

NOVEMBER 2025



As we start the last two months of 2025, I want you to take notice of the numerous opportunities available to you for engagement with your Briarwood Sisters and the larger church family during this coming holiday season.

- One of the biggest events coming up with Women's Ministry is our **Countdown to Christmas**. This event helps to prepare our hearts for the Christmas season and it is our primary evangelistic event. Would you prayerfully consider inviting an unchurched friend to this wonderful event? All the details are on **page 3** and on the website at briarwood.org/women.
- If you are looking for a place to serve, we are always in need of help in our LOVE Ministry. Specifically, we need more people to join us as we deliver flowers to our Briarwood family members in assisted living, nursing homes, and others who are out due to medical issues. This is a wonderful ministry but we need your help in delivering the flowers to our brothers and sisters.

Happy Fall!

Kristie



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Special points of interest

- Countdown to Christmas
November 19



BRIARWOOD WOMEN'S MINISTRY

PRESENTS

COUNTDOWN
TO
Christmas

NOVEMBER 19, 2025

9:30 AM & 6:30 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

WITH GUEST SPEAKER

Candy Wood Lindley

TICKETS \$20 ON SALE OCT. 15
● NURSERY RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Countdown to Christmas focuses our attention on preparing our hearts for **the** upcoming **Christmas** season. As our time together unfolds we will hear **the** gospel, enjoy delicious food, and fellowship with one another. We will have some fun entertainment and fantastic giveaways. Most importantly, our prayer is that this event will bring our focus back to **the** Heavenly Father's great love for His people in providing our Savior, Jesus Christ. This event is for the believer and the non-believer. Our desire is that each person who attends will either grow in their love for the Savior or be introduced to Him for the first time. Our speaker, Candy Wood Lindley will share with us her story of faith and how she prepares her heart for Christmas.

Event Date and Times: Wednesday, November 19th
9:30 am & 6:30 pm

Food: Brunch will be served in the morning session and dinner at the evening session. *(Specific dietary requests cannot be accommodated, however, we will seek to provide options that will meet most needs.)*

Morning Schedule/Evening Schedule:

9:15 am /6:15 pm	Doors open and food is served
9:45 am /6:45 pm	Welcome and Prayer <i>(please plan to be in your seats by this time)</i>
9:50 am /6:50 pm	Program Begins
11:00 am /8:00 pm	Giveaways and Final words
11:30 am /8:30 pm	Dismissed



Speaker: Candy Wood Lindley

"Candy's story is amazing! God's providence is so clear and her learning to depend on Him is very instructive. As she has shared her story across the nation in many different venues, life after life has been impacted! So will yours!" – Frank M. Barker, Jr.

Tickets: The cost is \$20/person.

Tickets are available in the bookstore and *online.

**online tickets will have an added credit card charge*

We have limited tickets for the event. There is a FIRM DEADLINE to purchase your ticket by November 12th.

Volunteers: If you are interested in volunteering at the **event visit:** [Briarwood: Countdown to Christmas Volunteers](#)

Decorate a table: [Countdown to Christmas: Countdown to Christmas Table Decorators](#)

Nursery is available for both sessions with nursery registration.



Last year, the feedback from ***Countdown to Christmas*** was overwhelmingly positive. Many women shared that they appreciated how the program was not rushed in order to accommodate visiting the Caroline House. They also valued knowing exactly when the program would begin and end, rather than depending on dismissal times from individual tables.

At the same time, some asked if the house could still be decorated for the Christmas season, since many Sunday School communities enjoy hosting their fellowships there during that time.

In response, we are excited to share that we have **rebranded “Christmas at the Caroline House.”** The Women’s Ministry will take on the joy of preparing the Caroline House for the Christmas season. A team of women will thoughtfully decorate the downstairs portion of the home with holiday trimmings, creating a festive space that still allows groups to celebrate without hindrance.

Because the decorations will remain throughout the Christmas season, we will be gradually building a collection that can be used year after year. Our goal is that within 2–3 years, we will have a complete set of decorations to prepare the house beautifully each Christmas.

The house preparations will take place at the same time as ***Countdown to Christmas***. Following the morning program, the house will remain open Wednesday and Thursday so you may view the decorations and make plans for your own Sunday School parties.

