



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Who's Who:

Minister: All Members of the Church
Co-Pastor: Rev. Mark Plunkett
Co-Pastor: Rev. Savannah Goodman
Business Administrator: Jorida Vakiari
Director of Operations & Technology: Ethan Mitchell
Director of Music: Gabriel Perez
Accompanist: Jonathan Craft
AV Technician: Ben Dethloff
Academy Director: Renee Henry
Academy Assistant Director: Nikki Childs

Ministry Teams:

Administration Leader: Ethan Mitchell
Congregation Leader: Kay Craig
Faith Development Leaders: Theresa Dunlap
Sarah Powell
Mission Leader: Joel Alegria
Worship Leader: Donald McDaniel
Treasurer: Neal Dikeman

The Session

Clerk: Jan Fitts

Moderator: Co-Pastor, Rev. Mark Plunkett
Moderator: Co-Pastor, Rev. Savannah Goodman

Class of 2027

Joel Alegria
Beth Mizwa
Nina Rach

Class of 2028

Jim Kunkel
Betty Magnuson
Sarah Powell

Class of 2029

Neal Dikeman
Theresa Dunlap
Donald McDaniel

Academy Board

Carla Pace
Jorida Vakiari

Lee Dudinsky
Lauren Tacchi

Victoria Kissinger
Todd Miller

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Theresa Dunlap
Children's Moment: Pastor Mark
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Ethan Mitchell

e-mail: churchoffice@springbranchpres.org
website: www.springbranchpres.org
www.facebook.com/springbranchpres
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
CCLI Streaming License # 20797349
CCLI License # 11266777
1215 Campbell Rd
Houston, TX 77055
713-464-7659



***“When the Prophets Fussed:
Hypocritical Fasting”***
August 16, 2026

*Those who are able please stand

Gathering in God’s Name

PRELUDE

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS THE SANCTUARY

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

(Please sign the Friendship Book located in the pew rack next to the center aisle.)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 67)

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

People: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

People: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Leader: The earth has yielded its increase; God has blessed us.

People: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere Him.

All: Let all the people shout with praise to our loving and ever-faithful God!

*HYMN “All People That on Earth Do Dwell” (v. 1, 3, 4) GTG, No. 385

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION (from Romans 11:32)

Leader: The apostle Paul says that we are “imprisoned in disobedience,” but that God is merciful to all. We live amid the tension of knowing that the Lord is quick to forgive and recognizing that we need to be forgiven. We also live amid the tension of knowing that, through Christ, all things are being made new and recognizing that our broken world needs to be transformed. From the discomfort of this tension, let us offer a prayer of confession...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison) (from Romans 11 and Isaiah 56)

Merciful God, your world cries out. The fruits of our disobedience are harming your creation. You tasked us to be good stewards of your creation, and we have fallen short. You challenged us to love God and love our neighbor, and we have failed to show that love. You promise to bring all people joyfully together in a house of prayer on your holy mountain. We find ways to stay apart. Bring us together, O Lord. Empower us with a spirit of love for you and love for all our neighbors. Help us to empower lives of service to you so that all your children will know your peace. Forgive us when we fall short, and continue to transform your world, leading us to your promised kingdom. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

August 16 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children’s Sunday School (GP 3)
- 9:30 am Youth Sunday School (YR)
- 9:45 am Choir Practice
- 10:50 am Worship
- 12:15 pm Congregational Care Meeting (CR)

August 17 — Monday

- 10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (P)
- 5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)
- 6:00 pm Boy Scouts (GP 4)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

August 18 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm Faith Development Meeting (Zoom)

August 19 — Wednesday

August 20 — Thursday

PresPress Articles Due

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 1:00 pm Pastor Mark’s Bible Study (Zoom)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

August 21 — Friday

- 5:00 pm Academy Open House



August 22 — Saturday

- 11:00 am Hot Meals
- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

August 23 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Choir Practice
- 10:50 am Worship
- 6:00 pm BSA Court of Honor (FH)

August 24 — Monday

- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

August 25 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm Session (CR)

August 26 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am Happy Hands (CR)
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)

August 27 — Thursday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 1:00 pm Pastor Mark’s Bible Study (Zoom)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

August 28 — Friday

- 6:00 pm SBM Arc Meeting* (FH)

August 29 — Saturday

- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)



*Outside SBPC Reservations & Events
(CR) Conference Room
(FH) Fellowship Hall
(GP) Gathering Place
(L) Library
(P) Parlor
(S) Sanctuary
(YR) Youth Room

Announcements & Events:

The Flowers for this morning are given by Matt and Sarah Dikeman, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of their 58th Wedding Anniversary.

MAM Back-to-School Uniform Voucher Drive — SBPC is once again collecting funds throughout the month of August for the Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM) Back-to-School Uniform Voucher Drive. MAM coordinates with school guidance counselors and local vendors to provide school uniforms for local needy families. Donations can be placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, or mailed to the Church Office. Online donations can be made here: <https://rb.gy/ml2ysx>.



The Gathering Place will meet tomorrow, Monday, August 17th, at 10:00 AM! The theme for this month is *Lets Go Camping!* Please see Jacquie Ballesteros or Sarah Dikeman if you are interested in helping out.

Happy Hands will meet on Wednesday, August 26th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Bring your special projects, or come to stuff and close the heart shaped pillows. We hope to see you there!

