



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 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
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***“For Just Such A Time
As This”***
 August 31, 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: In a time of peril, Esther was called to courage.

People: God calls us, too, to stand in the gap for justice and mercy.

Leader: We come with hearts open to God's leading,

People: trusting that God is with us in every moment of our lives.

Leader: Let us worship the One who calls us to bold action and faith.

People: We are called "for just such a time as this"

ALL: Let us worship God together!

***HYMN**

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

GTG, No. 307

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Esther was called to courage in a time of great danger, yet we confess that we often shrink from speaking truth or standing for justice. God calls us to act with boldness and faith, but we hesitate, too often choosing comfort over conviction. Let us come before God, confessing our fear and our inaction, and trusting in God's mercy and strength to renew our hearts. Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Gracious God, you call us to stand firm in faith, to speak truth in the face of fear, and to act boldly when others remain silent. Yet we confess that we too often turn away from your call, choosing comfort over courage and self-preservation over justice.

Forgive us, O Lord, for our hesitation and inaction. Grant us the courage of Esther, that we might live out our faith with boldness and integrity. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God, in God's mercy, hears our confessions and knows our hearts. As God was with Esther in her time of trial, so God is with us in our struggles. In Christ, we are forgiven, made new, and given the courage to live faithfully. Thanks be to God for the strength to follow, and for the grace that transforms us from fear to faithful action. Amen!

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar



August 31 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Choir Practice
- 10:50 am Worship

September 1 — Monday

Church & Academy Closed



September 2 — Tuesday

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

September 3 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am PW Moderators (CR)
- 10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Hamburgers!

September 4 — Thursday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 1:00 pm Pastor Mark's Bible Study (Zoom)
- 5:00 pm Messy Church (FH)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)



September 5 — Friday

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

September 6 — Saturday

- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

September 7 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children's Sunday School (GP 3)
- 9:30 am Youth Sunday School (YR)
- 9:45 am Choir Practice
- 10:50 am Worship
- 4:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1 & 2)
- 6:00 pm BSA Court of Honor (FH)
- 6:30pm Worship Team Meeting (Zoom)

September 8 — Monday

- 5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)
- 6:00 pm PW Unwind: The Union Kitchen
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

September 9 — Tuesday

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

September 10 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am PW Circle (CR & FH)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Pulled Pork BBQ!
- 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study

September 11 — Thursday

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

September 12 — Friday

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

September 13 — Saturday

- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

Announcements & Events:

The Flowers for this morning are given by Don and Barbara Tremble, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of Ron's 36th birthday.

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>.



Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, September 3rd, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Laurie Mitchell is making Hamburgers with all of the trimmings! Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Messy Church is beginning again! Join us this 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.

Please join us for an Unwind Dinner at The Union Kitchen (12538 Memorial Dr) on Monday, September 8th, at 6:00 PM. We are moving from our customary 1st Monday due to the Labor Day Holiday. Please RSVP to Jacque Ballesteros at 713-305-1114 or jballesteros1103@gmail.com, only if you plan to attend. We hope you can join us!

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 10th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Please contact Patti Nanney if you'd like to attend via Zoom. A salad luncheon will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a salad to share. **The Evening Bible Study** will meet on Tuesday, September 9th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 1 video is available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/resilience-joy-identity.

A NEW Adult Bible Study and Fellowship Gathering will begin on September 10th, immediately following Wednesday Night Supper! While the adults gather for a brief Bible study opportunity, kids are welcome to come and play on the playground by the Gathering Place. No preparation needed, just come and enjoy some fellowship, if only for a few minutes. No child required — adults without children are welcome too! Please contact Sarah Powell for more details (mrspowelltobe@yahoo.com).

Our next Idea Spring event is Parenting the Love & Logic Way® on Thursday, September 18th, at 5:00 PM. Location TBD based on RSVPs. Rana Barker, M.Ed., CCC-SLP, will lead an adult/parent class, with topics to include: Rules of Love and Logic®, Parenting Styles, and Two ways of Neutralizing Childhood Arguing. Dinner will not be served this month, but there will be refreshments. Childcare will be provided through the Academy. Please RSVP in the Narthex, Church or Academy Offices. Questions? Please email Ethan Mitchell at ideaspring@springbranchpres.org. We hope to see you there!

*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 Savannah

ANTHEM

"For Such A Time As This"

Rachael Castillo

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Esther 4:1-17

Red Pew Bible OT 446

SERMON

"For Just Such A Time As This"

Rev. Savannah Goodman

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

GTG, No. 687

*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.*

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

Gracious and Mighty God, you call us, like Esther, to rise to the occasion, to be courageous and faithful in moments of uncertainty. We dedicate these gifts to you, trusting that you will use them to further your justice and mercy in this world. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior, 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** *“Leaning On the Everlasting Arms”* GTG, No. 837

***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.