“Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Your Law.”
– Psalm 119:18
A Word to Visitors

Grace and peace and welcome to Briarwood! At Briarwood we have wonderful Sunday School communities where you can find an avenue for studying the Word of God in a small group atmosphere. Our Sunday School communities offer extraordinary opportunities for fellowship and ministry. Dive in and take hold of this vital part of our church by immersing yourself in a community committed to “…equipping Christians to reach Birmingham to reach the world for Christ.”

Harry Reeder, Pastor/Teacher

The Purpose of Sunday School Communities

The purpose of Briarwood’s Sunday School Community Ministry is to teach consistently the whole counsel of God in the context of our congregational communities; to encourage the fellowship of believers; and to build disciples by equipping Christians to make an impact for Jesus Christ, beginning in the home and church and moving to Birmingham and beyond.
Pastor’s Inquirers/Membership Class
This is a class for newcomers and prospective members taught by Pastor Reeder and other pastors. Attending this class does not obligate you to join Briarwood. We will cover how to connect with Christ, with the Church, and with Briarwood. The winter session will consist of a special consolidated weekend class scheduled to begin January 24 and will include one Friday evening, one Saturday morning and one Sunday morning session and a luncheon for those planning to join. For more information, please call 205-776-5208 or you may check dates and register online at briarwood.org/pic.

NURSERY

Director: Alison Craig. Ages 2 months through 3 years.
Visitors, to ensure your child is placed in the correct room, please come to the Nursery Registration table located in the Nursery hallway.

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL

In order to best serve you, register your children at the Children’s Sunday School Information Station, School wing, second floor (directly over the School lobby).

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<th>AGE/GRADE</th>
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<td>K-4</td>
<td>E-207/209</td>
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<td>K-5</td>
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<td>Catechism class</td>
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<td>4th–6th grade Ignite</td>
<td>Children’s Auditorium</td>
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<td>Special Connections (Children)</td>
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<td>Special Connections (Adults)</td>
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JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Youth Pastor: Jay Shaw. Grades 7–12.
Raiders 7th and 8th grade — E-304/305/306/313
BYG (Briarwood Youth Group) Grades 9–12 — C-200
Taught by parents and Youth staff.
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

Let us help you find the right Sunday School Community for you!
Call us at 776-5208 or drop by the Membership Office across from the Church Receptionist.

COLLEGE

College (A-201) “Various”
College age. We will spend the Winter quarter on various topics with various teachers. Teachers: Max Bunn and others. Team Leaders: Carlisles, Leibs. CP: Max Bunn. SP: Benny Parks.

SINGLES

Graduates & Career (M-202) “What It Means to Be a Presbyterian”
A community for graduates to early 30s. We are going to study the beliefs, practices and stories of the Presbyterian Church in America. Teacher: Stephen King. Team Leaders: Wiersmas. CP: Stephen King. SP: Benny Parks.

Leveraging Life (M-210) “Faith, Work, and Economics”
A community for early 30’s to 45. This class will explain the biblical principles that have emerged in the history of Western civilization, show how these served as foundational for the founding of America, and then trace our departure from them. Teacher: Paul Cleveland. Team Leaders: Baxter, Cagle, Dale, Hester, McKnight. CP: Stephen King. SP: Benny Parks.

In One Accord (W-202) “Spiritual Exercise of the Heart”
A community for 40’s and up. Based on the written reflections of author Thomas Reade, this course will focus on the transformation of a believer’s heart. These lessons will lead us through the work of regeneration and sanctification. The learner will practice self-examination and prayer through a diligent study of the Word of God. Teacher: Chris Thompson. Team Leader: Lance Garrison. CP: Chris Thompson. SP: Benny Parks.

THE ENTIRE FAMILY

Family Life (GYM) “The Enemy”
A class for the entire family. This is a study about overcoming sin and temptation by understanding the nature and power of indwelling sin remaining in the lives of believers for the remainder of our lives. Teachers: Benny Parks & Christopher Frost. Team Leaders: Belyeus, Maces, Wessons. CP & SP: Dave Matthews.
Family Matters (S-201)  “Revelation”
A class for the entire family. Our goal will be to read all the words of this prophecy aloud as a group that we may hear it and take to heart what is written in it, so that we will receive God’s promised blessing. Teacher: Matthew Collins. Team Leaders: Hursts, Warlicks. CP & SP: Dave Matthews.

