

relationships matter 
GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD

Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Who's Who:

Minister: All Members of the Church
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Kevin Boyd
Administrator: Jorida Vakiari
Ministries Coordinator: C. Miguel Carlin
Administrative Assistant: Ethan Mitchell
Music Director: Gabriel Perez
Accompanist: Chip Colvin
AV Director: Ethan Mitchell
AV Technician: Ben Dethloff
Academy Director: Renee Henry

Ministry Teams:

Administration Leader: Jacquie Ballesteros
Congregation Leader: Kay Craig
Faith Development Leader:
Mission Leader: Liz Earnest
Worship Leader: Donald McDaniel
Treasurer: Neal Dikeman

The Session

Clerk: Elizabeth Powell

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Kevin Boyd

Class of 2023

Silvia Argyriou
Elizabeth Powell
Lu Taylor

Class of 2024

Charles Fairchild
Glenn Lanan
Donald McDaniel
Jennifer Miller

Class of 2025

Jacquie Ballesteros
Kathryn Dethloff
Stephen Earnest

Academy Board

Neal Dikeman
Sarah Dikeman

Laurie Mitchell
Jani Shepard

Carlette Boyd
Web Trevathan

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Marguerite Priest

Time For Young Disciples: Marguerite Priest

Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel

PowerPoint: Patti Nanney

e-mail: churchoffice@springbranchpres.org

website: www.springbranchpres.org

www.facebook.com/springbranchpres

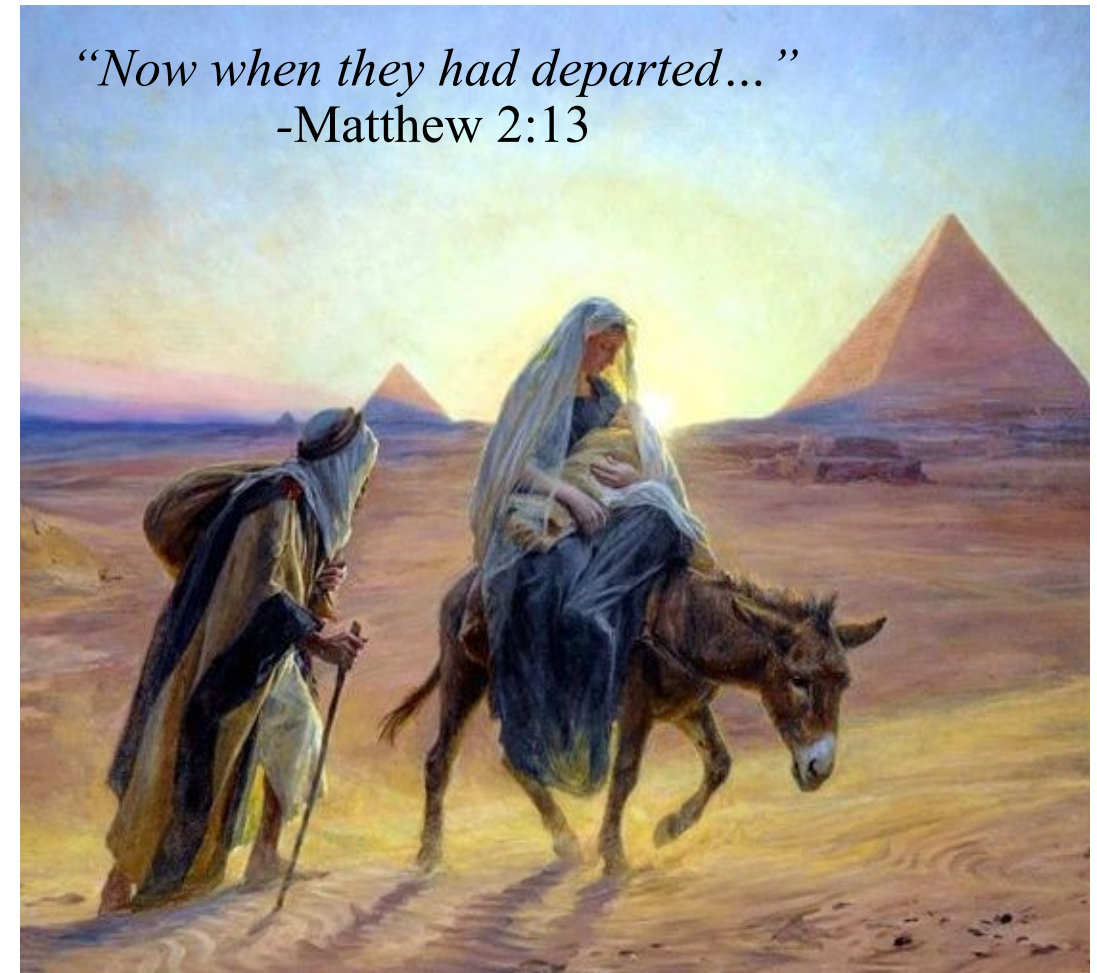
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM

