



FOUNDATIONS OF

# Stewardship

EVERY MEMBER COMMITMENT 2025

*"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,  
as good stewards of God's varied grace."*

**1 Peter 4:10**



**1 PETER 4:10**

*"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,  
as good stewards of God's varied grace."*

## DEAR FELLOW BRIARWOOD MEMBER,

Stewardship is foundational to the complete Christian life, not only “time, talents, and treasure” we always hear about, but extending beyond those areas. Certainly, our checkbook and appointment book tell where our priorities are. What about stewardship of our words? Are we good stewards of our words? What about our bodies? Do we seek to glorify God in our bodies? Stewardship in all of life is a challenge, yet the Lord is faithful to forgive and restore as we ask Him in faith. In what areas does the Holy Spirit need to work in your life in this stewardship season? The Stewardship Education Committee has chosen Foundations of Stewardship as the theme this year, and we pray you are experiencing increasing faithfulness in stewarding God’s resources in your life.

Briarwood is committed to Christian stewardship which has impacted the world for Christ. The Every Member Commitment (EMC) is the annual process by which each church member or family is given the opportunity to participate by making a commitment of his or her anticipated tithe for the upcoming year. The EMC supports the General Fund of the church which includes National and Urban Missions, Board Directed Ministries, program ministries such as Church Planting, as well as Briarwood’s facility operating expenses. The EMC began in the early days of our church when members were canvassed by the officers regarding the next year’s budget and their support. On Sunday afternoon, November 10, we will continue that tradition by canvassing the families that have not responded to the EMC.

God has been faithful to bless Briarwood with the opportunities and resources to reach the lost for Him. The EMC allows the church to proactively plan and steward resources to continue our vital ministries. We have been entrusted with the Gospel; let us be diligent to share it personally and to support the work of the Church in spreading the Good News of our Savior. Please join me as we seek to honor God with all that we are and all that we have.

The Stewardship Education Committee encourages you to attend the October 27 adult Sunday School EMC Convocation. Take time to read the enclosed information and stories from our ministries and be encouraged as the Lord multiplies your giving to reach the lost. We ask that you return the enclosed commitment card on or before Pledge Sunday, November 3. Should you have any questions regarding the EMC, please feel free to contact me or speak with any church officer.

In His service,

John Salmon  
Chairman, Stewardship Education Committee



## What is the Every Member Commitment (EMC)?

**1. EMC (Tithe)** — The EMC occurs annually and funds the church's day-to-day ministries such as worship, community outreach, operations, meeting our members' spiritual needs, and equipping us to be salt and light in this world.

**2. Faith Promise (Offering above the tithe)** — The Faith Promise occurs annually and funds Briarwood's world missions ministries.

**3. Capital Campaigns (Offering above the tithe)** — Capital campaign resources fund new building programs, campus expansion, debt reduction, and other one-time needs.

## How do I submit my pledge?

**1. Online** — Complete the online form at [briarwood.org/emc](http://briarwood.org/emc).

**2. Mail** — Send your Pledge Card to the Church Accounting Office.

**3. In Person** — Bring your Pledge Card to the Church Accounting Office.

**4. In Person** — Bring your Pledge Card to a worship service on Commitment Sunday, November 3.

*On the following pages you'll find a brief description of some of the ministries your tithe supports, along with ministry impact stories illustrating the significance of your tithe in the lives of others.*



## BRIARWOOD BALLET

It might seem strange to find a serious ballet school located in a church, but Briarwood Church is dedicated to raising the next generation of artists to use their gifts for the glory of God. As a result, Briarwood Ballet was formed in 1980, and since that time thousands of dancers have been trained in our program. This year, over 450 students will be taught ballet in the context of the Gospel, and thousands of audience members will hear the Gospel in the context of dance.

