



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Who's Who:

Minister: All Members of the Church
Co-Pastor: Rev. Mark Plunkett
Co-Pastor: Rev. Savannah Goodman
Administrator: Jorida Vakiari
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: Ethan Mitchell
Congregation Leader: Kay Craig
Faith Development Leader: Jacquie Ballesteros
Mission Leader: Laurie Mitchell
Worship Leader: Donald McDaniel
Treasurer: Neal Dikeman

The Session

Clerk: Jan Fitts

Moderator: Co-Pastor, Rev. Mark Plunkett
Moderator: Co-Pastor, Rev. Savannah Goodman

Class of 2025

Jacquie Ballesteros
Stephen Earnest
Laurie Mitchell

Class of 2026

Kay Craig
Sarah Dikeman
Ethan Mitchell

Class of 2027

Joel Alegria
Beth Mizwa
Nina Rach

Academy Board

Jan Fitts
Jim Kunkel

Neal Dikeman
Ashley Powell

Carla Pace
Jorida Vakiari

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Jan Fitts

Children's Moment: 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-4:00 PM

CCLI Streaming License # 20797349

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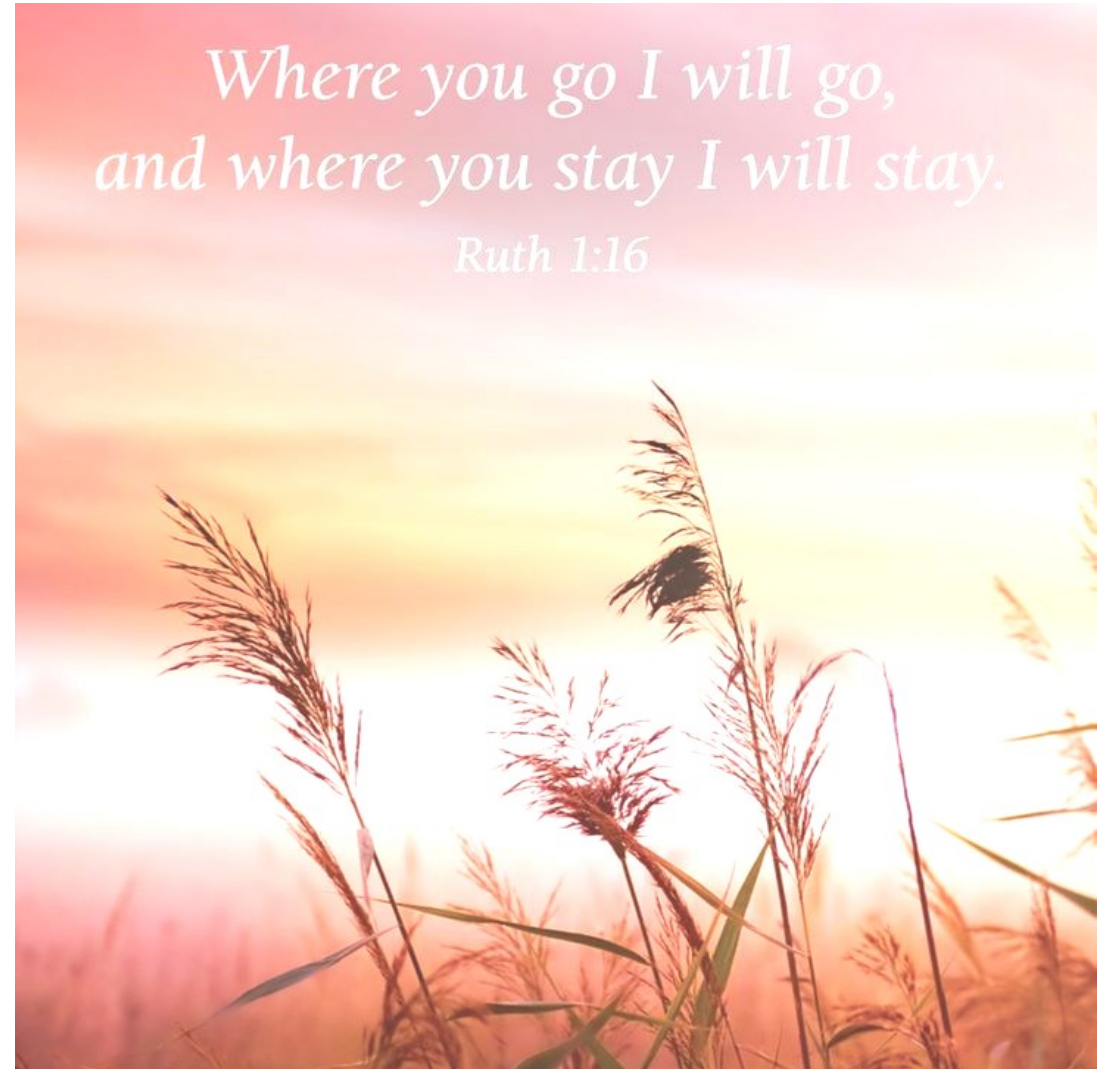
1215 Campbell Rd

