



## *Keep up with the Briarwood Pulpit Committee*

We are excited to launch the Pulpit Committee webpage, [briarwood.org/pulpit committee](http://briarwood.org/pulpitcommittee). The Pulpit Committee will update this page with new information as the search process progresses. Our desire is to communicate well. As our mission statement says, we are committed to search for, identify and recommend the next Senior Pastor. In order to fulfill our mission, we need your help. We need you to pray! Therefore, we will be providing prayer requests on the site and in other communications. The Lord already knows who our next Senior Pastor is and we are excited to discover who He has chosen!

Learn more at [briarwood.org/pulpitcommittee](http://briarwood.org/pulpitcommittee) or use the QR code above.

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*For God's glory and through God's leading, we are committed to search for, identify, and recommend the next Senior Pastor to lead Briarwood in equipping Christians to worship God and reach Birmingham to reach the world for Christ.*



*Briarwood*  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# PULPIT COMMITTEE UPDATE

At the end of August, you, the congregation, elected a Pulpit Committee to search for, identify, and recommend a new Senior Pastor for Briarwood Presbyterian Church. Over these past several weeks we have been actively engaged and want to give you a brief update.

Phase 1 of the search process is to gather all the information needed to effectively search for and identify candidates. This preparation phase is extremely important as we want to have a strong foundation to build off of.

To assist us in Phase 1, we have hired a consulting firm, the McGowan Global Institute, that specializes in pastoral search work with a deep background in our denomination. An important part of this foundation work is to gather input from you, the members of Briarwood Presbyterian Church.

We will be gathering information from you in several ways. First, there will be a congregational survey that will be available for everyone as a way to provide input. Next, there will be a focus group event, called a Discovery Weekend, facilitated by the McGowan group in which a cross section of the congregation will be invited to participate. Finally, there will be one-on-one interviews with some elders, deacons and staff members. These are major undertakings but are so important for the committee to gain insight needed to inform our search process.

Email invitations for the Discovery Weekend and for the one-on-one interviews will be sent out this week. The congregational survey is expected to be available the following week. We will let you know when it is ready.

We will also be launching a webpage that you can access on the church website, Briarwood.org. We will use this webpage to provide updates along the way. The webpage will also contain a link to an email address that has been set up for you to be able to communicate to the committee. You can use this email address to ask questions, provide feedback and recommend names that you would like us to consider as possible candidates.

We have been inspired by many of you providing encouraging notes and supporting this effort through your prayers. Please keep praying! Prayer is the critical part of the process. The webpage I just mentioned will also include prayer requests from the committee and we will be communicating these requests through other means as well.

Thank you for your commitment to Briarwood Presbyterian Church and for your support.

– Billy Ball, Ruling Elder  
Chairman, Pulpit Committee

*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility, count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Philippians 2:3-4*

*Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask, or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21*

# FEATURED EVENTS

## **National Ministries Conference 2024 — Briarwood Missions | October 20 & 21 \***

Join us this Sunday, October 20 and Monday, October 21 to hear Dr. H. B. Charles Jr., pastor at the Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, and from various ministry partners during Sunday School and breakout sessions on Sunday and Monday nights. Find additional details at [briarwood.org/nmc](http://briarwood.org/nmc).

## **EMC Convocation Service — All Members | October 27**

On Every Member Commitment Convocation Sunday, members are encouraged to attend the Convocation Service in the Worship Center at 9:30 a.m. during the Sunday School hour. Briarwood's Every Member Commitment allows church members to declare what their support in the work of the Lord with their gifts and service will be for the coming calendar year. Learn more at [briarwood.org/emc](http://briarwood.org/emc).

## **EMC Pledge Sunday — All Members | November 3**

On Every Member Commitment Pledge Sunday, members will turn in their pledge cards during the morning services or make pledges online at [briarwood.org/giving](http://briarwood.org/giving).

## **EMC Canvass Sunday — All Members | November 10**

EMC Canvass Sunday is the final opportunity for members to submit their pledges during morning worship. Members who have not made a commitment or otherwise contacted the church will be contacted by church officers.

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

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## IN THE BRIARWOOD BOOKSTORE

### ***The Art of Neighboring: Building Genuine Relationships Right Outside Your Door* by Jay Pathak and Jay Runyon | Adult Book**

Once upon a time, neighbors talked, cooked out together, and went to the same church. Today with increased mobility and isolationism, lasting connections with those right outside our front door is hard. We have hundreds of "friends" through social networking but don't often even know the full name of the person who lives next door. The authors tell compelling true stories of lives impacted to show readers how to create genuine friendships with the people who live in close proximity to them. Each chapter has discussion questions to make this book perfect for small groups or individual study. Price: \$12.99

### ***What Are Feet For?* by Abbey Wedgeworth | Children's Book**

The newest board book in the Training Young Hearts series, *What Are Feet For?*, is a fun, lift-the-flap behavior book leading toddlers to use their feet in a Christ-like way. This helpful and engaging tool helps parents teach their kids that God didn't make their feet to kick or stomp but for positive actions like running, dancing, swimming, and jumping! Children will be encouraged to follow Jesus' example and be reassured that He loves us no matter what we do. He can forgive us when we fail and help us to change. Price: \$9.99

Featured books are available to purchase online at [briarwood.org/bookstore](http://briarwood.org/bookstore).

# MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**Give to Disaster Relief** — One-hundred percent of funds given will be used to support those affected by the recent hurricanes through our partnering with MNA's Disaster Relief and Samaritan's Purse. Go to [briarwood.org/disasterrelief](http://briarwood.org/disasterrelief) to find ways to help.