Last year, Elizabeth, one of our 4th grade dancers, put her trust in Jesus Christ. A few months later doctors discovered a mass on her father's throat and prepared the family for a likely cancer diagnosis. While waiting for the results, Elizabeth was coming to ballet and working on choreography set to Psalm 23. As her mother put it, "she was just swimming in it over and over!" Elizabeth told her family that through the dance God was daily reminding her that He was with her through the "valley of the shadow of death." What a joy to watch God use dance to speak truth to the hearts of our students! Praise the Lord! Her father's tumor was benign, and Elizabeth has since shared of God's faithful presence with many peers.



## **BIRMINGHAM THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

For over 50 years, Birmingham Theological Seminary has been committed to providing accessible and faithful theological education to learners everywhere, building leaders to serve the local church and advance God's Kingdom. Over the last few years, we have experienced remarkable growth in Birmingham, America, and globally, now totaling over 400 active students. This year, we are excited to announce the launch of the Harry Reeder Center for Pastoral Studies (RCPS), advancing our pastoral education tracks by preserving the legacy of senior pastor, Dr. Harry Reeder. This program marks out the biblical principles of pastoral ministry gleaned from Briarwood senior pastors, Dr. Frank Barker and Dr. Harry Reeder, preserving the Briarwood goal of being "On Message, On Mission, and In Ministry" for future pastors for generations to come!

## **CAMPUS OUTREACH BIRMINGHAM (COB)**

Briarwood Presbyterian Church started Campus Outreach in 1978 with two staff members on one campus. Today, there are 660 Campus Outreach staff members serving 100 campuses in 13 countries. Our mission is to build Christ-like laborers on the campus for the lost world for the Glory of God.

In the first three years of ministry at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM), there were only men on staff. Despite being a new ministry of only men, God used weekly meetings, the local church, and some staff wives to reach three women early in their college experience. This summer, only a couple of years later, God used each of these seniors to lead four freshman girls to faith in Christ. One is now headed to Memphis for Physical Therapy school, another to an unreached people group in Northern Africa, and the other back to USM to hopefully join the COB staff team.



## BRIARWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

"As the Gospels teach us, we are to spread the seed, nurture the seed, and then watch God do the work. 2023-2024 presented me with a unique opportunity to do just this. The first day of class, I had a student tell me he was an atheist and firmly rejected any belief in Jesus Christ. This student proceeded to remind me every few days that he was an atheist. Even though his beliefs were not like mine, he was one of my most engaged students during Bible class. He asked many thought-provoking questions but also tried to challenge certain theological ideas that our class was discussing. Each day many teachers were praying for this student to come to know Jesus Christ as his loving Savior. Each day God equipped me to help point this student to Jesus. And each day God reminded me it is Him who will do the ultimate work, and my job was to be faithful only to Him and continue pointing all my students to Jesus.

What a privilege to be able to be a part of God's unfolding plan. I may never know on this side of eternity where this sweet boy's soul will live, but I do know he has heard the message of the Gospel. Briarwood Christian School facilitated for me to be a part of sharing the Gospel with a student who rejects Christ, has no family of believers, and only hears the name of Jesus at school. One thing that I do know, is at the end of the year when asked if he was a believer, this young man did not completely reject Jesus Christ. He responded that he is not sure yet. YET! What a response! May God continue to pursue this boy. I am so thankful that Briarwood gives me the opportunity to share the good news of Jesus Christ every single day to many children who really have no idea who Jesus is. We must do the work and then what a joy to sit back and watch God do the rest!"



**BCS 3rd Grade Students**



## BIBLICAL COUNSELING

The Briarwood Biblical Counseling ministry has been extending the application of the Gospel to affect healing both in our congregation and the community for more than forty years. We provide personal counseling for a variety of life issues (pre-marital counseling, marriage, depression, anxiety, addiction, self-injury, etc.). We train lay counselors and mentors who augment the ministry of the pastoral staff. The counseling ministry is a beautiful example of the mission of Briarwood to reach Birmingham to reach the world for Christ through counseling, training, and assisting other churches to establish biblical counseling ministries.



