



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.

October 4, 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

“When Christ is my hope, he becomes the one thing in which I have confidence. I act on his wisdom and bank on his grace. I trust his promises and I rely on his presence. And I pursue all the good things that he has promised me simply because I trust him. So, I am not manipulating, controlling, or threatening my way through life to get what I want, because I have found what I want in Christ. He is my hope.”

Paul David Tripp, *A Quest for More*

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

ALL: Let every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, say, “To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

Revelation 5:13

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

SONGS

“Rejoice”
“You Are My All in All”

PRAYER

Helping Lead Today’s Worship Service

- Will Spink Senior Pastor
- Bill Nash Director, Spiritual Formation
- DJ Baptiste Director, Music Ministry
- Newt Johnson Piano
- Nick Walker Bass Guitar
- Ron Poteat Electric Guitar
- Marcus Pope Drums
- Angela Baptiste Vocals
- Clara Morris Vocals
- Jarrett Kaempfer Audio
- Steve Long Livestream
- Abraham Lee Slides

Worship Service

We affirm together from the Bible what we believe about Jesus and his worth.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Philippians 3:7-11

SONG

“Jesus at the Center”

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

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

LEADER: Let us confess our sins together.

*ALL: Wash me, O Lord, and forgive me of my debts.
Meet me in my discouragement and my weakness.
O Lord, let me see in your forgiveness, your caring;
let me see in your suffering, your power over my failures.
Be music to my sadness, cool water to the heat of my passions, freedom for my tyranny, answer to my questions.
Be purity for all my stains, peace for all my anger, salve for all my wounds. Be light to my dark confusions. Be fresh wind to all the fog and dust of my life. Be to me what I cannot be, but need. Be to me what no one else can be - all things. O Father, hear us, and forgive us, through Jesus Christ, your Son, and our Lord. Amen.*

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

1 Timothy 1:15

SONG

“I Am Thine, O Lord”

Worship Service

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

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SONG
“His Strength Is Perfect”

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 3:7-13
“The Source of the Church’s Power”

SONG OF RESPONSE
“Jesus at the Center”

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 & 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 in the Lodge across the street

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

Sermon Notes

Introduction: The _____ of Jesus' 7 Letters

Bottom Line: Jesus loves to _____ his discouraged churches.

1. _____ an Open Door (1:8)
2. _____ by Jesus' Love (1:9)
3. _____ in Trial (1:10)
4. _____ the Victor's Crown (1:11)
5. _____ in God's Place (1:12)
6. _____ by God Forever (1:12)

Conclusion: _____ Perspective for Jesus' Church

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

1. In what ways do you sometimes feel weak or discouraged about yourself or your church? Where do you tend to turn in those moments?
2. Which of Jesus' promises of encouragement is most hopeful to you? How will you help your heart hold fast this promise when you're discouraged?
3. In what ways has God challenged, encouraged, or convicted you through these 7 letters to churches? Why is it important to consider them together, not just personally?

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.

Upcoming Southwood Family Dinner

Join us Wednesday, Oct 14, at 5:30pm for our next Southwood Family Dinner. Come enjoy good food and even better fellowship!

Lunch, Life, and Scripture

Bring lunch and join Pastor Derrick for informal conversation about how the Bible speaks into everyday life. We meet Wednesday, Oct. 14, 11:45am-1:00pm in the Connecting Spaces.

October Prayer Resource Available

As an aide to us in slowing down to talk with God as we read his Word, Southwood leaders have written daily prayers inspired by Scripture readings for that day. The booklet for October is available in the Narthex or Guest Center as well as on our website on the reading plan PDF.

Leadership Training Class

Everyone is invited to join us for a 3-week module, "Shepherding," at 6pm, Wednesdays, starting Oct 28. Email wyketa.shipman@southwood.org to sign up.

This Week @ Southwood

Sunday, October 4

8:45am – Prayer Gathering

9:30am – Worship Service

11:00am – Connect Hour (all ages)

11:00am – Welcome to Southwood

7:00pm – No Sr. High-Life

Wednesday, October 7

6:00pm – No Jr. High-Life

6:30pm – No Women's Grace Groups

Thursday, October 8

10:00am – No Women's Grace Groups

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. Sign up to get connected at southwood.org/gracegroups.

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: \$710,901

Last Week's Giving: \$22,379



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 driven by relationships.

Ask that our Grace Groups would increasingly be havens of refuge for those who are hurting and lonely to find life-giving community.

Pray for honesty and humility in our relationships so that we would confess sin and find restoration in Christ together.

Ask that God would increase our sensitivity to our oldest members and neighbors who may be experiencing loneliness - that we might show them the love of Christ as well.

Specific Needs

Praise God for the birth of Ruby Jane Atkins to Brad and Katie last week.

Pray for Mae Watkins as she recovers from shoulder surgery this week.

Pray for Dennis Baptiste, Sr., as he begins treatment for lymphoma this week.

Pray for many members of our Southwood Family traveling for Fall Break to have refreshing and restful time away.

Praise God for facility contractor Derek Rieben joining the Southwood staff as facility supervisor.

Mission Partner Focus

Denine Blevins - Parakaleo

*Former Southwood member
Denine Blevins serves with Parakaleo, a ministry that equips and encourages women involved in church planting through training, community, and gospel-centered support. Parakaleo is growing in Europe, Africa, and several U.S. cities, including New York City.*

Pray for increased wisdom and strength for Denine as she strives to grow Parakaleo's donor base and cares for her mom.

Pray for Parakaleo's staff and new board members as they guide the ministry's growth, including relationships with church planting partners and global leaders.

Pray for Parakaleo's five new leaders currently in training and hoping to bring Parakaleo to women in London, Ukraine, Ghana, California, and parts of Asia.

Senior Member

Nannette Morgan

443 Jasmine Dr.
Madison, AL 35757

Expectant Mothers

Ashlyn Everett — October 2026

Katelyn Welch — November 2026

Riley Brechin — December 2026

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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(256) 882-3085

southwood.org



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

Experience & Express
Grace