



LIFESTYLE STEWARDSHIP: FOUND FAITHFUL

EMC 2021

BRIARWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WHAT IS THE EVERY MEMBER COMMITMENT (EMC)?

- 1) **EMC (Tithe)** — The EMC occurs annually and funds the church's day-to-day ministries such as worship, community outreach, operations, meeting our members' spiritual needs, and equipping us to be salt and light in this world.
- 2) **Faith Promise (Offering above the tithe)** — The Faith Promise occurs annually and funds Briarwood's world missions ministries.
- 3) **Capital Campaigns (Offering above the tithe)** — Capital campaign resources fund new building programs, campus expansion, debt reduction, and other one-time needs.

***"...it is required of stewards that they be found faithful."
1 Corinthians 4:2***

On the following pages you'll find a brief description of some of the ministries your tithe supports, along with ministry impact stories illustrating the significance of your tithe in the lives of others.

THESE MINISTRIES BENEFIT FROM YOUR FAITHFUL TITHE:

Administrative Services	Membership
Birmingham Theological Seminary	Men of the Covenant
Briarwood Ballet	Mercy Ministry
Briarwood Christian School	MidWeek @ Briarwood
Campus Outreach	Mother's Day Out
Children's Ministries	Music Ministry for all ages
Christian Counseling Ministry	National Ministries
Christian Education	(130 Ministry Partners)
Christian Medical Ministry	Nursery
Church Planting	Pastoral Care
Church Revitalization	Prayer Ministry
Church and State	Quest/Recreation Ministry
College Ministry	Shepherding
Communications	Special Connections
Congregational Communities (Adult Sunday School)	Traiblazers/Senior Adult Ministry
Discipleship Groups	Urban Missions
Evangelism	Vacation Bible School
Fellows Ministry	WLJR-FM
Graduates and Career (G&C)	Walk Through Nativity
In Perspective Radio	Women of the Covenant
L.O.V.E. Ministry	Young Business Leaders

BIRMINGHAM THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BTS was established in 1972 to provide practical theological training for pastors and other church leaders, especially those unable to attend seminary full-time. During the seminary's almost 50-year history, more than 5,000 students have taken courses, and BTS graduates serve in churches and ministries throughout Alabama and beyond. Through its Distance Education program and international relationships, BTS now has students (in Spanish and English) in over 130 countries.

MINISTRY IMPACT – This year BTS was able to pivot and address the significant needs brought on by the coronavirus pandemic and the transition to digital education. Within two weeks we moved all of our classes online and grew our Distance Education program by 75%. One of the highlights was being able to offer Dr. Thad James' (BTS VP) Cross-Cultural Communications class for free. Over 20 students from all over America came together to learn how the gospel enables us to love, listen, and show compassion to one another because of what God has done in us through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

BRIARWOOD BALLET

Since 1980, thousands of students have been taught to use dance for the praise and worship of our Savior at Briarwood Ballet. Our performing companies—Ballet Exaltation and Immanuel—perform locally, nationally and internationally. This year over 400 area students will receive dance training that is artistically excellent and biblically based. We also strive to share the gospel with each student while using productions as an opportunity to allegorically present God's truths.

MINISTRY IMPACT – One of our dancer's parents recently wrote, "Briarwood Ballet has been one of the most profound shaping influences in [my daughter's] life. I cannot imagine who she would be without the ballet in her life. God has helped her grow and mature in discipline, work ethic, promoting the good of another, having a healthy self-image, and most importantly, in her worship and love for the Lord. I will be forever grateful for the wonderful faculty that has invested in her, both as a dancer and as a disciple of Christ."





BRIARWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

As a ministry of Briarwood Presbyterian Church, BCS is committed to providing a Christ-centered environment and education based on academic excellence through exemplary leaders who will challenge and inspire each student to know Christ and make Him known in every sphere of life.

MINISTRY IMPACT – One of our greatest desires through the lens of our Graduate Profile is to cultivate students who are: Growing Disciples of Christ, Responsible Stewards, Compassionate Neighbors, and Courageous Learners. Through the unprecedented COVID-19 impact in our community, we watched students valuing the dignity of their neighbors by serving in ways such as organizing prayer vigils in their neighborhoods, serving local nursing homes, and using 3D printers to create face shield parts for UAB hospital. Our students' and families' engagement in courageous learning encouraged us by embracing cultural challenges with power, grace, and love, as they were able to pivot to an online learning platform to finish out their school year.

