

Women join us for our Women's Fall Kickoff on Saturday, August 23 from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the Fellowship Hall. This Roaring 20's themed event will focus on fellowship, food and fun.

You won't want to miss it!



WOMEN'S FALL KICKOFF

Every year, the Women's Ministry spares no effort for the Fall Kickoff Event on August 23 from 10 am to noon in the Fellowship Hall. This year's Fall Kickoff theme is the Roaring 20's—so get ready for glitz, glam, delicious food, sweet fellowship, and a few fun surprises! There will be 20's themed decorations up, a whole playlist of 20's style music, and so many fun activities to tie it all together. You won't want to miss it!

Meaningful Community:

"I deeply value the time spent with like-minded women who are willing to share pieces of their stories. These stories are always an encouragement and a reminder that we do not walk through this world alone. God, in His kindness, created us for relationship and community, and I've found the women's ministry to be a beautiful space where I can live out that design.

My experience attending the women's events over the past few years has been an incredible blessing. These gatherings have not only given me the opportunity to reconnect with dear friends but have also opened doors to meet women in different life stages and seasons than my own. Whether it's the in-town or out-of-town retreats, our annual kickoffs, Wednesday night Bible studies, or summer fellowship events—each one has served as a meaningful place of connection within the body of Christ at our local church.

What I also love is the joyful spirit that permeates everything we do. We take God's Word seriously, but we also know how to have fun together—and that balance is such a gift! I'm incredibly thankful to be part of a church like Briarwood, and to share in covenant community with such remarkable women."

-Heather Purser, Women's Administrative Assistant

"It's such a joy to watch a 25-year-old sit down next to a 65-year-old—both decked out in their themed outfits—and discover how much they have in common. Every year, someone shares a story of a new friendship or connection that began at the Kickoff. These moments remind us that our large church can feel wonderfully small when we laugh together and make new memories.

As believers, we know that God is sovereign in placing us in the local church family where He wants us to live life together. Events like this give us a beautiful opportunity to strengthen relationships and grow closer as sisters in Christ."

-Kristie Harrick, Women's Ministry Director

Registration & Information:

This event is completely free! The only requirement is that you register on our website when it opens on Monday, August 4th. You can also sign up to prepare food on our website by using the Sign Up Genius link.

If for some reason you don't have a flapper dress lying around, we encourage you to wear a black top and any gold accessories you have. Our black and gold theme will be a focal point in all the decor and activities we do. Headpieces and 20's-style attire are encouraged if you have the 20's spirit. If you don't have anything on theme in your closet, don't fret! We will help get you dolled up when you arrive.

For more information, visit briarwood.org/women.

FEATURED EVENTS

Installation Service for Dr. Redd — Evening Worship Service | August 10

Come celebrate this new chapter in our church's life on Sunday, August 10 during the evening worship service. This will be an encouraging time of worship, celebration, and fellowship as we welcome the Redds into the Briarwood family.

Women's Fall Kickoff — Women's Ministry | August 23 *

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* 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 Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert by Rosaria Butterfield | Adult Biography

Have you ever wondered about Rosaria's conversion story? By the standards of our culture today, she was living a very good life. She had a tenured position at a large university in a field for which she cared deeply. She owned two homes with her partner, in which they provided hospitality to students and activists who were looking to make a difference in the world. In the community, Rosaria was involved in volunteer work. At the university, she was a respected advisor of students and her department's curriculum. Then, in her late 30s, Rosaria encountered something that turned her world upside down—the idea that Christianity, a religion that she had regarded as problematic and sometimes downright damaging, might be right about who God is, an idea that flew in the face of the people and causes that she most loved. What follows is a story of what she describes as a "train wreck" at the hand of the supernatural. These are her secret thoughts about those events, written as only a reflective English professor could. Price: \$15.00

Body Image: Valuing God's Good Gift by Andrea Lee | Teen 31-Day Devotional

In this imperfect world, even good gifts—like your body!—come with major challenges. Whether you're struggling with shame, wrestling with questions about diet and exercise, or simply wondering what it means to live a God-honoring life in a female body, the Bible is filled with beautiful truths to help and encourage you. Andrea Lee writes as one who understands the pain of body-image struggles—and as one who can point you to the deep hope of the gospel. Two-page devotional readings, accompanied by prayers and reflection questions, will help you appreciate God's amazing design for you. Price: \$10.99

Featured books are available in the Bookstore or online at briarwood.org/bookstore.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

YBL Summer Series #3 — August 5 from 7:00–8:00 a.m. at Samford's Regions Room. Hear from Executive Director of Campus Outreach, Olan Stubbs, as he teaches on developing people both vocationally and spiritually. Register online at ybl.org.

Canned Food Drive — Sunday, August 17. Begin gathering your canned goods and non-perishables for Grace Klein. That Sunday, you will leave your donations behind your vehicle for the Mercy Ministry Team to pick up while you are in church.

Trailblazer's Lunch — August 19 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Fellowship together and hear meteorologist Jason Simpson speak on "Jesus Calming the Storm". Register online at briarwood.org/trailblazers or email sjohnston@briarwood.org.

