

THE

BRIARWOOD WEEKLY

• DECEMBER 25, 2020 •

South
Metro

Religion

Metro South
meetings and news
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My Answer/25
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Fri., Sept. 4, 1987

The Birmingham News

New Briarwood: Imposing as it enters home stretch



The project was launched humbly yet boldly—\$32 Million for a 2,800-member congregation in 1987!

In this pandemic year of 2020, the temptation could be to live in fear, focus on the short-term, or worry about \$2.1 million in December receipts rather than looking ahead prayerfully, confidently and boldly with our trust in the Lord. *Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you.* Joshua 1:9

Since 1987, for God's glory, our congregation has given \$359 million generously, faithfully, and sacrificially to the General Fund and Faith Promise. My intent is to share this amount humbly and not boastfully. It is good to reflect on the great things He has done. Prayerfully, our Kingdom investments have reached the lost with the Gospel and brought Him glory. Thank you for your generous, faithful, and sacrificial support of the ministries of Briarwood.

May we continue to be bold for the next 30 years in pursuit of our mission.

Gratefully,

Matt Moore, Church Administrator



Briarwood
Presbyterian Church, PCA

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CONVERSATIONS

WITH HARRY AND BRUCE

Pastor Reeder and Bruce Stallings
answer questions submitted to
askthepastor@briarwood.org
this Sunday night at 6:00 p.m.

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

A note from the pastor:

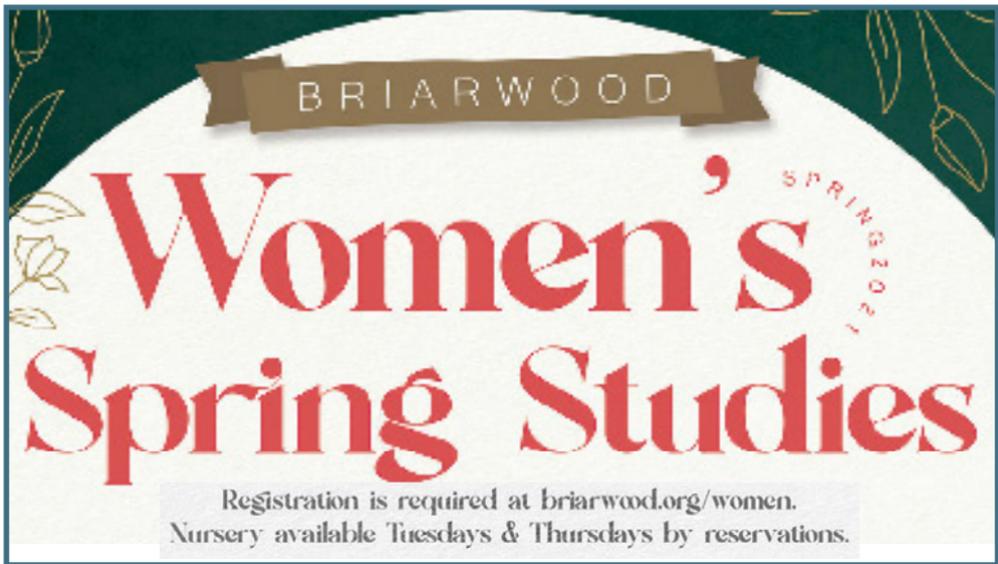
Many of us enjoy the opportunity at the New Year to reflect and evaluate on where we are in our life for Christ as well as establish or renew crucial habits of life that nurture our hearts in Christ. One of those lifestyle habits is time alone with the Lord on a daily basis in reading and meditating on His Word devotionally and calling upon Him in prayer. "O Lord, early will I seek thee."

To assist you, here are some recommendations from our Bookstore:

1. A pamphlet that contains 3 distinct plans for reading through the Bible in a year
2. *The One-Year Bible*
3. *TableTalk* subscription from Ligonier Ministries (our family devotional favorite)
4. *Morning Exercises* by William Jay (my personal favorite)
5. *Our Daily Bread* (very helpful for those beginning a morning devotional time with the Lord)

I hope these are helpful. Have a Blessed New Year!

~Pastor Reeder



BRIARWOOD

Women's Spring Studies

SPRING 2021

Registration is required at briarwood.org/women.
Nursery available Tuesdays & Thursdays by reservations.

As 2020 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 2020. Contributions with Jan. 2021 postmarks will be considered 2021 contributions. Online contributions received before midnight on Dec. 31 will be considered 2020 contributions. Online gifts received after midnight Dec. 31 will be considered 2021 contributions.

December giving—we plan for a "double month"—please pray for the needed \$2.1 million for General Fund and Faith Promise commitments.



Celebration of Worship

CHRIST SUNDAY

MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP – December 27, 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

"I will tell of Your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing Your praise." Hebrews 2:12

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 138:4-5

[All:] All the kings of the earth shall give You thanks, O LORD, for they have heard the words of Your mouth, and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession "Christmas Medley" (arr. Cason)

Almighty God, grant us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness. Place upon us the armor of light as we sojourn in this life in which Your Son, Jesus Christ, came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to life everlasting, through Him Who lives and ever intercedes for us.

The Invocation

The Lighting of the Advent Candle and Advent Reading

The Reeder Family

*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

*The Carol of Ascents

"Joy to the World" Carol 125

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;

Let earth receive her King;

Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;

Let men their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,

Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,
And wonders, and wonders of His love.

***The Confession of Truth**

Revelation 17:14, 19:16

[Leader:] *They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with Him are called and chosen and faithful."*

[All:] **On His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.**

[Leader:] *The Word of the Lord.*

[All:] **Thanks be to God!**

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 come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation! Psalm 95:1

The Presentation and Consecration of God's Tithes 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 Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs**

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" Carol 133

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" Carol 141 v. 1

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

[Refrain:]

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel. (Refrain)

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. (Refrain)

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

*For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword,
piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow,
and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12*

*The Prayer of Illumination

*†The New Testament Reading

Selected Verses

The Exposition of God's Word

Pastor Reeder

IV. Advent in Biblical Perspective
The Kings of Christmas
"Jesus Christ—The King of Kings"
Selected Verses

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*...to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations,
forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:21*

*The Pastoral Benediction

*The Congregational Affirmation

"Lead On, O King Eternal" Hymn 483 v. 1

Lead on, O King Eternal, The day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest Your tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation Your grace has made us strong,
And now, O King Eternal, We lift our battle song.

The Postlude

"Angels from the Realms of Glory" (Smart)

* The congregation is requested to stand, if able.

The 8:00 and 11:00 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/archivetv.

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Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version.

EVENING SERVICE – 6:00 P.M.

"Conversations with Harry and Bruce"

available online at briarwood.org/livetv, on the BriarwoodPCA App
and on Roku, Facebook and AppleTV

Watch all services anytime at briarwood.org/archivetv and on Facebook and Vimeo.
Sermons can be seen on the Briarwood YouTube channel, and sermon transcriptions
may be found at briarwood.org/sermons.