

September 24, 2023



NATIONAL MINISTRIES CONFERENCE 2023

# BRING HIM TO THEM

BIRMINGHAM - ALABAMA - THE NATION

OCTOBER 21-23, 2023

SPEAKER: DR. ERIC WATKINS

"And He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward Him and find Him. Yet He is actually not far from each one of us..."

**ACTS 17:26-27**

For additional details, visit [briarwood.org/nmc](http://briarwood.org/nmc).



*Briarwood*  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# OUR SEASON OF PRAYER

## **Monday, September 25 | Congregation — Encourage One Another**

Father, help us as a Church family to continuously encourage one another to trust You in all things and to walk closely with You in every area of our lives. *“But encourage one another, day after day, as long as it is still called ‘today,’ so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”* Hebrews 3:13 NASV

## **Tuesday, September 26 | Interim Pastor Search — Search Committee**

Pray for our Interim Pastoral Search Committee as they trust and seek God with all their hearts. Pray they will acknowledge Him in all their ways as He directs them to the right man to lead us during this time. *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.”* Proverbs 3:5–6

## **Wednesday, September 27 | Leadership — Worship Leaders**

With our hearts filled with thanksgiving, we rejoice in God for giving us all the singers in our choir and praise teams, the musicians in our orchestra, as well as Daniel Cason, Hunter Goff, Chris Neugent, and our Worship Pastor John Haines to lead us to God’s throne each week in worship. Truly God has *‘put a new song in our mouths, and songs of praise to our God.’* Psalm 40:3

## **Thursday, September 28 | On Mission — Equipping Leaders**

Lord Jesus, please work in our Church to train up Godly spirit-filled leaders who will equip our members to do the work of the ministry. *“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,”* Ephesians 4:11–13

## **Friday, September 29 | Thanksgiving — Answered Prayer**

Thank You, Lord, for the privilege of coming to You with our requests at this season, knowing that you will answer in Your wisdom and timing. *“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.”* Matthew 7:7–8

## **Saturday, September 30 | Personal — Presence of the Lord**

Father, help us to humbly seek You by setting our hearts and minds on You. May we be ever mindful of Your presence with us and seek You continually. *“Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually!”* Psalm 105:4

## **Sunday, October 1 | Lord’s Day Worship**

We praise You, O Lord, and exalt Your holy Name! Please change us today, and conform us more into the likeness of Christ, by our worship of You and by the preaching of Your word by Dr. Joel Beeke. *“I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!”* Psalm 34:1–3

Receive each day’s prayer as a notification through the Briarwood App.

For additional information, go to [briarwood.org/seasonofprayer](http://briarwood.org/seasonofprayer).

## FEATURED EVENTS

### **Disaster Response Training — Church Mobilization | October 7**

Join us Saturday, October 7 from 8:30–11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall to receive training from Mission to North America (MNA) Regional Specialist Mike Kennamer 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](http://briarwood.org/disastertraining).

### **IMPACT Birmingham Day — Church Mobilization | October 21 \***

Save Saturday morning, October 21 for Briarwood's first IMPACT Birmingham Day to start our National Ministry Conference. We are trusting the Lord that over 500 Briarwood members will volunteer to be mobilized in the Birmingham area to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Be on the lookout for more details on how to sign up in the coming weeks.

### **National Missions Conference 2023 — Briarwood Missions | October 21–23 \***

Join us Sunday, October 22 and Monday, October 23 to hear our guest speaker Dr. Eric Watkins from San Marcos, California and from various ministry partners during the Sunday School and breakout sessions on Sunday and Monday night. Nursery reservations are required for evening events. For details on the conference, go to [briarwood.org/nmc](http://briarwood.org/nmc).

\* Nursery is available upon reservation at [briarwood.org/nursery](http://briarwood.org/nursery).  
Stay up-to-date with upcoming events on the Briarwood App.

---

## LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION

At the end of July the Session decided to pursue an Intentional Interim Senior Pastor as our next step in the overall transition process. This Interim Pastor will temporarily fill the role of Senior Pastor with special emphasis on assisting the Session and Congregation to prepare for a successful long-term transition to a new Senior Pastor.

Over the past month and a half, the Interim Pastor Search Committee has been actively seeking to identify the man the Lord is calling to this role. We have been meeting on a weekly basis and have talked with a number of wise counselors to help identify men whose God-given talents line up with our needs. We have started conversations with some potential candidates and have a healthy list of experienced men that we are following up on. As you can imagine, gifted men are often very engaged in ministry efforts regardless of their season of life; therefore availability and timing is a common conversation as we meet with potential candidates.

We also want to thank those of you who have provided names for us to consider. While we do have a healthy list of possibilities, I would still encourage anyone with an idea to pass it along to one of the search committee members.

Most importantly, we want to continue to encourage each member of Briarwood Presbyterian Church to pray. The weekly prayer guide with daily prayer reminders is a great tool for all of us to use. Also please remember the 5:15 p.m. prayer time each Sunday evening in A105. Making our requests known to God by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving is the most important thing any of us can do.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**YBL Breakfast with Jeff Struecker** — Friday, September 29 at 6:30 a.m. at Vestavia Country Club. Join us for a breakfast at Vestavia Country Club and hear from army ranger Jeff Struecker who became widely known for his part in the Battle of Mogadishu, Somalia, from the movie, *Blackhawk Down*. Register at [ybl.org/events](http://ybl.org/events).

**Briarwood Ballet “In His Presence”** — Sunday, October 1 at 6:00 p.m. The Briarwood Ballet will leads us in worship during the evening service. Go to [briarwood.org/ballet](http://briarwood.org/ballet).

