



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Who's Who:

Minister: All Members of the Church
Co-Pastor: Rev. Mark Plunkett
Co-Pastor: Rev. Savannah Goodman
Business 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: Jim Kunkel
Sarah Powell
Mission Leader: Joel Alegria
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 2026

Kay Craig
Sarah Dikeman
Ethan Mitchell

Class of 2027

Joel Alegria
Beth Mizwa
Nina Rach

Class of 2028

Jim Kunkel
Betty Magnuson
Sarah Powell

Academy Board

Neal Dikeman
Ashley Powell

Carla Pace
Jorida Vakiari

Lee Dudinsky
Lauren Tacchi

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Todd Miller
Children's Moment: Pastor Mark
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Ethan Mitchell

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website: www.springbranchpres.org
www.facebook.com/springbranchpres
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713-464-7659*



“Hearing God in the Noise”
August 17, 2025

**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**

Leader: God is not far off, but near:

People: a presence that fills heaven and earth.

Leader: God's Word is like fire, like a hammer that breaks stone.

People: It burns away falsehood and reveals what is true.

Leader: Come to listen, to speak, and to be shaped by truth.

People: Let us worship the living God with reverence and awe!

ALL: Let us worship God together!

***HYMN**

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

GTG, No. 15

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: "Is not my Word like fire?" says the Lord — a fire that refines, a hammer that breaks through hardness. God sees not only our actions, but our hearts. Let us come, then, not to hide, but to be healed. With honesty and hope, let us confess our sin before the One who is always near. Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

God of truth and mercy, you are near to us, yet we live as if you are far away. You speak your Word to our hearts, but we are quick to listen to voices that comfort instead of challenge. You call us to justice and faithfulness, but we cling to what is easy and familiar. Forgive us, O God. Break through our resistance with the power of your Word. Refine us by your Holy Spirit, that we may walk in your truth. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The Lord who is near hears our confession and knows our hearts. God's Word is not sent to destroy, but to restore — to break open what is false and to plant what is true. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and made whole. Thanks be to God! Amen!

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

August 17 — 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
- 10:50 am Worship
- 12:15 pm Congregational Care Meeting (CR)
- 1:00 pm Eagle Scout Ceremony (S & FH)
- 3:00 pm Youth Pool Party
- 5:00 pm BSA Committee Meeting (GP)

August 18 — Monday

- 10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)
- 5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

August 19 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (P)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm Faith Development Meeting (Zoom)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

August 20 — Wednesday

PresPress Articles Due

August 21 — Thursday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 1:00 pm Pastor Mark's Bible Study (Zoom)
- 5:00 pm Idea Spring: Downtown Aquarium!
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

August 22 — Friday

- 5:00 pm Academy Open House (FH)
- 6:00 pm SBM Arc Meeting* (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)



August 23 — Saturday

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

August 24 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children's Chime Choir (S)
- 9:45 am Choir Practice
- 10:50 am Worship
- 12:15 pm The Connect Crew (CR)
- 12:15 pm Handbells (S)

August 25 — Monday

- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

August 26 — Tuesday

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

August 27 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am Happy Hands (CR)
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)

August 28 — Thursday

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

August 29 — Friday

- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

August 30 — 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:

The Flowers for this morning are given by Matt and Sarah Dikeman, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

MAM Back-to-School Uniform Voucher Drive — SBPC is once again collecting funds throughout the month of August for the Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM) Back-to-School Uniform Voucher Drive. MAM coordinates with school guidance counselors and local vendors to provide school uniforms for local needy families. Donations can be placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, or mailed to the church office. Online donations can be made here: <https://tinyurl.com/MAM-Back-to-School>.



The Gathering Place will meet tomorrow, Monday, August 18th, at 10:00 AM! The theme for this month is *Hawaii!* Please see Jacquie Ballesteros or Sarah Dikeman if you are interested in helping out.

Idea Spring is kicking back off this Thursday, August 21st, at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for the "Built for Survival Bird Show" presented by the Downtown Aquarium! A pizza dinner will follow. All are welcome to attend! The Idea Spring Speaker Series was originally created as a free program for our community — it's family friendly and fun for all ages! Events have been planned for the entire school year. Questions or want to help coordinate? Email Ethan Mitchell at ideaspring@springbranchpres.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

Happy Hands will meet on Wednesday, August 27th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Join us for stitching and great conversation. We hope you can join us!

Save-the-Date for Wednesday Night Suppers to resume on September 3rd at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having Hamburgers with all of the trimmings. We hope to see you there!

Messy Church is beginning again! Join us on Thursday, September 4th, for *The Great Banquet!* Messy Church is an intergenerational interactive worship encounter starting at 5:00 PM, with a free dinner being served around 6:00 PM. Join us for story, music, activities, games, and more! Text @h47378d to 81010 to signup for updates, and follow along with us at: www.facebook.com/MessyChurchSBPC.

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!](#)

Shredding Service Now available — We've added a secure shredding service for church-related documents. Shredding boxes are located in the Conference Room and are available for use by office staff and church members who need to dispose of sensitive materials properly. A dear church member has graciously agreed to pay for this service.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

*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. Amen.*

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Mark

ANTHEM

"Let Us Walk This Road Together"

Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Red Pew Bible OT 726

SERMON

"Hearing God in the Noise"

Rev. Savannah Goodman

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

"What Does the Lord Require of You?"

GTG, No. 70

*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

***DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison)*

Almighty God, your Word is a fire that refines and a hammer that shapes. We offer these gifts to you — our time, our talents, and our hearts — knowing they are made worthy only through your transforming grace. May they be used for your justice, truth, and mercy, that all may know the power of your presence, now and forever. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, 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**

“We Are Called”

GTG, No. 749

***BENEDICTION**

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

***POSTLUDE**

<p>MAM distributes over 5,000 shopping vouchers to local schools for children in need of school clothes!</p>	<p>PARENTS shop with their kids for new clothing at local retailers using vouchers like gift certificates.</p>	<p>CHILDREN see their parents as the providers and <i>real</i> superstars!</p>
<p>\$50 PROVIDES NEW SCHOOL CLOTHES FOR A LOCAL KID! mamhouston.org/backtoschool</p> 		

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.