

November 19, 2023

A SERVICE OF

Thanks

NOVEMBER 19 • 6:00 PM

*Join us for a Service of Praise and Thanksgiving.
Members of the congregation will have an opportunity to reflect
on their thankfulness to the Lord.*

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

I Cared Enough

*This year's Thanksgiving Meal and Gospel Preaching
Festival for Birmingham's poor and needy will be on
Tuesday November 21 at the Bill Harris Arena.
We need to feed 10,000 people!*

*Go to icaredenough.com or email
jhaines@briarwood.org to get involved.*



Briarwood
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OUR SEASON OF PRAYER

Monday, November 20 | Congregation — Love One Another

Lord Jesus, help us to love one another with selfless and sacrificial love, just as You have loved us. *“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”* John 13:34–35

Tuesday, November 21 | Interim Pastor Search — God’s Man

Pray that our God will reveal to us who He has set aside to serve as our Interim Senior Pastor. As we pray, let’s assure that our hearts are submissive to Him and His will for us. *“Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: “I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go.”* Isaiah 48:17

Wednesday, November 22 | Leadership — Discernment

O Lord, we ask You to grant discernment to our leaders as they study Your Word and apply it to the situations before our congregation today. Give them sound judgment to perceive Your will as they seek Your best and follow Your lead. *“And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment,”* Philippians 1:9

Thursday, November 23 | On Mission — Give Thanks

Heavenly Father, especially today, we thank You for Your love, for Your salvation, and for Your abundant provision of our daily needs. Freely, You have given us all things. And we who are undeserving have graciously received. *“I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will recount all your wonderful deeds.”* Psalm 9:1

Friday, November 24 | Thanksgiving — Spiritual Blessings

Let us thank God for His wonderful spiritual blessings. They are not based on the temporary things of this world, but His blessings are glorious and eternal. They can only be found in one place – Jesus Christ our Lord. *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,”* Ephesians 1:3

Saturday, November 25 | Personal — Kindness

Father, we pray today that we would be a people who are slow to anger and quick to display acts of kindness. May others know Your love by our actions. *“Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”* Ephesians 4:31–32

Sunday, November 26 | Lord’s Day Worship

We come before You Lord with thanksgiving and praise for Your steadfast love and your gracious work in our lives. Please bless our Worship services today as Your Word is preached and we offer up songs of joy and praise. *“Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!”* Psalm 107:21–22

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

FEATURED EVENTS

Service of Thanksgiving — Evening Worship Service | November 19 *

Come Sunday, November 19 at 6:00 p.m. for a Service of Praise and Thanksgiving. Members of the congregation will have an opportunity to reflect on their thankfulness to the Lord at the conclusion of the worship service.

“I Cared Enough” Thanksgiving Meal — Outreach Opportunity | November 21

This year’s Thanksgiving Meal and Gospel Preaching Festival for Birmingham’s poor and needy will be on Tuesday, November 21 at the Bill Harris Arena. We need to feed 10,000 people! Go to icaredenough.com or email jhaines@briarwood.org to get involved.

Walk Through Nativity — Church Wide Event | December 6, 7 and 8

December 6, 7 and 8 from 6:45–8:45 p.m. Over 750 volunteer actors, costumers, parking attendants, scene-builders, and greeters are needed for this year’s Walk Through! Sign up online at briarwood.org/nativity or call 205-776-5282.

“A Joyful Noel” — Children’s Christmas Choirs | December 3 *

Come Sunday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the Worship Center to hear the Children’s Choirs of Briarwood as they bless us and begin our Christmas season!

“Hallelujah! The Light Has Come” — Briarwood Christmas Festival | December 17 *

Come experience Advent through the dramatic presentation of “Hallelujah! The Light Has Come.” This gift of talents features the Briarwood Choirs, Orchestra and Dramatists with special guest Sandra McCracken. This event is completely free and open to the public.

* Nursery is available upon reservation at briarwood.org/nursery.

ADVENT READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Gifts of Grace: 25 Advent Devotions

by Jared C. Wilson | **Adult Advent Book**

Just as with opening the doors of an Advent calendar day by day, this Advent devotional will build your anticipation for Christmas so that you can fully absorb and enjoy its central gift—Jesus Christ. Price: \$12 (includes tax)

God’s Big Promises Advent Calendar and Family Devotions

by Carl Laferton | **Family/Children’s Advent Book (Ages 2 to 7)**

Young children will enjoy learning about and interacting with the Christmas story in this colorful Advent calendar with 25 family devotions. Price: \$7 (includes tax)

The Ultimate Christmas Wishlist:

What If You Could Get What You’re Really Hoping For?

by Rico Tice | **Adult Advent Book**

This small book is a wonderful outreach resource for sharing the hope of Christianity at Christmas. Based on Isaiah 9:6, readers will see how Jesus is the ultimate gift as He delivers what they really want: hope, peace, purpose and guidance. Price: \$3 (includes tax)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes — This Sunday morning is the last time to turn in boxes. You can leave packed boxes in the Children's Auditorium Hallway or build a box online (\$25) by going to briarwood.org/occ.

