

AUGUST 27, 2023

Upcoming Preaching

in the Briarwood Pulpit



Fred Greco
Christ Church in Katy, TX



Tom Hawkes
Director of Church Planting



Murray Lee
Mission to North America



Randy Pope
Life on Life Ministries



Joel Beeke
Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary



Dan Doriani
Center for Faith and Work

For additional information, go to briarwood.org/preaching.



Briarwood
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OUR SEASON OF PRAYER

Monday, August 28 | Congregation — Reeder Family

Pray today for our dear sister, Cindy Reeder, and the entire Reeder family, to be comforted by our God, as they go through this season of grief. *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”* 2 Corinthians 1:3–4

Tuesday, August 29 | Interim Pastor Search — Wisdom

Pray for our Lord to give wisdom and discernment to the search committee as they prayerfully seek God to lead them to our Interim Senior Pastor. *“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.”* James 1:5

Wednesday, August 30 | Leadership — Ruling Elders

Father, we thank you for our Elders and pray for You to give them discernment, strength, and unity as they shepherd and lead us in this transition phase. Please equip them to *“shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.”* 1 Peter 5:2–3

Thursday, August 31 | On Mission — Gospel Light to Birmingham

Father, help us shine bright in our city for Christ in both word and deed to bring people to Christ. *“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”* Matthew 5:14–16

Friday, September 1 | Thanksgiving — Holy Spirit

Thank you for the Holy Spirit Who strengthens us, intercedes for us, sanctifies us, and guides us into His truth. *“That according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being.”* Ephesians 3:16

Saturday, September 2 | Personal — Hunger for the Word

“The more reverence we have for the Word of God, the more joy we shall find in it.” (Matthew Henry) *“Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by Your name, O LORD, God of hosts.”* Jeremiah 15:16

Sunday, September 3 | Lord’s Day

We pray for our Church family to humbly exalt our God and lift up His Holy Name today in worship. We pray for Reverend Fred Greco as he preaches your Holy Scriptures to us. *“Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!”* Psalm 95:6

Receive each day’s prayer as a notification through the Briarwood App.
For additional information, go to briarwood.org/seasonofprayer.

FEATURED EVENTS

Evangelism Interest Dinner — Briarwood Evangelism | August 30 *

Join us for a time to be motivated, challenged and encouraged to “Bring Them to Him” August 30 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Register for dinner and nursery, if needed, at briarwood.org/evangelism.

MidWeek at Briarwood — Church Wide | September 6–November 8 *

Wednesday night dinners, classes and activities for the entire family. Join us for our dinner in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday evening from 5:15–6:30 p.m. Classes and activities start at 6:30 p.m. Find information and register for dinners at briarwood.org/midweek.

Women’s Retreat — Briarwood Women | September 22–24

Ladies, join us for a time of rest, learning and fellowship at our getaway retreat at Shocco Springs! Our speaker will be Lisa Looper, and this year’s theme is *Rest*. Find details and register online at briarwood.org/women.

Disaster Response Training — Church Mobilization | October 7

Join us Saturday, October 7, 8:30–11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall to receive training from Mission to North America (MNA) Regional Specialist Mike Kenamer on many ways to get involved in providing comfort to those who are impacted by disaster. Get additional information and register at briarwood.org/disastertraining.

* Nursery is available upon reservation at briarwood.org/nursery.
Stay up-to-date with upcoming events on the Briarwood App.

IN THE BRIARWOOD BOOKSTORE

Becoming Elisabeth Elliot

by Ellen Vaughn | Adult Book

In this authorized biography, Ellen Vaughn uses Elisabeth’s private, unpublished journals, and candid interviews with her family and friends to paint the adventures and misadventures God used to shape one of the most influential Christian servants in modern church history. It’s the story of a hilarious, brilliant, witty, and surprisingly relatable person utterly submitted to doing God’s will, no matter how high the cost. For Elisabeth, the central question was not, “How does this make me feel?” but simply, “Is this true?” If so, then the next question was, “What do I need to do about it to obey God?” Price: \$14.99

Elisabeth Elliot: Do the Next Thing

by Selah Helms | Children’s Book

Although she is best known for her time on the mission field in Ecuador, Elisabeth Elliot went on to become a vibrant role model for valiant, godly women all over the world. Follow her journey from the jungles of the Amazon, where she faced the tragic death of her first husband, to the lecture halls and radio shows of the culture wars, where she stood as a strong defender of God’s Word. Price: \$6.99

Featured books are available to purchase online at briarwood.org/bookstore.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Season of Prayer Meetings — Sundays at 5:15 p.m. in A-105. Our Church Family gathers weekly to pray together as we seek the Lord to lead us during this intermediate phase we are in. Email pclaud@briarwood.org with any questions.

Trailblazers Lunch with James Spann — August 29 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come have lunch and meet with James Spann. Purchase tickets in the Bookstore or online at briarwood.org/trailblazers. Contact sjohnston@briarwood.org with questions.

Youth Wednesday Nights — Beginning August 30. Students meet at 5:30 p.m. at The Barn for dinner. Raiders (7th–8th grades) meet 6:30–8:00 p.m. BYG (9th–12th grades) meet 7:00–8:30 p.m. For more information, contact Kristin at k.smith@briarwood.org.

