



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: Jonathan Craft
 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

Moderator: Rev. Andy Gans (Pines PC)

Class of 2024

Charles Fairchild
 Glenn Lanan
 Donald McDaniel
 Jennifer Miller

Class of 2025

Jacquie Ballesteros
 Kathryn Dethloff
 Stephen Earnest

Class of 2026

Kay Craig
 Sarah Dikeman
 Ethan Mitchell

Academy Board

Laurie Mitchell
 Jani Shepard

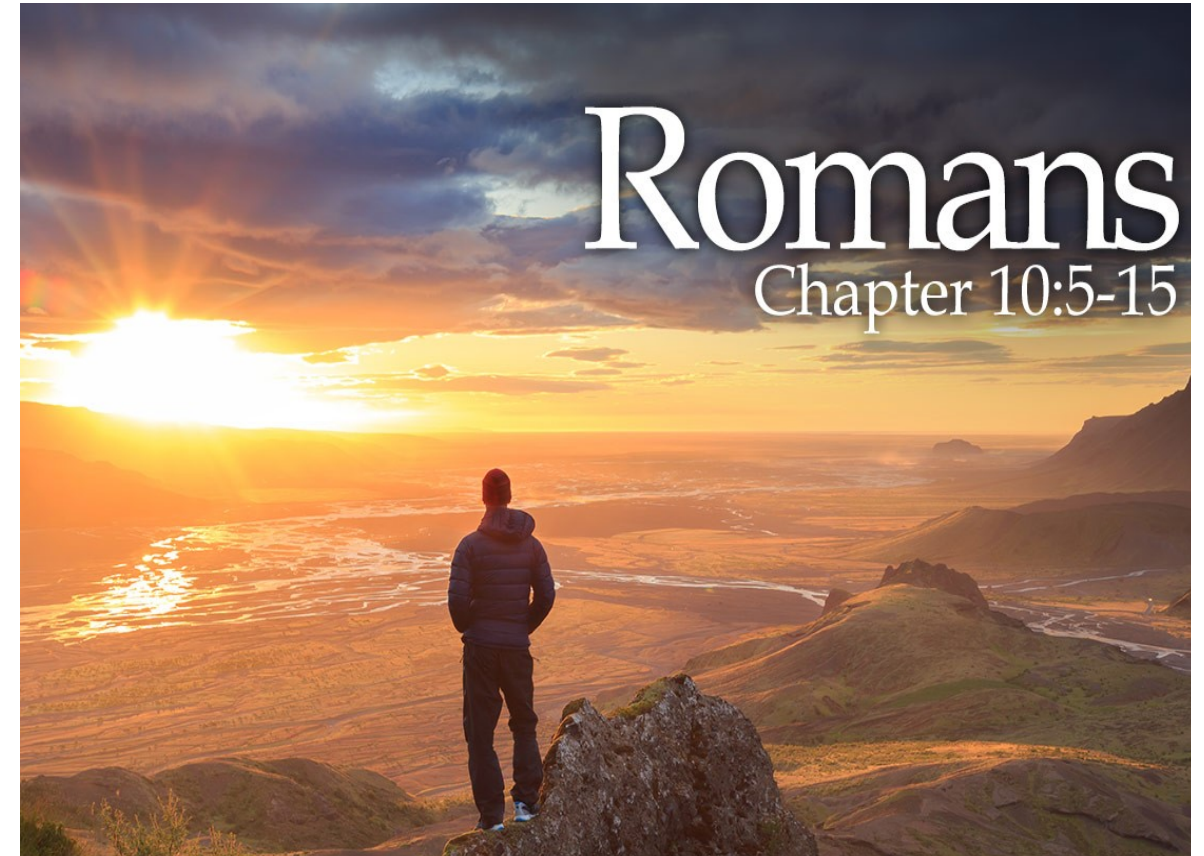
Jim Kunkel
 Web Trevathan

Neal Dikeman
 Ashley Powell

Serving today in Worship:

Guest Pastor: Rev. Tamika Nelson
Liturgist: Miguel Carlin
Time For Young Disciples: Miguel Carlin
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-4:30 PM
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Houston, TX 77055
713-464-7659



“Why the Heart”
 August 13, 2023

August 13, 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** *(from Psalm 2)*

Leader: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

People: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?