Houston, TX 77055

713-464-7659

*Where you go I will go,
and where you stay I will stay.*

Ruth 1:16



May 11, 2025

*Those who are able please stand

Gathering in God’s Name

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Here in this place, there are no foreigners,
People: for all are welcome in God’s house.
Leader: Here in this sanctuary, there is only acceptance,
People: for love is the language of faith.
Leader: Here in our lives, there are no divisions,
People: for God dwells in each of us.
ALL: Come, let us worship in unity and love!

*HYMN “Come, Thou Almighty King” GTG, No. 2

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)
Faithful God, we confess that, like Naomi, we have known bitterness. We have turned inward in our pain, believing you have abandoned us. We have closed our hearts to others, and to the ways you are still at work among us. Like Ruth, we have heard the call to love with courage and faith, but too often we have chosen comfort over compassion, distance over devotion. Forgive us, Lord, for the ways we walk away instead of drawing close, for the ways we let fear silence our faith, and for the times we forget that you are the God who travels with us, even in the wilderness. Turn us again toward you. Renew in us a steadfast spirit. Help us to trust that you are still writing the story — one of redemption, belonging, and grace. In the name of Christ, we pray, Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends in Christ, even in the midst of grief, God’s grace is not far off. Even when we feel empty, God is already at work, binding us together through unexpected loyalty, steadfast love, and quiet hope. Ruth’s faithfulness was a reflection of God’s own — a love that refuses to let go, a mercy that journeys with us. So, hear and believe the good news: God does not leave us in our sorrow or in our sin. God claims us, restores us, and calls us beloved. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen!

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

May 11 — Sunday

Mother’s Day
9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Children’s Chime Choir (S)
9:45 am Choir Practice (S)
10:50 am Worship
12:00 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration
12:15 pm Handbells

May 12 — Monday

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

May 13 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
10:30 am Staff Meeting (P)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
6:30 pm Fellowship Meeting (CR)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)
7:00 pm Horizon’s Bible Study on Zoom

May 14 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Circle (CR)
3:30 pm WOW (S)
5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)
6:00 pm WNS: Chicken Fried Steak!

May 15 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
1:00 pm Pastor Mark’s Bible Study (Zoom)
5:00 pm Idea Spring: Club SciKidz! (FH)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

May 16 — Friday

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

May 17 — Saturday

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

May 18 — Sunday

9:00 am Young Adult Breakfast Club!
9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Children’s Sunday School (GP 3)
9:45 am Choir Practice (S)
10:50 am Worship
12:15 pm VBS Meeting (CR)
12:15 pm Handbells
6:00 pm BSA Court of Honor (GP)

May 19 — Monday

10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)
7:00 pm Mission Team Meeting (Zoom)

May 20 — Tuesday

PresPress Articles Due
10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

May 21 — Wednesday

3:30 pm WOW (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Smorgasbord Buffet!

