

THE

BRIARWOOD WEEKLY

• APRIL 17, 2020 •

Faithful in the Face of Crisis

In Hebrews we are called to “consider ways to stir up one another to love and good works.” The coronavirus pandemic has given our Briarwood family many opportunities to do ministry in creative ways.

- A family put up a cross in their neighborhood park and invited others to do personal worship during Holy Week;
- Another has been coordinating cul-de-sac prayer times on Wednesday and Sunday evenings. Observing social distancing, neighbors pray silently for several minutes, then conclude by praying the Lord’s Prayer out loud;
- One other BPC member originated a prayer list which now has grown to over 2 pages filled with names of medical first responders;
- So many helped with the blood drive at the church that a second bus and two additional hours had to be added to accommodate everyone serving our community.
- And many, many other ways.....

When people face fear, they often are more open to hearing the words of eternal life. By creatively sharing our testimonies and accounts of God’s faithfulness, we can help others through this difficult time. Continue in worship and prayer, trusting God to show you ways to reveal the reason for the hope within you. Then we will stir one another up by discovering new ways to be on mission together.

To God be the Glory,

Pastor Jim Alexander



Briarwood
Presbyterian Church, PCA

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CONVERSATIONS ON THIS PRESENT DISTRESS

WITH HARRY AND BRUCE

Pastor Reeder and Bruce Stallings
answer questions submitted to
askthepastor@briarwood.org

Sunday night at 6:00 p.m.

Available on briarwood.org, Facebook,
Roku, AppleTV and the Briarwood App.

COVID-19 Community Outreach

We are joining together with love for our neighbors to minister to those who are in need in Birmingham, our country and the world. Please read over the different opportunities to serve and give listed below and prayerfully consider how you can be a part of caring for those who have been most impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic:

Briarwood Disaster Relief Fund

The Briarwood Presbyterian Church Disaster Relief Fund is open. All financial gifts designated for Disaster Relief will be distributed to local and national organizations to minister to those in need due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Checks sent to the church should be made to Briarwood and designated to "Disaster Relief Fund."

Blood Drive

Briarwood is working with *LifeSouth* who will have two buses available for those donating blood. Social distancing measures will be implemented and overseen. Please practice social distancing while giving blood. The much-needed blood that is provided by donors will go to help those in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.

Date: Tuesday, April 21

Time: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Location: Parking Lot A (First right after entering campus via the Acton Road Entrance)

Community Food Drive

Items donated will go to help feed those in need in the Birmingham Metro area.

Hours: Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Location: Briarwood Presbyterian Church, 2200 Briarwood Way, Birmingham, AL 35243 – Truck is located in Parking Lot A (Acton Road entrance and on your right)

Items to Donate: Canned chicken, canned tuna, canned vegetables, canned beans, rice, oatmeal, cereal, boxed macaroni and cheese, pasta, pasta sauce, pop-tarts, breakfast bars

Please be sure to practice social distancing while donating to the Community Food Drive. Submit questions to Chris Thompson at cthompson@briarwood.org or call 205-776-5227.

For more opportunities, go to briarwood.org/covid19outreach

Listen to Pastor Reeder's Daily Programs

***In Perspective* (M-F, Sunday; 30-minute expositional study)**

***Today In Perspective* (M-F; 10-minute look at current news)**

***Fresh Bread* (M-F; 5-minute devotional)**

The easiest way to hear these is by downloading the Briarwood App.

It's free and in all App Stores by searching "briarwoodpca."

They also are on WLJR-FM 88.5. Go to briarwood.org/wljr to see the program schedule.

Hear them online anytime at briarwood.org/inperspective.

Find them on iTunes by searching "In Perspective podcast."



Celebration of Worship

MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP - April 19, 2020

Worship Leaders

Dr. Harry L. Reeder III, Pastor/Teacher

Mr. Bruce Stallings, Executive Pastor

Rev. Daniel Cason, Pianist

Dr. John Haines, Worship Pastor

Mr. Hunter Goff, Organist

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

'Gather the people to Me, that I may let them hear My words...' Deuteronomy 4:10

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 8:1

[All:] O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!
You have set Your glory above the heavens.

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

Creator and Redeemer God, Author of all existence, source of all blessedness, I adore You for making me capable of knowing You, for giving me reason and conscience, for leading me to desire You; I praise You for the revelation of Yourself in the gospel, for Your heart as a dwelling place of pity, for Your thoughts of peace towards me, for Your patience and Your graciousness, for the vastness of Your mercy. You have moved my conscience to know how the guilty can be pardoned, the unholy sanctified, the poor enriched. May I be always among those who not only hear but know You, who walk with and rejoice in You, who take You at Your Word and find life there.

from The Valley of Vision

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

The Greeting of Grace and Peace

The Hymn of Ascents

"How Firm a Foundation" Hymn 275

How firm a Foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with Thee; O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply:
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, No, never forsake!"

THE PETITIONING OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

O LORD, in the morning You hear my voice... Psalm 5:3

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD'S GLORY

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Psalm 98:1a

The Presentation and Consecration of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

II Corinthians 9:7

The Musical Offering of Worship

"It Is Well With My Soul" (arr. Haines)

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

[Refrain:]

It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control;
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. (Refrain)

My sin - O, the bliss of this glorious thought,
My sin - not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! (Refrain)

And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
"Even so"— it is well with my soul. (Refrain)

The Confession of Truth

II Chronicles 7:14

[All:] ...if My people who are called by My name humble themselves, and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

[Leader:] The Word of the Lord.

[All:] Thanks be to God!

The Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

"Isaiah 43" • "Great is Thy Faithfulness" Hymn 43 (vv. 1,3)

When you pass through the waters I will be with you,
And the waves, they shall not overcome you.
Do not fear, For I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name, You are Mine.

[Chorus:]

For I am the Lord your God, (I am the Lord your God),
I am the Lord your God, (I am) The Holy One of Israel,
Your Savior; (Repeat)
I am the Lord. (Do not fear.)

I am the Lord. (Do not fear.)
I am the Lord. (Do not fear.)
I am the Lord. (Do not fear.)
I am the Lord.

When you walk through the fire I will be with you,
And the flames, they shall not, not consume you.
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name, You are Mine. (chorus)

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

[Refrain]:

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
And all I have needed Thy hand hath provided –
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain twice)

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

And they taught in Judah, having the Book of the Law of the LORD with them. II Chronicles 17:9a

The Prayer of Illumination

The Old Testament Reading

Nehemiah 1

The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

IV. Crisis and the Christian in Biblical Perspective

"Nehemiah and the Foundational Action Step for Every Crisis"

Nehemiah 1

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

And now I commend you to God and to the Word of His grace... Acts 20:32a

The Pastoral Benediction

The Congregational Affirmation

"The Doxology with Alleluias"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Postlude

Both Sunday morning services are broadcast live on WLJR 88.5 FM, and are also available online at briarwood.org/livetv. Watch the recording anytime at briarwood.org/archivety.

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