**Ladies Luncheon with Mary Beeke** — Monday, October 2 from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall E&F. Join us to hear speaker and *Table Talk* author Mary Beeke. Find more information and registration at [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women). Nursery reservations are due by September 27 at [briarwood.org/nursery](http://briarwood.org/nursery). Lunch is free of charge.

**WBL Fall Luncheon** — Thursday, October 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the Vestavia Country Club. Hear Julie Sparkman share about “The Impact of Personal Transformation” in your workplace and the world. Find information and purchase tickets at [wblbirmingham.org](http://wblbirmingham.org).

**Trailblazers Coffee and Learn** — October 17 at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come hear Registered Dietitian Amanda Bronner share about “Heart Healthy Eating.” Contact [johnston@briarwood.org](mailto:johnston@briarwood.org) to sign-up or for questions.

**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](mailto:pclaud@briarwood.org) with any questions.

**Operation Christmas Child Boxes** — Start collecting your items for the Operation Christmas Child boxes. Pack a shoe box with small toys, hygiene items, and prayers to touch a needy child’s life with the love of Jesus! Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes will be available in the ministries lobby beginning October 29.

**Trailblazer OCC Packing Party** — You can drop donations at the Membership Office or bring them with you to the Trailblazer Packing Party on Tuesday, November 7 at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Email [sjohnston@briarwood.org](mailto:sjohnston@briarwood.org) for information.

**Women’s Fall Studies** — Women, pick from eight available classes meeting Monday–Thursday. See class topics, teachers, and additional information at [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women). Nursery is available upon reservation at [briarwood.org/nursery](http://briarwood.org/nursery).

**Men’s Fall Studies** — Mondays at 6:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, Tuesdays at 11:45 a.m. 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](http://briarwood.org/men).

**MidWeek at Briarwood** — Wednesday night dinners, classes and activities for the entire family. Dinner is from 5:15–6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Classes and activities start at 6:30 p.m. Register for dinners and nursery at [briarwood.org/midweek](http://briarwood.org/midweek).

**Thrift Store Volunteers Needed** — New Direction Thrift Store in Fairfield is open for business and seeking volunteers. Store hours are Tuesday–Friday from 9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Call store manager Alan Russell at 205-915-7095 to get involved.

# WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

**Briarwood Prayer Focus** — Pray God's leaders stand firm and continue to teach His Word.

**Birmingham Prayer Focus** — Pray for the Lord to raise up a disaster response team here at Briarwood. Local Missions will host a training on October 7 for those interested in being the hands and feet of Jesus to those in our community who have experienced loss from natural disasters. Visit [briarwood.org/disastertraining](http://briarwood.org/disastertraining) for more information.

**Missions Prayer Focus** — Pray for the international adults who attend our weekly English classes—that they would know and experience the love of Christ in our church and during classes. Pray for those who are currently learning about Jesus to have their hearts fully open to embrace Him as their Savior. For those who are not interested, pray these ESL classes help stir up curiosity about the Lord.

**Global Ministry Partners** — Pray for Brandon and Sharlene Coker with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Canada, Vincenzo and Judit Coluccia with Mission to the World in Italy, Blair Cook with Cru in Sweden, and Bradley and Sara Cordell with Mission to the World to Internationals.

**National Ministry Partners** — Pray for Stephen and Eva Long with Sports Outreach in Texas, Leonard and Cecelia Mahoe with Cru in Hawaii, Hank and Chrisy Marshman with Cru in Tennessee, Jack and Sheri McGill with Cru in Florida and the staff of NorthStar Youth Ministries.

**Briarwood Officers and Staff** — Pray for elders Zach Ivey, Lee McCarty, Mike Lanier; deacons Larkin Delk, Ken Gables, Terry Grill; and Communications Director Landon McKee and wife, Rebekah.

---

## CHURCH RESOURCES

**Mobilization Opportunity** — Restoration Academy is also seeking individuals to tutor children in grades K5-12. Visit [restorationacademy.org/volunteer](http://restorationacademy.org/volunteer) for details.

**YBL Ministries Administrative Assistant** — Full-time position for someone with experience in event planning/coordination, ability to connect well with people, proficient in Microsoft operating systems, and the ability to receive and effectively carry out oral and written communications. Contact YBL Director at 205-776-5455 or [rgein@ybl.org](mailto:rgein@ybl.org).

**Nursery Administrative Supervisor** — Full-time position supporting the nursery director with day-to-day needs, interacting with parents, and supporting nursery staff in the rooms. Contact Alison at [acraig@briarwood.org](mailto: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](http://briarwood.org/employment).

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit # 2143  
Birmingham, AL

Briarwood Presbyterian Church  
2200 Briarwood Way  
Birmingham, AL 35243-2923

Address Service Requested



---

## THIS LORD'S DAY

### **Sunday Morning Worship Services:**

“Is God Sovereign?”

Genesis 45–50

Rev. Randy Pope

President of Life on Life Ministries

Rev. Randy Pope is founding pastor and current Assistant Pastor of Perimeter Church in Johns Creek, Georgia and founder of Life on Life Ministries. He is the author of several books and resources widely used around the world. Randy and his wife, Carol, have four grown children and fifteen grandchildren.

### **Sunday Evening Worship:**

II. Philippians: *Rejoicing in the Advancement of the Gospel*

“Some Practical Implications of Trusting the God Who Knows What He Is Doing”

Philippians 1:12–30

Rev. Rob Looper

Watch our live-stream on the Briarwood App, Facebook or [briarwood.org](http://briarwood.org).

Watch or listen to previous sermons on the Briarwood App.