May 22 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
1:00 pm Pastor Mark’s Bible Study (Zoom)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

May 23 — Friday

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

May 24 — Saturday

11:00 am Hot Meals
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:

Celebrate our 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 following worship.

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, May 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 Tuesday, May 13th, 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 14th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Kay & Betty are making Chicken Fried Steak! Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Please join us for the last Idea Spring of the school year this Thursday, May 15th, at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be welcoming Club SciKidz Houston! A free pizza dinner will follow. We hope to see you there!

Attention all young adults! You are invited to the Young Adult Breakfast Club with Pastor Savannah Goodman at **First Watch** (9778 Katy Fwy, 77055) on **Sunday, 5/18, at 9:00 AM**. The Young Adult Breakfast Club meets monthly for a time of fellowship and connection. Childcare is available at the church. We will meet at the church at **9:00 AM** to carpool. Bring \$5 and the church will cover the rest! We look forward to connecting with you then! Please email **Pastor Savannah Goodman** (savannah@springbranchpres.org) with any questions.

The Gathering Place will meet on Monday, May 19th, at 10:00 AM! The theme for this month is *Mad Hatter’s Tea Party!* Please see Jacquie Ballesteros or Sarah Dikeman if you are interested in helping out.

SBPC Hot Meals on Weekends – The 4th Saturday of each month we look for individuals to deliver meals to shut-ins. We have 2 routes, so we usually need a total of 4 volunteers each month. Please contact Lu Taylor if you are interested in volunteering to deliver meals one month. You can now sign-up online too at this Sign-Up Genius [LINK!](#)

Save-the-Date for Magnified Vacation Bible School! VBS will be held June 9th-13th from 9:00 AM-11:30 AM in the Gathering Place. A time of worship, music, crafts, recreation, mission, science, and fellowship is being planned. We welcome any individuals who would like to participate or volunteer to please let Pastor Savannah or Jacquie Ballesteros know. Registration forms can be accessed here: www.springbranchpres.org/vbs.

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? **The 2025 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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: ...The peace of Christ be with you!

People: **And also with you.**

*GLORIA

“To God be the Glory”

GTG, No. 634

*To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!*

*Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!*

God’s People Are Empowered

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Pastor Savannah

ANTHEM

“How Can I Keep From Singing?”

Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ruth 1:1-18

Red Pew Bible OT 241

SERMON

“Where You Go, I Will Go...”

Rev. Savannah Goodman

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

“How Firm A Foundation”

GTG, No. 463

***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

*OUR RESPONSE

“Now Thank We All Our God” (v. 3)

GTG, No. 643

*All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison)*
Faithful and Loving God, like Ruth, we come offering our lives, our gifts, and our trust — not always knowing where the road will lead, but believing that you go with us. Bless these offerings, O Lord — our time, our resources, our commitments — that they may be used to build communities of compassion, to walk with those who mourn, and to reflect your steadfast love in a world that longs for belonging. May our giving be more than duty; may it be devotion. In Christ’s name we pray, 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

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

GTG, No. 306

*BENEDICTION

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*POSTLUDE

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.

Stories & Songs: *Stories & Songs* occurs during Worship, with stories from *Growing in God’s Love*, songs, coloring pages, and crafts. Pastor Savannah has chosen the stories to coincide with the Sermons. Children will leave the Sanctuary right after Children’s Moment and be returned to their parents during the last hymn. This program is during the Worship Service for ages 3-6 years old.

Sunday Morning Offerings at 9:30 am

Saints Under Construction: This class meets in Gathering Place Classroom No. 2. 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.

Calling All Youth: The Youth meet in the Youth Room for Bible Study, Fellowship, and Mission work with the Pastors. Meetings are at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Other volunteers for the program are Jordan Goodman, Carla Pace, and Riley Fairchild.



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.