

relationships matter

GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD



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:
 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: Jan Fitts
Children's Moment: Jan Fitts
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Ethan Mitchell

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“Picky, Picky, Picky”
 October 29, 2023

22nd Sunday After Pentecost

October 29, 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.)

A MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Liz Earnest

PRELUDE

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS THE SANCTUARY

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Our hearts are lifted up toward God.

People: God created all that exists!

Leader: We celebrate that great love of God.

People: God gifted us with God's only son, Jesus the Christ.

Leader: Rejoice and be glad today!

ALL: Our hearts and spirits praise God for all God's blessings. Amen.

***HYMN**

"More Like You"

(insert)

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Sisters and brothers, Jesus repeated perfectly the words about love from the ancient Law. We come before God this morning aware that we have fallen short of what God desires of us. We have not loved God with all our heart and soul and mind, nor have we loved our neighbours as we love ourselves. So let us come before God to confess where we have failed, and to seek God's forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Merciful God, it isn't easy for us to follow the commandments of loving. Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God and to love our neighbors. But we have allowed misunderstanding, fear, hatred, and prejudice to cloud our spirits, turning them away from those who need our love. We place a test before you, asking that you prove your love to us, or we threaten not to believe in you. Please forgive us for this foolishness and stubbornness. Give us the courage to be people who will care for others. Let us dedicate our lives in your service, always aware of your awesome love for us. This we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

October 29 — Reformation Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- 10:50 am Worship
- 3:00 pm Installation Service: Mark Plunkett

October 30 — Monday

- 9:30 am TGP Planning Meeting (CR)
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Recruiting Event
- 7:00 pm Session (CR)

October 31 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 5:30 pm Trunk or Treat (Parking Lot)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)



November 1 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am PW Moderator (CR)
- 10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Chicken Pot Pie!
- 6:45 pm Stewardship Presentation (CR)

November 2 — Thursday

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

November 3 — Friday

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

November 4 — Saturday

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

November 5 — Sunday

- Daylight Savings Time Ends**
- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children's Sunday School (GP 3)
- 9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- 10:50 am Worship
- 4:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)

November 6 — Monday

- Book Fair Week**
- 7:00 am Meet the Pastor (Foyer)
- 6:00 pm PW Unwind: Juarez!
- 6:00 pm PNC Meeting (CR)
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (P)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

November 7 — Tuesday

- Book Fair Week**
- 9:15 am Congregational Care Meeting (GP 2)
- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

November 8 — Wednesday

- Book Fair Week**
- 9:30 am PW Circle (CR)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Cranberry Chicken!
- 6:45 pm Stewardship Presentation (CR)

November 9 — Thursday

- Book Fair Week**
- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Bear (GP 1)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

November 10 — Friday

- Book Fair Week**
- Girl Scouts Campout**
- 6:00 pm SBM Arc Meeting* (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

November 11 — Saturday

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



Announcements & Events:

The Flowers for this morning are given by Lee Dudinsky, to the Glory of God, and are in honor of Austin Holland's birthday.

Please join us as we celebrate the Installation of Rev. Mark Alan Plunkett as Co-Pastor of SBPC!
The service will be today at 3:00 PM in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow. We look forward to seeing you there!

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. Please submit forms to the Academy office. Please email questions to academy@springbranchpres.org.

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.

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, November 1st, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Jennifer Miller is making Chicken Pot Pies! Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 5th. Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday night!

The Unwind Group is meeting for dinner on Monday, November 6th, at 6:00 PM at Juarez Mexican Restaurant (4145 Gessner Rd). They have moved locations! Please RSVP only if you plan to attend to Jacque Ballesteros at 713-305-1114.

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 8th, 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, November 13th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah or Ashley Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 3 video is available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/sacred-encounters.

Did you enjoy our Mr. Magic Idea Spring Event? Well you're in luck, the next one is just around the corner! **Join us for Mad Science on November 16th at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.** A free dinner will follow. We look forward to seeing you there!

We are looking for Acolytes to help with the lighting of the candles on Sunday mornings. Please let Marguerite Priest know if there are certain Sundays that your kids can serve. We are especially hopeful that we can have Acolytes for every Sunday in Advent.

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. Please see Ethan Mitchell for any questions. We hope that you will join us!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Though our hearts were hardened to the needs of others, God has touched them with God's compassionate care, healing our wounds, and giving courage and strength to our souls. Be assured that God's love is poured out for you and rejoice! Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GLORIA

"Glorify Thy Name"

*Father, we love you, we worship and adore you, glorify thy name in all the earth.
Glorify thy name, glorify thy name, glorify thy name in all the earth.*

*Jesus, we love you, we worship and adore you, glorify thy name in all the earth.
Glorify thy name, glorify thy name, glorify thy name in all the earth.*

*Spirit, we love you, we worship and adore you, glorify thy name in all the earth.
Glorify thy name, glorify thy name, glorify thy name in all the earth.*

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jan Fitts

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

Dear Lord, as we read and hear the words from your ancient Scriptures, may we be drawn ever closer to you. Amen!

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Red Pew Bible OT 106

ANTHEM

"I Will Arise and Make Music"

Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 22:34-46

Red Pew Bible NT 25

SERMON

"Picky, Picky, Picky"

Rev. Mark Plunkett

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

"I Sing Praises to Your Name"

(insert)

*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

Shannon Hassett & Claire Tessier

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***OUR RESPONSE**

"Great Is the Lord"

*Great is the Lord, he is holy and just; By his power we trust in his love.
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true; By his mercy he proves he is love.
Great is the Lord, and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, Now lift up your voice:
Great-is the Lord! Great-is the Lord!*

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

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you not with our words only, but with our whole lives. 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**

"You Are Worthy"

(insert)

***BENEDICTION**

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

***POSTLUDE**

Portions of today's worship service are taken from ministrymatters.com and re-worship.blogspot.com.

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 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 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 Bears classroom, Room 126, which is in the north hallway of the Education Building.

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.

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.