BIBLICAL COUNSELING

The Briarwood Biblical Counseling ministry is a place of marital reconciliation, personal growth, and community development. We provide personal counseling for a variety of life issues (pre-marital counseling, marriage, depression, anxiety, addiction, self-injury, etc.) The center also trains lay counselors and mentors who assist and extend the reach of the pastoral staff. We contribute to the mission of Briarwood to reach Birmingham to reach the world for Christ through counseling, training and assisting other churches establish biblical counseling ministries.

MINISTRY IMPACT – A grandfather called the Counseling Ministry hoping to find some help for his grandson. His grandson had once been an outgoing and popular young man. However, he seemed to lose himself when he broke up with his girlfriend during his senior year. During his first semester at college, his depression deepened. He failed most of his classes, lost his scholarship, and came home. In desperation, the parents reached out to the grandparents. The young man found that the counseling really did help him. Although raised in the church, the young man was not a Christian. The counselor was able not only to help the young man, but also shared the Gospel and led the young man to Christ.

CAMPUS OUTREACH

Brianwood Presbyterian Church started Campus Outreach in 1978 with two staff members on one campus. Today, there are 710 Campus Outreach staff members serving 126 campuses in 11 countries. Our mission is to build Christ-like laborers on the campus for the lost world for the Glory of God.

MINISTRY IMPACT – Jay grew up going to church, but never surrendered to Christ. Jay met Jef Fluevog, a CO staff member at West Georgia during his freshman year. For over a year, Jef did whatever he could to spend time with Jay, inviting him to attend a fall retreat, the New Year's Conference, and a weekly Bible study. Jay had been living the fraternity party life, chasing after academic success, women, and drugs. Even though he knew none of these could make him happy, he continued their pursuit. But two weeks into the coronavirus shutdown, Jay reached out to Jef. Over the phone he said he had finally repented and received Jesus as Lord and Savior. Jay is now wanting to make the most of every opportunity he has to point his fraternity brothers to Christ.

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL MINISTRY OF ALABAMA

CMMA was established in 1982 to reach and disciple those in the healthcare professions, especially students in medicine, dentistry, physical therapy, etc. We also work with professionals in each field. We *"care for those who care for others"* so that they can survive the rigors of training, thrive spiritually and multiply to help reach the world for Christ. CMMA impacts 250–350 students and professionals each week.

MINISTRY IMPACT – "This past year I was part of a small group of four medical students and four doctors. It was a great experience for me. I learned God's truth every week. The members of the group taught me so much by their lives. Every second with them I learned something and I felt like a better person when I left each week. As I have evaluated myself recently, I know that I would not be where I am spiritually without CMMA. My life has truly been changed." –UAB Medical Student



THE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Children's Ministry at Briarwood desires to partner with parents to lead children to a saving, growing relationship with Christ by presenting the gospel, training children to worship, and equipping them to impact others for God's glory.

MINISTRY IMPACT – POP (Power of Promises) was a wonderful time of virtual VBS and Super Summer during COVID-19. The Children's Ministry packed 350 boxes each week and delivered them to church members who then used the boxes and online videos to disciple their children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends. Through these supplies and videos, the Children's Ministry was able to minister to our covenant children without missing a beat due to coronavirus! We are thankful to our church family for providing us with the resources to continue doing ministry during such an unusual time.



CONGREGATIONAL COMMUNITIES

It is clear in Scripture that we are to place a high value on being connected to biblical community with other Christians in our Church. At Briarwood, our adult Sunday School classes function as Congregational Communities. These 34 vibrant communities are where many of our members find a place to participate in the body of Christ with true fellowship with other Christians. In addition to excellent weekly teaching, our members join together to pray for one another, encourage one another, and use their gifts in ministry together.

MINISTRY IMPACT – Even in a pandemic, the need and desire for fellowship in Christ's community is strong. This has been very evident in our Congregational Communities. These communities have continued to faithfully meet weekly through virtual means during the pandemic. Through online fellowship and studying, phone calls, prayer, and consistent shepherding, our Congregational Communities have found meaningful ways to stay connected. As one member stated, "It has been a real encouragement in these challenging times to have class shepherds and members reach out to me. I am so thankful for my church family."

