

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: 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. Wilma Harris
Liturgist: Web Trevathan
Children's Moment: Patti Nanney
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Ethan Mitchell

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***“What Does Caesarea Philippi
Have to Do with it?”***
August 27, 2023

**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 138)*

Leader: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,

People: for they have heard the words of your mouth.

Leader: They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,

People: for great is the glory of the Lord.

ALL: For though the Lord is high; he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

***HYMN**

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

GTG, No. 700

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION *(Adapted from the Book of Common Worship)*

Leader: The grace of the Lord overflows for us through Jesus Christ who came into the world to save sinners. When we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

People: We trust God's grace as together we confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)* *(Book of Common Worship)*

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us, heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents for your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(Book of Common Worship)*

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen!

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

August 27 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Choir Practice
- 10:50 am Worship
- 12:15 pm Ambassador Group (CR)

August 28 — Monday

- 6:00 pm Yoga (CR)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)
- 7:00 pm BSA Parent Meeting (GP)

August 29 — Tuesday

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

August 30 — Wednesday

- 5:00 pm Academy Open House
- 5:30 pm WNS: Hamburgers!

August 31 — Thursday

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

September 1 — Friday

- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

September 2 — 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

September 3 — Sunday

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

**September 4 — Monday
Church & Academy Closed**



September 5 — Tuesday

- 9:15 am Congregational Care Meeting (GP)
- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce Ball* (Field)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 6:00 pm PW Unwind Group: Low Tide!
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

September 6 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am PW Moderator (CR)
- 10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Taco Casserole!

September 7 — Thursday

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

September 8 — Friday

- 5:45 pm Family Movie Night (GP)
- 6:00 pm SBM Arc Meeting* (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

September 9 — Saturday

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



Announcements & Events:

Our Guest Pastor this morning is Rev. Wilma Harris! Rev. Wilma Harris is an honorably retired Presbyterian (PCUSA) minister. She is a native of Ohio and a graduate of New Brunswick (NJ) Theological Seminary, where she earned degrees in theology and divinity. Wilma is a resident of Fulshear, TX, a widow, and a great grandmother. She has dedicated herself to Interim Ministry for the past eight years and served as Interim Minister at local churches in Brazoria, Bay City and Houston (St. Thomas). She enjoys spending time with family, quilting, gardening, hiking, and long walks on the beaches at Padre Island.

The Flowers for this morning are given by Lu Taylor, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of Jim's birthday.

MAM Back to School Uniform Voucher Drive – During the month of August, SBPC is 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.

Please join us for our first Wednesday Night Supper of the school year, this Wednesday, August 30th in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner service will be from 5:30-6:30 PM. On the menu is Hamburgers and Mac & Cheese! It's also the Academy Open House, beginning at 5:00 PM. Come learn more about our primary mission of the Church! Following dinner, come out to our brand new playground for a sweet ice cream treat. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

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.

The Unwind Group will be meeting for dinner on September 5th, at 6:00 PM at the Low Tide Kitchen & Bar (2030A Bingle Road, Houston, TX, 77055). Please note that this a Tuesday as the first Monday is the Labor Day holiday. As usual, please RSVP to Jacquie Ballesteros, only if you plan to attend. Low Tide has been voted Best New Restaurant! We hope to see you there.

The FairBees Square Dance Club is hosting a free Square Dance Fun Night on Thursday, September 7th from 7:30-9:30 PM in the Gathering Place. This is a chance to come see what square dancing is all about and try a little, with no obligation or cost! Come experience how much fun it can be. Weekly lessons begin on September 14th from 7:00-8:00 PM in the Gathering Place.

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 13th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Please contact Patti Nanney if you'd like to attend via Zoom. A salad Luncheon will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a salad to share. The **Evening Bible Study** will meet on Monday, September 11th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah or Ashley Powell if you are interested in attending. The Introduction & Lesson 1 videos are available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/sacred-encounters.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

***GLORIA** "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (v. 1, 5) GTG, No. 610

*O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!*

*To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.*

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Patti Nanney

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*) (*Book of Common Worship*)
Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ the bread of heaven. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Romans 12:1-8 Red Pew Bible NT 161

ANTHEM "Amazing Grace" Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 16:13-20 Red Pew Bible NT 18

SERMON "What Does Caesarea Philippi Have to Do with it?"
Rev. Wilma Harris

Responding to the Word

***HYMN** "The Church's One Foundation" GTG, No. 321

***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

"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)*

Gracious God, you are the giver of all good gifts. You have given us life and breath, love and spirit. Bless the humble offerings that we bring. Multiply them and use them to further the building of your kingdom here on earth, for we pray this in Jesus' name. 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

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

GTG, No. 353

*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.