

# *Walk Through* NATIVITY

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 10, 11, 12 • 6:45-8:45 P.M.

FREE FAMILY EVENT!



SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER  
AT [BRIARWOOD.ORG/WTN](https://briarwood.org/WTN).



*Briarwood*  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Briarwood Weekly • [info@briarwood.org](mailto:info@briarwood.org) • November 23, 2025

# WALK THROUGH NATIVITY

Amy Duffey shares her perspective on the value of volunteering with her husband Sam and their daughter Livy, who have volunteered together for more than 10 years.

## **What's the best part about serving in the cast?**

"It's just really fun to watch the reactions of the people. That's my favorite part of it. And I'm always curious how many of those people have ever heard the real story of Christmas. When I look out, I can see there's a ton of people. There's people that I know that come through, but there's also people I don't, and I'll sit there and think 'I really hope that they leave here hearing the wonderful message of the Christmas story.'"

"It's not just a Christmas story. It's the full story. It takes you from before Jesus was born all the way to his death and resurrection. So it's not just an activity. It's the actual story of Jesus Christ, and it's something that you just need to experience. You can experience it year after year and still pick something out that's different each time. But it's also a good reminder year after year of the entire story. And sometimes when you can see that story live and in person, it becomes more real than when reading it."

## **What's it like volunteering with children?**

"One thing I always request is that we do it as family because it is a tradition for us. We've been the angels for multiple years and that is my daughter's favorite. "I do hope more and more people with small families will join in on that. I know it's a sacrifice. It's during the week, and it's cold most of the time, but it's one that you won't ever forget. You will not regret it."

## **Why do you volunteer?**

"I don't look at it as volunteering. I look at it as a privilege to be able to be a part of that story. To me, it's just part of Christmas. This is what we do every year for Christmas because Christmas means so much to us. It is the birth of our Savior."

## **What's the atmosphere like when everyone is getting ready?**

"Well, it's fun. It's community because we get there early enough to where we can catch up with people. The church is so big, so we get to see people who may not be in our Sunday School class. And then I love the people that help us get our costumes on because it's the same people every year that we see, and they're always just so kind."

## **What if it's too cold?**

"We've seen it snow. We've seen it rain. We've seen it be hot. We've seen it be freezing cold and we just absolutely love it. But a lot of people are like, 'It's so cold and the lines are so long.' I know, the lines do look long, but they move really fast. It's really worth it for the story."

We need cast members of all ages, costume designers, greeters, evangelists, servers, parking attendants, set builders, and more! It's a fun opportunity to use your gifts to share the gospel with our community in a tangible way that they will not forget!

*Sign up to volunteer at [briarwood.org/wtn](http://briarwood.org/wtn).*

## FEATURED EVENTS

### **Service of Thanksgiving — Evening Worship | November 23 \***

Members of the congregation will have an opportunity to reflect on their thankfulness to the Lord at the conclusion of the worship service.

### **Children's Choirs Christmas Concert — Children's Music | November 30 \***

During the Evening Worship Service enjoy a special Christmas Concert from the Briarwood Children's Choirs. For information, email [sphillips@briarwood.org](mailto:sphillips@briarwood.org).

### **"Light of Heaven" — Briarwood Ballet | December 7 \***

Celebrate the Advent season with the Briarwood Ballet as they lead us in worship with their presentation on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. Admission is free.

### **Walk Through Nativity — Church Wide | December 10–12 \***

December 10, 11 and 12 from 6:45–8:45 p.m. Over 750 volunteer actors, costumers, parking attendants, scene-builders, and greeters are needed for this year's Walk Through. Sign up at [briarwood.org/wtn](http://briarwood.org/wtn) or call 205-776-5282.