## BRIARWOOD COLLEGE MINISTRY

"One of the many college students God has been working in this year is a rising senior at UAB who got connected to Briarwood through Campus Outreach Birmingham (COB). As she got plugged into Christian community with the college ministry and COB, she learned what it truly means to follow Christ and have a personal relationship with him. A big part of this growth was the rich community that she experienced through her Briarwood college small group, where she got to hear other girls' testimonies, be in the Word with them consistently, and learn what it looks like to surrender and more deeply depend on God for everything. It's been so encouraging to see God at work in and through her the past couple of years!" - Jenna Viets, College Ministry Staff





**Vacation Bible School**

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

The Children's Ministry at Briarwood desires to partner with parents to lead children to a saving, growing relationship with Christ by presenting the Gospel, training children to worship, and equipping them to impact others for God's glory.

The Children's Ministry offers a year long Catechism Class during the Sunday School hour for any 4th-6th grader who wants to learn and memorize all of the Catechism questions. The Catechism is packed with biblical truth and is a great teaching tool to help learn answers to the most important questions regarding the Christian faith. We are very blessed each year to have great teachers and volunteers for this class who help children memorize and recite the Catechism questions. This year, one of our 4th grade boys, through the process of being taught the Catechism, began asking questions at home regarding his faith. We were able to see how the Lord truly began working in his heart through this class and his conversations at home. He put his faith in Christ and asked Jesus to be Lord and Savior of his life. Praise the Lord for HIS work through the class, the faithful teachers that lead, and the ongoing discipleship of parents in the home!

## **CHRISTIAN MEDICAL MINISTRY OF ALABAMA**

Christian Medical Ministry of Alabama (CMMA) was established in 1982 to reach and disciple those in the healthcare professions, especially students in medicine, dentistry, physical therapy, occupational therapy, optometry, and physician assistant at UAB. We "care for those who care for others" so that they can survive the rigors of training, thrive spiritually and multiply to help reach the world for Christ. CMMA impacts 250 or more students and professionals each week.

On a recent medical mission trip in the Dominican Republic, a student came to understand that there is a difference between being a Christian physician and a physician that just happens to be a Christian and has committed to being a Christian physician.



Birmingham Lampstand Conference

## CHURCH REVITALIZATION

Although many fear the church in America is on its last legs, the Lord Jesus said in no uncertain terms, "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18). In the words of the great hymn "The Church's One Foundation," the church "shall never perish!"

God has blessed Briarwood to be in a position of influence, not only in the PCA but also in our nation. Because of this, and because God has also blessed Briarwood with disciples who love Jesus and who love his church, the Church Revitalization Ministry at Briarwood has the unique opportunity to minister to churches across multiple denominations to disciple and develop spiritually healthy church leaders to pursue biblical health in their churches. Our annual Lampstand Conference provides pastors and churches the opportunity to benefit from the experience and wisdom of a team of godly pastor-theologians, such as Dr. Sandy Willson, Dr. John Currie, and Dr. Tom Hawkes.

In January 2024, over 70 attended the Lampstand Conference and several churches further participated in a Spiritual Foundation Weekend led by Church Revitalization Pastor Rob Looper. In early October, Dr. Currie, Dr. Hawkes, and Pastor Looper led Church Vitality Mentor training for the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC), which has partnered with Lampstand to equip its pastors and leaders.

Founded by Dr. Harry Reeder nearly 30 years ago as Embers to a Flame, Lampstand continues the mission of providing interactive resources through the work of Briarwood members who serve on the Church Revitalization Ministry Team (CRMT). Your faithful giving makes their ministry possible and in turn equips and encourages pastors, leaders, and churches throughout the nation pursue church health and believe the Lord's promise to build his church.





## COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Ministry of Briarwood includes our Print, Internet and Electronic Media Ministries, with Audio/Video, Radio, and Television, comprising our Electronic Media Ministry. At 88.5 FM, WLJR is our automated, 24-hour-a-day Christian radio station, affiliated with both the Moody Radio Network and American Family Radio. Sunday Worship services are available on [briarwood.org](http://briarwood.org), the BriarwoodPCA mobile App, Roku, AppleTV and in our social media, where they are viewed by a worldwide audience.

My colleague and brother John Haines once told me, "Our most important musician is on the soundboard. Without him, none of the other musicians or instruments can be heard." That message resonated with me. It can be tempting for those who work in media or any administrative department of a large church to feel that they dutifully support church ministries and worship through their vocation... but don't actively participate in ministry and worship themselves. Thankfully, scripture reassures us that this is not the case! Colossians 3:23 says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters..." That is our goal in the Media Department at Briarwood. Our instruments may be a soundboard, a computer, or a camera, but we can still use them to make a joyful noise unto the Lord! – Landon McKee, Communications Director

## CONGREGATIONAL COMMUNITIES

It is clear in Scripture that we are to place a high value on being connected to biblical community with other Christians in our church. At Briarwood, our adult Sunday School Classes function as Congregational Communities. These 31 vibrant Congregational Communities are where many of our members find a place of true fellowship with other Christians. In addition to excellent weekly teaching, our members join together to pray for one another, encourage one another, and use their gifts in ministry together. Our members and visitors have shown a strong desire and commitment to be involved with their Congregational Communities. There has been increased involvement in small groups, service opportunities, social gatherings, and Sunday morning teaching. Our class shepherds have been faithful to be available and involved in caring for those who have prayer needs and physical needs. One of our members, who recently joined, shared that she and her husband have found Briarwood Church to be a place where they feel at home, loved and cared about. She said that a key part of this is that they joined a Sunday School Community and have attended faithfully. The commitment of this community to pray for each other is very important to them. Also, they have made some good friends to fellowship with and grow in their relationship with Christ.

### Inside Out Community







Evangelism Training

## EVANGELISM

Evangelism has always been a primary focus at Briarwood with our mission “to reach Birmingham to reach the world for Christ.” Our desire is to provide tools like Christianity Explored and Bridge to Life to share one’s faith.

In March, a member of our Evangelism Ministry decided to take a Saturday and go to a local community event to share the Gospel. We call that “Way of Life Evangelism,” and here is what happened when he was faithful to do what God had challenged him to do: “I used the survey on spiritual matters that we use at the church, and with all four attempts I was given permission to share a verse from the Bible that tells all we need to know to be sure we are going to heaven (Bridge to Life). This resulted in the Gospel being shared and ten people praying to make Jesus their Lord, to trust in Him to forgive their sins and give them the gift of eternal life.” To God be the glory and may evangelism always be a foundation of Briarwood Church.

## GRADUATES AND CAREER

The Graduates and Career (G&C) community consists of singles in their 20's and 30's and our focus this past year has been to build prayer into the rhythm and structure of all that we do. Whether that be enfoldng visitors and members into the heart of our fellowship, sharing the Gospel with the people God has placed in our lives, studying God's Word in Small Groups, or planning and participating in large-group events, our aim has been to engage in ministry by depending upon the power of God's Spirit through constant prayer!

We praise the Lord especially for the way in which He has shown his faithfulness to our community by allowing us to continue to grow and rebuild. This past year, we held a Summer Beach Retreat for the first time in several years, and we had over 50 members attend with about a quarter of them being relative newcomers. We spent four sessions taking a deep dive into the Sabbath Commandment and learning about how God graciously invites us to rest in his works of providence and redemption. As our community patterns our lives according to God's weekly rhythm, we trust that he will replenish us and strengthen us to do his will!

