



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.

December 7, 2025
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

“Christmas and the incarnation mean that God went to infinite lengths to make himself one whom we can know personally.”

Tim Keller, *Hidden Christmas*

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

PEOPLE: *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:1-2, 14

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

SONGS

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”
“Joy to the World”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silent Confession

God reminds us from his Word of his promises to his waiting people centuries ago.

OLD TESTAMENT ADVENT SCRIPTURE READING

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’”
... Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel.

Jeremiah 23:5-6, Isaiah 7:14

Helping Lead Today's Worship Service

- Will Spink Senior Pastor
- Bill Harritt Associate Pastor
- Clay & Elizabeth Sanders Advent Reading
- Elisabeth Enchelmeyer Announcements
- DJ Baptiste Director, Music Ministry
- Newt Johnson Piano
- Tim Adcock Organ
- Nick Walker Bass Guitar
- Ron Poteat Electric Guitar
- Marcus Pope Drums
- Lyndsay Abel Vocals
- Michael Babin Vocals
- Tamara Bodie Vocals
- Kathryn Jones Vocals
- Jarrett Kaempfer Audio
- Leslie Ellis Livestream
- Amanda Tatum Slides

Worship Service

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:17

SONG

"What Child Is This?"

We affirm together what we believe.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the Prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church; I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Nicene Creed (325 AD)

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

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SONG

"Mary, Did You Know?"

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

Worship Service

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

PREACHING OF THE WORD

Matthew 1:18-25
"The Virgin Birth"

SONG OF RESPONSE

"What Child Is This?"

God sends us on
his mission with
his blessing.

BENEDICTION

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face
to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up
his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26



Following the Worship Service

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

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

Adults: Gather in Connecting Spaces; GG Leaders gather in Room D.

High-Life Connects: Jr./Sr. High classes in the Lodge across the street

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

Sermon Notes

What do we mean by the “virgin birth” of Jesus?

The supernatural conception of the eternal Son of God by the Spirit of God in the womb of Mary so that Jesus is born fully God, fully man, without sin.

Why is believing the virgin birth of Jesus important?

It builds our faith in, gratitude for, and wonder at ...

1. God’s _____

2. God’s _____ in this world for our salvation

3. Jesus’ _____ person and nature

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

1. Is the virgin birth of Jesus something you consider the reality and importance of often or very little? Why do you think that is?
2. How would you interact with someone interested in a relationship with Jesus but put off by the Bible’s teaching of the virgin birth?
3. What aspect of Jesus’ unique person or nature most causes you to marvel and worship during the Christmas season? What Scripture or song most helps you do that?

Announcements

Upcoming Connect Hour Schedule

Today: Pastor Will leads a Christmas discussion and engages questions from this morning's sermon in the Connecting Spaces while Bill Nash leads the Grace Group leaders in considering spiritual formation in Room D.

Sun, Dec 14: Joint Adult Discussion

Sun, Dec 21: Christmas Fellowship

Sun, Dec 28: No Connect Hour

Sun, Jan 4: No Connect Hour

Christmas Carols & Cookies TONIGHT!

Very little turns our hearts toward the wonder of the incarnation and the hope of the Savior born at Christmas better than the music of the season. Join us this evening at 6pm for our musical Christmas celebration for the whole family. Casual singing, cookie decorating, Christmas cheer, and more ... Invite friends!

Christmas Eve Worship Service

Join us on Christmas Eve at 6pm for our traditional candlelight service with the Lord's Supper. Nursery provided (ages 0-3).

This Week @ Southwood Sunday, December 7

8:45am – Prayer Gathering

9:30am – Worship Service

11:00am – Connect Hour (all ages)

6:00pm – Christmas Carols & Cookies

7:00pm – No Sr. High-Life

Tuesday, December 9

6:00pm – Session Meeting

Wednesday, December 10

6:00pm – Sr. High Christmas Party

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 throughout the week. Sign up to get connected at southwood.org/grace-groups.

Deacon/Finance Update

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

Oct-Dec Budget Goal: \$1,182,675

Oct-Dec Giving to Date: \$379,173

Last Week's Giving

\$26,287



Scan this QR code to give electronically.

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

Prayer Guide

Core Commitment

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

Pray that family relationships across our community will be reconciled and restored during this holiday season.

Ask that God would give each of us a renewed vision of how our ordinary daily tasks are a part of his grand story of light overcoming darkness.

Pray for our local mission partners as they have additional opportunities to minister to those in material need during the holiday season.

Specific Needs

Pray for those in our church family and community struggling with grief and loneliness during the holiday season.

Pray for our mission partners facing additional support needs at the end of this year and for God to direct our Missions Team and others in how we can best care for them.

Pray for our Christmas Carols and Cookies gathering Sunday night to be an enjoyable and encouraging celebration of our Savior's birth for us.

Mission Focus

Robert and Denine Blevins

Former Southwood members Robert and Denine Blevins serve in New York through two of Southwood's mission partners, MNA Mercy and Parakaleo.

Robert serves with MNA Mercy, helping churches respond to needs within their congregations and communities with clarity, compassion, and dignity. He also works with New City Network, supporting many of Southwood's domestic church plant partners. His efforts help churches recognize local needs and develop healthy care practices.

Denine serves with Parakaleo, a ministry that supports women in church planting through training, community, and encouragement. Parakaleo helps women see their stories within God's redemptive story, leading to spiritual growth that blesses their families and churches.

Pray for Robert and Denine as they serve in New York and beyond.

Senior Member

Dorothie Dutcher

2601 Touchmark Dr. Unit 302
Appleton, WI 54914

Expectant Mothers

Libby Potts — January 2026

Rosemary Spooner — February 2026

Krista Fenton — February 2026

Ashleigh Lewis — March 2026

Amanda Tatum — March 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.

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southwood.org



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here.

Experience & Express
Grace