



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: Elizabeth Powell
Children's Moment: Pastor Mark
Usher Captain: Marguerite Priest
PowerPoint: Patty Blome

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“Spreading the News”
February 4, 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: Welcome! Open your hearts to God’s love this day!

People: Praise be to God who has called us here!

Leader: Let the words wash over you and offer you healing and hope.

People: Praise be to God who continually blesses us!

Leader: Place your hope and trust in God!

ALL: With joyful hearts, we come to worship and praise God who continually blesses and provides for us. Amen!

*HYMN “Come, All You People” (insert)

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Every single day, in a million different ways, we are called to serve the Lord. However, we cannot do it perfectly because we are flawed human beings. Let us humbly present ourselves before the Lord and ask for the forgiveness that is always available to believers.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

How can we look at this world and not sing of your praises, O God? The beauty and majesty of the world is overpowering! Yet we often take all that you do for us for granted. We treat the world with callous indifference, using its resources carelessly and with little regard to the future. We insist on war as solutions for problems rather than peaceful striving. We turn our backs on people in need, the weak and downtrodden go unnoticed in our midst. We always believe that someone else will care for those in need. How foolish we are, O God! How ignorant we have become! You have given us all we need. You have blessed us with the witness of Jesus Christ, who came so that we might learn to live in honor and peace. Forgive us. Heal our hearts and spirits. Make us fully aware of all our blessings and our responsibilities. Give us again a spirit of joy in serving you and boldly sharing your love with others. For we offer this prayer in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

February 4 — 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
- 12:15 pm Annual Congregational Meeting

February 5 — Monday

- 6:00 pm PW Unwind: Joyce’s Seafood!
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

February 6 — 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)

February 7 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am PW Moderator (CR)
- 10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Brazilian Chicken!

February 8 — Thursday

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

February 9 — Friday

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

February 10 — 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

February 11 — Scout Sunday

Transfiguration of the Lord
Souper Bowl of Caring

- 8:30 am Blood Drive (FH)
- 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
- 12:15 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration
- 5:00 pm Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2)

February 12 — Monday

- 5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)
- 7:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)
- 7:00 pm Horizon’s Bible Study on Zoom

February 13 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 6:30 pm Fellowship Meeting (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

February 14 — Ash Wednesday

- 7:00 am Ash Wednesday Service (Foyer)
- 8:00 am Ash Wednesday Service (Foyer)
- 9:30 am PW Circle (CR)
- 12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service (S)
- 12:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service (S)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Red Beans & Rice!
- 6:45 pm Ash Wednesday Service (FH)

February 15 — Thursday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Rainbow’s End Meeting* (GP 1)

February 16 — Friday

- 5:00 pm Idea Spring: Family Game Night! (FH)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

February 17 — Saturday

- 8:00 am Presbyterian Men (CR)
- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

Announcements & Events:

The Flowers for this morning are given by Barbara and Don Tremble, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of their 41st Wedding Anniversary.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following Worship today. The purpose of the meeting is to: Elect the Ruling Elders for the Class of 2027; present the Class of 2027 Academy Board Members, as approved by Session; present the 2024 Budget, as approved by Session; and to receive a State of the Church from the five Ministry Teams. Copies of the meeting materials are available to pick up from the Narthex.

Unwind will meet for dinner at Joyce’s Seafood (6415 San Felipe) tomorrow, Monday, 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!

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, February 7th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Sebastian Lopez (of CENTI) will be making Brazilian Chicken, Black Beans, and Rice. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

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 next Sunday.

Join us for our Ash Wednesday Services on February 14th. There are five service opportunities as we begin our Lenten Season together. There will be four brief services for those who are unable to attend in the evening (7:00 AM, 8:00 AM, 12:00 PM, and 12:30 PM). We will have Wednesday Night Supper in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM, and then our evening Ash Wednesday Service will be at 6:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, February 14th, 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, February 12th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah or Ashely Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 6 video is available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/sacred-encounters.

Save-the-Date for our next Idea Spring event on Friday, February 16th, from 5:00-7:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having a Family Game Night! Bring your favorite board games and puzzles and join in the fun. A pizza dinner will be provided. We hope to see you there!

Feed My Starving Children – We would like to help support Pines Presbyterian again this year in this wonderful act of mission. Kids and adults of all ages hand-pack nutritious MannaPack® meals specifically designed to assist in reversing and preventing undernutrition. We will be offering two shifts this year: Friday, February 23rd from 6:00-8:00 PM, or Saturday, February 24th from NOON-2:00 PM. The deadline to sign up is Monday February 19th with Miguel in the church office. To learn more about Feed My Starving Children, please visit their website at www.fmsc.org.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Jesus has come to heal our spirits and our souls. The demons of arrogance, indifference, and apathy are being cast out. New life is offered to you in Jesus Christ. Rejoice and be glad! For God’s love is poured out to you this day. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

***GLORIA** *“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”* GTG, No. 582

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

God’s People Are Empowered

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Pastor Mark

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*
Loving God, as we gather to 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 9:16-23 Red Pew Bible NT 171

ANTHEM *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”* Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 1:29-39 Red Pew Bible NT 35

SERMON *“Spreading the News”* Rev. Mark Plunkett

Responding to the Word

***HYMN** *“There Is a Balm in Gilead”* GTG, No. 792

***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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

- The Invitation
- The Words of Institution
- Prayer of Thanksgiving
- Breaking of the Bread
- Serving of the Elements
- Prayer After Receiving

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*RESPONSE “Amen, Amen”

Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen!
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)
O God, we offer our gifts of time, talent, and treasure to further the message and mission of our church. 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’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” (insert)

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*BENEDICTION



Portions of today’s worship service are taken from 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.