One of the highest privileges we have in the G&C Ministry is having a front row view to the tremendous work that God is doing in the hearts of these young people. Over the past year and a half, we have had one of our own Briarwood members move back to Birmingham as a 20-something year old and reconnect with Briarwood after many years away – away from both the church and the Lord. We have seen a literal transformation in her life as she has grown in both her love for the Lord and his people. She has not only surrendered her life more fully to the Lord this past year, but she has also had a tremendous impact on our own community as a leader for us. She went from threatening us to never call on her to pray out loud, to now literally leading our weekly time of prayer for one another in front of 50 of her peers. As we see her love for Jesus and his church grow, we are seeing her desires for God's glory begin to outweigh so many of her previous fears and strongholds. God is unbelievable and He changes lives. To Him be the glory!





## LOCAL MISSIONS AND MOBILIZATION

Briarwood's Local Missions vision is to reach Birmingham by partnering with local ministries through mobilizing our members. Realizing our city is vast and the opportunities are plentiful, we partner with ministries in the areas of Youth and Education, Church Planting, Community and Family, Disaster Relief, and Prison Ministry.

Through a difficult time in her life, God led a Briarwood member to dedicate her life to helping people who are in poverty, disabled, and in prison. She learned in her G&C Sunday School class about a mobilization opportunity at the local jail. Through the jail ministry and support of another Briarwood member, she has been able to visit the jail and lead Bible studies. She has seen one woman come to Christ and another overcome a drug addiction and be reunited with family.

## MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Ministry's goal is to glorify God by helping our visitors and members connect to Christ and His Church here at Briarwood. We focus on providing a warm welcome to our guests, helping our new members connect into our church body, and partnering with seasoned members in providing continued support and guidance in various ministry endeavors. This is facilitated through our Sunday School Communities, various small group meetings, and connecting with other church ministries. We have had people from many different walks of life visit and join Briarwood as members this year. People from different denominations, different ages and stages of life, different backgrounds and different nationalities have come to join Briarwood. One couple who recently joined our church membership stated they immediately felt welcomed at Briarwood at their first visit. As they attended, they were spiritually fed from the preaching from the pulpit and found good friends in a Sunday School Community. They expressed great thanks for the Lord bringing them to Briarwood. We praise the Lord for bringing together members at Briarwood who have a heart and commitment to Worship our Lord and to reach Birmingham and the world with the Gospel of Christ.



## MERCY MINISTRY

The Mercy Ministry of Briarwood is committed to ministering to those in need. The deacons and volunteers of the Mercy Ministry are able to enter the lives of both members and non-members to walk with them through times of struggles and offer the mercy of God. The Mercy Ministry also dispenses the mercy of God through New Direction Ministry and Fostering Hope.

Two men approached the Mercy Pastor concerning a lady with a big need. She had lost her job cleaning houses after the engine in her car went out and she was unable to drive to work. The two men found a repair shop which was willing to give the Mercy Committee a decent price to repair her vehicle. The Mercy Committee approved the payment, and the lady was able to return to work once her vehicle was repaired. Through the giving of Alms, Mercy Deacons are able to assist people in need. We would like to thank everyone who gives to our Alms Offering when we partake in Communion.

## MIDWEEK

Over the years, MidWeek has been a wonderful ministry for God's people to gather around an excellent meal before heading to special opportunities like Bible studies, adult choir and orchestra rehearsal, seminary classes, evangelism training, children's programs, nursery, and youth ministry activities. MidWeek allows God's people to spend sweet fellowship time together as well as participate in the rich study of God's Word.

This year during MidWeek, we took four weeks to focus on The Art of Discipleship. With nearly 400 participating each week, our hope is that God will continue to make discipleship a major focus and emphasis of every believer and every ministry at Briarwood.

## MEN'S MINISTRY

Briarwood believes that Christ-like men of character and conviction are one of the highest priorities in our mission. The Men's Ministry is called "Men of the Covenant," and Discipleship-oriented courses make up the nucleus of the Men's Ministry, enhanced by special events such as the Sportsman's Blast, Men's Dinners, and Men's Retreats. One of the unique things about Men of the Covenant studies is that they allow men from different ages and stages of life to meet together. What a blessing to glean wisdom from those older and wiser.