CHURCH REVITALIZATION

The Church Revitalization Ministry equips and encourages church leaders to build healthy churches that produce healthy disciples. At our national and international Embers to a Flame conferences, we teach ten biblical strategies leading to church health and the three-fold paradigm for church revitalization found in Rev. 2:5—REMEMBER, REPENT, AND RECOVER. Conferences are held annually and church leaders are urged to follow-up with our coaching ministry, Fanning the Flame. In addition, the Embers to a Flame ministry is now working alongside other evangelical denominations as they seek to establish church revitalization ministries.

MINISTRY IMPACT – The church revitalization ministry was blessed to host the annual Embers to a Flame Conference at Briarwood Presbyterian Church in January 2020. Pastors/church leaders from Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Nebraska, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania gathered together to study the attributes and characteristics foundational and essential for church health. This was a great time of fellowship and training for all those present as we met as one body in Christ.

THE COLLEGE MINISTRY

We are a community that is made up of two different groups. First, our students that grew up at Briarwood but now are away attending college. We seek to encourage these students from afar in their walks with the Lord and connect with them when they return over the summer and holidays. The second group is made up of college students from local campuses who gather for worship at Briarwood on Sunday mornings during the school year. We seek to create with these students a community that engages in Christian fellowship and impacts the campus and the world for Christ.

MINISTRY IMPACT – During her freshman year at art school, Carolina witnessed firsthand the emptiness and depravity of life without Christ. This pushed her towards the church and after her freshman year, Carolina found her way to Briarwood and began connecting with the college community. She joined a small group, and started meeting twice a week to read the Bible. It was through this time that God began revealing Himself to her and drawing her to Himself through His Word. She then fully surrendered her life to Christ and began being discipled. It has been so encouraging watching Carolina live for Christ.



COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Ministry of Briarwood includes our Print, Internet and Electronic Media Ministries, with Audio/Video, Radio and Television comprising our Electronic Media Ministry. At 88.5 FM, WLJR is our automated, 24-hour-a-day Christian radio station, affiliated with both the Moody Radio Network and American Family Radio. With the pandemic of 2020, the 8:00 and 10:55 a.m. Sunday services are broadcast on both radio and TV, made available on the website, the BriarwoodPCA App, and in social media. Please visit our website located at briarwood.org.

MINISTRY IMPACT – A rural doctor’s wife in the Midwest wrote and said her husband was standing and raising his hands in worship and that they were feasting on preaching and teaching to which they were unaccustomed. They’ll never be the same, they said, after participating in Briarwood’s online worship services. We have received scores of similarly encouraging responses from people far and wide. In a COVID-19 era that initially looked as if it might diminish our worship outreach, God has instead blessed us, enlarged our audience, and kept His Hand upon us. (I Chronicles 4:10).



EVANGELISM

From Briarwood’s beginning, evangelism has been a primary focus. Our Mission Statement challenges us to “...reach (evangelize) Birmingham to reach (evangelize) the world for Christ...” Tools to share our faith like Bridge Building, Bridge to Life and the Tract Ministry are just some of the ways we bring this training to our membership and the community.

MINISTRY IMPACT – Recently, I was blown away by the commitment of a believer to reach the lost for Christ in the midst of his personal suffering. This gentleman, a longtime member, was recovering from a severe stroke and a month later his dear wife passed away. In the midst of being in such a difficult time, he has been faithful to send letters of encouragement to others who are in retirement homes and in recovery units. He makes a point of sharing the Gospel by placing a tract in each letter he writes.

BRIARWOOD FELLOWS

The vision of the Briarwood Fellows is to develop future generations of leaders from the church to the world. We equip recent college graduates to influence their vocation, church, family and culture. Our Fellows invest nine months working in marketplace internships, in ministry within the church and city along with theological study in order to be thoroughly equipped to engage our culture with the Gospel.

MINISTRY IMPACT – In 2020, the Briarwood Fellows graduated our 8th class of Fellows. This year Fellows came from as far as Kansas and Virginia to participate in our program. The goal each year is to equip and develop leaders in deep community with each other to live a seamless life for Christ in their vocation, church, family and culture. This year was a year like none other, but even in the midst of the brokenness of a pandemic was the beauty of the Gospel of Jesus to transform all life—to make it seamless—for His glory and our joy.