Become a Briarwood Member — August 20, 23 and 24. All newcomers and prospective members are invited to attend our Briarwood Inquirers Classes. Attending these classes does not obligate you to join. To sign up, email Wendy at wlong@briarwood.org.

ESL Volunteers Needed — Do you have a passion for internationals? Do you speak English? Then you would make a great addition to our ESL ministry! All necessary training will be provided. Contact cmcgregor@briarwood.org for more information.

Friendship Partners — Get involved with God's heart for the nations with Friendship Partners. An intentional friendship can have an eternal impact. Attend an orientation August 5 or 13. Contact Courtney at cmcgregor@briarwood.org for more info.

Sunday Greeters Needed — We would love for your smiling face to be a welcoming presence for each person who walks through our doors. All ages and stages can participate! Contact Allison Barton at abarton@briarwood.org to volunteer.

Children's Sunday School Teachers Needed — No prior experience required and we give you all the materials needed. We will start off the year on August 24. If interested, please email Raleigh Macoy at rmacoy@briarwood.org.

Children's Sunday School Promotion — If you are planning on holding your child back for the 2025–26 school year, let us know so we can make sure to place him/her in the appropriate Sunday School class beginning on August 24. Email rmacoy@briarwood.org.

Children's Catechism Sunday School Class — Registration is now open for rising 4th through 6th graders. This nine-month class requires weekly homework and memorizing. Space is limited to 20 participants. Email Raleigh at rmacoy@briarwood.org to register.

CONNECT Teachers Needed — We will meet each Wednesday night this fall beginning on September 3. We still need 8 more volunteers to help with K4-3rd grade classes. No advanced prep is needed, just show up! Please email rmacoy@briarwood.org.

Job Opening: 2nd Shift Custodian — Full-time position available for 2nd shift custodian who will work 1:30–10:00 p.m. with somewhat flexible hours. Health insurance and possibility of overtime is available. If interested, email brobinson@briarwood.org.

Job Opening: Grounds Manager — Briarwood is seeking a grounds manager for their property. Must be familiar with irrigation repair, lawn equipment, and some backhoe experience. Salary plus benefits. Contact Steve at sgoebel@briarwood.org.

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

Sunday, August 3 — Briarwood Prayer Focus

Thankful for the impact that Young Business Leaders has on the lives of men in our community. Pray specifically for the August 5 summer series meeting at Samford. Olan Stubbs, Executive Director of Campus Outreach, will share on developing people both vocationally and spiritually.

Monday, August 4 — Birmingham Prayer Focus

Pray for The Wellhouse, a ministry that provides opportunities for restoration to female victims of human trafficking through its emergency, short-term, and long-term care programs. Please consider volunteering to support the staff as they serve and share God's love with hurting women and children. Visit the-wellhouse.org/volunteer to explore volunteer opportunities and learn how you can make a difference.

Tuesday, August 5 — Missions Prayer Focus

Please pray for the ministry of First Priority whose mission is to share the hope of Christ with teens in the Greater Birmingham area. As a new school season begins, pray for growth of the ministry as well as preparations of Biblical teaching as they network in 22 different schools. Praise the Lord that last season there were 1,000 commitments to Christ, and 10,000 students who attended weekly Bible study. The flag of Alabama will be featured in the Worship Center this Sunday.

Wednesday, August 6 — Global Ministry Partners

Pray for Lynn with Navigators in the Middle East, Jarred and Rebecca Smith with Campus Outreach SERVE in New Zealand, Agron and Elona Sopaj with Cru in Kosovo, and Stephen and Laura Spanjer with Won by One International in Germany.

Thursday, August 7 — National Ministry Partners

Pray for Jerry and Joy Beverly with Leaders Unlimited in Miami, Florida, John and Taylor Blevins with Christ Church Presbyterian in Knoxville, Tennessee, Hunter and Vicki Brewer with Mission to North America in North Carolina, and Cedric and Alicia Brown with Navigators in Maryland.

Friday, August 8 — Briarwood Officers and Staff

Pray for our elders Bruce Evans, Jim Bradford, Chase Crawford; deacons Brad Nichols, Duane Pritchett, Mike Stewart; and Global Missions Pastor Bryan Wintersteen and his wife Beth.

Saturday, August 9 — Church Family

Pray for our hospitalized members Jean Cannon, LaTrelle Grayson, Betty Hull, Dave Morey, Dianna Murphree, Gary Palmer, Amy Warren, Nono Whitten.

Our love and sympathy to Charles Daniel and family on the death of his mother, Maneeammal Daniel, on July 21; to Dottie Ammon and family on the death of her sister, Wanda Frost, July 23; to Joyce Wise and family on the death of her brother, Ronald Davis, on July 24; and to Donna Deprine and family on the death of her father, Donald Honeywell, on July 29.

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



THIS LORD'S DAY

Sunday Morning Worship Services:

Ephesians: The One Body of Christ "Greetings" Ephesians 1:1–2 Dr. Scott Redd

Sunday Evening Worship:

Psalm 131 Rev. Rob Looper, National & Revitalization Pastor

Watch our live-stream on ROKU, Apple TV, Facebook, YouTube or briarwood.org. Catch up with previous sermons and series on the Briarwood App.