



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Who's Who:

Minister: All Members of the Church
Pastor: Rev. Mark Plunkett
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. Mark Plunkett

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:

Liturgist: Miguel Carlin
Children's Moment: Miguel Carlin
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Patty Blome

e-mail: churchoffice@springbranchpres.org
website: www.springbranchpres.org
www.facebook.com/springbranchpres
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
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Houston, TX 77055
713-464-7659



“The Grumblers”
September 24, 2023

September 24, 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: Gracious Creator, you shower us with life anew each day.
ALL: Risen Christ, your love beckons us to become your people.
Leader: Holy Spirit, you call us forth to shine with your light.
ALL: Alleluia! We worship as we live, in gratitude and praise! Alleluia!

*HYMN “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” GTG, No. 65

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: In the desert a subtle mystery: manna for nourishment. In the wilderness of our prayer, may we gather the manna we seek today, and lift up each other in this time of shared support.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of mercy, we confess that we have distrusted your providence and sought life elsewhere when we should have turned to you. We have feared for ourselves and held onto things when we should have shared. Forgive our sin, heal our fear, and wash us clean. Start us anew, remade by your grace, hungry for you alone, and ready to receive and to share your love in the name of Christ and the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Our Lord waits for us, eager to welcome us back, embrace us, and hold us close. Our Lord forgives us and loves us. The Good News is for us today! Alleluia!

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

September 24 — Sunday

9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)
10:30 am Called Session Meeting (CR)
10:50 am Worship
12:15 pm FD Coffee & Conversations (CR)
12:15 pm Personnel Meeting (L)
2:00 pm Sunday Craft Workshop (FH)

September 25 — Monday

6:00 pm Yoga (CR)
6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
6:30 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos II (GP 1 & 2)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

September 26 — Tuesday
Academy Picture Day (Parlor)

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
10:00 am Staff Meeting (Pastor’s Office)
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)

September 27 — Wednesday
Academy Picture Day (Parlor)

9:30 am Happy Hands (CR)
3:30 pm WOW (S)
5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3)
6:00 pm WNS: Pork Tenderloin!

September 28 — 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)
6:00 pm Summerhouse Parent Meeting* (FH)

September 29 — Friday
Families with Young Children Retreat

7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

September 30 — Saturday
Families with Young Children Retreat

6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

October 1 — World Communion Sunday
Families with Young Children Retreat

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

October 2 — Monday

6:00 pm PW Unwind: Niko Niko’s!
6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)
7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting

October 3 — Tuesday

9:15 am Congregational Care Meeting (GP 2)
10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce Ball* (Field)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

October 4 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Moderator (CR)
10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
3:30 pm WOW (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Sausage and Peppers!

October 5 — Thursday

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

October 6 — Friday

7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

October 7 — 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:

The Faith Development Team will be hosting a listening session for our SBPC family to share your thoughts and ideas on the types of programs you would like to see our team develop over the next year. *Coffee & Conversations* will be held immediately after Worship in the Conference Room today, Sunday, September 24th. Please stay and share your thoughts.

Sunday Craft Workshop — Our next fun Craft Workshop is this afternoon from 2:00-4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be making fall-themed décor. One is a centerpiece for a table, and the other three hang on a wall or door. We hope that you will join us!

We would like for everyone to start wearing their nametags on Sunday mornings. If yours has run away or is looking a little ragged, please see Linda Crawford and she will make a new one for you.

Happy Hands will meet this Wednesday, September 27th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. As we get closer to fall, we know that there will be a need for winter hats and scarves. We are certain that hats for elementary kids will be in demand. If you'd like to make some hats and scarves and need yarn, please let Doris Wright know. She can get some for you. We hope to see you at Happy Hands! It's always a great time for visiting and making something special for others.