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Houston, TX 77055

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“Now when they had departed...”
-Matthew 2:13

“Into This Mess”
January 1, 2023

First Sunday of Christmas

January 1, 2023

10:50 AM

**Those who are able please stand*

God's People Connect

WELCOME

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

PRELUDE

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS THE SANCTUARY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: People of the world, it is time to celebrate new beginnings.

People: We step into the new year with faith!

Leader: People of faith, it is time to look ahead in hope.

People: We step into the unknown with hope!

Leader: People of hope, it is time to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

People: We step forward together as God's family!

ALL: People of God, let us praise the Lord!

*HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

GTG, No. 133

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION *(from Psalm 139)*

Leader: The Lord has searched us and known us. Our God is always with us. Lord, try us and lead us in the everlasting way.

CONFESSION OF SIN *(unison)*

Father in Heaven, we come before you to confess our sins. We confess that we have turned the page in our calendar, but still haven't fully turned our hearts to you. We confess that we too often seek fulfillment in human potential, rather than in the peace, instruction, and new life you offer us. We confess that we would rather chart our own course than submit to your loving design. Gracious God, help us to remember that true life is found only in you. Give us courage to follow the radical path of Jesus in this New Year. Let us be lights that reflect your love and truth to our friends and neighbors, so that they may know that the power of sin has been broken. Let this be the year we seek your glory more than our own. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

January 1 — Sunday

New Years' Day

9:15 am Church Nursery

9:45 am Choir Practice

10:50 am Worship



January 2 — Monday

Church & Academy Closed

January 3 — Tuesday

9:15 am Congregational Care Meeting

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)

10:00 am Staff Meeting

11:00 am Pastors Bible Study (CR)

6:00 pm Basketball (GP)

6:00 pm PW Unwind: Cajun Town Café

6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1 & 2)

January 4 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Moderator (CR)

10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)

January 5 — Thursday

9:00 am Jessie's Bites* (Kitchen)

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)

6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

January 6 — Friday

Epiphany

9:00 am Jessie's Bites* (Kitchen)

January 7 — Saturday

7:30 am Soccer Shots* (Field)

6:00 pm CENTI Church* (GP)



January 8 — Sunday

Baptism of the Lord

9:15 am Church Nursery

9:30 am Sunday School

10:50 am Worship

12:15 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration

12:30 pm Un-Decorating the Sanctuary

January 9 — Monday

5:30 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)

6:00 pm Yoga (CR)

6:30 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos II (GP 1 & 2)

7:00 pm Horizon's Bible Study on Zoom

7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (S)

January 10 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)

10:00 am Staff Meeting

11:00 am Pastors Bible Study (CR)

6:00 pm Basketball (GP)

6:30 pm Fellowship Meeting (FH)

January 11 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Circle (CR)

11:00 am CPP Training (CR)

4:00 pm WOW (S)

5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3)

6:00 pm WNS: Chicken Pot Pie!

