

Who's Who:

Ministry Teams:

Minister: All Members of the Church Co-Pastor: Rev. Mark Plunkett Rev. Savannah Goodman Co-Pastor: Administrator: Jorida Vakiari Administrative Assistant: Ethan Mitchell Music Director: Gabriel Perez Jonathan Craft Accompanist: Ethan Mitchell AV Director: AV Technician: Ben Dethloff Academy Director: Renee Henry

Administration Leader:
Congregation Leader:
Faith Development Leader:
Mission Leader:
Worship Leader:
Treasurer:

Ethan Mitchell
Kay Craig
Laurie Ballesteros
Laurie Mitchell
Donald McDaniel
Neal Dikeman

The Session

Clerk: Elizabeth Powell

Moderator: Rev. Mark Plunkett Moderator: Rev. Savannah Goodman

Class of 2025
Jacquie Ballesteros
Stephen Earnest
Laurie Mitchell

Class of 2026Class of 2027Kay CraigJoel AlegriaSarah DikemanBeth MizwaEthan MitchellNina Rach

Academy Board

Jan FittsNeal DikemanCarla PaceJim KunkelAshley PowellJorida Vakiari

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Jan Fitts

Children's Moment: Jan Fitts 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 CCLI Streaming License # 20797349 CCLI License # 11266777 1215 Campbell Rd Houston, TX 77055 713-464-7659

Spring Branch Presbyterian Church



"If Only..."
September 29, 2024

19th Sunday After Pentecost

10:50 AM September 29, 2024

*Those who are able please stand

Gathering in God's Name

PRELUDE

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS THE SANCTUARY

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

(Please sign the Friendship Book located in the pew rack next to the center aisle.)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 124:8)

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Leader:

In speaking, in silence... People: In movement, in stillness... Leader:

People: God is with us. God alone saves us. Leader: People: God alone helps us.

Leader: God sets us on the path of peace.

Let us worship our Heavenly Lord who helps us in all things. ALL:

*HYMN "Our Help is in the Name of God" GTG, No. 330

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

We long to gloss over the messy parts of our stories: the deceit, the anger, and

the on-going grudges. But nothing is hidden from God. We come before God and one another with complete honesty, naming our sins that we might reclaim

our name as God's beloved children.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God, it is often difficult to discern your voice when we perpetuate cycles of retaliation and violence. But does your silence mock our own silence in the face of unchecked sins? Forgive us for our failure to speak out and speak up for the victims of violence in our midst and around the world. Open our ears and hearts to hold space for your voice to return to us: the voice of a better way of healing and hope for all people. Show us this faithful path and give us the courage to walk in it, even if for the very first time. We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

Septem	her 2	9 — S	unday
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9:15 am	Church Nursery
9:30 am	Sunday School
9:45 am	Choir Practice (S)
10·50 am	Worship

Cub Scouts Planning Meeting (GP)

September 30 — Monday

9:30 am	TGP Planning Meeting (CR)
6:00 pm	Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
7:00 pm	Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

October 1 — Tuesday

10:30 am Staff Meeting (F	10:00 am	Flexercise (GP)
10.50 ann Stan Meeting (1	10:30 am	Staff Meeting (P)

5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce* (Field)

6:00 pm Basketball (GP)

Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2) 6:30 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH) 7:00 pm

October 2 — Wednesday

9:30 am	PW Moderator (CR)
10:15 am	PW Board Meeting (CR)
3·30 nm	WOW (S)

6:00 pm WNS: Beef with Noodles!

7:00 pm Handbell Choir (S)

October 3 — Thursday

10:00 am	Flexercise (GP)
5:00 pm	Messy Church (FH)
5:30 pm	Special Olympics: Bocce* (Fiel

Fairbees Square Dance* (GP) 6:00 pm

October 4 — Friday

7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

October 5 — Saturday

4:00 pm	Meet & Greet: Savannah & Jordan
•	(Sarah & Matt Dikeman's home)
6:00 pm	CENTI Church Service* (GP)

October 6— World Communion Sunday

9:15 am	Church Nursery
9:30 am	Sunday School

Children's Sunday School (GP 3)

9:30 am Confirmation Class (GP) 9:45 am Choir Practice (S)

10:50 am Worship

October 7 — Monday

7:00 am	Coffee with the Pastors
6:00 pm	PW Unwind: Juarez!