## MUSIC AND WORSHIP

The Music and Worship Ministry exists to equip Christians to worship, mainly through our Lord's Day morning and evening worship services. This enables God's people to more effectively fulfill the calling God has given us to make disciples (and ultimately worshipers) of all the nations. The Music Ministry provides opportunities for all members, ages five and up, to find their voice in worship through graded choirs, youth choirs, the Chancel (adult) choir, orchestra, praise teams and bands.

## NATIONAL MISSIONS

Briarwood's commitment to reach Birmingham, Alabama, and the United States for Christ advances through faithful partnership with more than 120 missionaries and ministries. College and public-school student outreach, church planting, Gospel resources for prison inmates, child trafficking restoration centers, youth athletic evangelism and many others bring the Gospel message to the lost and hurting. Several of our supported Church Planters serve in areas with little to no Christian presence. Briarwood's National Missions has the privilege of supporting our partners financially, prayerfully, and through our members engaging in short-term opportunities.

Ministry Partner TruthXchange held a symposium this summer at Providence Christian College in Pasadena, California. "Every Square Inch: Taking Christ's Lordship to the Streets" dealt with cultural issues ranging from transgenderism, education, economics, and law. TruthXchange's resources have helped young people who have been raised with a pagan worldview walk away from exchanging the truth for the lie, to worshiping and serving the Creator.

"Many thanks to the session, ministers, and congregation of Briarwood, PCA, for enabling us to serve the Church. Your prayerful intercession and financial support enable a tremendous amount of Bible teaching and discipleship in cultural apologetics...and [it is] changing lives."

- Joshua Gielow, TruthXchange





## NURSERY

The Briarwood Nursery provides a service to the parents of the Church by providing a safe and pleasant atmosphere in which to leave their children while they pursue spiritual growth and fellowship with other believers. We are open during church on Sunday, and Wednesday nights during MidWeek classes. We are also open to meet the needs of church members and Briarwood School, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

*"After moving to Birmingham recently, I was having a hard time finding community. When I discovered Briarwood's weekday nursery care and Bible studies for women it felt like a lifeline. I was able to study the Word and fellowship with other believers. As we started attending Briarwood and became members, my deep gratitude for the nursery and its staff only grew. I love knowing that on Sunday mornings my children are being nurtured by staff and volunteers who have come to truly love them and know them. Our one-year-old baby girl even has a favorite staff member who we affectionately call 'Best Friend.'"* – BPC Member

## PASTORAL CARE

The Pastoral Care Ministry's focus is to assist pastors, elders, and congregational communities in caring for our Church members, especially in times of sickness, infirmity, bereavement, or family crisis.

It is the privilege of our Pastoral Care Ministry to assist pastors, elders, and Congregational Communities serve all church members, especially in times of sickness, bereavement, or family crisis. Pastor Jim Alexander is thankful for the team of servant-leaders God has provided to help meet needs within the Briarwood community. Over 30 volunteer, lay pastors prayerfully assist with hospital visits, follow-up care calls, communion to homebound members, and anointings. Nearly a dozen Grace Ladies provide regular contact with, and fellowship luncheons for, our widows. Together we also support those walking through the challenges of caring for their loved ones as they deal with prolonged health needs. Many church members have expressed heartfelt thanks for the ways Pastoral Care gives hope by pointing to God's faithfulness during the challenges they face.



## PRAYER MINISTRY

The Prayer Ministry at Briarwood exists to glorify God through providing opportunities and equipping Christians to pray in order to impact Birmingham to reach the world for Christ. *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* – 1 Thess. 5:16–18

## QUEST (RECREATION)

Since 1964, Camp Briarwood has served as a camp and leadership training ground for approximately 20,000 children and counselors. The Briarwood Soccer Club trains young players in the game of soccer. More importantly, the Club demonstrates and proclaims the Gospel of Christ. Trail Life is a Christ-centered, outdoor, character-developing adventure program open to boys and their fathers. Quest also ministers through ladies' fitness classes, cheer classes and camps, and pickleball.

## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS

The Special Connections Ministry vision is for the Gospel to be made accessible to all, as the body of Christ shows equal concern for people with disabilities and their families. The ministry provides teaching and worship opportunities as well as care for children, youth, and adults with special needs.

In 2024, the Lord brought back Camp Briarwood/Special Connections for the first time since the pandemic. Camp Briarwood/Special Connections is an inclusive, summer camp where campers with special needs participate in many fun camp activities. The camp experience is made possible with the help of counselors who work one-on-one with each camper. The Lord blessed us with the right counselors who could meet the varied needs of our participants. With the help of each counselor, our campers completed art projects, swam, sang songs, and most importantly learned about Jesus.





**Trailblazers at The Cove**



## **TRAILBLAZERS**

Trailblazers is a ministry to all adults over 60 at Briarwood. Goals of the ministry include helping seniors grow spiritually, integrating them into the life of the church through service, providing educational seminars and fellowship luncheons, and using excursions to increase their awareness of the creative majesty of our great God.

Trailblazers enjoyed a beautiful trip to Tuscany in the fall, a trip to St. Augustine in the spring, and our annual trip to The Cove this summer. There are game-groups and a pickleball group that meet regularly and provide opportunities for members of many different Sunday School classes to meet and enjoy each other's company. Our annual outreach event is a Christmas box-packing party for Operation Christmas Child in November.

**Trailblazers in Jacksonville, FL**





## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Women of the Covenant Mission Statement is "Equipping to know God, and to glorify Him in our Home, Church, Community, and World." We seek to do this through Bible studies, small groups, retreats and special events designed for personal spiritual growth as well as opportunities to reach out to family, friends, and our community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

For the past year, over 30 Briarwood women have been participating in training to serve on the PCA-CDM (Committee on Discipleship Ministries) Women's International Team. This team helps to develop biblically sound, healthy, robust reformed churches around the world, specifically through the on-going training, discipleship and partnering with international churches' pastors and their female members. Our first partnership has been with Gospel Church Munich, Germany. A team of our women have been providing monthly training through Zoom and in May they traveled to Munich to teach at the church's first women's conference. Training our sisters from around the globe for Gospel impact is at the heart of this ministry.

## WALK THROUGH NATIVITY

The Walk Through Nativity is an inspiring portrayal of the story of Jesus Christ's birth and life, presented by our congregation over three nights each December. This is an exciting opportunity for our Briarwood family as over 700 volunteers join together using their gifts and talents to reach out to our community and share God's love and the good news of Jesus Christ. We had over 11,000 people attend this past year who heard the story of Christ through twelve scenes with audio narration, live actors, and live animals. One of our members invited coworkers who were not familiar with the Bible and story of Christ and His Gospel. After walking through each scene, hearing the narration and seeing it acted out, they were very interested in discussing more about the Gospel with their friends. They said that the idea of Jesus as the Son of God was intriguing to them. Especially that He will forgive all their wrong doings and give eternal life to those who believe in Him as the Messiah. It is our prayer that this couple and many other people who attended this impactful event will receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.



## YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS

How do you live out and share your faith at work? Since 1981, the mission of Young Business Leaders (YBL) has been to reach men for Jesus in the marketplace, build their faith, and send them back to their families, communities, and the world for God's glory. YBL trains men to make disciples in the marketplace through small groups, one-on-one mentoring and group outreach events.

A gentleman came to Christ in February when his friend brought him to the YBL Winter Breakfast with a federal judge. He has gone through YBL's basic discipleship training and is now facilitating a discovery group with a number of his unbelieving friends and family. He is getting baptized soon and many of his friends are eager to learn and take that step, too.