Angel Tree — Drop off gifts this Sunday, November 19 to the Bookstore Lobby. Gifts will benefit children in need from the Birmingham area. Email Kari at kescue@briarwood.org.

Communion Service — Sunday, November 19. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in the morning services. An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. Elements are gluten-free.

Briarwood Holiday Closing — Church and School Offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on November 23 and 24.

Christmas Poinsettias — On sale until December 3. Dedicate a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone this Advent season. Dedications are \$20 each; available for purchase in the Membership Office or online at briarwood.org/poinsettia.

Officer Selection Sunday — December 3. Members will be asked to select officers during a called meeting of the congregation that begins at 8:00 a.m. and officially closes with the benediction of the 10:55 a.m. service. The men receiving the most votes will then be placed on a final slate that will be presented for election the following Sunday.

2024 Budget — Sunday, December 3 at 5:00 p.m. in A105. Members of the Budget Committee will be available to answer questions regarding the 2024 Budget.

Officer Election Sunday — December 10. Men receiving the most votes from Officer Selection Sunday will be placed on a final slate that will be presented for the church membership to elect. There will also be a special order at 10:35 a.m. in the Worship Center to receive the 2024 budget.

Food Drive — Sunday, December 10. Begin gathering your canned goods and non-perishables for Oak Mountain Mission. That Sunday, you will leave your donations behind your vehicle for the Mercy Ministry Team to pick up while you are in church.

"O Come Let Us Adore Him" — December 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. Join the Briarwood Ballet as they lead us in worship this Advent season. Go to briarwood.org/ballet.

Trailblazer Christmas Sing-A-Long — Tuesday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m. Meet us at Cahaba Ridge Retirement Community to sing familiar Christmas songs with Hunter Goff. Sign up at briarwood.org/trailblazers or sjohnston@briarwood.org.

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. Email pclaud@briarwood.org with any questions.

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 for grateful hearts for God’s faithfulness this Thanksgiving season. *Give thanks to Him and praise His name.* Psalm 100:4

Birmingham Prayer Focus — Pray for Rev. Daniel Cason and his team as they serve a Thanksgiving meal to those in need in the Birmingham area. Pray all the details will come together for “I Cared Enough” and people’s hearts are touched by the love of Christ.

Missions Prayer Focus — Pray for our International Christmas Party and the preparations. Pray believers would be encouraged and non-believers would be open to the wonder and beauty of the Gospel of Jesus. Pray for this glimpse into the multi-ethnic kingdom of God to bring about praise to God as we enter the Christmas season.

Global Ministry Partners — Pray for Noel and Reina Gomez with World Reach in Honduras; Johan and Lida Gous with Hope Builders Ministries in Africa and Asia; David and Ruth with International Exchange Organization in Southeast Asia; and David and Danelle Grotton with Mission to the World in Chile.

National Ministry Partners — Pray for Mark and Darby Travers with Turning Hearts Ministry in Birmingham, Alabama; Erik and Amy Veerman with Mission to North America in Georgia; Adam and Lisa Venable with Mission to North America in Huntsville, Alabama; Jennifer and Wayne Waddell with Cru at the University of Alabama; and the staff of Grace House Ministries.

Briarwood Officers and Staff — Pray for elders Keith Silliman, Albert Smith, Terry Steelman; deacons Ben (Melody) Greene, Brad Partee, Ed Monroe; and Shepherding Pastor Dave Lewis and wife, Sue.

CHURCH RESOURCES

Mobilization Opportunity: Angel Tree and Prison Hygiene Kits — Don’t forget to bring your Angel Tree gifts and hygiene donations! Sunday, November 19 is the last day to turn in Angel Tree gifts to the Bookstore Lobby. Hygiene donations to collection bins in the Ministries Lobby, Missions Office or Discovery classroom (FH-A at the Chapel entrance). Email Kari at localmissions@briarwood.org with questions.

Job Opening: YBL Small Group Coordinator — Work with (YBL) Director in discipleship initiatives. Skills needed would be strong interpersonal skills, the ability to connect with new people, organize and facilitate small groups, and willingness to raise financial support. Contact Rob Genin at rgenin@briarwood.org.

Job Opening: 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 or 205-776-5214 for more information.

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

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Briarwood Presbyterian Church
2200 Briarwood Way
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THIS LORD'S DAY

Sunday Morning Worship:
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
"Come to the Table with Thanksgiving"
I Corinthians 11:23-29
Jim Alexander

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in the Sunday morning services.
An alms offering for the Mercy Ministry will be received. Elements are gluten-free.

Sunday Evening Worship:
Service of Praise and Thanksgiving
VII. Philippians:
Rejoicing in the Advancement of the Gospel
"Stand Firm in the Lord"
Philippians 4:1-9
Benny Youngblood

Watch our live-stream on the Briarwood App, Facebook or briarwood.org.
Watch or listen to previous sermons on the Briarwood App.