\* 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

### ***Everyday Gospel Christmas Devotional***

**by Paul David Tripp | Advent Devotional Pulpit Recommendation**

Jesus' birth isn't the beginning of the Christmas story. The glorious narrative of redemption starts when sin enters the world and continues until Christ's victorious return. In this special devotional, Paul David Tripp helps you celebrate your salvation by reflecting on biblical events—from Genesis through Revelation—that make Jesus' incarnation so miraculous. Adapted from Tripp's 365-day devotional *Everyday Gospel*, this condensed edition features 25 selected readings, each with study questions, making it ideal for personal study or family devotions. Count down to Christmas Day with Tripp's heartfelt reflections and contemplate the beauty and significance of the Savior's birth. Price: \$5.00 (includes tax)

### ***The Ultimate Christmas Wishlist***

**by Rico Tice | Advent Evangelistic Book Pulpit Recommendation**

We all need hope in our lives, but many struggle to know where to look for it. This short, warm, and profound book by well-known evangelist Rico Tice makes a compelling case for Christianity and the hope that it provides. Based on Isaiah 9:6 (a passage often used in Christmas services), readers will see how Jesus—the Mighty God, Prince of Peace, Everlasting Father, and Wonderful Counselor—is the ultimate gift as He delivers what they really want: hope, peace, purpose, and guidance. This gospel presentation is ideal to give away at Christmas. Price: \$3.00 (includes tax)

Featured books are available in the Bookstore or online at [briarwood.org/bookstore](http://briarwood.org/bookstore).

# MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**Operation Christmas Child Boxes** — This Sunday is the final day to pack a shoebox to touch a child's life! Turn in boxes to the Children's Auditorium. Include \$10 shipping. Monday is the final day to build a box online at [briarwood.org/occ](http://briarwood.org/occ).

**"I Cared Enough" Gospel Thanksgiving Feast** — November 25. Donate and help Daniel Cason Ministries distribute food to feed 10,000 homeless, special needs and elderly individuals in the Birmingham area. Find details at [icaredenough.com](http://icaredenough.com).

**Briarwood Holiday Closing** — Church and School Offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on November 27 and 28. We will reopen Saturday morning.

**Trailblazers Christmas Sing-A-Long** — December 5 at 1:00 p.m. Meet us at Cahaba Ridge Retirement Community to sing familiar Christmas songs with Hunter Goff. Sign up online at [briarwood.org/trailblazers](http://briarwood.org/trailblazers) or email [sjohnston@briarwood.org](mailto:sjohnston@briarwood.org).

**Christmas Poinsettias** — Available through December 7. Dedicate a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone this Advent season. You can pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas Eve candlelight service. Purchase for \$18 at [briarwood.org/poinsettia](http://briarwood.org/poinsettia).

**Campus Outreach Celebration Luncheon** — December 7 in FH-F. Alumni, Supporters, and Prayer Partners, join us for a luncheon where we will hear from local staff and celebrate the Lord's impact with Campus Outreach! RSVP to [jef.fluevog@campusoutreach.org](mailto:jef.fluevog@campusoutreach.org).

**Camp Briarwood Registration Opens** — December 8. Day Camp for rising 1st thru 3rd graders is June 8–12. Four Overnight Camp session options are available for rising 4th thru 10th graders during June 22–July 18. Register at [campbriarwood.org](http://campbriarwood.org).

**Camp Briarwood** — December 15 at 5:30 p.m. in G-101. Come hear about what it's like to be a camp counselor and get the chance to talk to current counselors about their testimony with Camp. Pizza will be provided! RSVP to [quest@briarwood.org](mailto:quest@briarwood.org).

**BYG Laguna Beach Retreat** — December 27–30. All 9th–12th graders, don't miss this incredible trip as we close out the year with seaside activities, teaching from Wright Draper, and worship with Ezra Worship Initiative. Register at [briarwood.org/laguna](http://briarwood.org/laguna).

**Submit Your EMC Pledge** — You can still turn in your pledge for EMC. Go online to [briarwood.org/emc](http://briarwood.org/emc) or bring your Pledge Card to the Church Accounting Office.

**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 can participate! You can serve individually or as a family. Email [abarton@briarwood.org](mailto:abarton@briarwood.org) to volunteer.

