

THE BRIARWOOD WEEKLY

• NOVEMBER 30, 2018 •

Walk Through NATIVITY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

OPENS FROM 6:45–8:45 P.M.

USE THE ACTON ROAD ENTRANCE

With Christmas drawing near, the excitement of this year's Walk Through Nativity increases daily! As family and friends walk through one of Birmingham's most poignant Christmas depictions, we pray that the various scenes from Jesus's birth, life, death and resurrection will be meaningful and that Christ will work in the hearts of all who participate. There's no better way to stimulate conversation about Christ! Drop by the Fellowship Hall afterwards for coffee, hot chocolate, and snacks. Be sure to invite your friends!



Briarwood
Presbyterian Church, PCA

2200 Briarwood Way
Birmingham, AL 35243
205.776.5200 • info@briarwood.org
briarwood.org



ORDER BY THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2!

Christmas Poinsettias

PLACE A POINSETTIA IN MEMORY OR
IN HONOR OF SOMEONE SPECIAL
FOR THE WORSHIP CENTER AT CHRISTMAS.

Cost is \$20
PER DEDICATION/PLANT.

ORDER AT BRIARWOOD.ORG/POINSETTIA,
USE ENVELOPES AT THE INFO DESK, OR
VISIT THE MEMBERSHIP OFFICE (A101) .

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Grace and peace. Merry Christmas! I am looking forward to celebrating this glorious Advent season with all of you. This season presents numerous opportunities for us in worship, evangelism and fellowship. A number of the Christmas celebrations are specifically designed to create an instrument for us to reach others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Let's take full advantage and invite our friends.

Our Advent theme this year is *"For Unto Us a Child Is Born!"* Here are some of the key worship/evangelism events:

December 2 at 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir Program
Deacons' Gifts to Children

December 5-7 from 6:45-8:45 p.m. Walk Through Nativity

December 9 at 6:00 p.m. Briarwood Ballet
"Glory to the Newborn King"

December 16 at 6:00 p.m. Briarwood Christmas Festival
"For Unto Us a Child Is Born!"

December 24 Christmas Eve
5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Family Candlelight Services
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

We have reserved an inexpensive Advent devotional—*The Christmas Code* by O.S. Hawkins—which you may purchase in the Briarwood Bookstore as you walk through this season with your family. I know it will be of great benefit to maintain our focus upon the divine blessings of the Incarnation.

Finally, let me again tell you what a great joy it is for Cindy and me, along with our family, to not only celebrate the Advent season with our Briarwood family but to serve our Savior together with you by *"...equipping Christians to worship God to reach Birmingham to reach the world for Christ."*

Harry



Prepare your heart
this season with a
devotional that will lead
you from the first day of
December to Christmas day.

BRIARWOOD CHRISTIAN
BOOKSTORE
Special Christmas hours:
Open daily
9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
until Dec. 21.
briarwood.org/bookstore

\$3, includes tax

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Morning - 8:00 and 10:55 a.m.

I. Advent in Biblical Perspective

Isaiah and the Coming of Christ

"The Glory Immanuel—The God of Glory with Us"

Isaiah 7:10–14

Dr. Harry L. Reeder III

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p.m.

"The Carols of Christmas"

Children's Choirs

followed by Diaconal gifts

Serving in the Nursery

Sun., Dec. 2

Hearts & Homes

PRAYER FOCUS

Briarwood
International
Outreach

Praise God for the new relationships formed with international students, scholars, and families at Briarwood's International Christmas Party this past Friday. Pray that the relationships will develop and deepen so that the gospel may be both spoken and lived out in a clear and genuine way.

Nov 30

Gary & Carrie Runn
CRU • Texas

Beau & Tara Miller
ACMI • US/Intl

Dec 1

Dan & Peggy Ruppel
Mastermedia • California

Moe & Git Montenegro
Campus Outreach • Thailand

Dec 2

Vicky Samaritano
CRU • New York

Carl & Kathy Most
Caribbean Ministry Association • Cuba

Dec 3

Sean Sawyers
Church planting • Massachusetts

Tammy Murden
Navigators • US/Intl

Dec 4

Jeff Newdome
Briarwood Elder

Jack Oswell
Briarwood Deacon

Dec 5

John Livingston
Briarwood Deacon

Russell Whittenburg
Briarwood Deacon

Dec 6

Bobby Parks
CMMA Director • Leadership Team

Urban Hope Community Church
Fairfield

New Sunday School Quarter Begins! This Sun., Dec. 2. To see a listing of class subjects/teachers, go to briarwood.org/ss or pick up a copy at the information kiosks.

The 2019 Budget Information Meeting will be held Sun., Dec. 2 at 5:00 p.m. in A105. Members of the Budget Committee will be present to answer your questions.

Church Revitalization Ministry Prayer • All are invited to gather for prayer Sun., Dec. 2 at 5:00 p.m. in W202.