Pastor Mark is facilitating a Zoom Bible Study called “Judges, Kings, and Prophets” on Thursdays at 1:00 PM. The Zoom information is available in the Friday email if you are interested in giving it a try over your lunch hour. If you wish to receive the Zoom invite every week, please email Mark to get on his list.

Save-the-Date for Wednesday Night Suppers to resume on September 2nd at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having Hamburgers with all of the trimmings. We hope to see you there!

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? **The 2026 Flower Sign-Up Calendar is located in the Narthex!** The cost per arrangement is \$65.00. Checks should be written to SBPC and mailed to the Church Office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.

SBPC Hot Meals on Weekends – The 4th Saturday of each month we look for individuals to deliver meals to shut-ins. We have 2 routes, so we usually need a total of 4 volunteers each month. Please contact Lu Taylor if you are interested in volunteering to deliver meals one month.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(from Romans 11:29)*
Leader: Paul writes: “I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.” God has shown us mercy and God will be merciful to all. Hear and believe this good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**
Leader: ...The peace of the Lord be with you!
People: And also with you!

***GLORIA** *“Glory to God”* GTG, No. 583
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

God’s People Are Empowered

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Pastor Mark

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*
God of every time and place, may your Spirit move among us so that the words we hear and the words we speak will be to your glory, will lead towards justice, and will reveal to us your salvation and deliverance. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Zechariah 7:1-14 Red Pew Bible OT 882

ANTHEM *“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”*

SERMON *“When the Prophets Fussed: Hypocritical Fasting”* Rev. Mark Plunkett

Responding to the Word

***HYMN** *“God of Grace and God of Glory”* (v. 1, 3, 4) GTG, No. 307

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(unison)* *(The Apostles’ Creed)*
I Believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***OUR RESPONSE** *"Praise to God the Father"* GTG, No. 605

*Praise to God the Father; praise to God the Son;
praise to God the Spirit: praise to the Three-in-One.
Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
Praise to God Almighty; praise to the Holy One.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison)*
Holy God, you tell us that “offerings will be accepted on your altar, for your house shall be called a house of prayer.” Thank you for all that you have given us. Continue to guide us as we dedicate these offerings and our lives to you. Amen.

SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.

Departing to Serve

***HYMN** *"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"* (v. 1) GTG, No. 306

***BENEDICTION**

***THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD**

*POSTLUDE

Welcome Visitors

You are joyfully welcomed as you worship with us today. In the worship bulletin, you will see an asterisk (*) which invites you to stand as you are able throughout today's service. If you have any questions about Spring Branch Presbyterian Church's ministries and programs, you are invited to speak with Pastor Mark, Pastor Savannah, an elder, an usher, or any other member of our church family. Also, the ushers have additional information for you as you leave today. We hope you will come back and that you consider Spring Branch as your church home.

Traditional Worship Service 10:50 am

Worship: Spring Branch Presbyterian Church welcomes families of all ages and sizes. For families with young children, relax! God put the wiggle in all children (and adults), we understand. You are invited to sit closer to the front so your children can hear, see, and experience worship with those around them. Remember, children and youth learn through what they observe. Participate and engage yourselves fully.

Nursery: Infants six weeks through Pre-K are welcomed in the nursery during worship. Kindergarten and older children will attend worship with their parents. The Church Nursery is available from 9:15 AM through shortly after Worship in the Bears classroom, Room 126, which is in the north hallway of the Education Building.

Stories & Songs: *Stories & Songs* occurs during Worship, with stories from *Growing in God's Love*, songs, coloring pages, and crafts. Pastor Savannah has chosen the stories to coincide with the Sermons. Children will leave the Sanctuary right after Children's Moment and be returned to their parents during the last hymn. This program is during the Worship Service for ages 3-6 years old.

Contemporary Worship Service

Join us for an exciting new contemporary worship service! Experience uplifting music and heartfelt messages in a welcoming environment. This is a great opportunity to connect with others and deepen your faith. Don't miss the chance to be part of this transformative journey. Bring your friends and family! Our next Contemporary Worship Service will be on **September 9th at 6:30 PM in the Gathering Place**. For more information, please visit: www.springbranchpres.org/contemporary-worship-service.

Sunday Morning Offerings at 9:30 am

Saints Under Construction: This class meets in Gathering Place Classroom No. 2. This discussion-oriented class focuses on what each of us can learn from the weekly Bible scriptures to build upon in strengthening our faith. Patti Nanney leads the class.

The Explorers: This class meets in the Conference Room in the Education Building. The class studies the Bible, book-by-book, using different translations which help the lively and thought-provoking discussions. Linda Crawford leads the class.

Children's Sunday School Class: This class meets in the Children's classroom in The Gathering Place on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month to learn more about the stories in the Bible by having crafts, stories, games, and other fun activities. The class is designed for elementary-age children, ages 5 to 10, but all are welcomed.

Calling All Youth: The Youth meet in the Youth Room for Bible Study, Fellowship, and Mission work with the Pastors. Meetings are at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Other volunteers for the program are Jordan Goodman, Carla Pace, and Riley Fairchild.



SBPC offers the option to give a gift to the church using your laptop or any mobile device. Please see the "Giving" card in your pew for details and information on how to support the missions and ministries of SBPC from anywhere at anytime, or visit www.springbranchpres.org/give.