

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:
Congregation Leader: Kay Craig
Faith Development Leader:
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

Jacque Ballesteros
Stephen Earnest
Laurie Mitchell

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. Cindy Mood
Liturgist: Sarah Powell
Children's Moment: Pastor Cindy
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Patty Blome

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April 21, 2024

4th Sunday of Easter

April 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: Come, walk with the Lord this day.

People: We seek places of peace and rest from the stresses of our lives.

Leader: The Shepherd will lead you to places where your soul may be restored.

People: We come, sometimes fearful of the hostilities of the world.

Leader: In the midst of all the turmoil, the Shepherd will provide for your needs abundantly.

ALL: Surely these wonders will heal and restore our spirits. Amen!

***HYMN**

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

GTG, No. 610

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: We know that the Lord calls each of us to be humble followers and steadfast servants. Yet, the ways of the world can often distract us from this call. When it does, we must remember the Good Shepherd is always seeking us, protecting us, and loving us. Let us, in turn, offer our prayers for the forgiveness of our sins. Let us pray together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

We grumble and complain about our daily lot in life. We read the newspapers, watch the broadcast news and moan about the evil which flourishes in the world. And we wonder, "Where are you, O God?" We turn our backs on the needs of the poor. We throw our hands up in the air and act as though we are defeated. And we cry, "Why isn't God taking care of all this?" Forgive us, patient Lord. Forgive our arrogance, our ignorance, our pettiness. Forgive us when we could have done something to help someone else - but chose instead to turn away. Forgive us when our thoughts and actions have gone against your will. You are with us, Lord. You lead us daily in right paths and offer to us the bread of life. You stand with us in times of trial and in the presence of those whom we fear. Give us strength and courage, joy and peace for all the work that you have for us to do. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life for us, his sheep, we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

April 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
7:00 pm Aggie Muster (Scout Hut)

April 22 — Monday

10:00 am Staff Meeting (P)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)
7:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)



April 23 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
5:00 pm Special Olympics* (Field)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
7:00 pm Session (CR)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

April 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: Roasted Chicken!
7:00 pm Faith Development Meeting (Zoom)

April 25 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
5:00 pm Special Olympics* (Field)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)
7:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1)

April 26 — Friday

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

April 27 — Saturday

8:00 am Youth Fishing Trip
11:00 am Hot Meals
6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

April 28 — Sunday

9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Communicants Class
9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)
10:50 am Worship
5:00 pm Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2)

April 29 — Monday

7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

April 30 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
5:00 pm Special Olympics* (Field)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

May 1 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Moderator (CR)
10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
3:30 pm WOW (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Quesadillas!
6:45 pm Property Meeting (CR)

May 2 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
5:00 pm Special Olympics* (Field)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

May 3 — Friday

7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

May 4 — 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:

Rev. Cindy Mood is excited to lead worship with Spring Branch Presbyterian Church again! She has always been Presbyterian, but that hasn't stopped her from dabbling in many other denominations. Currently, she is serving as the Director of Membership and Learning at Memorial Drive United Methodist Church. She grew up in Kansas, the granddaughter of a PCUSA minister and a clinical psychologist. While in college, she pursued her passions and graduated with degrees in Philosophy, Religion, and Psychology. She moved south for grad school and graduated in 2015 with her Master of Divinity from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and Master of Science of Social Work from UT Austin. Her daughter, Lena, was 6 weeks old when they moved to Houston in 2019. Her son, Cyrus, was born during the great Texas freeze three years ago. Her husband, Charles, has joined her journey of twists and turns.

The Flowers for this morning are given by Marguerite Priest, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of Kylie Marie Alderson's 18th birthday! Praising God and giving thanks!

Happy Hands will meet on Wednesday, April 24th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room to make our heart pillows. Come join us!

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, April 24th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Nina Rach and Kay Craig are making Roasted Chicken and Potatoes. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Pastor Mark will be leading a one-time First Communion class on Sunday, April 28th, at 9:30 AM in his office. During this class, participants will learn all about Communion, with the focus on what it is, why it is a sacrament, and how we should prepare for it. Even if your child has already been receiving Communion, he or she is still welcome and encouraged to participate in this class. The First Communion experience will take place the week following the class, on Sunday, May 5th, during the regular Communion time. Members of this class will receive Communion first in a special part of the sacrament. Questions? Contact Pastor Mark!

Task Force Needed - In our 2024 budget, under Mission, we placed a new category called "Seminary Student" in the amount of \$3000. There have now been over 120 applicants to date. We want to form a task force of 3-5 members to do the following: Create parameters for the scholarship(s), Review the applicants, and Choose from them for Fall acceptance. This is a short-term task force of a few months. If you would be interested in volunteering for this worthy job, please let Pastor Mark know. No experience necessary! We will guide you.

Did you take any pictures on Easter Sunday? There will be a collage of pictures in the May PresPress of the Celebration of the Resurrection. These can be pictures of any of the festivities on Easter weekend at the church, or Easter traditions with your families at home. Please submit pictures to Ethan Mitchell (ethan@springbranchpres.org).

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.

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.

Save-the-Date for Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School! VBS will be held June 11th-14th from 9:00 AM-11:30 AM in the Gathering Place. A time of music, worship, crafts, recreation, and fellowship is being planned. We welcome any individuals that would like to participate or volunteer to please let Miguel know in the church office. Registration forms can be accessed here: www.springbranchpres.org/vbs.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: In the midst of all that we fear, God is with us. God will not abandon you. Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, laid down his life for you and offers you hope and peace. 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 Cindy

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

With our hearts and souls renewed and strengthened by the knowledge of the risen Christ, may our minds be enriched as we listen to your Word read and proclaimed. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 4:5-12

Red Pew Bible NT 121

ANTHEM

"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"

Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 John 3:16-24

Red Pew Bible NT 240

SERMON

Rev. Cindy Mood

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

"My Life Flows On"

GTG, No. 821

*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** *"Our God Is an Awesome God"* GTG, No. 616

*Our God is an awesome God
who reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, power, and love;
our God is an awesome God!*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(from Micah 6)*
Lord, you are the giver of every good gift. Accept these offerings we pray, that through them we may do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with you, our Sovereign, and our God. 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** *"Guide My Feet"* GTG, No. 741

*BENEDICTION

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*POSTLUDE



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.