

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 Leaders: Jacquie Ballesteros & Laurie Mitchell
 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
 Stephen Earnest
 Laurie Mitchell

Class of 2026

Kay Craig
 Sarah Dikeman
 Ethan Mitchell

Academy Board

Laurie Mitchell
 Jani Shepard

Jim Kunkel

Neal Dikeman
 Ashley Powell

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Rev. Savannah Goodman
Children's Moment: Pastor Mark & Pastor Savannah
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
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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“Things Your Mother Told You”
 May 12th, 2024

7th Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

10:50 AM

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** *(inspired by themes from Psalm 139)*

Leader: We gather together to worship our loving, nurturing God;

People: Like a mother, God knows each of us intimately;

Leader: God loves us unconditionally and teaches us the way we should go;

People: Like a mother, God comforts us in times of need.

Leader: Praise God, the Source and Sustainer of life!

People: Praise God, who is both mother and father to us all.

ALL: Let us praise and worship our loving Creator! Alleluia!

***HYMN**

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

GTG, No. 451

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Too often our hearts are cold and without gratitude. Too often our hands are passive and unwilling to carry out acts of mercy. Too often our lips are pursed tightly, unwilling to speak words of love. Too often we are indeed separated and alienated from our better selves – and separated and alienated from God. Let us confess our separation and alienation. Let us join together in the prayer of confession:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

O Creating God who loved us into being, we Your children praise You. When we fall, You lift us up; when we fail You restore us; when we are wounded You nurse us; when we grieve You hold us and weep with us; when we celebrate You laugh with us. But sometimes we don't reach out to You, we are embarrassed, or we forget, or we feel silly. Help us to reach out to You at any and all times of our lives we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God says to us: You are my chosen ones. I love you. I am proud of you. Stand firm in your renewed commitment. Know that I have forgiven you; I call you by name; you are mine. I have entered into covenant with you and will stand by you in all times and all places. Dare to live fully the life to which I have called you. Amen!

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

May 12 — 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
12:00 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

May 13 — Monday

5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

May 14 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
5:00 pm Special Olympics* (Field)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
6:00 pm New Elder Training (P)
6:30 pm Fellowship Meeting (CR)
7:00 pm Horizon's Bible Study on Zoom
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

May 15 — Wednesday

9:30 am ZIP Trip
11:00 am Memorial Service: Web Trevathan
3:30 pm WOW (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Hamburgers!

May 16 — Thursday

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

May 17 — Friday

11:30 am Pre-K Graduation (S)
7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

May 18 — Saturday

8:00 am Presbyterian Men (CR)
2:00 pm Youth Bowling (Bowlero)
6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

May 19 — Pentecost Sunday

Recognition of Graduates & Scholarships

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
12:00 pm Called Congregational Meeting
12:15 pm Mission Team Meeting (CR)
6:00 pm BSA Court of Honor (FH)

May 20 — Monday

PresPress Articles Due

10:00 am Staff Meeting (P)
10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

May 21 — 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 22 — 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!

May 23 — Thursday

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

May 24 — Friday

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

May 25 — Saturday

11:00 am Hot Meals
6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)



Announcements & Events:

Our Guests today include Rev. Savannah Goodman and her husband, Jordan. Savannah serves a church in the Dallas area, and is assisting Pastor Mark in leading our worship service today.

Today we bid farewell to Rebecca Castillo as she starts a new adventure as the Director of Worship and Music at Trinity Downtown. Rebecca started singing with SBPC as a guest singer back in 2017. During covid, she joined our socially distant choir as a soprano, and has been with us nearly every Sunday since. We wish her well in the next chapter!

The Flowers for this morning are given by the church to all honor all the wonderful mothers, alive or deceased.

Celebrate May Birthdays — Join friends and congregation members in the breezeway immediately after worship today as we celebrate folks born during the month of May. Fellowship and light refreshments will be available.

There will be a Called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 19th, immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to hear a report from the Pastor Nominating Committee regarding the Call of a Co-Pastor for Spring Branch Presbyterian Church. Everyone is invited and strongly encouraged to attend next Sunday.

The Mission of Yahweh is holding a fundraising luncheon at the Junior League on Wednesday, May 22nd. Anyone is welcome to attend, but we need to know in advance for them to prepare. Please RSVP to Miguel by Monday, May 13th.

The Evening PW Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, May 14th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah or Ashely Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 9 video is available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/sacred-encounters.

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, May 15th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Kate Cross & Laurie Mitchell are making Hamburgers. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Join us for the last Idea Spring event of the school year this Thursday, May 16th, at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall! We will be welcoming the Houston Humane Society Wildlife Center for *Reptile Roundup!* The program introduces audiences to the amazing lives of Texas Reptiles. Discover reptile adaptations and life cycles and how they play a key part in Houston's urban system. A free dinner will follow. We hope to see you there!

Low-Ball* Bowling with the Youth of our church (Bowlero Lanes, 925 Bunker Hill Road, Houston, TX) on Saturday, May 18th, from 2:00-4:00 PM. Fee per bowler: \$ 22.00 (approximately), price included unlimited bowling and unlimited arcade games, plus bowling shoes. A full menu of food and drinks available for purchase. (Low-Ball* bowling means: Bumpers are all in place; Object of the game is to knock down the LEAST number of pins!)

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.

*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

Pastor Mark & Pastor Savannah

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

May the reading of your Word sanctify us in the truth and bring us to perfect joy. Amen!

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Proverbs 31:25-31

Red Pew Bible OT 614

ANTHEM

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

Rebecca Castillo

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Red Pew Bible NT 118

SERMON

"Things Your Mother Told You"

Rev. Mark Plunkett

Responding to the Word

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF ALL MOTHERS

*HYMN

"Blessed Assurance"

GTG, No. 839

*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** *(unison)*

God of Great gifts, we give you these gifts today knowing that you are the Mother of all gifts. You mother us constantly, providing for us, caring for us. As we have been abundantly provided for, so we give abundantly to the work that you give us to do, the work of the church, the care for those who are poor. Accept these gifts in Jesus' name. 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** *"When We Are Living"* GTG, No. 822

***BENEDICTION**

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

***POSTLUDE**

*Portions of today's worship service are taken from re-worship.blogspot.com
and rivierachurch.org.*

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.