**Reformation Sunday** — October 27. Our annual service highlights the foundations of the Reformation: that God's Word alone binds our consciences by the power of His Holy Spirit and that the power of the Resurrection brings us ultimate hope and comfort as we remember our church members who have gone to heaven this past year.

**Portraits of Hope with WBL** — Thursday, November 7 from 6:00–7:30 p.m. at Beverly B. McNeil Portraits (2801 6th Ave S). Come fellowship with other working women to see beautiful portraits as you hear the story of God's remarkable transformation in the life of one woman. Light refreshments will be served. Register at [wblbirmingham.org](http://wblbirmingham.org).

**Trailblazers Shoebox Packing Party** — November 8 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Join the Trailblazers, Oak Mountain Forerunners, and Valleydale Legacy to pack Operation Christmas Child boxes. Register at [briarwood.org/trailblazers](http://briarwood.org/trailblazers) and bring items to share!

**Countdown to Christmas** — Wednesday November 20 at 9:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Women join us we focus on preparing our hearts for the upcoming Christmas season. Tickets are \$20 at [briarwood.org/women](http://briarwood.org/women) and in the Bookstore. Nursery will be available with registration.

**"I Cared Enough" Thanksgiving Meal** — Tuesday, November 26. Donate and help distribute food to the needy in downtown Birmingham with Daniel Cason KIDS Ministry. For information, contact Daniel Cason at 205-365-1800 or go to [danielcason.org](http://danielcason.org).

**MidWeek at Briarwood** — Wednesday evening from 5:15–8:00 p.m. Join us for dinner in the Fellowship Hall starting at 5:15 p.m. Classes and activities begin at 6:30 p.m. Sign up for dinners, nursery, and classes at [briarwood.org/midweek](http://briarwood.org/midweek).

**Briarwood Youth Choir** — Sundays from 4:30–5:30 p.m. in M208. Youth grades 7–12, can you make it this week? If not, just come when you can. For more information, email Penny Philley at [pphilley@briarwood.org](mailto:pphilley@briarwood.org).

**Children's Sunday Choirs** — Children's Choirs (preschool/elementary age children) meet Sunday during the evening worship at 6:15 p.m. Contact Shanna Phillips at 205-222-1062.

**ROKU & Apple TV Apps** — The Briarwood App is now available for download on ROKU, Apple TV, Google Play, and the Amazon Appstore. If you had our previous TV apps, you will need to install the new app. Search for Briarwood PCA and download for free.

**Job Openings: Assistant to Director of Women Business Leaders** — This role will serve inward administratively and outward in ministry to women through small groups, event planning, social media and grant writing. Visit [briarwood.org/employment](http://briarwood.org/employment) for complete position description and application information.

**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](http://briarwood.org/employment).

# WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

## **Sunday, October 20 — Briarwood Prayer Focus**

Pray for the Pulpit Committee in their ongoing work. May God be near to them, hear their prayers and direct their decisions. And may God give each member confidence that He hears them and will answer their prayers.

Pray for the National Ministries Conference speaker, Dr. H. B. Charles Jr., as he challenges us to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout our nation. Pray for our ministry partners as they share about the specific work they are doing to spread the Gospel.

## **Monday, October 21 — Birmingham Prayer Focus**

Pray for The WellHouse, a ministry providing opportunities for restoration to female victims of human trafficking through its emergency, short, and long-term care programs. Prayerfully consider volunteering to support the staff as they serve and share the love of God to hurting women and children.

## **Tuesday, October 22 — Missions Prayer Focus**

Pray for our ministry partners who attended the National Ministries Conference to have been blessed during their time here as Briarwood hosted these special partners. Pray that the gospel messages as presented from 3 John in relation to the “For the Sake of the Name” theme has made an impact on us.

## **Wednesday, October 23 — Global Ministry Partners**

Pray for Sano Buasorn with Campus Outreach SERVE in Thailand; Kisanna Budai with Cru in Hungary; Gary and Jackie Burnett with United World Mission in Colombia; and Bob and Andrea Burnham with Mission to the World in Ukraine.

## **Thursday, October 24 — National Ministry Partners**

Pray for Carroll Baker with Fellowship of Christian Athletes in South Carolina; Jack and Amy Baker with Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Alabama; Amy Baxter with Campus Outreach in Birmingham, Alabama; Jerry and Joy Beverly with Leaders Unlimited in Miami, Florida; and Grace House Ministries.

## **Friday, October 25 — Briarwood Officers and Staff**

Pray for our Briarwood elders Leon Chadwick Jr., Charlie Hoke, Tim Townes; deacons Grant Alexander, Jonathan Drescher, John Livingston; and BTS President Ike Reeder and his wife, Angie.

## **Saturday, October 26 — Church Family**

Pray for our hospitalized members Jo Bailey, Margery Birdsong, Barbara Ryals, Don Byron, Cindy Janney.

We rejoice with Brent and Melanie Gilbert on the birth of their son, William Alan, on October 9 and grandparents Craig and Brenda Gilbert and great-grandmother Jean Register.

Our love and sympathy to Peggy, Robert and Christopher Russom and family on the death of their husband, father and grandfather, member John Russom, on October 10.

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:**

#### **National Ministries Conference**

“For the Sake of the Name”

III John

Dr. H. B. Charles, Jr.

Pastor-Teacher at Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Florida

### **Sunday Evening Worship:**

#### **National Ministries Conference**

“For the Sake of the Name – Part 2”

III John

Dr. H. B. Charles, Jr.

Pastor-Teacher at Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Florida

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

Watch or listen to previous sermons on the Briarwood App.