

Who's Who:

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

Clerk: Elizabeth Powell

Class of 2025

Jacquie Ballesteros Stephen Earnest Laurie Mitchell

Jan Fitts Jim Kunkel

Congregation Leader: Mission Leader: Worship Leader: Treasurer:

Ministry Teams:

Administration Leader: Ethan Mitchell Kay Craig Faith Development Leader: Jacquie Ballesteros Laurie Mitchell Donald McDaniel Neal Dikeman

The Session

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

Class of 2026 Kay Craig Sarah Dikeman

Ethan Mitchell

Academy Board

Neal Dikeman Ashley Powell

Class of 2027 Joel Alegria Beth Mizwa Nina Rach

Carla Pace Jorida Vakiari

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Sarah Powell Children's Moment: Sarah Powell & Marguerite Priest 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



"Space: The Final Frontier" September 15, 2024

17th Sunday After Pentecost

September 15, 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** (from Psalm 19 and Song of Solomon 7:26-8:1)

- Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God.
- People: With Wisdom, we rejoice, knowing the streets are full of God's glory!

The sky proclaims God's handiwork. Leader:

People: With Wisdom, we rejoice, worshiping in the sanctuary of creation!

The ways of the Holy One make wise the simple. Leader:

People: With Wisdom, we rejoice, sharing in the oneness of love.

Let's worship the Holy One in the streets, sanctuaries, and squares! ALL:

| HYMN | "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" | GTG, No. 475 |
|------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
|------|--------------------------------------|--------------|

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Let us trust God's mercy and enter the liberating waters of forgiveness and grace. Together, let us boldly confess our sins and acknowledge our need for forgiveness:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

You call out to us, Holy God, from city streets, town squares and our own homes, but we refuse to listen. Preoccupied with our projections of You, we fail to see how these thoughts disrupt our communion with each other. You offer an outstretched hand to join You in transforming our lives, but we deny such a dance is possible, choosing complacency over Your counsel. Forgive us, loving Lord, when we ignore Your unremitting call to live in the way of love. By Your mercy, may we heed Your call to examine our lives and turn to serving You; for Christ's sake we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved friends, receive the good news: the Risen Christ enters all corners of Leader: our lives and declares us forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen!

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

September 15 — Sunday

9:15 am Church Nursery 9:30 am Sunday School Children's Sunday School (GP 3) 9:30 am 9:30 am Confirmation Class (GP) 9:45 am Choir Practice (S) 10:50 am Worship 12:15 pm Congregational Care Meeting (CR)

September 16 — Monday

The Gathering Place (FH) 10:00 am 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP) Boy Scouts (Scout Hut) 7:00 pm Mission Team Meeting (CR/Zoom) 7:00 pm

September 17 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP) Staff Meeting (P) 10:30 am 5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce* (Field) Basketball (GP) 6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2) 6:30 pm Faith Development Meeting (Zoom) 7:00 pm 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

September 18 — Wednesday

9:30 am ZIP Trip: Brookwood 3:30 pm WOW (S) WNS: Chicken Pot Pies! 6:00 pm Finance Meeting (CR/Zoom) 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Handbell Choir (S)

September 19 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP) 5:00 pm Idea Spring: Love & Logic Special Olympics: Bocce^{*} (Field) 5:30 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP) 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 552 Kickoff Meeting (FH) 6:30 pm

September 20 — Friday **PresPress Articles Due**

7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

September 21 — Saturday

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

September 22 — Sunday

| 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 |
| 2:00 pm | Sunday Craft Workshop (FH) |
| 3:00 pm | Cub Scouts: Bear (GP 1 & 2) |
| | |

September 23 — Monday

Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut) 7:00 pm

September 24 — Tuesday

Academy Picture Day (P) 10:00 am Flexercise (GP) Special Olympics: Bocce* (Field) 5:30 pm Basketball (GP) 6:00 pm 7:00 pm Session (CR) CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH) 7:00 pm

September 25 — Wednesday

| Academy Picture Day (P) | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| 9:30 am | Happy Hands (CR) | | | |
| 3:30 pm | WOW (S) | | | |
| 5:00 pm | Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4) | | | |
| 6:00 pm | WNS: Spaghetti & Meatballs! | | | |
| 7:00 pm | Handbell Choir (S) | | | |

September 26 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP) 5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce* (Field) Fairbees Square Dance* (GP) 6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Arrow of Light (GP 1) 6:30 pm

September 27 — Friday

Family Movie Night (GP) 5:45 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR) 7:00 pm

September 28 — Saturday

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

10:50 AM

Announcements & Events:

The Flowers for this morning are given by Lee Dudinsky, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of Harrison Dudinsky's birthday on September 14th.

