



To all who are weary and need rest ...
To all who mourn and long for comfort ...
To all who feel worthless and wonder if God cares ...
To all who struggle and desire strength ...
To all who sin and need a Savior ...
We do, too.

Welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our great Hope and Joy, the reason we gather to celebrate and worship. Southwood opens wide our doors, our hearts, and our lives as our God has done for us.

August 30, 2026

8:45 AM Prayer Gathering

9:30 AM Worship Service

11:00 AM Connect Hour

Worship Service

We contemplate who God is and who we are as we gather to worship.

MEDITATION

“Eighty and six years have I served Him, and He has done me no wrong. How then can I blaspheme my King and Savior? ... I bless you, Father, for judging me worthy of this hour, so that in the company of the martyrs I may share the cup of Christ.”

Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna,
upon his martyrdom in 155 AD

God welcomes us into his presence and reorients our hearts to Him and each other.

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls,

ALL: Yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

Habakkuk 3:17-18

We express the worth of our God and the emotions of our hearts to Him.

SONGS

“Blessed Be Your Name”
“House of the Lord”

Helping Lead Today’s Worship Service

- Will Spink Senior Pastor
- Bill Harritt Associate Pastor
- Kelli Johnson Announcements
- DJ Baptiste Director, Music Ministry
- Wayne Bucknor Piano
- Nick Walker Bass Guitar
- Ron Poteat Electric Guitar
- Marcus Pope Drums
- Angela Baptiste Vocals
- Kathryn Jones Vocals
- Jarrett Kaempfer Audio
- Leslie Ellis Livestream
- Abraham Lee Slides

Worship Service

God speaks to us through the Bible as we are reminded of eternal hope in the midst of temporal suffering.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated — of whom the world was not worthy — wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Hebrews 11:32-40

PASTORAL PRAYER

SONG

“Be Still, My Soul”

We talk honestly with our Father about our idolatry, brokenness, and need for Him.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful Father, forgive us where we have left our first love. We confess that at times, especially in life’s struggles, we have preferred our own comfort to sacrificial service, our own agenda to your will, our own wisdom to your Word. Forgive our sins because of the sacrifice of our suffering Savior, Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION

God reminds us of his grace and forgiveness as the foundation of our relationship.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

You, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Christ, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Colossians 2:13-14

Worship Service

SONG

“It Is Well With My Soul”

We celebrate how God’s grace flows through us in our relationships and community.

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SONG

“Firm Foundation”

Parents may escort K-1st graders upstairs during offertory.

God speaks to us from the Bible explained and applied to our lives.

PREACHING OF THE WORD

Revelation 2:8-11

“Suffering and The Greater Crown”

SONG OF RESPONSE

“It Is Well With My Soul”

God sends us on his mission with his blessing.

BENEDICTION

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17



Following the Worship Service

Pastor Will will greet & pray with people at the front of the sanctuary.

Join us for Connect Hour, relating with God & each other around his Word.

Adults: Gather in rooms on hallway across from the Nursery

High-Life Connects: Jr./Sr. High classes i`n the Lodge across the street

Kids Connect: Birth-5th grade classes in the Nursery and upstairs

Sermon Notes

Grace Group Questions *(for fuller discussion guide, visit southwood.org)*

1. How do you respond to times of trial and struggle in your life? What are the feelings that accompany that response?
2. How difficult is it to turn to Jesus in the midst of suffering? Why? What scriptures bring you comfort and confidence when suffering happens?
3. What are some of the promises that we have as Christians that we can lean into in times of struggle and suffering? What keeps us from believing these promises are greater than the suffering?

Announcements

Adult Connect Community Classes

Today following the service:

- "We Would See Jesus" (Rm E) with Alan Judge, Bill Nash, & Kevin Jones
- The Gospel and Work" (Rm D) with Lance Cooper and Thomas Davison
- "1 Peter, 2 Peter, Jude" (Rm A) with Kevin Ellis, Julie Blauwkamp, and Heather Morris.

Welcome to Southwood Class

Interested in learning more about the heart of Christianity or Southwood? Join Pastor Will starting Sunday, Sept 13, 11am in Rm B. Sign up with wyketa.shipman@southwood.org.

