



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:

Guest Pastor: Rev. G. Todd Williams
Liturgist: Donald McDaniel
Children's Moment: Marguerite Priest
Usher Captain: Marguerite Priest
PowerPoint: Ethan Mitchell

*e-mail: churchoffice@springbranchpres.org
 website: www.springbranchpres.org
www.facebook.com/springbranchpres
 Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
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 CCLI License # 11266777
 1215 Campbell Rd
 Houston, TX 77055
 713-464-7659*



“Being Found in Christ”
 October 8, 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**

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;

People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: God crowns the year with bounty;

People: Pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy.

Leader: Valleys deck themselves with grain, and sing together for joy.

ALL: So let us all praise God for all God's goodness to us.

***HYMN**

"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

GTG, No. 265

Preparing for the Word

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Leader: God of abundant love, when we hunger for fulfillment, you offer us the Bread of Life. When we thirst for your presence, you fill our cup to overflowing. You draw near to us in every place, at any time. Holy One, in you our deepest desires are fulfilled. So to you, O God, Creator, Christ and Spirit, we offer thanksgiving, honor and praise with all your people, here and everywhere, now and always.

ALL: God of abundant mercy, you see our failures to keep your law of love. We have not always loved our neighbours as you taught. We find it impossible to love our enemies as Jesus asked. Forgive us all the times we failed to live out your love. Renew in us the courage to offer others the generosity of heart you have shown us in Jesus. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news! Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; the old life is fading, the new life has started to emerge – in us. Know that you are forgiven, and so have the courage to forgive one another.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

October 8 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- 10:50 am Worship
- 12:00 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration

October 9 — Monday

- 5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (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)

October 10 — 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)
- 6:30 pm Fellowship Meeting (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

October 11 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am PW Circle (CR)
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting (P)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Hamburgers!

October 12 — 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)
- 7:00 pm Rainbow's End Meeting (CR)

October 13 — Friday

- 6:00 pm SBM Arc Meeting* (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

October 14 — Saturday

- 4:00 pm Wedding Reception* (FH)
- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

October 15 — Sunday

- 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)
- 6:00 pm BSA Committee Meeting (GP)

October 16 — Monday

- 10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)
- 4:30 pm Faith Development Meeting (P)
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)
- 7:00 pm Horizon's Bible Study on Zoom

October 17 — Tuesday

- 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 18 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am PW ZIP Trip: Hearts & Hands Market
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Hungarian Goulash!

October 19 — Thursday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 5:00 pm Idea Spring: Mr. Magic!
- 5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce Ball* (Field)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

October 20 — Friday

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

October 21 — Saturday

- 8:00 am Presbyterian Men (CR)
- 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. G. Todd Williams. G. Todd Williams attended Indiana University, Bloomington, received his Masters of Divinity Degree from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and is ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He completed his Clinical Pastoral Education at M D Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, and later, worked as a chaplain in the Heart and Vascular Center with the Memorial Hermann hospital system. Prior to becoming a Hospice Chaplain at Essential Hospice, Webster, TX, he was a Chaplain with Houston Hospice, Houston, TX. Most recently, he served as the Stated Supply at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Galveston, TX. He is the author of the book, "Remember Me When" (Chalice Press, 2021) and contributor to the book "Let Us Pray, Reformed Prayers for Christian Worship" (John Knox, 2000). He was awarded the Todd Brackovitch Peace Fellowship Award by the Christian Church (DOC) Peace Fellowship in 2005, for the work he was doing with the homeless teens in Montrose and later brought to the attention of the nomadic habits of homeless teens along the I-10 highway route. He is married to Quincy, and they have two grown children, as well as three grandchildren.

Monthly Birthday Celebration - Please join family, friends, and congregation members in the Breezeway right after Worship as we celebrate those in our church community born in October. Linger for conversation, fellowship, and light snacks.

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, October 11th, 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, October 16th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah or Ashley Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 2 video is available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/sacred-encounters.

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, October 11th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The Trembles are making Hamburgers! Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to 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.

Idea Spring is kicking back off on Thursday, October 19th at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Join us as we are wowed by Mr. Magic himself, Scott Hollingsworth! A pizza dinner will follow. All are welcome to attend! The Idea Spring Speaker Series was originally created as a free program for our community—it's family friendly and fun for all ages! Events have been planned for the entire school year. Questions or want to help coordinate? Email Ethan Mitchell at ideaspring@springbranchpres.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

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!

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 27th. Please email questions to academy@springbranchpres.org.

*GLORIA PATRI

GTG, No. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Marguerite Priest

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

O God, by your gifts of Word and Spirit, open our minds to greater understanding, our hearts to deeper love, and our wills to eager service, through Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 5:1-7

Red Pew Bible OT 634

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 80:7-15

Red Pew Bible OT 541

ANTHEM

"In Christ Alone"

Choir

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 3:4b-14

Red Pew Bible NT 198

SERMON

"Being Found in Christ"

Rev. G. Todd Williams

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

"In the Secret"

LUYH, No. 107

*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

Leader: We come to God during complicated times. There have been many losses through fire, storm, and flood. Many harvests are diminished by drought. Some days it is hard to feel thankful. Yet, we trust God can turn what we share into an abundance we cannot imagine. So, offer what you can, and trust God will bless your gift and your good intention for it.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

GTG, No. 607

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(unison)*

Gracious God, we offer our gifts as tokens of our gratitude for what we have to share in these challenging times. Bless our gifts and our energy so they will bless others in need in our community and around your world, for the sake of Christ our Lord. 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

"Song of Hope"

GTG, No. 765

*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 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 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.

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.