

# IMPACT SUNDAY

April 12, 2026

## Prayer Points for Prayer Time

- Thank God for how He is working through Brookwood and its local and international mission partners.
- Pray that our partners will have deep, lasting transformation in the communities they serve.
- Ask God to open hearts to engage and get involved.

## SONG #1: *I Believe* | Adam

## INTRO VIDEO

## SILENT AUCTION

- **Artist Recognition:** Created by Jared Emmerson, a member of our church family:
- **Auction Details:** Silent auction featuring: One Good Friday painting + Four Easter paintings

## HEAVEN SERIES

- New Series: Begins next week
- The Church invited questions about heaven
- Series is built around those questions
- Honest, thoughtful look at what Scripture says about heaven
- Join us next week as the series begins

## IMPACT SUNDAY

- Whether you're new or have been here awhile, we're glad you're here. Today is a unique opportunity to see how God is working through Brookwood's partnerships
  - Local and global impact
- **Why/What**
  - Your generosity supports ministries serving families and meeting real needs and sharing the love of Christ around the world.

- Today's service highlights and celebrates what God is doing locally and around the world.
- **Get Involved**
  - Visit our partners in the Concourse before and after service
  - Ask questions and learn how your giving is making a difference

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

**Acts 1:8 (NIV)**

**Jerusalem = Brookwood**

**Judea = Local Outreach**

**Ends of the Earth = Global Missions**

### **BROOKWOODKIDS**

- Kids are part of the celebration too, not just adults
- Special opportunities for them to learn what God is doing around the world
- What They'll Experience
- **Story time: *Water for Wella***
  - Helps them understand the need for clean water in rural villages
- Kids can take home a Wella elephant with a minimum donation of \$10.
  - A simple way to remember what they learned
- Passport experience in the Concourse
  - Visit different partner stations
  - Engage with what each ministry is doing
- Passport becomes a prayer book after today
  - Encourages kids to keep praying and remembering what God is doing around the world

## **Message: Julio Samayoa**

Brookwood I love you and thank you for your prayers, energy and support.

Let me ask you something:

Do you really know the impact you've had? I wish I could tell you about all the interactions that we've had

Let's start with the global that has brought locally

Did you know that every Sunday, people from all over the world gather right here at Brookwood? English is their second language and not every church has this blessing. This is Holy Spirit Power. Our Brazilian ministry is growing rapidly. We have a Spanish ministry interpreting our 11 a.m. service. God is literally bringing the nations to us—and today, we'll even worship together with some of the choruses being Spanish and Portuguese.

### **Local**

We have partnerships like FCA and campus ministries at USC, Clemson, and Anderson University. Our partners are winning students to Christ and helping disciple the next generation. Did you now that some of these leaders grew up attending Brookwood, and now they're pouring back into students.

Recently, one of our partners at Anderson had a student that they had been working with ask to sit down and visit, She is on the soccer team and her roommates are Christians. They were inviting her to church, hopeful for her to see Jesus. Our partners are involved and helping with discipleship of students. They got to meet her and even gave her a book on Why Jesus? They prayed with her. They walked with her and recently they had a conversation about where she was with all this because she posted some scripture on social media. She told the Hetzels that she is now a believer and we celebrate with her starting her new journey in Christ.

If you have high school or college students go and get yourself connected to these great leaders.

That's your impact.

That's the power of the Holy Spirit.

Last summer, I traveled to India for a pastors' training—and I witnessed something I will never forget.

I met a tiny pastor (show picture) from a small village. Some of you are already laughing because you know that I shop in the boys section for all my clothes.

When he was born, doctors told his parents he wouldn't survive the night. They prayed to their gods—nothing was happening.

Then a man they ran into said, "Pray to Jesus." He will heal your son.

They did.

And their son was healed. They went to find the man, They never saw that man again.

Their family became followers of Jesus—but it came at a cost. They were cast out of their village by the village elder who dictates everything -they dedicated their lives to stay near the edge of the village and prayed for their people

Years later, the very man, who had expelled them came back—desperate. His own son was dying.