YOUNG COUPLES & NEW FAMILIES

The Oaks (E-006)  “Sins We Tolerate”
Engaged and newly married couples. A look at specific sins like pride, jealousy, anger, ungodliness, worldliness, etc., and how we may try to minimize them or even fail to recognize them as sins. We will look at many examples in both the Old and New Testaments to see how these sins can significantly impact our walk with the Lord and how the Holy Spirit can help us overcome them. Teacher: Mark Edwards. Team Leaders: Bragans, Clarks, Delks, Russells, Shealys. CP & SP: Jason Ellerbee.

Legacy (E-004)  “The Local Church”
Young married couples starting families. Come study God’s Word and join in the discussions about God's plan for the local church and your critical part in it. The hope for the world today is the church…we will learn about it and live it out together. Teacher: Kent Bailey. Team Leaders: Edwards, Ellerbees, Hendrys. CP & SP: Jason Ellerbee.

Encounter (M-111)  “Forgiveness”
Young couples with infants to elementary age children. The Bible has a lot to say about how God forgives us but also how important it is for us to forgive others. What is the connection between the two? How do we practically forgive people who’ve sinned against us as Christ has forgiven us. We’ll look at these questions and more. Teacher: Olan Stubbs. Team Leaders: Carlisles, Crawfords, Sasses, Welches. CP: Olan Stubbs. SP: Jason Ellerbee.

Covenant Keepers (E-008)  “The Life of Joseph”
Young couples with infants to elementary age children. The life of Joseph is significant not only in Genesis but in the redemptive storyline of Scripture as a whole. His life demonstrates how God’s sovereignty and human responsibility intersect. It illustrates the power of the Gospel to overcome generational sin. And Joseph, as a type of Christ, shows us how God’s providence secures for us God’s promises enabling us to trust Him in every situation of life. Teacher: Jim Alexander. Team Leaders: Dixons, Jeffs, Pettys. CP: Ryan Leib. SP: Ray Tucker.

Growing in Grace (E-005)  “The Honeymoon Is Over”
Young couples with infants to middle school age children. The honeymoon is over…or is it? Teachers: Jon LoVoy & Lance Radbill. Team Leaders: Marshalls, Martins, Thompsons. CP: Eric Reebals. SP: Ray Tucker.
Heritage Builders (FH-B) “Be of Sound Mind”
Families with infants to middle school age children. Does the Bible discuss mental health? Does it give us insights into how to address struggles like anxiety, addictions, depression and other mental health challenges? This study will explore what the Bible says about the importance of our mind’s health and the spiritual dynamic of renewing our minds. Teacher: Ray Tucker. Team Leaders: Abernathy, Bartons, Bentley, Bragans, Hills, Joneses, Laniers, Lotts. CP & SP: Ray Tucker.

SoJourners (E-007) “The Covenant Kingdom”
Families with infants to middle school age children. The Bible is The Story of all stories and unless we place the story of our lives into the story of the Bible, our lives will lack meaning and direction. This course is about the grand narrative of the Bible and the drama of Redemption that God is carrying out in the world through Jesus, Our Covenant King. Teacher: Seth Richardson. Team Leaders: Blacks, Cains, Crowes, McCurdy, Morises, Pruitts, Stewarts, Thompsons. CP & SP: Benny Youngblood.

Firm Foundations (E-003) “I John”
Families with preschool to high school age children. Our study of this book will focus on the basics of the Christian life: doctrine, obedience and zealous commitment to the truth of God’s Word lived out in the life of the believer. It will encourage us to sharpen our theological beliefs, refine our moral absolutes, and increase our passion to love God supremely. Teacher: Walter Leveille. Team Leaders: Everetts, Millers, Russ Ponder. CP: Rob Genin. SP: Michael Wichlan.

Growing Together (G-103) “Ephesians”
Families with preschool to high school age children. We will be studying timeless truths from Ephesians. Teachers: John Evans & Jay Shaw. Team Leaders: Blacks, Clays, Ellers, Iveys, Patrick Jackson, Saunders. CP: John Evans. SP: Michael Wichlan.

Next Step (E-010) “For I AM the LORD Your GOD”
Families with elementary to college age children. This quarter we will look at who God says He is, not men’s ideas of Him. We all have conceptions of God which are foundational and indispensable in our lives and worship. If we have a false or skewed understanding of God’s true character, it makes idolatry probable. We worship the God of our own minds instead of the One True I AM. We will seek to clarify a thoroughly Biblical view of God so we are honoring who He has revealed Himself to be. Teacher: Ken Friday. Team Leaders: Dodges. CP: Benny Parks. SP: Michael Wichlan.

