

CHURCH OFFICER NOMINATIONS

The Bible calls the members of the church to “select from among themselves” those leaders whom God has called, gifted and affirmed. Therefore, each year the Briarwood membership and existing leadership engages in this process of nomination, training, examination, election, ordination and installation.

Deacon and Elder nominations for the Class of 2027 are being accepted from the congregation during the month of May.

Nominating forms are available online at briarwood.org/nominations, at the information stations throughout the church, or by emailing lreese@briarwood.org.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, May 31.



Briarwood
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OFFICER NOMINATION FAQ

1. How do I nominate someone?

Fill out and return the Nominations Form no later than May 31.

2. Is it important for me to nominate even if I don't know everyone?

As a member of Briarwood you are aware by observation and experience whether someone meets the biblical qualifications and whether they would serve the Lord well in His Church. Carefully reading the qualifications for Elder and Deacon in I Timothy 3 and prayerfully considering those men whom you know will allow you to participate in the process of our church electing those called to serve the Lord in the high honor of ordained leadership.

3. What happens when I nominate someone?

All nominations go through a process which includes prayerful consideration by the Nominations Committee as well as the Session and Diaconate to insure they are qualified. Qualified men will be informed of their nomination and invited to an orientation meeting in July to hear about the responsibilities of Elders and Deacons. They then are given time to prayerfully consider whether they want to be candidates for leadership. Candidates will attend the Officer Candidate training sessions beginning in August. Upon Sessional approval they are presented to the congregation for a vote in December. To serve, a candidate must receive a majority vote of those present and voting.

4. Who is eligible to be nominated?

According to the Scripture, any man who is called and gifted by the Holy Spirit, qualified by God's grace and the affirmation of the church leadership and elected by the church membership. While the ordained offices of Elder and Deacon are to be occupied by recognized and qualified men, all of the Elder directed leadership ministry teams at Briarwood are designed to include both male and female leaders.

5. Why should I prayerfully consider aspiring to the office of Elder or Deacon?

Because God has given gifts of leadership to His people and He calls us not to "bury our talents" but to use them for His glory. There is no greater privilege outside the family to serve the Lord than the ordained leadership of the church, the Bride of Christ, to care for her as good stewards of the Gospel.

6. Do I have to serve as a Deacon before serving as an Elder?

Serving as a Deacon before serving as an Elder is not required. It is a sacred privilege to serve as an Elder or Deacon. One should serve in light of his gifts and calling as each office requires different passions and gifts. Because Spiritual gifts and callings change we have seen Deacons who later become Elders as well as Elders who later become Deacons.

7. How long would I serve as an Elder or Deacon if elected?

The ordination of Elder and Deacon is for life, however at Briarwood we elect Elders and Deacons to serve 3-year terms. We then allow Elders and Deacons to take a one year sabbatical before standing for election for another 3-year term.

*Nominating forms are available online at
briarwood.org/nominations, at the information stations
throughout the church, or by emailing lreese@briarwood.org.
The deadline for nominations is Friday, May 31.*

FEATURED EVENTS

Worship Concert of Hope in Our Risen Lord — Music Concert | May 5 *

Worship through a Concert of Hope featuring the Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra on Sunday, May 5 at 6:00 p.m. A musical force of nearly 150 will lead as we praise God and honor Pastor Harry Reeder.

Vacation Bible School 2024 — Children's Ministry | June 3-7

VBS will be June 3-7 from 9:00 a.m. to noon each day. VBS is free and open to both members and visitors. T-shirts will be available for \$10. Email rmacoy@briarwood.org for VBS volunteering or acraig@briarwood.org for VBS nursery volunteering. Teen helper registration is open. Register your child online at briarwood.org/vbs.

Super Summer 2024 — Children's Ministry | June 10 - August 1

Children ages K5 through 6th grade are invited to attend Super Summer at Briarwood. Each weekday, select age groups will meet in the gym and then go out to a fun activity. For details, go to briarwood.org/supersummer.

More Than Conquerors — Counseling Training Conference | June 14-15

Receive biblical counselor training to lead others to be "More than conquerors through Him who loved us." This training is designed to be a time of renewal for individuals and couples. Find information and register at briarwood.org/counseling.

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

IN THE BRIARWOOD BOOKSTORE

The Answer: Putting an End to the Search for Life Satisfaction

by Randy Pope | Adult Book

Are you frustrated that your life lacks lasting satisfaction? We live in a time when people are searching for meaning and purpose. They are frustrated, disappointed, and disillusioned by the counterfeits that hold out the promise but fail to deliver. This lack of contentment crosses all ages, ethnicities, and beliefs. It is not uncommon to speak with individuals who claim to have strong spiritual lives, but yet do not know how to fully live their lives walking in Christ's purpose and joy. Price: \$10

Life Issues

by Randy Pope | Evangelism Booklets

The *Life Issues* booklets are a perfect resource for anyone who is interested in investigating the claims of Christianity or is assisting others through that process. Each booklet covers topics such as: Is the Bible God's Word?, Do Non-Christians Really Deserve Eternal Punishment?, and more. These four booklets explore the Gospel of John and are accompanied by helpful readings and questions about the Christian faith. Price: \$10

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

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Officer Nominations — Deacon and Elder nominations for the Class of 2027 will be accepted from the congregation during the month of May. Nominating forms are available at information stations throughout the church. The deadline for nominations is May 31.