He asked them do you remember me? Of course they did

I remember what your God did for your family

"Would you pray to your God for my son?"

They did.

And his son was healed.

That village leader gathered everyone together and declared:

"From this day forward, we will follow Jesus." We will plant the church here in our village and they will begin to teach us about Jesus.

Today, that once-dying baby is one of 17,000 pastors working with Praveen/set free to — boldly sharing the Gospel in surrounding villages, even under threat of death. He told us they try and set traps all the time

When we asked if he was afraid, he said:

"No. God is with me."

That's Holy Spirit power -

Recently, I left a piece of my heart in Africa.

We visited partners in Uganda and Kenya, including an orphanage called Oasis. They don't just take care for children who live on campus—they educate and invest in kids from the surrounding community.

There, our group of 10 met a young girl named Michelle. (show picture)

Before Oasis, she often went without food. School was a struggle. Her future looked limited.

But then something changed.

She found an Oasis

She was loved.

She was fed.

She was encouraged.

And she began to flourish.

This past year, her exam score doubled—earning her a place in one of the top schools in Kenya. Out of 158 girls, she ranked number one.

She now dreams of becoming a doctor.

But what moved me most wasn't her success.

It was this:

She loves Jesus.

And her life is pointing others to Him.

That's your impact Brookwood

**Let me share one more story.**

This past summer, I went to the Dominican Republic—a place that feels like a second home to me. On that trip was a student from our church named Camden. (show picture)

Near the end of the trip, I asked him, "What did you think?"

He said, "Before I came, I was worried—how would I communicate? They speak Spanish, I speak English. What would I tell people who supported me—that I went on a vacation?"

But then his perspective changed.

“I saw people with nothing... full of joy.

I saw kids who just wanted someone to notice them... to play with them.

We delivered food. We prayed with families. We saw God move.”

Then he said something I didn’t think I would hear from a 16 year old

“I have everything a teenager could want... and I’m miserable.

They have nothing... and they have joy.

I can’t wait to tell people what God did.

And I can’t wait to come back.”

That’s transformation.

That’s the power of the Holy Spirit at work.

Church—this is who we are.

This is what happens when we say yes to being witnesses.

This is what happens when we step out in the power of the Holy Spirit.

It starts with each of us asking our heavenly Father what he wants us to do

You—every one of you—are part of this story.

And right now, we’re going to take some time enjoy an example of that impact.

Let’s turn our attention to the screens.

## **VIDEO STORY: Andy & Pam Patterson**

### ***SONG #2: Build My Life* | Emma**

(English/Spanish)

### ***SONG #3: Way Maker* | Maressa**

## **Partner Appreciation: J.C. Thompson w/ Tim Ssemakula**

Hey church—before we move forward today, I want to take a moment and just celebrate something that’s really important about who we are.

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

**Acts 1:8 (NIV)**

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One of the things I love about Brookwood is this:

We don't just talk about reaching people, we actually live it out.

So first of all, **thank you.**

Your generosity is making a difference not just here but locally and all around the world.

And I want you to hear this, because this really matters:

**Almost 15 cents of every dollar** that is part of our ministry plan goes directly to **local and global missions.**

That means when you give, you're not just supporting what happens in this building... you're helping:

- people hear the Gospel
- pastors get training
- global communities getting access to clean water and medical care
- children in Greenville County that are in foster care being supported, cared for, and provided for
- college campuses in the state of SC having the gospel shared on campus by our FCA partners
- and lives be changed in places many of us will never go

That's something worth celebrating.

And one of the things we value is not just supporting mission *work*—but building real relationships with our partners.

So today, we're going to hear from one of those partners in Uganda.

As they share, I want you to really listen—not just to information, but to what God is doing through their ministry.

Let's lean in together.

*(Uganda partner shares)*

Isn't that incredible?

I love that we're not just hearing stories—we're actually part of them.

And as a church, we don't just celebrate this—we respond to it.