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, September 27th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Jim Kunkel and Lu Taylor are making Pork Tenderloin. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

The Fair Haven Food Pantry is in desperate need of plastic grocery bags. Donations may be brought to the Church Office any day of the week, or to the Fellowship Hall at Wednesday Night Suppers. The pantry has started to purchase bags to meet their current needs.

There will be no Children's Sunday School next Sunday, October 1st. Please join us when we resume on Sunday, October 15th at 9:30 AM in the Gathering Place!

The Unwind Group is meeting for dinner at 6:00 PM on October 2nd at Niko Niko's (1040 W. Sam Houston Parkway N. 77043). Hopefully we can sit outside! Please RSVP to Jacquie Ballesteros at 713-305-1114 or jballesteros1103@gmail.com only if you are attending. See you there!

During the month of October we're having a Diaper Drive to benefit the Mission of Yahweh. They are in need of Newborn to 5 Toddler diapers for boys and girls. Donations may be brought to the church throughout the month of October.

We have a church-wide retreat in the works for March 14th-17th at Mo-Ranch in Hunt, TX! This is spring break week, so we're hopeful that we can have a big group go - including our families! This retreat will be Thursday-Sunday, with the option to stay with a small group into Monday. There will be lots of time for spiritual development, fellowship, recreation, worship, and good food! The total cost per person is \$185 for adults and \$120 for kids, for 3 nights, including all meals. We are asking those who would like to attend to please complete the registration form, reserve your room to secure the space you'd like, and pay \$75/person to the church. Copies of the registration form are available in the Narthex and in the Friday email. We hope that you will join us!

The Academy is hosting a Spooktacular Trunk or Treat in the parking lot on Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30-6:30 PM. Church members are encouraged to attend and sponsor a Trunk or Treat vehicle. Copies of the registration form are available in the Narthex and in the Friday email. Please submit forms to the Academy office by October 2nd. Please email questions to academy@springbranchpres.org.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GLORIA	<i>"God's Love Made Visible"</i>	LUYH, No. 140
<i>God's love made visible! Incomprehensible! He is invincible! His love shall reign! From love so bountiful, blessings uncountable, make death surmountable! His love shall reign! Joyfully pray for peace and good will. All of our yearning he will fulfill. Live in a loving way. Praise him for ev'ry day. Open your hearts and pray. His love shall reign!</i>		

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT	Miguel Carlin
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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*
Holy One, in your grace you give us all that we need, each moment, each day, to live as your beloved ones. Grant that we may always be mindful of your Spirit and your Word, alive in us and in all. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON	Exodus 16:2-25	Red Pew Bible OT 62
ANTHEM	<i>"Hand in Hand"</i>	Choir
SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON	Matthew 20:1-16	Red Pew Bible NT 21
SERMON	<i>"The Grumblers"</i>	Rev. Mark Plunkett

Responding to the Word

*HYMN	<i>"Make Me a Servant"</i>	(insert)
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***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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS	Lauren and Mario Tacchi
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We welcome you as new friends in the faith. We welcome you as members of the Body of Christ. We offer ourselves to you in the hope that you will find in this congregation warm fellowship and encouragement to your faith. We join hands with you, in order that we may share gladly with you, discipleship. Welcome to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY

Joan Belk, Piano
Jonathan Craft, Organ

*OUR RESPONSE

GTG, No. 35

*Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.*

Gracious God, we thank you for the mystery that you give yourself to us. You feed us with the mystery of your grace, sustaining us every day. You who fill us with love, fill us also with trust and gratitude, that we may live in peace, serve with joy, and share with the confidence of your children, in the name of Christ and the power of your Spirit, Amen.

SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS

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**

GTG, No. 435

***BENEDICTION**

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

*POSTLUDE

Portions of today's worship service are from unfoldinglight.com.

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, 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: 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.

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.

Children's Chime Choir: The Chime Choir meets in the Sanctuary on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. This is a chance for elementary aged children to get to ring chimes as part of Worship. We are excited to continue this new adventure! Megan Hogg leads the Chime Choir.

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.