Leader: These things I remember as I pour out my soul:

People: How I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

Leader: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

ALL: Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

***HYMN**

"As the Deer"

GTG, No. 626

Preparing for the Word

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: In the presence of Almighty God and before one another, let us confess our sin and the things that hinder us in leading faithful lives as God's people.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Based on Psalm 69:1-3; Matthew 14; Hebrews 12:1-2)*

Save us, O God, for the waters have come up to our necks. We sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold; we have come into deep waters, and the floods sweep over us. We are weary; our throats are parched. Our eyes grow dim with waiting for our God. Gracious God, forgive us for taking our eyes off Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. When the storms of life swirl around us, we forget your unfailing goodness and power to save us. When we hear Jesus say, "Come," we make excuses about why it is too hard to follow him, especially when the way seems dangerous and challenging. Forgive our sins, Lord, and help us to step out in faith. Be merciful to us when we cry out, "We believe; help our unbelief!" In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

August 13 — Sunday

Blessing of the Backpacks

9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Children's Chime Choir
9:45 am Choir Practice
10:50 am Worship
12:00 pm Called Congregational Meeting
12:15 pm PW Welcoming Luncheon (FH)

August 14 — Monday

Academy Closed (Teacher Workday)

5:00 pm Faith Development Meeting (CR)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

August 15 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
10:00 am Staff Meeting (P)
5:00 pm Cribbage (CR)
5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce Ball* (Field)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

August 16 — Wednesday

12:00 pm CUPS Board Meeting (CR)

August 17 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce Ball* (Field)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

August 18 — Friday

7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

August 19 — Saturday

8:00 am Presbyterian Men (CR)
10:00 am PW Overview (virtual)
10:00 am Cub Scouts 552 Recruitment Event
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

August 20 — Sunday

PresPress Articles Due

9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:45 am Choir Practice
10:50 am Worship
12:30 pm Choir Luncheon
4:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)

August 21 — Monday

10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

August 22 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce Ball* (Field)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1 & 2)
7:00 pm Session (CR)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

August 23 — Wednesday

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

August 24 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce Ball* (Field)
6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Bear (GP 1)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

August 25 — Friday

6:30 pm SBM Arc Meeting* (FH)
7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

August 26 — Saturday

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



Announcements & Events:

Our Guest Pastor this morning is Rev. Tamika Nelson! Rev. Tamika Nelson serves as the Executive Director of the United Campus Ministry of Greater Houston. She is an ordained minister within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denomination. Tamika served as the Family Minister of Cypress Creek Christian Church for nearly eight years. Before Cypress Creek, she served as the Executive Lay Minister of Covenant Glen United Methodist Church, where she was responsible for training clergy and laity, and strategic planning for all interior ministries and 3500 members plus congregation. Before ministry, Tamika was a quality assurance and training professional within the corporate sector. She holds a Master of Divinity from Chicago Theological Seminary, and Bachelor of Science in Sociology from the University of Houston-Downtown, and an Associate of Science from Lon Morris College. Her most important ministry is her family as the wife to Aaron Nelson Jr, and the mother of high schoolers Simone Marie and Aaron III.

The Flowers for this morning are given by Matt and Sarah Dikeman, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary.

Called Congregational Meeting — There will be a called congregational meeting immediately following Worship today. The purpose of the meeting is to hear a report from the Pastor Nominating Committee regarding the Call of a Co-Pastor for Spring Branch Presbyterian Church.