December Nursery • SIGN-UP needed for any Sunday night event in Dec. including the 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Services. Make reservations at briarwood.org/nursery.

Christmas Eve Nursery Volunteers Needed • If you are willing to help keep our little ones for the 5:00 service, contact Alison Craig at acraig@briarwood.org.

Persecuted Church Prayer • Sun., Dec. 9 in G103 at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us to pray for our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

Canned Food Drive • Sun., Dec. 9. Support Love in Action Ministries by bringing bags of canned goods/non-perishables to leave behind your vehicle to be picked up while you are in church.



Children's Choirs Program

December 2 • 6:00 p.m.

Walk Through Nativity

December 5–7 • 6:45–8:45 p.m.

Briarwood Ballet

"Glory To The Newborn King"

December 9 • 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Festival

December 16 • 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services

December 24

Family Candlelight Service • 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Candlelight Communion Service • 11:00 p.m.

All are invited! • Sun., Dec. 16 Todd and Cindy Sproull, supported ministry partners serving in Washington with the Lummi Indians, are hosting a ministry update luncheon at the Caroline House from 12:30–2:00 p.m. RSVP required to thesproulls@mac.com or 205-213-2198.

Birmingham Boys Choir • All are invited to a free concert of Christmas favorites, Thu., Dec. 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" and other sacred Christmas songs will be featured. Don't miss this chance to hear this nationally-renowned choir!

Briarwood Presbyterian Church has established a mercy fund to assist people in financial need. From time to time, the Mercy Committee may set aside certain amounts out of the general mercy fund to meet a particular mercy need. While Briarwood welcomes contributions to the general mercy fund, it has established certain policies regarding contributions in order to assure that donations are made for the tax exempt purposes—that is, to assure that the gifts are to or for the benefit of a charitable organization and not a specified individual. We appreciate your respecting the policies below:

1. Directions regarding donations to a specific individual are advisory rather than mandatory. That is, the administration and disbursement of all mercy funds are subject to the exclusive control and discretion of the Mercy Committee and specific designations may not be followed. Donations should not be made if you do not agree that they will be subject to the discretion of the church officers designated above.
2. Amounts set aside for a particular mercy need by the Mercy Committee have a limited duration. Any budget remaining at the end of the year will revert to the general mercy fund.

Embers to a Flame Conference • If you enjoy hosting, serving, and making others feel welcome, consider joining our volunteer team for this Jan. 17–20 event! Contact Kim Vice at kvice@briarwood.org or 776-5399.

Seminary Jan Term • Eschatology on Jan. 3–5 (Thurs.–Sat. at Briarwood). Doctrine of Salvation on Jan. 10–12 (Thurs.–Sat. in Huntsville and via video conference). Church History in America on Jan. 10–12 (Thurs.–Sat. in Montgomery and via video conference). Go to bts.education or call 776-5356.

Trailblazers Spring Trip • Join us as we travel to Savannah and Amelia, St. Simon and Jekyll Islands this coming Apr. 8–13. Email Sharon at sjohnston@briarwood.org or see the brochure at briarwood.org/trailblazers for details.

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Nursery Committee • If you are interested in being a part of the nursery committee, go to Briarwood.org/nursery, follow the link at the bottom and fill out the information.

Job Openings (more at briarwood.org/employment):

Young Business Leaders Office Manager. Full time position needed to manage banquets and fundraising events, coordinate outreach efforts, write specialized correspondence, and track donations and financial reporting. Ability to use Shelby and Microsoft Office essential. Email résumé to Phil Reddick at preddick@ybl.org.

Administrative Assistant for Briarwood International Outreach. Seeking a Briarwood member for a part-time position in the Missions office. Knowledge of Microsoft Office is necessary. Please send résumé or email inquiries to Heather McDougall at hmcDougall@briarwood.org.

Jr. High Ministry Staff. Seeking a female to shepherd and disciple our Junior High school girls through personal ministry and recruiting and training volunteers. Will work under the Junior High Director and with other youth staff. Call the Briarwood Student Ministry at 776-5269, or send résumé to jshaw@briarwood.org.

College Women's Coordinator. Full-time ministry staff position requiring the ability to shepherd, disciple, and connect with college-aged women. Contact Rachel Laster

BRIARWOOD FAMILIES

- We rejoice with **JD and Cierra Bragan** on the birth of their son, **Lionel 'Leo' David Bragan**, on Nov. 16.
- Our love and sympathy to **Joy Blazer** and family on the death of her brother, **Johnny Merelo**, on Nov. 20; to **Jonathan Jeff** and family on the death of his grandmother, **Rosemary Hooper**, on Nov. 21; to **Steve Jones** and family on the death his grandmother, **Alice Jones**, on Nov. 24; to **Nancy Battles** and family on the death of her father, **Wendell M. Jones**, on Nov. 25; and to **Jean Kidd, Natalie Kidd** and family on the death of their mother and grandmother, **Eunice Jackson**, on Nov. 26.