## YBL LEGACY

The vision of the YBL LEGACY Ministry is to mobilize, minister to, and multiply men who use their life experiences, time, and resources to impact God's Kingdom locally, nationally and internationally. *"And the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginnings."* – Job 42:12

## WOMEN BUSINESS LEADERS

Women Business Leaders (WBL) a ministry to women in the workplace, seeks to share the hope we find in Christ and help women mature in their faith. We do this through small group Bible studies, mentoring relationships and large group events that are spiritually enriching and Gospel centered. Young women are seeking to be involved with WBL at an ever-increasing rate and in 2024 ministry has come full circle.

"Through WBL I have the privilege of leading a group of 25-year-old women in study each week who were once part of a high school ministry I assisted with for many years. These now grown women are eager to learn deeper truths from God's word and apply them to their lives as young professionals. As they are transformed by these truths, it is my prayer that God will set them on a very firm foundation to build their lives upon, growing in His grace and knowledge and influencing those around them in their workplace, home, community or wherever the Lord may take them. This is just one of the 15 groups available through WBL. Come join us and let's get another one started!" – Sharon Head, WBL Director





**Young Couples BBQ**

## **YOUNG COUPLES MINISTRY**

Briarwood Young Couples Ministry desires to see a multiplying movement of healthy, Christ-centered families that are increasing in maturity and number.

"Before we moved to Birmingham, I lost my mom to a rare terminal illness that attacks the brain stem. The anniversary of her death impacted me greatly this spring, following the birth of our youngest child, who was only several weeks old at the time. The wonderful women in my small group came alongside me during this poignant part of the grieving process and took me out to lunch, so I could simply sit with my new baby and share memories and photos of my mother. It has been such a blessing to be a part of a congregational community at Briarwood." - BPC Member

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

The Youth Ministry has touched the lives of thousands of young people throughout the years through retreats, conferences, and mission trips. Over the last several years, The Youth Barn has enhanced and facilitated even more ministry opportunities to our youth, both here in the church and in the community. Through weekly meetings, discipleship groups, and special events, the Lord has blessed us to reach and disciple more and more students for Christ!

The Youth Ministry offers a Teen Membership twice a year for any of our Junior High and Senior High students who are interested in becoming communing members at Briarwood. After the classes end, we have a membership lunch where our teenagers have a chance to share their testimony to a group of elders. At one of the tables this year, we had two high school freshmen express that they had just recently surrendered their lives to Christ through the ministry of Briarwood Youth Group (BYG). One freshman shared how he attended the BYG Summer Speaker Series on Sunday nights where he was able to hear a different testimony each Sunday night. He expressed how these stories of Gospel transformation in the life of others opened his eyes to the Gospel and his own need for Christ. A few months later, he decided to attend the membership class to become a member and now has his own story of God's saving grace in his life. Praise the Lord!

## **These ministries benefit from your faithful tithes:**

Administrative Services  
Birmingham Theological Seminary  
Briarwood Ballet  
Briarwood Christian School  
Campus Outreach  
Children's Ministries  
Christian Counseling Ministry  
Christian Education  
Christian Medical Ministry  
Church Planting  
Church Revitalization  
Church and State  
College Ministry  
Communications  
Congregational Communities (*Adult Sunday School*)  
Discipleship Groups  
Evangelism  
Fellows Ministry  
Graduates and Career (*G&C*)  
In Perspective Radio  
Local Missions and Mobilization  
L.O.V.E. Ministry  
Membership  
Men of the Covenant  
Mercy Ministry  
MidWeek @ Briarwood  
Music Ministry for all ages  
National Ministries (*120 Ministry Partners*)  
Nursery  
Pastoral Care  
Prayer Ministry  
Quest/Recreation Ministry  
Shepherding  
Special Connections  
Trailblazers/Senior Adult Ministry  
Vacation Bible School  
WLJR-FM  
Walk Through Nativity  
Women of the Covenant  
Young Business Leaders



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

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage

**PAID**

Permit # 2143  
Birmingham, AL