Our decorators are already busy with preparations for this year’s ***Christmas at the Caroline House***, and we look forward to sharing the season with you!



Operation Christmas Child
is just around the corner!
We need your help!

Fill a shoebox and let a child know that someone cares about them and that God loves them! Briarwood participates every Christmas season in Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child. Operation Christmas Child sends shoeboxes packed with small gifts – toys, school supplies, and hygiene items to children around the world, some of who may have never received a gift in their life. The boxes are given with a gospel booklet and a gospel presentation and an opportunity to participate in a twelve week discipleship program (The Greatest Journey).

Beginning on November 2, shoeboxes will be available in the Ministries Lobby for you to take home and fill. Boxes are due back by November 16.

If you would like to build a box online instead, please click [here](#).
Boxes built online go to hard-to-reach countries.

See the Trailblazer web page for more information about the packing party!

(<https://briarwood.org/ministries/trailblazers/>).



Trailblazers Packing Party
Friday, November 7 at 9:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall.

Save
the
Date

WOMEN'S IN-TOWN RETREAT

FEBRUARY 6-7, 2026

Tickets available online \$45

REGISTER ONLINE AT [BRIARWOOD.ORG/WOMEN](https://briarwood.org/women)

Adopt an Angel from the Angel Tree!

Angels will be available on
November 9th and 16th outside of the bookstore and the chapel.

Please bring all gifts back by November 23rd.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

to assist at the tables on Nov 9 and 16th

There will be three shifts:

7:50-9:30

9:30-11:00

11:00-12:30

To volunteer please email Amy Wood at apwood@briarwood.org or
call 205-776-5222

save THE DATE: T&CW26

turn your eyes

SEEING THE SAVIOR
IN THE PSALMS

June 11 - 13, 2026 • Indianapolis, Indiana

**The Gospel Coalition Women's Conference
(TGCW26)**

June 11-13 | Indianapolis, Indiana

Registration is open. [Register here.](#)

L.O.V.E. MINISTRY

The LOVE Ministry is an outreach to Briarwood members who are no longer able to attend regular services at the church due to mobility or health-related issues.



Would you consider serving with our LOVE Ministry?

The LOVE Ministry has two teams. One team arrives early on Monday morning to prepare small vases of flowers into arrangements using the flowers from the Sunday Flower arrangements that were located in the Worship Center and the foyer.

The second team (where we need volunteers) then meets on Monday at the flower room to pick up vases of flowers to deliver to Briarwood members in senior living homes, nursing homes and assisted living homes. We have over 60 members we can visit each week if we have the volunteers.

The goal is to bring light into the lives of Briarwood members and others who are unable to actively participate in the weekly activities of the church. We want to remind them they are still apart of our covenant family and we care for them.

We would love for you to join us in this beautiful outreach. It is a wonderful activity for spouses to do together, small groups, moms with little ones, or even on your own.

For more information, contact or darby@turningheartministries.com.

Exciting News from Our Women's Ministry!



Women's Ministry Leadership Training

MARCH 5-7, 2026

ATLANTA, GA

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Vanessa Hawkins

Paula Miles

Kristie Harrick

MUSIC: Lori Sealy

Clay-Like Calling

God's Glory in our Weakness



women.pcacdm.org/lt-2026

We're thrilled to share that **our very own Kristie Harrick** will be teaching at **CDM's Women's Ministry Leadership Training!**

This annual training is designed for women who **encourage and equip other women in the Church**—whether you're leading a Bible study, serving in your local or presbytery women's ministry, or extending care to women in your congregation. The **Women's Ministry Leadership Training** exists to come alongside you—helping women grow in their faith, leadership, and ability to serve others with grace and wisdom.

Join us in celebrating Kristie as she uses her gifts to bless and equip women across our denomination!

Register [HERE!](https://women.pcacdm.org/lt-2026)



Want to reach the nations but not quite ready to pack your bags for a mission trip? God is bringing the nations to us! Did you know there are adult learners from 19 different countries coming to Briarwood each week for our ESL classes? We need volunteers to

help us reach them by serving on our hospitality team, teacher team, and transportation team.