Congregational Meeting Next Sunday

The Session called a Congregational Meeting for next Sunday following the worship service. The purpose is to vote on the recommendations to call Bill Nash as an associate pastor and approve Ron Poteat as a trustee.

Women's Grace Groups

Women's groups begin Sept. 9-10 (Wednesdays 6:30pm, Thursdays 10am). We'll explore the New Testament with *Finding Your Way*. Meals Wednesdays; childcare Thursdays. New participants welcome! Register at southwood.org.

Worship Night Coming Soon

Our next Worship Night will be September 13 at 6pm for a wonderful evening of hymns. Invite friends!

Churchwide Family Dinner

Church Family Dinners are back this fall the second Wednesday of the month, starting Sept. 9. See you there!

This Week @ Southwood

Sunday, August 30

- 8:45am – Prayer Gathering
- 9:30am – Worship Service
- 11:00am – Connect Hour (all ages)
- 6:00pm – Sr. High-Life

Wednesday, September 2

- 6:00pm – Leadership Training Class
- 6:30pm – Jr. High-Life

Join us on God's mission together by becoming part of a smaller community through Grace Groups. Women's groups, men's groups, and coed groups meet through the week.

Grace Group Sign-ups Are Open

Whether you're joining a Grace Group for the first time or entering the "Transfer Portal" to find a group that fits you better, we'd love to help you. Link to signup: <https://bit.ly/SPCGGs>

Deacon/Finance Update

Quarterly Budget Need is based on Southwood's historical giving patterns.

July-Sept Budget Goal: \$864,693
July-Sept Giving to Date: \$401,571

Last Week's Giving: \$28,816



Scan this QR code to give electronically.

Learn more, see full event calendars, and give electronically at southwood.org.

Prayer Guide

Core Commitment

We are committed to being Christ-centered.

Ask Holy Spirit to help us slow down in our busy lives to treasure the great worth of knowing Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Pray that the hope of Jesus would secure the hearts and calm the fears of those of us aging and facing death.

Ask Holy Spirit to bind us together in unity within our Grace Groups and church family as we share in common what matters most.

Specific Needs

Pray for the family of Southwood member Bettie Murray, who went home to Jesus last week.

Praise God for the birth of Quinn Rochelle Platko to Kevin and Hannah this week.

Pray that Saturday's Grace Group kickoff will foster connections and relationships that last.

Pray for Kelli Johnson in the death of her grandmother this week.

Pray for God's work in the lives of our students as High-Life resumes Sunday night and Jr. High-Life Wednesday.

Pray that God's Word would be transformative in our lives through our new Connect Community classes.

Mission Partner Focus

Lincoln Village Ministry seeks to bring restoration and hope to families and the surrounding neighborhood through the transforming power of Christ. Through Lincoln Academy, Little Linc, and safe, affordable housing, the ministry comes alongside families and seeks to see the Lincoln community flourish.

Pray that as new families move into the neighborhood, there are new opportunities to build relationships, foster community, and share the love and hope of Christ.

Pray for the children, teachers, and staff as they settle into the rhythms of a new school year and that Lincoln Academy and Little Linc would be places of growth, encouragement, and grace.

Pray for continued restoration and flourishing throughout the Lincoln neighborhood.

Senior Member

Elaine Hill

2213 Towne Park Dr. SW
Huntsville, AL 35803

Expectant Mothers

Katie Atkins — September 2026

Emma Chambers — September 2026

Amber Colvard — September 2026

Alyshia Martin — September 2026

Amy Dobrowsky — October 2026

Brantley Evans — October 2026

Ashlyn Everett — October 2026

Katelyn Welch — November 2026

Uriah Brechin — December 2026

**Email prayer@southwood.org
to be included in this Prayer Guide.**

Southwood's Mission

Southwood exists to experience and express grace in relationships that impact eternity.

Southwood's Core Commitments

We are committed to being Christ-centered.

We recognize our deep dependence and need for prayer.

We are driven by relationships.

We strive to love the least, the lost, the littlest, the lonely, and the left-out.

We seek the restoration of all creation in Huntsville and beyond.

Southwood Presbyterian Church

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Huntsville, Alabama 35802

(256) 882-3085

southwood.org



Scan this QR code
to let us know you're
here.

Experience & Express
Grace