Welcome New Members who joined in November

Mark & Alana Ray  Cale & Morgan Kreger  Adam & Ashley Harris
Maddie Abbott  Alyssa Franks  Bo Kim  Trent Taylor  Amelia Lee Crawley
Tommy & Margi Lyles  Rebecca Graham  Rebecca Howard  Chip & Teri Page
Reilly Oberding  AJ Ray  Charlie Ray  Braley Ray  Margaret Steiner
Christmas Eve Services
December 24

Family Candlelight Service • 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.
Candlelight Communion Service • 11:00 p.m.
Hark! the Harald Angels Sing, “Glory to the New Born King!” Praise the Lord for how He worked at our Walk Through Nativity 2019! It was amazing to see the Lord bring 7,431 people to walk through and view the 14 scenes depicting the life of Christ and hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. We trust God to use the Gospel seeds that were shared to bear fruit in the lives of those who attended, especially the over 4,500 who attended who were not members of our church family.

One young man shared, “This was so wonderful! We brought our Japanese friends. It was the first time for one of them to hear the story of Jesus Christ!” A couple shared, “We loved attending the Walk Through Nativity. As foster parents, this is a great way to tell our children about Jesus. Thank you so much for all you do to make this possible.” A young mom shared, “This is a beautiful depiction of Christ’s story. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to share the gospel so clearly.” Another person shared, “Thank you for this wonderful experience. This was our family’s first time to attend and we will cherish the memory! Thank you!”

And thank you to the over 900 members who volunteered to make this year’s Walk Through Nativity a success! Also thank you to all who invited your friends and family to attend. God used you in a great way to reach many people with the Gospel of Christ! Let’s join together to praise God for the wonderful things He has done and also pray for all our guests who attended. Praise God for sending His one and only Son, “...you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)

Benny Youngblood
Shepherding Team Pastor

Pastor Reeder’s recommendations in the Bookstore—
Morning Exercises by Rev. William Jay.
One-Year Bible Reading Plan with three options available.
**Sunday Morning**

8:00 and 10:55 a.m.

IV. Advent in Biblical Perspective

*Life Portraits from the Nativity*

“The Word of God and the Spirit of God in the Nativity”

Matthew 1, 2; Luke 1, 2 (selected)

Dr. Harry L. Reeder III

**Sunday Evening**

6:00 p.m.

Briarwood Carol Sing and Scripture Expositions with the Adult Choir and Orchestra

**Serving in the Nursery**

Sun., Dec. 22

Covenant Keepers/Firm Foundations

---

**Prayer Focus**

Ngwane and Ncamile Dlamini in Swaziland lead CrossRoads ministry with the goal of transforming communities with hope, life and truth. Pray as they train and equip teachers in cooperative learning and train them to use Jesus as a role model of character with their students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dec 20</th>
<th>Bob &amp; Debby Sjogren</th>
<th>UnveilInGlory • Virginia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 21</td>
<td>Ed &amp; Teree Solomon</td>
<td>Child Evangelism Fellowship • Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 22</td>
<td>Todd &amp; Cindy Sproull</td>
<td>MTW ( Lummi Indians) • Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 23</td>
<td>Marc &amp; Carol Stephens</td>
<td>Navigators • Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 24</td>
<td>Will Worrell</td>
<td>Briarwood Elder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 25</td>
<td>Chuck Warlick</td>
<td>Briarwood Deacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 26</td>
<td>Benny Youngblood</td>
<td>Shepherding Team Pastor • Leadership Team</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Lord’s Day Worship Services**
The next issue of The Weekly will be published Jan. 10. Have a blessed Christmas and New Year holiday!

The church and school offices will be closed Tues., Dec. 24 and Wed., Dec. 25 for Christmas; then again on Wed., Jan. 1 for the New Year holiday.

The church gates will close at 9:00 p.m. on Mon., Dec. 23 and re-open at 3:00 p.m. on Tues., Dec. 24. They will close following the 11:00 a.m. communion service, and re-open on Thurs., Dec. 26 at 5:30 a.m. On Tues., Dec. 31, gates will close at 9:00 p.m. and re-open on Thurs., Jan. 2 at 5:30 a.m.

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

Stocking Stuffer • Give the man in your life a ticket to the Sportsman’s Blast, coming Feb. 7. Popular speaker Russell Thornberry will be our guest. Tickets now in the Bookstore and online at briarwood.org/blast.

Urban Ministry Prayer • Sun., Dec. 22 at 5:00 p.m. in the Bride’s Room. Join us to pray for Urban Hope Community Church and urban ministries in the Birmingham area.

The sacrament of the Lord’s Supper will be celebrated Tues., Dec. 24 in the 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service. An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. Elements are gluten-free.