GRADUATES AND CAREER

Graduates and Career (G&C) is a community for young single adults, early 20's to mid-30's. We are focused on growing in personal spiritual formation, servant leadership and revealing Christ to the world around us. Our goal is to train and equip individuals to navigate the culture and relationships in ways that honor and glorify God.

MINISTRY IMPACT – While COVID certainly threw a wrench in our summer plans, it did not stop the Lord from stirring hearts. One example comes from our member, Madison Murphy. After a gym class, she and her sister-in-law were discussing starting a Bible study together since they missed being a part of one. One woman from their class overheard their conversation and asked if she could join. From there, word spread and others showed interest. What's incredible is that Madison and her sister-in-law were unsure where these women stood spiritually, but God not only answered their longing for fellowship, but also provided a new opportunity for evangelism.

MEN'S MINISTRY

We believe that being Christ-like men of character and conviction is one of the highest priorities in our mission at Briarwood. Discipleship-oriented courses make up the nucleus of the Men's Ministry, enhanced by special events such as the Sportsman's Blast, Men's Dinners, and Men's Retreats.

MINISTRY IMPACT – 2020 has obviously been a unique year for ministry. God is so good that in this pandemic He has given us the ability to still gather together. This past summer, the men revisited the foundational truths of Christianity and met in breakout rooms via video conferencing.



MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Ministry's goal is to glorify God by helping our visitors and members connect to Christ and His church here at Briarwood. We focus on providing a warm welcome to our guests, connecting new members into the body through our Christ-centered assimilation objectives, and partnering with seasoned members in providing continued support and guidance in various ministry endeavors. This is facilitated through various small group meetings and partnering with other church ministries.

MINISTRY IMPACT – The Lord has continued to bless us with new members during COVID-19 in extraordinary ways. Whether through virtual or social distanced worship services, our new members have expressed feeling a warm sense of the presence of Christ in the preaching, praise and prayers of our services. One new member said that “he has been so encouraged by the prudent approach Briarwood has displayed to encourage gathered worship during this time.”

MERCY MINISTRY

The Mercy Ministry of Briarwood is committed to ministering to those in need. The deacons and volunteers of the Mercy Ministry are able to enter the lives of both members and non-members to walk with them through times of struggles and offer them the mercy of God. The Mercy Ministry also dispenses the mercy of God through New Direction Ministry and Fostering Hope.

MINISTRY IMPACT – A lady walked into to New Focus Class in the fall of 2019. One of our volunteer coaches discovered that she was sleeping in her car. Her husband had removed her from their home and she was working part-time in an assisting living facility. Throughout the classes, she heard the Gospel presented by the teachers and made an appointment to talk to the Mercy Pastor to inquire about the Gospel. The discussion led to her surrendering her life to Christ. The things she learned through New Focus enabled her to find and move into her own apartment. Recently, she called and reported that she lost her job and also tested positive for coronavirus. Due to the generous giving of our congregation, the Mercy Committee was able to help with her rent. She since has found a new job, and now also has the free gift of eternal life.



MUSIC AND WORSHIP

The Music and Worship Ministry exists to equip Christians to worship, mainly through our Lord's Day morning and evening worship services. This enables God's people to more effectively fulfill the calling God has given us to make disciples (and ultimately worshipers) of all the nations. The Music Ministry provides opportunities for all members, ages five and up, to find their voice in worship through graded choirs, youth choirs, the adult choir, orchestra, praise teams and bands.

MINISTRY IMPACT – I was on an afternoon run when a car made a quick U-Turn in the middle of the street and stopped. The driver leaped out and said, "Hey!! Stop a minute!" I thought he was angry with me but I ran in place and waited for him to approach. He said, "Are you the Worship Pastor at Briarwood?" "Yes", I said. "You don't know me but would you thank your pastor for us? Our church is small and COVID-19 has shut us down. But our entire church worships with you online every week."

MOTHER'S DAY OUT

This fall, MDO begins our 33rd year of loving children! We have a wonderful group of teachers who love, nurture and teach each child in our care. Our deepest desire is that these precious children hear about and experience the love of the Lord. We want each parent to feel fully confident that their child will be well cared for and loved each and every day while they are at Mother's Day Out.

