



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 Preacher: Marta Pumroy
Liturgist: Rev. Mark Plunkett
Children's Moment: Marta Pumroy
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Patty Blome

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“Flipping to Foolishness” February 25, 2024

*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: In the rich Spirit of God, welcome. Grace and peace be yours.
People: As we continue our Lenten journey into the heart of our faith, we turn toward the cross.
Leader: And the mystery that from death comes new life.
People: This is the journey for us, to die and rise with Christ.
Leader: May we die to fear and rise to love.
People: May we die to defensiveness and rise to new openness.
Leader: May we die to judgments and rise to compassion.
People: May we die to pettiness and rise to generosity.
Leader: May the life of Christ take root in us.
People: May it grow us into the people of God.
ALL: We worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

*HYMN “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” (v. 1-4) GTG, No. 213

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Just as sin came into the world through one person, and death came through sin, so we continue to sin even as we struggle to follow Jesus. Let us come before God to confess and ask for forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)
You offer us wonderful gifts, which come in many forms; by your Spirit, they make for change that doesn’t yet exist within us. We resist giving it a name. We find ourselves stuck in our fears and powerless in our attitudes. Help us to lean forward and take a step in faith. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear and believe the Good News! Everyone who calls on the name of Jesus Christ will be saved. Amen!

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

February 25 — 2nd Sunday in Lent

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)
10:15 am Called Session Meeting
10:50 am Worship
5:00 pm Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2)

February 26 — Monday

6:00 pm Special Olympics: Basketball* (GP)
7:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)
7:00 pm BSA Parent Meeting

February 27 — Tuesday

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

February 28 — 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: Chili Cookoff!

February 29 — Thursday

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

March 1 — Friday

7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

March 2 — Saturday

6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

March 3 — 3rd Sunday in Lent

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

March 4 — Monday

7:00 am Meet the Pastor (Foyer)
6:00 pm PW Unwind: Trinity Street Food!
6:00 pm Special Olympics: Basketball* (GP)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

March 5 — Tuesday

9:15 am Congregational Care Meeting (GP 2)
10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

March 6 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Moderator (CR)
10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
3:30 pm WOW (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Spaghetti & Meatballs!

March 7 — Thursday

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

March 8 — Friday

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

March 9 — 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 Flowers for this morning are given by Lauren and Mario Tacchi, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of the Baptisms of Dominic and Luca.

Happy Hands will meet on Wednesday, February 28th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Join us for stuffing, stitching, and great conversation. See you there!

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, February 28th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Once again we are having our “occasionally-annual” Chili Dinner. Hunt down that great recipe, find that ole’ chili pot, pick those peppers, and get cookin’! Cook up your best chili and bring a pot to share for dinner. The Fellowship Group Wranglers will provide crackers, Fritos, grated cheese, chopped onions, salad, dessert, and drinks. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. Even if you don’t make a chili, put on your best western duds and come join in the fun & fellowship! We hope to see you there!

Please join the Unwind Group for dinner at Trinity Street Thai Food (5709 Woodway, 77057). This restaurant has come highly recommended by one of our members. Dinner is on March 4th at 6:00 PM. Please RSVP to Jacquie Ballesteros at 713-305-1114 or jballesteros1103@gmail.com only if you plan to attend. See you there!

We are having a church-wide retreat to Mo-Ranch on March 14th-17th! 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 PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, March 13th, 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 Tuesday, March 12th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah or Ashely Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 7 video is available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/sacred-encounters.

We will have Easter Lilies again this year! Place your order now through Friday, March 29th. You may order by using the form in the Narthex or Church Office. The cost is \$10 each, and the payment can be mailed to the church office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. The names of those being honored or remembered will be shared with the congregation on Easter Sunday morning.

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 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 Marta Pumroy

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*
Loving God, as we draw closer to one another and hear your Word read and proclaimed, may our ears and our hearts be gentle and receptive to your message. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Red Pew Bible NT 166

ANTHEM “Take Up Your Cross” Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON John 2:13-22 Red Pew Bible NT 93

SERMON “Flipping to Foolishness” Marta Pumroy

Responding to the Word

***HYMN** “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” GTG, No. 216

***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.

THE SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM
Dominic Joseph Tacchi & Luca Mario Tacchi

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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

With joyous thanksgiving, we offer ourselves and our substance to honor you, our Creator. In consideration of the poor, both those who lack basic necessities and all who are spiritually destitute, we dedicate this offering. We want to be responsible stewards of all the resources gathered by our church, and of all the bounty you have entrusted to us individually. Show us the way, gracious God, this day and always. 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** *“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”* (v. 1, 2, 3, 6) GTG, No. 343

***BENEDICTION**

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

***POSTLUDE**



*Portions of today’s worship service are taken from fpcu.info;
First Presbyterian Church of Ulysses, Trumansburg, New York.*

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.