Stewardship • When giving gifts of securities and to insure your contribution is processed accurately and efficiently, please notify Matt Moore, 205-776-5205, or Catherine Russell, crussell@briarwood.org, at the time of your gift.

As 2019 Comes to an End • The Accounting Office will close for the year on Dec. 31 at 5:00 p.m. Contributions received in the mail must be postmarked or cancelled by Dec. 31 to qualify as a gift in the year 2019. Contributions with Jan. 2020 postmarks will be considered 2020 contributions.

PCA Christmas Offering will be taken at Christmas Eve Services. Through the Ministerial Relief Fund, the Christmas Offering provides monthly supplemental income to our retired and disabled pastors, missionaries, church lay workers, their widows and dependent children who have low income and meet the Relief Fund guidelines. Special offering envelopes will be placed in the pews on Christmas Eve for your gift.

BYG Laguna Beach Retreat • Dec. 28–Jan. 1, with worship, teaching, and special activities. Get away and be renewed spiritually! Register at briarwood.org/laguna.

Ambassador Holiday Soccer Camp • Dec. 30–31 from 9:00 a.m.– noon. All ages 6–12 register at 205-776-5114 or briarwoodsoccer.com. Open to the public.

Christmas Eve Nursery Volunteers Needed
If you are willing to keep our little ones during the 5:00 p.m. service, email acraig@briarwood.org.
Last-minute Christmas shopping? • Shop the Bookstore for your gift needs! Holiday hours through Dec. 23 Mon.–Fri. from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and Sun. from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Trailblazers • Jan. 6, come tour Samford’s Hodges Chapel and the Library collectibles. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. at Samford then join us for lunch at Brio after. Contact Sharon at johnston@briarwood.org or 205-776-5320 for info.

Seminary Jan Term Intensives • Theology of Missions (Jan. 9–11), Contemporary Issues in Worship (Jan. 9–11), and Church Revitalization/Embers Conf. (Jan. 16–19) at Briarwood. Go to bts.education or call 205-776-5356.

GriefShare • Begins Wed., Jan. 8 from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in W202. If you or someone you know is adjusting to the death of a loved one, come to this 13-session class. Call 205-776-5227 to learn more.

Birmingham Rally and March for Life • Sat., Jan. 18 at 10:45 a.m. at Brother Bryan Park (22nd St. S. at 10th Ave). Rain or shine; families welcome!

Mommy & Me Ballet classes • Begin Thurs., Jan. 16 from 9:30–10:15 a.m. (8 sessions). Toddlers, come dance with your favorite adult! Go to briarwood.org/ballet/mommy-me.

Briarwood Ballet Adult Classes • New to ballet or want to dust off your ballet slippers? Come learn classical beginning ballet in a relaxed environment while getting a great workout. Go to briarwood.org/balletclasses or call 205-776-5284.

Embers to a Flame Conference • Jan. 16–19. Will you be a hospitality volunteer? Hospitality volunteers provide housing and/or transportation to conference attendees and seminary students. Also, volunteers are needed for prayer, manual assembly, and serving meals. To volunteer, contact Kim at kvice@briarwood.org or 205-776-5399.


Family mission trip opportunity • Costa Rica this March. Open to families or parent/child to minister with your kids! Contact John or Shanna at 205-222-1062 or 205-585-8871.

BRIARWOOD FAMILIES

Our love and sympathy to Amanda, Anna, Grant and Audrey Skinner and family on the death of their father and grandfather, Ken Laughlin, on Dec. 11; to Sharon and Bryan Huffstutler and family on the death of their husband and father, member Odis Huffstutler, on Dec. 12; and to Joel Acevedo and family on the death of his mother, Ana Aguayo, on Dec. 14.
Unwanted stress because of money issues? Do you want to save more, become debt free, start investing for retirement? Crown ministry is starting a new group during MidWeek beginning Wed., Jan. 8. Contact 205-776-5211 or dmatthews@briarwood.org to register.

Fostering Hope is our ministry to prospective and current foster parents and foster children. You may not be able to be a foster parent, but you can foster hope. Begins in January. Contact David Wells for info at 205-587-9553.

Job Openings (more at briarwood.org/employment):
Director, Women Business Leaders. Seeking an experienced, business-minded Briarwood member with a heart for evangelism. College degree, fundraising experience and active in ministry for women preferred. Contact Phil Reddick at 205-776-5450 or preddick@briarwood.org.

Administrative Assistant for the Shepherding Team Pastor. Full-time position with benefits for an active Briarwood member. Proficient knowledge of Microsoft Office, effective organization, and excellent communication skills required. Send résumé to Benny Youngblood at byoungblood@briarwood.org or call 205-776-5321.

Briarwood Christian School: Openings on the website. See details on other positions and how to apply by going online to briarwood.org/employment.

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.