MINISTRY IMPACT – "On the car ride home from MDO my daughter said, 'My teacher told me how much Jesus loves me and that I could ask Him into my heart. Jesus took my dirty heart and made it clean!' What a gift to have teachers that preach the Gospel to my kids." –MDO Parent

MIDWEEK

Briarwood MidWeek is a Wednesday night fellowship and discipleship opportunity for the entire family. The evening begins with a meal in the Fellowship Hall and is followed by a host of activities including: Bible studies, adult choir and orchestra rehearsal, seminary classes, evangelism training, children's programs, nursery, and youth ministry activities. For a full list of MidWeek opportunities and restrictions due to COVID-19, visit briarwood.org/midweek or the Briarwood App.

MINISTRY IMPACT – Over the years, MidWeek has been a wonderful ministry opportunity for God's people to gather together around an excellent meal before heading to a Bible study, theological training or one of the many other gatherings. With our MidWeek dinners we have fed nearly 10,000 people a year since 2007. We know from scripture that eating together is one of the best ways we enjoy fellowship as brothers and sisters in Christ; in fact, Isaiah 25 even speaks about the divine banquet table in heaven. MidWeek dinners allow God's people to spend sweet fellowship time together in the context of feeding our family without having to cook or do the dishes, which is wonderful.

NATIONAL MISSIONS

Briarwood's National Ministries currently partners with over 130 stateside ministries and workers committed to reaching the lost for Christ. National Ministries' focus includes church planting, ministry partnerships, and urban ministry. In church planting, we focus on non-gospel-saturated locations. Our national partnerships include ministries which take the gospel to prisons, college campuses, military bases, recovery programs, etc. Our urban ministry focuses primarily on the city of Fairfield, Alabama where Briarwood is currently investing in church planting and other holistic ministries.

MINISTRY IMPACT – "Christ the Redeemer Quincy held their first public Worship Service on Sunday, March 1, 2020. 'Beautiful' was the feedback we received after the service. I am thankful and prayerful that is because the Holy Spirit made the good news of Jesus beautiful and attractive to the hearts of those who attended. We had 75-80 adults and 15 children. Many of the visitors were not Christians and had no church home. I am thankful for Briarwood Presbyterian Church and your partnership in the Gospel to enable this new worshipping congregation! Please keep praying! The very next week we shut down 'in person' worship because of COVID-19. However, we have continued to worship online and the church has even grown." –Matt and Naomi Owens, Christ the Redeemer Quincy, Church Plant in Quincy, Massachusetts





NURSERY

The Briarwood Nursery provides a service to the parents of the church by providing a safe and pleasant atmosphere in which to leave their children while they pursue spiritual growth and fellowship with other believers. We are open during church on Sunday and Wednesday nights during MidWeek classes. Check briarwood.org/nursery for restrictions due to COVID-19.

MINISTRY IMPACT – “We have benefited from every aspect of the nursery! Everything from a quick drop-in, to VBS. The nursery Sunday School has particularly been a blessing, and I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the work put into each week’s lesson. This spring my 4-year-old daughter informed me that, while on the swing, she had asked Jesus to take her yucky heart and make it clean. What a precious moment!! I am so grateful for the nursery staff who diligently share the love of Jesus with our little ones, reinforcing these life-saving truths that I long to instill in the hearts of my children.” –Christian Terrell, Nursery Mom

PASTORAL CARE

As part of the Shepherding Team, the Pastoral Care Ministry assists elders, pastors and congregational communities in caring for church members—especially in times of sickness, infirmity, disability, bereavement or family crisis. During the COVID-19 pandemic, such care has been maintained by the pastoral staff, community leaders, and specially trained lay people who have kept in touch with every family in the church through phone calls, emails, and texting when in-person visits are not possible.

MINISTRY IMPACT – Pastoral care at Briarwood has always included the hosting of “anointing” services led by elders who gather with those who are sick to pray as described in James 5:14–15. Several times this year, despite the isolation of people caused by the coronavirus, anointing services were held through video contact by elders, each in their own home, praying for someone in his or her home who has requested prayer. One gentleman who had not yet joined the church was thrilled with the ministry of elders who did not let social-distancing impede the opportunity for gospel ministry as they prayed for his wife who was anticipating surgery.