Teambuilders (W-203) “Christ in the Old Testament”
Families with children in high school or older. We will survey the various ways we see Christ, through patterns, promises or presence. Teacher: Steve Windham. Team Leaders: Harrises. CP: Stephen Cloud. SP: Benny Youngblood.
Inside Out (FH-C)  “Four Faces of Christ”
Families with children in high school or older. Although we have no idea what Jesus physically looked like, we do have four separate paintings of the same Savior and His message as given by four different men; one of whom never physically saw Christ, another likely only saw Him from a distance. As we work through each of the “faces” presented, the hope is to see the King and His Kingdom in a much clearer light. Teacher: George Shamblin. Team Leaders: Harrises, Jacksons, Mungenasts, Saunders, Summers. CP & SP: Michael Wichlan.

Homefront (M-200)  “The Gospel of Mark”
Families with children in high school or older. Jesus’ Call to Authentic Discipleship; a radical commitment to both receive the “Good News” that Jesus Christ is Lord and the urgent task to retell this “Good News” to those around us. Join us as we unpack Mark's Gospel and what it means to be a disciple and to go and make new disciples that long to follow Him. Teacher: Michael Wichlan. Team Leaders: Carters, Chappells, McCrorys, Oswells, Snoddys, Steelmans. CP: Seth Richardson. SP: Michael Wichlan.

Hearts and Homes (A-204)  “I Corinthians, Part 2”
Families with children in high school or older. It has been said that this book addresses the moral problems of that age and ours better than any other in the New Testament. Here we see the extremes of asceticism and Christian liberty; of zeal and wisdom; of individualism and the importance of the corporate body of Christ. We also see God's view of sexuality and a proper understanding of spiritual gifts, etc. This quarter we cover the second half of the book. Teacher: Bobby Parks. Team Leaders: Salmons, Sittons, Smedleys, Smithermans. CP: Bobby Parks. SP: Michael Wichlan.

R.E.A.L. Life (W-204)  “Paradoxical Life”
Families with children in college or older. We will have two short courses taught: Paradoxical Life and Walking with God When Life Is Hard. Teachers: Ty Dodge & Chuck Powell. Team Leaders: Keppers. CP & SP: Dave Matthews.

Kingdom Builders (FH-D)  “Covenants Beginning in Genesis”
Families with children in college or older. Beginning in Genesis we will study all things covenant from God’s covenant with Adam through the New Covenant with our Lord. The material will seek to answer questions: How many covenants are there? Are there different types of covenants? What principles can be gleaned from the texts that help us today? Are some types of covenants more important than others? Teacher: Dave Johnson. Team Leaders: McRaes, Zachows. CP & SP: Dave Lewis.

Discovery (FH-A)  “Trial - Blessings”
A class for all ages and stages in life. We’ll look at the lives of the Apostle Paul, Joseph, Job and others and see how suffering, affliction, persecution, and discipline are the very trials that sanctify you and are the pathway to glory. Teacher: Glenn Draper. Team Leaders: Donaldsons, Towneses. CP: Jim Alexander. SP: Benny Youngblood.
Mountain View (A-209) “James”
A class for all ages and stages in life. Martin Luther wasn’t impressed with the book of James, calling it a “right strawy epistle!” And since then, James has often been a book of great interpretative difficulty for the Christian. Is it about our works? Where is the Holy Spirit? Why doesn’t it speak more of the church? Join us as we explore the book of James and look at the practical realities of our faith and their ethical implications! Teacher: Ike Reeder. Team Leaders: Adamses, Blackmons, Lindsays. CP & SP: Dave Lewis.

ADULT FAMILIES

Abundant Life (G-101) “Minor Prophets”
Empty nesters and grandparents. We will be studying the minor prophets looking for applications today, while emphasizing the hope and final restoration of God’s people. Teacher: Phil Reddick. Team Leaders: Cartwrights, Mullises, Yanceys. CP: Phil Reddick. SP: Dave Lewis.