7:00 pm Choir Practice

January 12 — Thursday

9:00 am Jessie's Bites* (Kitchen)

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)

5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)

6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Bear (GP 1)

6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

January 13 — Friday

9:00 am Jessie's Bites* (Kitchen)

6:00 pm SBM Arc Meeting* (CR)

January 14 — Saturday

6:00 pm CENTI Church* (GP)

Announcements & Events:

PW Unwind—Please join us for Unwind in the new year at Cajun Town Café, located at 6476 West Little York, Houston, TX 77091. We will meet on **TUESDAY**, January 3rd, instead of Monday, as Monday is being observed as a holiday in most of the city. RSVP only if you plan to attend to Jacquie at jballesteros1103@gmail.com.

The Children's Sunday School Class will meet on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays in January, 1/8 and 1/15. We hope that you can join us!

Un-Decorating the Sanctuary: The Worship Team is seeking volunteers to help remove the Greens from the Sanctuary on January 8, 2023, immediately after the Worship Service. As usual, many hands make for light work. Pizza will be provided for volunteers before work is started. So that lunch can be planned, please contact Donald McDaniel at dmcdan77007@sbcglobal.net or 713-294-4005 to sign up.

The 2023 Offering Envelope Books are now available in the Narthex. Please sign your name by the number that corresponds to your book number. If you already have a book of offering envelopes, you can continue to use it since it doesn't correspond to specific dates. Thank you for your continued commitment!

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? **The 2023 Flowers 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 Box on Sunday mornings.

You are invited to attend Pastor's Bible Study with Kevin. The group gathers at 11:00 AM on Tuesday mornings. The Bible Study will continue to be offered both in-person and virtually. You may either join in-person at 11:00 AM in the Conference Room, or by Zoom using the instructions that appear in the Friday emails and monthly edition of the PresPress. We hope to see you there!

Wednesday Night Supper will resume on Wednesday, January 11th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We hope you can join us then!

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, January 11th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Please contact Patti Nanney if you'd like to attend via Zoom. The **Evening Bible Study** will meet on Monday, January 9th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah or Ashley Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 5 video is available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/celebrating-sabbath.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Lamentations 3:23)

Leader: Hear the good news! The compassions of the Lord are new this and every morning. Friends, believe the good news.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

GTG, No. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Marguerite Priest

God's People Are Empowered

ANTHEM

"Coventry Carol"

Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

O God of Truth, shine the light of Bethlehem on us. As we listen to the story of the persecution of the Christ Child, may our hearts be filled with wonder and awe. As they were guided by angels, teach us, also, always to listen for your voice. Amen.

*HYMN

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

GTG, No. 143

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:13-23

Red Pew Bible NT 2

SERMON

"Into This Mess"
"Now when they had departed..." -Matthew 2:13

Rev. Dr. Kevin R. Boyd

Responding to the Word

*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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

GTG, No. 606

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 DEDICATION** (unison)

Gracious Lord, today is a brand new day, a brand new year, and chance for a new start. Help us to start the new year off by giving thanks well, and by being generous disciples. We thank you for a new year filled with opportunities to love, to give, and to be all that you want us to be. Amen.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

- The Invitation**
- Sharing of Prayer Concerns**
- Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer**
- The Words of Institution**
- Prayer of Thanksgiving**
- Breaking of the Bread**
- Serving of the Elements**
- Prayer After Receiving**

Departing to Serve

***HYMN**

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

GTG, No. 151

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***OUR RESPONSE**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (v. 1)

GTG, No. 133

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
 O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
 Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
 O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
 O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!*

***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 Boyd, 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.

Worship 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 Ducks classroom, Room 121, past the Church Offices.

Sunday Morning Offerings at 9:30 am

Saints Under Construction: This class meets in the Education Building in the Parlor. 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.

Sunday School on Zoom! Taught and hosted by Jim Kunkel on Zoom, but subjects are in response to suggestions and topics from the members. Recent classes have been about 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel, women in the Old Testament, prayer, and immigration. Class is at 9:40 on Sunday mornings. Everyone is invited to join at any time for any period of time—just contact Jim for a zoom invite.

Other Faith Development Opportunities: Watch the monthly PresPress, weekly church-wide emails, and the worship bulletin for other opportunities throughout the year. It may be a short-term Special Topic or book discussions on Sunday mornings, a week night book study, or retreat.

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.