PRAYER MINISTRY

The Prayer Ministry at Briarwood exists to “glorify God through providing opportunities and equipping Christians to pray in order to impact Birmingham to reach the world for Christ.” We have numerous prayer meetings throughout the church. *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God, in Christ Jesus for you.* I Thess. 5:16–18.

MINISTRY IMPACT – Answered Prayer: God raises up Christian leaders in Fairfield. Dion Watts was born into a single-parent home in Fairfield. At 16-years-old, a horrific fire burned his home to the ground and propelled him to seek the Lord. He became a Christian once he experienced the love of Christ through the people of God. After college he taught at Restoration Academy, and the Lord began to burden him with a stronger call to the community of Fairfield. Because of the discipleship and leadership of Pastor Alton Hardy at Urban Hope Community Church, Dion now feels called to pastor and lead people from Fairfield out of darkness and into life in Christ. Dion is currently a BTS student and has recently come under care for pastoral ministry in Evangel Presbytery.

QUEST (RECREATION)

All the ministries of Quest exist to provide our youth God-honoring recreation. Camp Briarwood is a summer camp ministry for grades 1–10. Begun in 1964, Camp Briarwood has served as a camp and leadership training ground for approximately 20,000 children and counselors. The Briarwood Soccer Club was established in 1981 to provide instruction on the game of soccer, but more importantly, to use the game to further the Gospel of Christ. The club has grown to participation of over 1,000 players and coaches annually. Trail Life USA is a Christ-centered, outdoor, character-developing adventure program open to boys and young men aged 5–17.

MINISTRY IMPACT – Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, a ministry which previously existed only in physical community has creatively, effectively, and virtually continued to move forward. Trail Life has met regularly for Monday night Troop Meetings via Zoom. Camp Briarwood delivered Day Camp home kits created by camp counselors. And Briarwood Soccer Club families were able to continue soccer drills at home while meeting virtually until they were finally able to return to the field adhering to the latest guidelines. Quest rests on our Father’s promise from Jeremiah 29:11, *“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*



SPECIAL CONNECTIONS

The Special Connections Ministry vision is for the Gospel to be made accessible to all, as the body of Christ shows equal concern for people with disabilities and their families. The ministry provides teaching and worship opportunities as well as care for children, youth and adults with special needs. High school buddies accompany the children to inclusive Sunday School classes and Vacation Bible School. The ministry also provides other activities for people with disabilities throughout the year.

MINISTRY IMPACT – We received a call from a young lady looking for a church home for her brother who is a young adult with Down Syndrome. As a result, the young man began attending our Special Connections class on Sunday mornings. His mother would attend the early service before she had to go to work. By sending home the Bible lesson with her son each week, his mother is able to read the Scriptures and learn God's Word. We continue to reach out and minister to this family through this COVID pandemic.

TRAILBLAZERS

Trailblazers is a ministry to all adults over sixty here at Briarwood, many of whom God used to help build this church. Goals of the ministry include helping seniors grow spiritually, integrating them into the life of the church through service, providing educational seminars and fellowship luncheons, and using excursions to increase their awareness of the creative majesty of our great God.

MINISTRY IMPACT – The Trailblazers have been blessed with many quality speakers such as former Boston Red Sox player Jack Baker, who is also a staff representative for FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes). Baker shared his testimony and clearly presented the Gospel last fall at the Trailblazer Thanksgiving Luncheon. Another highlight was the tour of Hodges Chapel at Beeson Divinity School. This chapel is spoken of as "A Sermon in Stone" for its witness of the Gospel message through sacred art and architecture. It was wonderful to see our group of seniors lying down on the pews and looking up to see Christ and the "great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12: 1–2) painted in the chapel dome.





WALK THROUGH NATIVITY

The Walk Through Nativity is an inspirational portrayal of the story of Jesus Christ's birth and life presented by our congregation over 3 nights each December. This is an exciting opportunity for our Briarwood family, as more than 900 volunteers join together to reach out to our community and share God's love and the good news of Jesus Christ. Pending COVID-19 restrictions, we are expecting over 7,000 people to come this year and hear the story of Christ through 14 scenes with audio narration, live actors, and live animals.