We offer ESL classes Tuesday mornings from 10-11:45am and Wednesday nights during Mid-week from 6:30-8pm. Come be a part of this exciting outreach by volunteering with us! You can impact the nations with the gospel of Jesus Christ right here in Birmingham!

Do you enjoy preparing food and using your hospitality gifts? We need 8 ladies to join the Hospitality Team by bringing snacks once a month: either for our Tuesday morning or our Wednesday evening classes.

Do you enjoy meeting new people and building relationships? Our Teacher Team needs additional volunteers to serve weekly as Teacher Helpers in our classes. We have openings for 2 Tuesday morning and 3 Wednesday evening helpers. No preparation needed – just a heart to serve!

Perhaps you enjoy driving around town and would like to provide transportation for students to/from class (as needed). Our Transportation Team would be grateful for your help!

[Click here to volunteer.](#) If you have any questions, please contact our ESL/Friendship Partner Director, Courtney McGregor cmcgregor@briarwood.org.



Would you consider helping in the Children's Ministry?



Volunteers are engaged in crowd control. Coming up, we have a Passport Night on **November 14**. [SIGN UP HERE](#). Please feel free to email Emily Baker with any questions: ebaker@briarwood.org. We pray that these opportunities stir a love for missions within the hearts of our children. Thank you!

BRIARWOOD

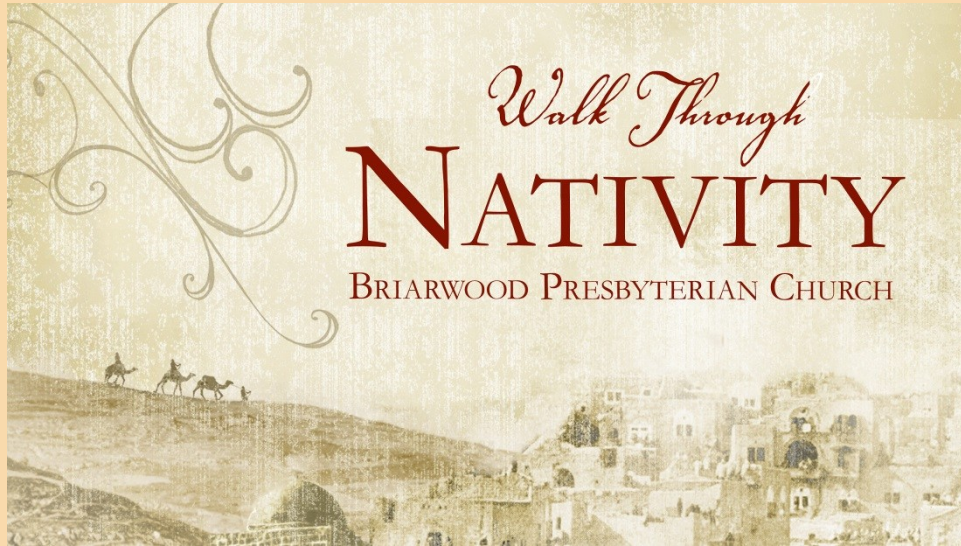


MINISTRY

Welcome Desk Mentor Mom's Needed!

Thank you to all of the Mentor Moms (seasoned moms, you know who you are) that have served at the Nursery Welcome Desk this year! We are so thankful to the Lord for your willingness to welcome guests, greet members, and encourage young moms. Your warm presence and kind smile make a lasting impact and are vital to the heart of the nursery ministry. If you would like to serve as a Mentor Mom at the Nursery Welcome Desk in 2026, please sign up [here](#). If you have questions, please reach out to nurseryadmin@briarwood.org.

December 10-12



Hundreds of Briarwood members come together to depict the birth and life of our Lord in 13 biblical scenes with narrated drama using live actors and animals (including a camel!) Won't you plan on joining us this year?

Wednesday—Friday

6:45 p.m. –8:45 p.m.

Briarwood Women's Care Team



The Briarwood Women's Care Team's primary focus is to serve as advocates for women experiencing significant needs and/or in crisis, and to come alongside the staff and leadership as they minister to women in the congregation in difficult circumstances.

To find out more information, or to request help, visit:

briarwood.org/women-of-the-covenant/womens-care-team/