6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)

Boy Scouts (Scout Hut) 7:00 pm

October 8 — Tuesday

10:00 am	Flexercise	(GP

Special Olympics: Bocce* (Field) 5:30 pm

6:00 pm Basketball (GP)

6:30 pm Fellowship Meeting (CR)

Horizon's Bible Study on Zoom 7:00 pm 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

October 9 — Wednesday **Academy Firetruck Visit**

9:30 am PW Circle (CR) 3:30 pm WOW (S)

Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4) 5:00 pm

6:00 pm WNS: Brats with Potatoes & Sauerkraut!

Handbell Choir (S) 7:00 pm

October 10 — Thursday 10:00 am Flovorcico (GD)

10.00 alli	riexercise (GP)
5:30 pm	Special Olympics: Bocce* (Field)
6:00 pm	Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)
6:30 pm	Cub Scouts: Arrow of Light (GP 1)

October 11 — Friday

7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

October 12 — Saturday

6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)



Announcements & Events:

The Gathering Place Program is holding a planning meeting tomorrow, Monday, September 30th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. If you are a current volunteer, or if you'd like to volunteer, this meeting might be of interest to you.

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, October 2nd, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Silvia Argyriou is making Beef with Noodles. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Messy Church is this Thursday, October 3rd, at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please make plans to join us! Our theme this month is Creation. Come for games, crafts, music, and activities. A free pizza dinner will be served about 6:00 PM. We hope to see you there!

Meet & Greet with Savannah and Jordan Goodman! Join us at one of the following gatherings so you can get to know more about our new Co-Pastor, Rev. Savannah, and her husband, Jordan; and so they can get to know you! Saturday, Oct. 5th, 4:00-6:00 PM, at Sarah & Matt Dikeman's home. Sunday, Oct. 27th, 4:00-6:00 PM at Jan & Gerald Fitts' home. Saturday, November 2nd, 4:00-6:00 PM at Liz & Stephen Earnest's home. Light refreshments will be served. Please call the hosts to make a reservation at least two days prior; space is limited. We have planned these so that you can attend one near your home if you wish, but you are welcome at any of them.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! The Choir is looking for some new members to join us! If you are interested in participating, please email musicdirector@springbranchpres.org.

Handbells have returned! Do you have hands for a joyful noise rather than a voice? - then handbells wants YOU! The Handbell Choir meets at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary on Wednesday nights. Please see Megan Hogg if you'd like to join.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is received during the Season of Peace, which ends on World Communion Sunday, October 6th. A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the Church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. This year, SBPC will be sending 25% to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Offering envelopes will be in the Bulletins next Sunday. Please give generously!

The Unwind Group will meet for dinner on Monday, October 7th, at 6:00 PM at Juarez Mexican Restaurant, located at 2545 Gessner Rd. We have been there before. We have a private room and the food is good and fairly cheap! Please join us! As usual, RSVP only if you plan to attend to Jacquie Ballesteros at 713-305-1114 or iballesteros1103@gmail.com.

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, October 9th, 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, October 8th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 2 video is available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/let-justice-roll-down.

The Academy is hosting a Spooktacular Trunk or Treat in the parking lot on Friday, October 18th, from 5:30-6:30 PM. Church members are encouraged to attend and sponsor a Trunk or Treat vehicle. Copies of the registration form are available in the Narthex and in the Friday email. Please submit forms to the Academy office by October 16th.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news: our help is in the name of the Lord who made

heaven and earth. We are a people set free from the harmful patterns of the past for a future God builds in our midst even now. We are whole people who are called to make this world whole, with God's help.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: ...May the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us pass the peace to our sisters and brothers in Christ!

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jan Fitts

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

If we are uncertain and weary, speak to us, O God. If we are grounded and hopeful, speak to us. If our faith feels solid and steady, speak to us. If our faith feels shaky and tentative, speak to us. Keep speaking through your holy Word, O God, that we may find our voice in yours. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 12:1-13 Red Pew Bible OT 58

ANTHEM "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 13:1-8 Red Pew Bible OT 59

SERMON "If Only..." Rev. Mark Plunkett

Responding to the Word

***HYMN** "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" (v. 2, 4, 5) GTG, No. 523

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

(from the Barmen Declaration)

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to God's Creatures.

We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords – areas in which we would not need justification or sanctification through him. Amen.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*RESPONSE

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

GTG, No. 620

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Accept all that is offered in this place this day, O God. Accept our material commitments to build a more peaceable family on this earth and in our own communities. Accept our personal commitments to become a people who break cycles of hatred and retaliation, in both large-scale and everyday ways. Use these gifts, and use us, your often wayward people, for the rebuilding of a world of hope and healing in your 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

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

GTG, No. 803

*BENEDICTION

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*POSTLUDE

Portions of today's worship service are taken from pres-outlook.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, Pastor Savannah, 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.