Deeper Life (Chapel) “II Timothy”
Empty nesters and grandparents. In this last recorded epistle, despite being chained like a criminal (2:9), abandoned by many friends (4:16), and facing death, Paul faithfully points his spiritual son, Timothy, to the hope that is in Christ. It is a hope that all of us need! Teacher: Mark Cushman. Team Leaders: Charles Atwater, Al Black, Jim Dewberry, Bill Fox, Rick Latham, Lee McCarty, Bill Moulton, Bill Rudd, Charlie Woodall. CP: Chuck Morgan. SP: Dave Matthews.

Homestead (FH-E&F) “Jesus’ Early Teaching”
Empty-nesters through great-grandparents. The class will focus on Luke’s presentation of Jesus the teacher, healer, and kingdom preacher. We will pay special attention to how Jesus teaches us to be members and witnesses of His kingdom in today’s world. Teacher: Paul House. Team Leaders: Dickinsons, Huffs, Morgans, Whaley, Whitts. CP & SP: Dave Lewis.

Joyful Hearts (A-105) “The Beatitudes”
Empty-nesters through great-grandparents. The Beatitudes are our Lord’s portrait of the essential features and characteristics of a Christian. In these verses, Christ presents both a call to and a test of vital Christian discipleship. Indeed, “it may be said without exaggeration that the marks of a Christian disciple are more vividly portrayed here than anywhere else.” Join us as we are together both challenged and encouraged by the first twelve verses of the Sermon on the Mount. Teacher: Todd Carlisle. Team Leaders: Hulls, Mujumdars. CP & SP: Mark Cushman.
**Women**

**Women Impacting the World (A-205) “Correctly Handling Scripture”**

Women of all walks and stages of life. II Timothy 3:16–17 tells us that Scripture is “useful for teaching, convicting, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” There is no doubt that God uses His Word in our lives and that He equips others to use it for our benefit, but do we know how to use it for ourselves, and do we use it to be taught, convicted, corrected and trained? In this class, we will discuss what may be most necessary to the believer’s obedience to God, dealing with sin, and responding to the difficulties of a world that still struggles under the law of sin and death: correctly handling the Word of Truth. **Teacher: Mark Travers. Team Leaders: Donna Arrington, Tricia Corbett, Vicki Portis. CP & SP: Dave Lewis.**

**Faithful Followers (Bride’s Room) “Malachi”**

Women of all walks and stages of life. “Prophets in the Old Testament were men who spoke for God.” Nancy Guthrie. Over 100 times in the historical and prophetical books of the Old Testament we read that, ‘the word of the Lord came’ to a prophet. This study dives into the prophetical book of Malachi with the aim of understanding not only what God had to say to his people through this prophet in his own day, but also what he has to say to his people today. Readers discover that we struggle with the same sins, we’re subject to the same judgement and we await the same Savior. **Teacher: Kristie Harrick. Team Leaders: Kathleen Bishop, Carolyn Campbell, Susan McCollum. CP: Chris Thompson. SP: Dave Matthews.**

**International (E-218, School Library) “Knowing God”**

English-speaking internationals. True peace is to have peace with God. Join us as we read through stories of the Bible. We will learn about God’s character, as well as take an honest look at our human nature—all while discovering how to have peace and relationship with God. **Teacher: Taylor Barnes. Team Leaders: Taylor Barnes Chans, Entrekins, Kelsos, Ann Lindsey, David Morgan, Neills, Miriam Rueger. CP: Taylor Barnes. SP: Bryan Wintersteen.**

**International Sunday Services**

Japanese Worship Service: 1:30 p.m., G-101, **CP: Kotaro Hamamatsu.**

Korean Worship Service: 11:20 a.m., 2209 Rocky Ridge Road, **CP: Seongmin Im.**

Hispanic Worship Service and Sunday School: 10:30 a.m., 5521 Double Oak Lane (Highway 119), **CP: Joel Acevedo.**
Abbreviations Used

**CP: Community Pastor**  
Serves alongside a Shepherding Team to provide shepherding care, class leadership, and biblical training for a Sunday School Community.

**SP: Shepherding Pastor**  
Serves as a Community Pastor in one or more Sunday School Communities and coordinates the work of other Community Pastors within his group of Communities.

Building:  
A: Administration  
C: Children's Wing  
E: Educational Building  
FH: Fellowship Hall  
G: Gym Wing  
Mtn. View: Mountain View Building  
M: Ministry Wing  
N: Nursery Wing  
S: School Wing  
W: Worship Center