“The Nightingale and the Rose” — May 11 at 2:30 & 7:00 p.m. and May 12 at 2:30 p.m. in the Barbara B. Barker Fine Arts Auditorium at the high school campus. Briarwood Ballet presents a story of honor, treason, and the sacrifice that reverses a curse and brings beauty from ashes. Buy tickets at briarwood.org/balletevents.

Trailblazer Coffee — Tuesday, May 14 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Join us to hear Pat Goff and Ed Landers inform us about “Let’s Talk Technology in Plain English.” Sign up at briarwood.org/trailblazers or email sjohnston@briarwood.org.

Summer Camp Employment — Camp Briarwood Day Camp, Overnight Camp and Special Connections Day Camp need both male and female counselors. Contact the Camp office at 205-776-5237 or quest@briarwood.com.

Graduate Information Needed — BYG and College graduating seniors, we want to recognize you! Please take a moment to fill out the form on the website. High school seniors go to briarwood.org/seniors. College seniors go to briarwood.org/college.

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.

Mission Trip Needs — Christian Medical Ministry is collecting donations of ibuprofen (200mg), antifungal cream and 1% hydrocortisone cream for the spring, summer and fall Dominican Republic mission trips. Contact CMMA with questions at 205-776-5470.

Pocket Change for the Needy — Deposit your change in the wall containers around the church. The Executive Mercy Committee uses this to distribute food to those in need.

Pickleball — Tuesdays and 2nd/4th Thursdays from 6:00–9:00 p.m. in the Church Gym. Join us for open play. We have extra paddles (if you don’t have one). No sign up needed.

Ladies’ Exercise Classes — Weekly in M111. Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 8:30–9:30 a.m. for all ages and Monday/Friday, 9:30–10:30 a.m. for those needing chair assistance. First class is free. Go to questrecreation.org/fitness-classes for details.

Job Opening: Nursery Administrative Supervisor — Energetic, organized, creative, God-fearing and children loving person needed as the Nursery administrative supervisor. This position supports the director of the nursery with day-to-day needs, interacts with parents, and supports nursery staff who are working in the rooms. Contact Alison Craig at acraig@briarwood.org or 205-776-5214 for more information on hours, pay and responsibilities.

Job Opening: Facilities Set-Up Assistant — 1st shift facilities (Monday–Friday from 2:00–10:30 p.m.) assisting to set up/break down rooms. This position includes dental and health insurance. Contact Dale Keller at 205-776-5231, or dkeller@briarwood.org.

Job Openings: Full-time & Part-time Staff — There are a number of ministry positions open. See all employment and job openings at briarwood.org/employment.

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

Sunday, May 5 — Briarwood Prayer Focus

Praying for the musical force of nearly 150 people singing and playing instruments in tonight's "Worship Concert of Hope in Our Risen Lord." Thank the Lord for our Sanctuary Choir and the Orchestra leading the church in worship to praise God.

Monday, May 6 — Birmingham Prayer Focus

Pray for the ministry of Save-A-Life in Birmingham, Alabama. Save-A-Life is dedicated to putting an end to abortion, not by not only legal and public policy, but by supporting one woman at a time, to spare her and her child from abortion. Pray for these mothers who are making these difficult life changing decisions.

Tuesday, May 7 — Missions Prayer Focus

Pray for the relationships that have formed with international students involved in our Briarwood International Outreach ministry that are coming to a close. As students graduate and move back to their home countries or get jobs in other cities, we have to say goodbye. Pray for the relationships, despite distance, to last and gospel opportunities to occur before they leave. Pray that the gospel seeds that have been planted will come to fruition and many will ultimately trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Wednesday, May 8 — Global Ministry Partners

Pray for David and Kristy Richards with Grace Presbyterian Church New Zealand; Ben and Jenny Roberts with World Gospel Mission in Kenya; Samantha Roberts with Campus Outreach SERVE serving Internationals; and Michael and Kambria Robertson with Commission to Every Nation in Guatemala.

Thursday, May 9 — 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 Aspire Movement.

Friday, May 10 — Briarwood Officers and Staff

Pray for Briarwood elders Leon Chadwick, Todd Johnson, Mark Thompson; deacons David Cahoon, Matt Heard, Andrew McGehee; and Mobilization Pastor Max Bunn and wife, Kathleen.

Saturday, May 11 — Church Family

Pray for our hospitalized members Donnie Cantley, Walter Weingarten and Will Ratcliffe.

Pray for those who are suffering with cancer and other long-term illnesses. Pray for families walking their loved ones through Alzheimer's and other types of dementia.

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

Receive each day's prayer as a notification through the Briarwood App. In your Briarwood App settings, enable "Weekly Prayer Guide" notifications.

Briarwood Presbyterian Church
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Birmingham, AL 35243-2923

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THIS LORD'S DAY

Sunday Morning Worship Services:

“Prayer, Pride, and Humility”

Luke 18:9-14

Sunday Evening Worship:

“Worship Concert of Hope in Our Risen Lord”

Briarwood Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra Music Concert

Worship through a Concert of Hope featuring the Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra on Sunday Evening. A musical force of nearly 150 will lead as we praise God and honor Pastor Harry Reeder.

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