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Briarwood
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Briarwood Weekly • info@briarwood.org • June 16, 2024

PASTORAL SEARCH UPDATE

Briarwood family, I have been asked to provide an update on our transition process. First, I want to thank you for your commitment to Briarwood Presbyterian Church! God is continuing to use Briarwood to reach Birmingham to reach the world for Christ.

As Dr. Doriani shared a couple of weeks ago, he has wrapped up his seminary teaching commitments and is now able to primarily focus on his role as Interim Senior Pastor. In the Lord's sweet timing, Dr. Doriani's enhanced availability has lined up well with the overall transition process.

As I shared with you back in March, the Session has engaged in a number of meetings with key advisors to talk through issues to help prepare us for the transition to our next Senior Pastor. Briarwood, by God's blessing, is fairly unique in the PCA with only having had two Senior Pastors in its over 60 year life. We are also unique when you consider the breadth and depth of ministries that are a part of or impacted by the church. Therefore, it has been and continues to be very important to take time to assess ourselves before formally starting a search for the next Senior Pastor. I am personally very encouraged by the deliberate, thoughtful work that is taking place.

Because of the progress that has been made over the past months, the Session has agreed that it is time to begin thinking through what an appropriate Senior Pastor Search process would look like. Therefore, this summer the Session will be gathering data, having conversations and discussing options to determine our process to search for and identify our next Senior Pastor. This will include reviewing the process used at Briarwood 25 years ago, reviewing processes used more recently by other churches, taking advice from outside resources, and of course reviewing requirements in the PCA Book of Church Order.

I hope that this next step is an encouragement to you. We are moving forward as the Lord provides and guides. As I always do, I want to ask that you continue to pray for Briarwood Church. Be thankful for God's faithfulness and His kind blessings. Also, keep praying for our wonderful church staff! They are doing a fantastic job!

Pray for the Dorianis as they spend more time in Birmingham and at Briarwood. We are blessed to have this faithful couple with us, guiding and walking along side us through this transition process.

And finally, please pray for the Session as we continue our discussions and begin thinking through not only how to effectively structure a search process but what we need to do to even better prepare ourselves for the future to remain On Mission, On Message and In Ministry.

– Billy Ball

CHURCH RESOURCES

Vacation Bible School 2024 Resources — If you or your children would like to revisit any of the VBS music videos, skits, or daily highlights, you can do so on the Briarwood App. These resources can be found under: "Media – Special Video Archive – VBS 2024"

FEATURED EVENTS

Catechism Camps — Children's Super Summer | June 24–28 & July 8–12

Learn timeless biblical truth through catechism memorization while enjoying summer fun! Rising 3rd & 4th grades meet the week of June 24. Rising 1st & 2nd grades meet the week of July 8. Camp runs from 9:15 to 3:00 p.m. at Briarwood each day. Learn more at briarwood.org/supersummer or email jstallings@briarwood.org.

Christianity in America — Evening Worship Service | June 30

Help us fill the loft as a great Briarwood Family Choir while we celebrate America and honor our veterans! Retired U.S. Colonel Pete Sniffin will be featured as our keynote speaker. Following the evening service, join us for a time of fellowship on the church lawn. Learn more at christianityinamericachoir.com.

Barons Family Night — Church Wide Outing | July 3

Join us Wednesday, July 3 at 6:00 p.m. at Regions Field for Barons baseball and fireworks. Call 205-776-5114 or email rleib@briarwood.org with questions. Tickets are available online at briarwood.org/barons or at the Briarwood Bookstore.

Youth Impact Weekend — Briarwood Youth | August 2–4

9th–12th grade students, join us for our annual Impact Weekend, a weekend with speakers and discipleship groups at students' homes. Come and allow the Lord to Impact your life and learn how to have an Impact on others! Be on the lookout for the registration flyer in the mail. Find additional information and register online at briarwood.org/youth.

* 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

***Children's Catechism* (Books and Flashcards, Questions 1–150)**

By Simply the Gospel | Children's Catechism Aid

Children's Catechism visuals are perfect for helping children learn essential Bible truths in very accessible ways. The 150 questions of the catechism are divided into three sets of spiral bound books and flashcards. Learners will encounter pre-reading words in a unique font and style. Using these as sight words will help emerging readers begin to recognize words in their own Bibles. Spiral bound price: \$36 each; Flash card price: \$20 each

Big Truths for Little Kids: Teaching Your Children to Live for God

By Susan Hunt | Children's Book

Whether you are a parent, grandparent, teacher, or friend, it is a great goal to teach the next generation a framework of biblical knowledge. The purpose of this book is to teach children that they are created for God's glory. These stories are an application of the truths taught in the *First Catechism*, used in Briarwood's classes and camps. Catechizing children is an effective way to help them develop a Christian worldview. It is amazing how quickly children grasp the truths set before them and begin to understand that how we live is based on what we believe. Price: \$14.99

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

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Women / Girls Father's Day Chorus — During the morning worship services this Sunday, women and girls will be invited to the choir loft to sing a special musical selection honoring and remembering all fathers.

Dedicate a Flag — Make your U.S. flag dedication by this Sunday, June 16. Each \$15 donation in memory or honor of someone provides a flag on campus and the name of the person will be listed in our June 30 evening bulletin. Go online to briarwood.org/flag.

