

relationships matter

GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Who's Who:

Minister: All Members of the Church
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: Kathryn Dethloff
Mission Leader: Liz Earnest
Worship Leader: Donald McDaniel
Treasurer: Neal Dikeman

The Session

Clerk: Elizabeth Powell

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

Jim Kunkel
Web Trevathan

Serving today in Worship:

Guest Pastor: Rev. Barbara Retzloff
Liturgist: Donald McDaniel
Time For Young Disciples: Patti Nanney
Usher Captain: Marguerite Priest
PowerPoint: Patty Blome
Guest Accompanist: Jonathan Craft

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“The Story Goes On”
May 21, 2023

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2023

10:50 AM

*Those who are able please stand

God's People Connect

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

(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: Come, let us worship the Lord!

People: Let us bow before our God who is able to strengthen us through His Holy Spirit!

Leader: Come, let us seek our God who shows us how wide and high and deep is the love of Christ!

People: Let us open ourselves to the fullness of Christ's love!

Leader: Come, let us declare his wonder and power!

People: Let us watch for our Lord to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.

ALL: Come, let us give glory to Him in the church and throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen!

***HYMN**

"He Is Exalted"

LUYH, No. 33

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN *(unison)*

Lord Jesus, you have shown us how wide and high and deep your love is through your life, death, and resurrection. You remind us over and over again of your promised Holy Spirit and the coming Kingdom of God among us. And yet, we live small lives, focused on petty arguments and miniscule differences. We draw dividing lines and ignore the power of your presence; we pick fights and forget your command to forgive; we point fingers and blame and refuse to look at our own hearts. Lord Jesus, open our eyes to see the truth of our lives... open our souls to the fullness of your love... speak once again of your forgiveness and power to make new. Hear us now as we bow silently before you...

SILENT CONFESSION

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

May 21 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Choir Practice
- 10:50 am Worship
- 4:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)

May 22 — Monday

- 6:00 pm Yoga (CR)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

May 23 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1 & 2)
- 6:40 pm Elder Training (CR)
- 7:00 pm Session (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

May 24 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am Happy Hands (CR)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Grilled Chopped Steak Patties!

May 25 — Thursday

- 9:00 am Jessie's Bites* (Kitchen)
- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Yoga (CR)
- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Bear (GP 1)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

May 26 — Friday

Academy Closed (Teacher Work Day)

- 9:00 am Jessie's Bites* (Kitchen)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

May 27 — Saturday

- 8:00 am Presbyterian Men (CR)
- 11:00 am Hot Meals
- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

May 28 — Pentecost Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Choir Practice
- 10:50 am Worship

May 29 — Monday

Church & Academy Closed



May 30 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

May 31 — Wednesday

June 1 — Thursday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Yoga (CR)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

June 2 — Friday

- 5:45 pm Family Movie Night (GP)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

June 3 — 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

Announcements & Events:

Returning as our Guest Pastor this morning is Rev. Barbara Retzloff! Barbara has had the incredible privilege of serving God's people in many different roles over the past 35 years. After graduating from Texas A & M, she attended the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, VA where she received her MA in Christian Education. She then returned to Houston and served two churches, St. Thomas and Pines Presbyterian, working with children, youth, and adults. During that time, she received her certification as a Christian Educator and was trained as a spiritual director. In 2005, she felt God tugging on her heart once again and calling her to go deeper in pastoral ministry. She entered Fuller Theological Seminary as a part-time student and eight years later, graduated with her Master of Divinity. After graduation, Pines Presbyterian Church called Barbara to be their associate pastor and she was ordained on November 25, 2012. During her time there, she served in the areas of adult education, women's ministry, Stephen Ministry, worship, and pastoral care. Barbara left Pines in February of 2020 after 31 years to give more time and care to her family and aging parents. Barbara and her husband, Steve, have a blended family of five children, and find great joy serving the Lord together. They also enjoy time with their children, playing golf, and traveling.

The Flowers for this morning are given by Marguerite Priest, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of graduates and the end of the school year.

Happy Hands will meet this Wednesday, May 24th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Hope you can join us then. If you have any questions, please contact Doris Wright.

Join us for our final Wednesday Night Supper of the school year this Wednesday, May 24th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Kay and Betty are making Grilled Chopped Steak Patties with your choice of toppings: gravy, sautéed mushrooms, sautéed onions, grated cheddar cheese, diced tomatoes, and more. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Our Mission Team is inviting members and friends to help us partner with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to help with the ongoing needs of the people of Syria and Turkey as they rebuild from a 7.8 magnitude earthquake. We will be collecting a special offering from May 14th—June 11th to be sent to PDA. We invite you to learn more by visiting here: <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/turkey-syria-earthquake/>. Donations can be made payable to the church with "Syria-Turkey Offering" in the memo line. We thank you for your support and prayers for this important cause.

Family Movie Night - It's time for some fellowship! SBPC is hosting a family movie night in the Gathering Place on Friday, June 2nd at 5:45 PM. There will be 2 showings that night: *Bluey* at 5:45 PM, followed by *How to Train Your Dragon* at 6:15 PM. Pizza, Veggies, Cookies, Lemonade, and Water will be provided. Bring blankets and camping chairs. We hope to see you there!

Save-the-Date for Vacation Bible School! VBS will be held June 13th-16th from 9:00 AM-11:30 AM in the Gathering Place. A time of music, worship, crafts, recreation, and fellowship is being planned. We welcome any individuals that would like to participate or volunteer to please let Miguel know in the church office. Registration forms can be accessed here: www.springbranchpres.org/vbs.

We will be starting children's chimes this summer! This is a chance for elementary aged children to get to ring chimes as part of Worship. We will have some exploratory sessions this summer on the second Sunday of every month at 9:30 (June 11, July 9, and August 13th). Starting in September, we will meet the second and fourth Sunday each month during the Sunday School hour (these are the Sundays that do not have children's Sunday School). We are so excited to start up this new adventure! Please contact Megan Hogg (megan1661@yahoo.com) for additional details.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Scripture tells us that God hears our cries; that He frees us from sin, that He comes into our brokenness so that we may be made whole.

ALL: Jesus Christ is here, forgiving, freeing, making us new. In Christ, we are forgiven! Amen!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

***GLORIA** "Great Are You, Lord" GTG, No. 614

*Great are you, Lord: you are holy and just; by your power we trust in your love.
Great are you, Lord: you are faithful and true; by your mercy you prove you are love.
Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise!
Great are you, Lord. We lift up our voice; we lift up our voice:
Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!*

God's People Are Empowered

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Patti Nanney

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

Gracious God, would you meet us in this place, would you soften our hearts to hear your heart, would you strengthen our souls to live in the fullness of your presence, would you speak now that we may hear your Word for us. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON John 15:26-27, 16:7-14 Red Pew Bible NT 110

ANTHEM "An Old Irish Blessing" Choir
In Honor of Chip Colvin

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 1:1-14 Red Pew Bible NT 118

SERMON "The Story Goes On" Rev. Barbara Retzloff

Responding to the Word

***HYMN** "O Jesus, I Have Promised" GTG, No. 724

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

*OUR RESPONSE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

GTG, No. 643

*Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

GTG, No. 541

*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 the Pastor, 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 Sanctuary in the Garden Room. 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.

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.