**Job Opening: Women's & Children's Counselor** — Qualifications include a master's degree in biblical counseling and five years of counseling experience. A candidate should inquire with resume to Patti Claud at [pclaud@briarwood.org](mailto:pclaud@briarwood.org).

**Job Openings: Families, Youth, & College Administrative Assistant** — Candidate will support the Youth, College and Family Ministries through day-to-day administrative tasks. This is a full-time position with benefits. Send resumes to [jshaw@briarwood.org](mailto:jshaw@briarwood.org).

**Part-time Receptionist Substitute** — If interested, email [bscruggs@briarwood.org](mailto:bscruggs@briarwood.org).

# WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

## **Sunday, November 23 — Briarwood Prayer Focus**

Father, help us to learn the importance of giving thanks in everything. Our thanksgiving is a testimony to Your providence and sovereignty. Often, we are unsure in the midst of our circumstances, but we are thankful we can be sure that You are working everything for our good. Help us give thanks in all our circumstances. "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18

## **Monday, November 24 — Birmingham Prayer Focus**

Pray that God would give the Big Oak Ranch staff the ability to meet the needs of abused, neglected, and abandoned children by providing them with a solid Christian home and an opportunity to realize and fulfill God's plan for their lives. Also, pray that the children in the homes would feel the love of Jesus surrounding them.

## **Tuesday, November 25 — Missions Prayer Focus**

Please pray for Lifeline Children's Services. Lifeline uses James 1:27 as their call to care for orphaned and vulnerable children. Their desire is that, just as Christians have been adopted by our Heavenly Father, the children they serve would have forever families and come to know the gospel. The flag of Birmingham will be featured this Sunday.

## **Wednesday, November 26 — Global Ministry Partners**

Pray for Emily Bonner with Ethnos 360 in Papua New Guinea, Hatem and Lisa with Mission to the World in Cyprus, Peter and Janet Boyd with Grace Presbyterian Church in New Zealand, and Tony and Tracy Boyd with One Challenge in Malaysia.

## **Thursday, November 27 — National Ministry Partners**

Pray for Todd and Cindy Sproull with Mission to the World in Washington, Marc and Carol Stephens with Navigators in Tennessee, Olan and Lynna Stubbs with Campus Outreach in Alabama, and Trent Taylor with Campus Outreach at Samford University.

## **Friday, November 28 — Briarwood Officers and Staff**

Pray for Briarwood Elders Bryan Word, Jeff Olin, Nathan Sasse; Deacons Tom Cartledge, Gordon Bellamy, Roger Bittinger; and Children's Director, Jake Stallings and his wife Shelly.

## **Saturday, November 29 — Church Family**

Pray for our hospitalized members Sandy Bell, Jerry Creager, Banks Farris, Kathy Lawrence, Steve Renfroe, JoAnn Weston and Elaine Willis.

Our love and sympathy to Andrew and Kari Clark and family on the deaths of Kari's grandmother, Geraldine 'Gerry' Browning, on November 9, and Andrew's mother, Mary Clark, on November 13; to Gene Branham and family on the death of his sister, Margaret Cleveland, on November 12; to the family of member Avonelle Goolsby, who died on November 14; and to Lynn Cline, Gene Head, Jr, Abby Haley, Carly Stanback and family on the death of their father and grandfather, member Gene Head, Sr., on November 16.

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  
2200 Briarwood Way  
Birmingham, AL 35243-2923



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## THIS LORD'S DAY

### **Sunday Morning Worship Services:**

Ephesians: The One Body of Christ

“Where the Conflict Really Lies”

Ephesians 6:10–24

Dr. Scott Redd

### **Sunday Evening Worship:**

“Planted, Never Again Uprooted”

Amos 9:1–5

Dr. Scott Redd

Watch our live-stream on ROKU, Apple TV, Facebook, YouTube or [briarwood.org](http://briarwood.org).

Catch up with previous sermons and series on the Briarwood App.