Join us for the Annual PW Welcoming Luncheon today from 12:15-2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall! You are invited to bring your mothers, grandmothers, daughters, and granddaughters to join us for a lovely luncheon. We will be serving Quiche, Gazpacho, Assorted Tea Sandwiches, Salad, and Dessert Goodies. We will be entertained by the *Spa Girls*, a comedy group that performed at the recent Presbytery PW Lunch. We will also have the introduction to our new Bible Study for the coming year.

MAM Back to School Uniform Voucher Drive – During the month of August, SBPC will be collecting funds 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. MAM's 2023 goal is to provide \$50 uniform vouchers to 3,000 children. Donations can be placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, or mailed to the church office. We also welcome online donations, which can be given here: givebutter.com/mambacktoschool/springbranchpresbyterianchurch1.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! Handbells are making a return! If you are interested in participating, please email musicdirector@springbranchpres.org. The Choir has resumed meeting and we are looking for some new members to join us! If you are interested in participating, please email musicdirector@springbranchpres.org.

There will be a **virtual** overview via Zoom held on **Saturday, August 19**, from 10am to noon. You may email Patti Nanney at pananney@sbcglobal.net to receive Zoom link via email. All overviews will be presented by Patti Nanney, R.E., Spring Branch Presbyterian Church. It will be helpful if you bring your copy of the Bible study to the overview.

Would you like to learn more about Cub Scouts and how to join? Our Cub Scout Pack 552 is hosting a recruitment event on Saturday, August 19th, at 10:00 AM at the Bowlero at 925 Bunker Hill, 77024. The event is free for all current and prospective scouts. Prospective scouts should email Cubmaster, Scott Tackett at pack552houston@gmail.com to RSVP.

Save-the-Date for Wednesday Night Suppers to resume on August 30th at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be having Hamburgers with all of the trimmings and mac and cheese. The Academy Open House will be beforehand at 5:00 PM. Come learn more about our primary mission! We hope to see you there!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from "How Firm a Foundation")

Leader: Hear these words of assurance:

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow,
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless
And sanctify to you your deepest distress."
Friends, hear and believe the good news:

People: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GLORIA

"To God Be the Glory" (v. 1)

GTG, No. 634

*To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!*

God's People Are Empowered

MOMENT FOR MISSION

United Campus Ministry of Greater Houston

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Miguel Carlin

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

How firm a foundation is laid for our faith in your excellent Word, O Lord! As we hear your Word read and proclaimed today, may our faith be strengthened that we may step out in faith and follow our Lord Jesus where he leads us. Amen.

ANTHEM

"In Christ Alone"

Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 10:5-15

Red Pew Bible NT 160

SERMON

"Why the Heart"

Rev. Tamika Nelson

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

"He Is Lord"

LUYH, No. 150

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(unison)*

(from A Declaration of Faith)

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives in pilgrimage toward God’s kingdom. Like Christ we may enjoy on our journey all that sustains life and makes it pleasant and beautiful. No more than Christ are we spared the darkness, ambiguity, and threat of life in the world. We are in the world, but not of the world. Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world, but in the coming and hidden presence of God’s kingdom. Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he has served us; to take up our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipleship; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen. Amen.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Leader: In grateful response to all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ, let us continue our worship as we present our tithes and offerings.

OFFERTORY

***OUR RESPONSE** *“Now Thank We All Our God”* (v. 3) GTG, No. 643

*All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison)*

Lord Jesus, you call us to follow you in faith and promise to provide us everything we need for ministry in your name. Bless these gifts we bring, that we may use them faithfully to share the good news of your love and mercy. In your holy name we pray. 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** *“Here I Am, Lord”* GTG, No. 69

***BENEDICTION** *(1 Peter 2:5)*

Leader: Come to him, a living stone, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. Amen.

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

***POSTLUDE**

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Portions of today’s service are taken from the Liturgies of Philip K. Gladden, Presbyterian Outlook.

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 122, past the Church Offices.



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.