The Congregational Care Group will meet today, September 15th, immediately after worship in the Conference Room. We welcome anyone who would like to join this committee, which now meets after worship on the 3rd Sunday of every month.

Our Confirmation Classes began this morning! Those on their Confirmation Journey are: Cali Alegria, Piper Dikeman, Jayden Earnest, Dylan Mancilla, and Emma Pace.

The Gathering Place will meet tomorrow, Monday, September 16th, at 10:00 AM! The theme for this month is *Fiesta!* Please see Jacquie Ballesteros or Sarah Dikeman if you are interested in helping out.

This Wednesday, September 18th, the Presbyterian Women will ZIP to Brookwood for some fall and pre-Christmas shopping with lunch at the café. We have reservations for 10 people, but we can make more! Please RSVP and direct questions to Marguerite Priest (<u>mepriest@hotmail.com</u> or 281-435-3941).

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, September 18th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Jennifer Miller is making Chicken Pot Pies. Please email Kay Craig at <u>kay@craig-heidt.com</u> to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Our next Idea Spring event is Parenting the Love & Logic Way® on Thursday, September 19th, 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®, Two ways of Neutralizing Childhood Arguing, and the concept of Delayed/"Anticipatory" Consequences. 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 <u>ideaspring@springbranchpres.org</u>. We hope to see you there!

Our next fun Sunday Craft Workshop is on Sunday, September 22nd, from 2:00-4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will be making "burrito-style" pillowcases. We hope to make some of these to give away to Mission of Yahweh and other places. You can make some for yourself, for Christmas gifts, or to give away. If you have any questions, or would like to attend, please contact Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com or 713-248-4138.

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 <u>musicdirector@springbranchpres.org</u>.

Handbells are returning! 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.

Happy Hands will meet on Wednesday, September 25th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. We'll be stuffing and stitching heart shaped pillows for hospital patients. If you made hats, scarves, blankets, etc. over the summer, bring them to the meeting so we can admire your work and put them to use. We hope to see you there!

The Gathering Place Program will be holding a planning meeting on 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.

***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

Sarah Powell & Marguerite Priest

| ANTHEM "Acclamation" from The Gospel Mass | Choir |
|---|-------|
|---|-------|

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Speak to us, Spirit of Knowledge, so that we may focus on divine things. Pour out your wisdom upon us so we may respond by taking up our cross and following you. Amen.

| SCRIPTURE LESSON | Genesis 15:1-6 | Red Pew Bible OT 12 | | |
|------------------------|--|---------------------|--|--|
| SERMON | "Space: The Final Frontier" Rev. Mark Plunkett | | | |
| Responding to the Word | | | | |
| *HYMN | "When We Are Living" | GTG, No. 822 | | |
| | | | | |

*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

| OFFERIORI | | | Welcome Visitors |
|--|--|--|--|
| *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. | | 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. | |
| *PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison) God who witnesses the cries and shouts of creation, and receives our tithes and offerings. May our streets be filled with jubilation, our cities be embraced by peace, and our lives be blessed with abundance. Amen. | | <i>Worship 10:50 am</i> 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. | |
| 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. | | 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 | |
| | | ry forever. | 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. |
| *HYMN | Departing to Serve "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" | GTG, No. 169 | 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. |
| *BENEDICTION *THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD | | Children's Sunday School Class: This class meets in the Children's classroom in The Gathering Place on the 1 st and 3 rd 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. | |
| *POSTLUDE | | | Children's Chime Choir: The Chime Choir meets in the Sanctuary on the 2 nd and 4 th 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. |
| | TRIAN C | | 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. |
| A CHURCH A RESP | | | 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.

Portions of today's worship service are taken from pres-outlook.org.