

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: Megan Hogg

e-mail: churchoffice@springbranchpres.org

website: www.springbranchpres.org

www.facebook.com/springbranchpres

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

CCLI Streaming License # 20797349

CCLI License # 11266777

1215 Campbell Rd

Houston, TX 77055

713-464-7659



“I Said, ‘Follow Me!’” January 21, 2024

3rd Sunday After Epiphany

January 21, 2024

10:50 AM

**Those who are able please stand*

Gathering in God's Name

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: God, you have created us for your purposes, and we give you thanks.

People: Christ, you set us free, and we give you our lives.

Leader: You call us out from our lives into your life.

People: You call us to follow you instead of our own ways.

Leader: Help us, Christ, to freely relinquish all things and follow you.

ALL: Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

***HYMN**

"I Will Call upon the Lord"

(insert)

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: The Lord came to save us and to spread the Good News. However, spreading his message didn't stop with us being saved; following him is also our responsibility. To truly be prepared for the work all of us are called to do, let us humbly and honestly repent of what we have done:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Tender God, we have been caught in the nets of our own lives, living in the small boats of our own ways, our own fears and desires. We confess that we have become entangled. In our fear and hurt, we have hurt you and others. We have not brought forth life as you have called us to do. We confess our self-centeredness, and ask your forgiveness. Call us out of our lives into yours. Help us let go of all that holds us back, all that traps and entangles us. Set us free by your grace, free to follow you and serve you all our days. Amen!

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news: Jesus came to save the world, not to condemn it. We who were dead to our sins have been raised to newness of life through Jesus, who is the Lord of Life. Amen.

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

January 21 — 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

January 22 — Monday

- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

January 23 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm Session (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

January 24 — Wednesday

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

January 25 — Thursday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1)

January 26 — Friday

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

January 27 — Saturday

- 9:00 am Eagle Scout Project (GP)
- 11:00 am Hot Meals
- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

January 28 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children's Chime Choir (S)
- 9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- 10:50 am Worship
- 5:00 pm Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2)
- 6:00 pm BSA Committee Meeting (GP)

January 29 — Monday

- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

January 30 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

January 31 — Wednesday

- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 6:00 pm WNS: BBQ!

February 1 — Thursday

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

February 2 — Friday

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

February 3 — 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:

Happy Hands will meet this Wednesday, January 24th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Join us for some "stuffing and stitching" and lots of great conversation as we catch up after the holidays. See you there!

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, January 24th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The Trembles are making Tacos! Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Unwind will meet for dinner at Joyce's Seafood (6415 San Felipe) on February 5th, at 6:00 PM. Please RSVP to Jacquie Ballesteros at 713-305-1114 only if you plan to attend. We hope you can join us!

Save-the-Date for our February Blood Drive — SBPC will have a Blood Drive on Sunday, February 11th, from 8:30 AM-12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Ashley Powell at 972-571-2499 or ashleycrawford161@gmail.com if you would like to donate. Share the gift of life!

Spring Branch Presbyterian is participating in the annual Souper Bowl of Caring, which culminates on February 11th. All funds and cans collected will benefit the Fair Haven Food Pantry. Each dollar given=2 cans of food. So... let's see how many cans we can donate by Souper Bowl Sunday, February 11th!

Scout Sunday: Save-the-date for our Annual Scout Sunday Service on Sunday, February 11th. Scouts and their families will attend and help lead our worship service that morning. If you are a current or former Scout or Leader, we encourage you to wear your uniform that Sunday.

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 2024 Offering Envelope Books are now available in the Narthex. Please sign your name by the number that corresponds to your book number. If you already have a book of offering envelopes, you can continue to use it since it doesn't correspond to specific dates. Thank you for your continued commitment!

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? **The 2024 Flower Sign-Up Calendar is located in the Narthex!** The cost per arrangement is \$65.00. Checks should be written to SBPC and mailed to the Church Office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.

Scholarship Applications are now available for interested students. Completed applications are due by May 1st for the year applying, and should be turned in to Sarah Dikeman for the Women's Scholarship and Ken Crawford for the Men's Scholarship.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GLORIA

"My Life Is in You, Lord"

*My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.
My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.*

*I will praise you with all of my life,
I will praise you with all of my strength;
With all of my life, with all of my strength.
All of my hope is in you.*

*My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.
My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you, in you.*

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jan Fitts

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

Beside the sea of familiarity, among the boats of busyness, we lay down the nets that entangle us, and listen for your voice, O Lord. You are always calling us, calling us beyond, calling us to you. As we draw near to hear your sacred Word, may we truly listen and be drawn nearer to you. Amen!

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Red Pew Bible OT 860

ANTHEM

"Come Follow Me Forever"

Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:14b-20

Red Pew Bible NT 35

SERMON

"I Said, 'Follow Me!'"

Rev. Mark Plunkett

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

"Two Fishermen"

(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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***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)*

Wondrous God, you have fished us out of our little worlds for your purposes. You have immersed us deep in your grace. Send us into the world, trusting you and your love, to share your love and to do your will for the sake of the healing of the world. In the name and the Spirit of Christ, 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**

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

(insert)

***BENEDICTION**

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

***POSTLUDE**

Portions of today's worship service are taken from unfoldinglight.net and ministrymatters.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.