So, in just a moment, we're going to take time to pray for our partners—not just in Uganda, but all around the world.

Pray for strength, for provision, and for God to continue moving in powerful ways through them.

And as we continue, we want to show you one more glimpse of what your generosity is doing.

This is from another one of our partners in India.

Take a look at this.

### **VIDEO (India): Praveen**

#### **Speaker: Bryan Jones**

I know in this room all of us probably have something to worry about. Worry is something that many of us do well.

The other day one of my kids was crying on the floor when I got home. I instantly went over to see what was going on... and she said, *Mom said I have to eat broccoli, and I hate broccoli.*

Now, I realize most of us have bigger worries than eating broccoli... but there are certain things many of us don't have to worry about.. most of us aren't really worried where our next meal will come from.

When we were feeding the kids in India, there was a moment where some of the rice dropped on table, and one of the kids quickly scooped it up like it was some prized possession.

Something about the moment put something in perspective for me....

## **Rice & Beans Experience**

If you'll take out your handout. This Wednesday at 6 pm, we're inviting all of our Brookwood families to join together, right in your own homes, for something really meaningful: the Rice & Beans Experience.

We're encouraging you to prepare a simple meal at home—rice, beans, and chicken—and use that time to pause as a family and reflect on how God is working through our local and global partners around the world. It's a chance to step into what everyday life looks like for many families and to have some intentional conversations together.

You'll find a short video and a few simple prompts online to help guide your time. Whether that's cooking together, talking around the table, or praying as a family.

You can find everything at [brookwoodchurch.org/impactsunday](http://brookwoodchurch.org/impactsunday). We'd love for you to take part in this with us.

*For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.*

### **1 Timothy 6:7-8 (NIV)**

The last thing I want to do is minimize what someone might be walking through today... what worries or struggles you may have.... but if we have food and clothing, we will be content. That's more than many people in the world can say...

In fact.... Let me give you a few stats....

Medical Care – Uganda – 40-50% of the population has limited access to medical care.

- This impacts 20-25 million people (1 in 2 people)
- Distance to Medical care: 3-6 miles or 1-2 hours of travel
- There is 1 doctor to every 20,000-25,000 people. The Lakers Arena seats 20,000 people. Imagine only having 1 doctor to treat that many people.

Poverty – Haiti – 6.8 million people live in poverty. (1 in 2 people)

- They have a population of 11.7 million people.
- Just over 58% of the people live in poverty.
- Surviving on as little as \$1-\$2 per day.
- That is 1 in 2 people. I don't know if you noticed but many of you have a colored sticker on your chair. If you have a blue sticker, will you please stand up? Look around the room.

Food Insecurity – Liberia – 50-60% of the population lacks access to food.

- This affects an estimated 3 million people.
- 1 in 2 people face food insecurities.
- Surviving on as little as \$1-\$2 per day.

Clean Drinking Water – Kenya – 19 million people lack access to clean drinking water.

- Kenya's estimated population is between 54-56 million people.
- 1 in 3 people lack access to clean drinking water.
- If you have a green sticker on your chair, would you please stand up. Look around the room.
- Everyone standing would have to travel between 30 minutes and 2+ hours one way for water. Sometimes, making multiple trips per day.

Human Exploitation – India has about 14 million people in modern slavery. Haiti has between 150,000 to 500,000 children in forced servitude.

- Many of the countries with which we have partners are affected by exploitation and trafficking.
- The true number is likely higher due to underreporting.

Because of your generosity, we are able to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Can I just say thank you for giving so faithfully?

Just in India alone, because of your giving, we build two wells every month... feed 800 kids each month. And your generosity is why that happens...

We are going to have a time to worship, and I want you to know... as bad as things are... God is doing a work in India and around the world.

Several times a year, we end our services with baptisms, and today I wanted you to see that the global and local church around the world is alive and well. I want you to be encouraged as you see that the gospel is changing people's lives and people are saying Yes to Jesus.

**SONG #4 w/ VIDEO**

*I Speak Jesus* | Maria