Communion Service — Sunday, September 3. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in the evening service. An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. Elements are gluten-free.

Church and School Offices Closed — Monday, September 4 for Labor Day.

Women's Fall Studies — Beginning September 5. Women, pick from eight available classes meeting Monday–Thursday. See class topics, teachers, and additional information at briarwood.org/women. Nursery is available upon reservation at briarwood.org/nursery.

BTS Fall Semester — September 5–December 15. Birmingham Theological Seminary is offering a wide array of classes this fall. To view the class schedule go to bts.education.

GriefShare MidWeek Class — Beginning September 6 from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in W202. Begin your journey from mourning to joy. Join our 13-week video/small group program that offers comfort and encouragement. Workbook \$20. Call 205-776-5227 for more info.

Counseling in the Local Church MidWeek Class — Beginning September 6 from 6:30–8:30 p.m. in A201. For additional information, call 205-776-5281.

Children's Choirs — Beginning September 10. Our Children's Choirs (preschool and elementary age children) meet each Lord's Day evening during the worship hour at 6:00. For more information, please contact Shanna Phillips at 205-222-1062.

Men's Fall Studies — Beginning September 11. Mondays at 6:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, Tuesdays at 11:45 at Cajun Seafood House, and Fridays at 6:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. See class topics, teachers, and additional information at briarwood.org/men.

DivorceCare MidWeek Class — Beginning September 13 from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in W203. Join our 10-week video/small group program that offers comfort and encouragement. For additional information, call 205-776-5281.

Ladies' Exercise Classes — Weekly classes in M111. Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 8:30–9:30 a.m. for all ages and Monday/Friday from 9:30–10:30 a.m. for seated or chair fitness. Contact Brenda at brendabparks@gmail.com for information and registration.

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

Briarwood Prayer Focus — Continue to be in prayer for the decisions to be made in the selection of our intermediate pastor, as well as our permanent pastor. Pray for wisdom for those making these decisions.

Birmingham Prayer Focus — Pray for Aspire Movement as they start another school year. Pray for the mentors as they walk alongside students, encouraging and training them to become leaders guided by Jesus. Pray more individuals would volunteer as their ministry seeks to reach more children with the Gospel. Visit aspiremovement.org for more information and ways to get involved.

Missions Prayer Focus — Pray for the international students who have just arrived in Birmingham. Pray for opportunities for them to make deep and lasting connections with Christians in the area, that they would have many opportunities to hear the Gospel, and that they would recognize the voice of their Savior and Lord.

Global Ministry Partners — Pray for Gary and Jackie Burnett with United World Mission in Colombia, Bob and Andrea Burnham with Mission to the World in Ukraine, Dan and Catherine with World Outreach in Kazakhstan, and Greg and Becca with International Exchange Organization in Malaysia.

National Ministry Partners — Pray for Chris and Mary Granberry with Sacred Road Ministry in Washington, Mack and Chris Griffith with Mission to North America in Alabama, Luke and Kristen Hembree with Campus Outreach in Mississippi, Daniel and Courtney Hightower with Reformed University Fellowship at Jacksonville State, and the staff of Cahaba Medical Care/Hope Health Center.

Briarwood Officers and Staff — Pray for elders Glenn Draper, Stephen Hodges, Craig Gilbert; deacons Rob Butts, Andrew Clark, French Forbes; and Women's Director Kristie Harrick.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Children's and Graduate & Career's Administration Assistant — Part time position for a Briarwood member requiring basic computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and Publisher) plus graphic design abilities; organization, and coordinating events for the two ministries. For additional information go to briarwood.org/employment.

Nursery Administrative Supervisor — Full-time position supporting the nursery director with day-to-day needs, interacting with parents, and supporting nursery staff. Contact Alison at acraig@briarwood.org or 205-776-5214 for more information.

Administrative Assistants & Part-time Staff — There are a number of full and part-time ministry positions open: Board Directed Ministries, Music Worship, Nursery, Special Connections Ministry, Briarwood Christian School and Church Facilities.

See all employment and job openings at briarwood.org/employment.



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Birmingham, AL 35243-2923

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THIS LORD'S DAY

Sunday Morning Worship Services:

“Serving God in Babylon and Birmingham”

Daniel 1:1–8

Pastor Nate Shurden

Sunday morning we welcome Pastor Nate Shurden back to the Briarwood pulpit.

Pastor Shurden is a graduate of Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. He was called to be Minister of Discipleship and Young Adults at FPC Jackson where he served for three years. In 2010, Nate accepted a new call to Franklin, Tennessee to help plant Cornerstone Presbyterian Church.

Pastor Shurden most recently preached “Arise and Tell the Coming Generation” here at Briarwood on July 24, 2022.

Sunday Evening Worship:

IX. Colossians: The Preeminence and Prominence of Jesus Christ

“Clothed in Christ at Home and at Work”

Colossians 3:18–4:1

Benny Youngblood

Watch our live-stream on the Briarwood App, Facebook or briarwood.org.

Watch or listen to previous sermons on the Briarwood App.