail prayer chain is an active part of our prayer ministry. If you'd like to be a part of this, please send your email address to Carolyn Carr at [cdccarr@yahoo.com](mailto:cdccarr@yahoo.com) You're always welcomed to join our prayer meeting on Wednesdays at 6 on zoom. The link is on our webpage.

## YARN MINISTRIES

Prayer shawls, squares, cozies, angels, & crosses in my pocket are available to you as desired. If you have a special request, please contact Carolyn Carr.

### Upcoming

Feb 5<sup>th</sup> Ad Council 6PM

Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> Barnabas Group 6:30PM

Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> SPPRC 6PM

Feb, 14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday Service 5:30PM

Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> Messy Church 5:30PM

Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> Trustees Mtg. 7PM

Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> Hospitality Mtg. 6PM



You Are Invited



*On Sunday, February 11 2024, Penny Turley is throwing her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party in Fellowship Hall for the church. The party will include a catered meal and begin after the 10:45 worship service. Everyone of the church is invited to attend.*

*Please no gifts. Your love and friendship for 42 years is and has been a true gift to me. If you so desire, you may bring a gift of food or baby items for Scotts Run Settlement House. Nothing would please me more. I have a heart for SRSB and the people it serves. I am excitedly looking forward to sharing this day with you!*

*Love, Penny*



**On February 18th at 5:30PM, come as you are to Messy Church. Bring some friends and relatives for fun, food, fellowship and activities at Spruce Street United Methodist Church and join the fun!**



## Soup and More



If the recent snow did nothing else, it reminded us how much we enjoy a hot bowl of soup! That's why the **United Women in Faith** will sell Soup and More! Be sure to order a quart of soup by **February 11**. Pick-up date: **February 18**. Also on sale: Cookies, rolls, and pepperoni rolls.

Soup: **\$7** per quart; Cookies & rolls: **\$3.50** per half dozen; Pepperoni rolls: **\$5** per half dozen.

## LENT STUDY- 2024

### LENT LUNCH STUDY- TUESDAYS IN LENT

- Start at noon, finish by 12:55 so you can get back to work.
- We start Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> and end March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Spend time learning about the people who experienced the end of Lent with Jesus.
- Lunch and book provided; let the office and pastor know, and it will be emailed to you.



### The People We Meet and Get to Know

Session 1: Mary Magdalene

Session 2: Simon Peter

Session 3: Thomas

Session 4: Emmaus

Session 5: Paul

Session 6: Jesus