MINISTRY IMPACT – A young man who is a member of our church 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. We are foster parents and this is a great way to tell our children about Jesus. At this event, we can also show them about Jesus. Thank you so much for all you do to make this possible.” Those who attended heard the Gospel of Christ and experienced His love.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Women of the Covenant Mission Statement is “Equipping women to know God, and to glorify Him in our home, church, community, and world.” We seek to do this through Bible studies, small groups, retreats and special events designed for personal spiritual growth as well as opportunities to reach out to family, friends, and our community with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

MINISTRY IMPACT – With new social-distance requirements, the Women's Ministry went digital. Over the course of two months, 44 different Briarwood women videoed daily devotionals sharing how the Lord was working in and through their lives as they engaged in the study of His Word. With no expectations of how the Lord might use these devotionals, we quickly realized the Lord would use this platform to engage women all across the greater Birmingham area. We received numerous emails about the impact of the devotionals. One newer member stated that they were so uplifting and helped her feel more connected during these times of social distancing.

YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS

Since 1981, the mission of YBL has been to reach men in the marketplace, build them in the faith and send them back to their families, communities, nation and world for God's glory. In 2014, we launched the same mission to women in the marketplace (WBL). On any day of the work week, men and women are seeking to worship God and live a life that reflects Him wherever they work, serve and lead. Our discipleship groups, outreach events and mentors build friendship, accountability and direction to live biblically every day.

MINISTRY IMPACT – “The WBL small group ministry has been a game changer for me as a working mom. During this season of life especially, so many barriers get in the way of actively participating in and connecting with small groups. WBL has made it easy for me by bringing the small group to my work location, during the lunch hour, while focusing on the Christian walk in the workplace. WBL is impacting the lives of more women by structuring the ministry in this manner. I thank God for blessing me with such an amazing opportunity!”
–Keri Monroe, Alabama Power Team Leader

YBL, 2ND HALF

The vision of the YBL 2nd Half Ministry is to mobilize, minister to, and multiply men who use their life experiences, time, and resources to impact God's Kingdom locally, nationally and internationally. *And the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginnings.* Job 42:12

MINISTRY IMPACT – A couple of our men in the 2nd Half heard about shortages at some of the food distribution ministries of our city. Within a couple of weeks, we mobilized 22 drivers to go to 60+ homes to pick up food (contactless) to deliver to five different ministries. Also \$2,250 was donated to the cause. One giver expressed that it was the third anniversary of her husband's death, and she was honoring him by giving.





YOUNG COUPLES MINISTRY

Believing that our young married couples are the next generation of elders and leaders, the Young Couples Ministry of Briarwood Presbyterian Church exists to bring glory to God by equipping couples for the work of the ministry in order that they be rooted and built up in Christ, established in the faith, and growing towards maturity as a part of Christ's Church.

MINISTRY IMPACT – For a number of years, small groups have proven to be the “bread and butter” of our Young Couples Ministry at Briarwood. These small groups have been a means of community, discipleship, and even evangelism. Having a heart for their neighbors, co-workers, and friends, one small group has made an intentional effort in reaching out and inviting those outside the church to join them. Through this endeavor a young wife and mother has recommitted her life to walk in obedience to Christ and her husband's heart is softening as he observes Christ's love being manifested through His Body.

YOUTH MINISTRY

The Youth Ministry has touched the lives of thousands of young people throughout the years through retreats, conferences and mission trips. Over the last several years, The Youth Barn has enhanced and facilitated even more ministry opportunities to our youth, both here in the church and in the community. Through weekly meetings, discipleship groups and special events, the Lord has blessed us to reach and disciple more and more students for Christ!

MINISTRY IMPACT – Last spring, two of our 8th-grade Raiders girls became burdened that their public school did not have a Christian club where students could get together at school to worship and hear God's Word. They began a 2-month process of planning, praying, and inviting students. Despite some opposition and discouragement, when they had their first meeting in March, over 100 students showed up! One student in particular came with many questions about what it means to be a Christian. Shortly after the first few meetings, COVID-19 caused the schools to shut down. However, not to be deterred, the meetings continued to be led by these girls through Zoom. Because of these girls' boldness and willingness to take a step of faith and share Christ in their school, lives were changed!



Briarwood Presbyterian Church

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