Young Couples BBQ — Saturday, July 13 from 4:30–8:30 p.m. at the playground parking lot. Come fellowship with us! We will have BBQ, ice cream, inflatables, corn hole, and more. Spread the word and invite your friends! Email sking@briarwood.org with questions.

Super Summer 2024 — Children ages K5 through 6th grade are invited to attend Super Summer. 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.

Women's Summer Study — Join us this summer on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel. The study will focus on the “but God” passages where circumstances do not get the last word. Nursery is available with reservations.

Men's Summer Study — Men, come this summer for a Wednesday study in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 a.m. We will be over-viewing *Work: Its Purpose, Dignity, and Transformation* by Dan Doriani. See details at briarwood.org/men.

WBL Summer Series — Every other Wednesday at noon at Grace Church. Join us for six lunch-hour studies on “Jesus Through the Eyes of Women” by Rebecca McLaughlin. Find details and register online at bit.ly/wbl-summer-series.

Summer Evangelism Training — Join us on Wednesday nights for dinner together and a lesson on how to share your faith in different contexts. We will split up with leaders and go out to share our faith. For details go to briarwood.org/evangelism.

Active-Duty Military — Update our Active Duty Military list of members and family members so that we can pray for them. Provide us with name, rank, branch of service, and the relationship to you. Email Patti Claud at pclaud@briarwood.org.

Children's Sunday School Promotion — If you are planning on holding your child back for the 2024-25 school year, let Raleigh Macoy know so we can make sure to place him/her in the appropriate Sunday School class for the fall. Email rmacoy@briarwood.org.

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

Job Opening: Local Missions and Mobilization Coordinator — Part-time administrative position (20 hour) for Briarwood member to serve the Mission Mobilization Team. Needs knowledge of Microsoft Office, strong communication skills, event planning, networking, and heart for missions. Send inquiries and resumes to mbunn@briarwood.org.

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

Sunday, June 16 — Briarwood Prayer Focus

Give thanks for our fathers who provide for and protect their families. Pray for the Lord to bless them with wisdom, patience, and strength as they raise their children to love and seek His heart.

Monday, June 17 — Birmingham Prayer Focus

Pray for Christian Service Mission as they partner with churches to allow opportunity for a community in need to thrive and to advance the work of the Kingdom. Pray for the volunteers as they assist with resources, education, construction, and relationships.

Tuesday, June 18 — Missions Prayer Focus

John and Carol serve with Trans World Radio in the Middle East and North Africa, producing radio programs to broadcast the gospel. As circumstances in the country are difficult, pray for local workers who respond to and disciple those who call in. The government can close churches and shut down the internet but cannot stop the gospel heard on radio. Pray for this work that shares the gospel in the Middle East.

Wednesday, June 19 — Global Ministry Partners

Pray for Lynn with Navigators in the Middle East; Robert and Jeanne Smith with Mission to the World in Latvia; Jarred and Rebecca Smith with Campus Outreach SERVE in New Zealand; and Agron and Elona Sopaj with Cru in Kosovo.

Thursday, June 20 — National Ministry Partners

Pray for Ron and Donna Elkin with AMMI Ministries in Pennsylvania; Anthony and Amber Elswick with Redeemer Winter Haven Church in Florida; Micah and Brianna Evans with Campus Outreach at Samford University in Alabama; Jean Fischer with Navigators in Florida; and NorthStar Youth Ministries.

Friday, June 21 — Briarwood Officers and Staff

Pray for these Briarwood elders Sam Duffey, Keith Miller, Don Murphy; deacons Ryan Corcoran, Gary Hudson, Matthew Moore; and Families Pastor Jay Shaw and wife, Allison.

Saturday, June 22 — Church Family

Pray for our hospitalized members Rachel Paul, John Russom, and Jo Taylor.

We rejoice with Matt and Julie Moore on the birth of their daughter, Molly Joan, on June 4; with Alex and Catherine Noble on the birth of their daughter, Naomi Cate, on June 5, and with grandparents Jim and Barbara Clark; and with Alexis Pate on the birth of her daughter, Mila, on June 10, and with grandfather Wayne Pate.

We offer our love and sympathy to Jan Clark and family on the death of her son-in-law, Chuck Mullinex, on June 2; to Jodi Zachow, Laura McRae and family on the death of their father and grandfather, Kenneth E. Traweek, on June 7; to Susan Bryan and family on the death of her mother, Mrs. Goodwin, on June 10; and to Mary Rollins and family on the death of her stepmother, Margie Lavender Wasley, on June 11.

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

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THIS LORD'S DAY

Sunday Morning Worship Services:

“Parents and Children in Proverbs”

Exodus 34:6–7, Deuteronomy 6:6–9

Dr. Dan Doriani

This Lord's Day Dr. Doriani preaches from the Word and offers practical guidance for parents in the provision, instruction, associations, and correction of their children. Dr. Doriani will challenge us with questions “What should parents provide for their children?” and “When is a parent providing too much?”

Sunday Evening Worship:

“Caring for Our Emotions”

Proverbs 4:23, Matthew 12:34, Ecclesiastes 3:4–5, 8

Dr. Dan Doriani

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