

Wesley Chapel Methodist Church

July 26th, 2026



820 West Park Street

PO Box 1333

Sylacauga, AL 35150

256-245-3536

sylacaugawesleychapel@gmail.com

Minister: Mark Ledbetter

Cell Phone: 256-626-9627

Email: markatwesleychapel@gmail.com

Website: www.wesleychapelsylacauga.com

We welcome you to this worship service.

Order of Worship

Prelude Give of Your Best to the Master **GRP 605**

Announcements

Greeting

***Call to Worship** I Love You, Lord **CH 78**

***Lighting of the altar candles.**

***Scripture Reading** John 5:19-20 **Joan Miller**

***The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven, give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn Leaning on the Everlasting Arms **CH 575**

***Affirmation of Faith:**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from which, he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**universal

Sharing of Joys and Concern
Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Speak, O Lord

GRP 432

***Doxology:** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Hymn

Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

CH 340

Scripture
Sermon

“The Father Loves the Son”

John 5:19-20
Mark Ledbetter

Hymn

Only Trust Him

CH 480

Postlude

His Way with Thee

GRP 522

***Please stand if you are able.**

Prayer List

Brenda and Pat Jones, James and Janice Adams, Vicky Rollins, Chris Kramer, Jr., Ruth Cox, Bill Crenshaw, Beth Major, Tanner Bowen, Matt Abrams, Bobbie Kinser, Louise Rhodes, Jane Reynolds, Van Abbott, JoAnne Cleveland, Honest Gaddis, Kathy and Roland Roberson, Jeanne & Glen Deason, Jeff Thomas and family, Ray Stone, Elliette Fillingame and family, Jerry Jordan, Charles and Janet Akin, Connor Edmondson, Frances Coleman, Jill Bailey, Sarah Hethcox, Janice Snyder, Dustin Bentley, Rachel Hobson, Kent Clifton, Jackie Vigiani, Ashley Williamson, Johnny Jones, Alton Williams, Lynn Shaw, Huey Cannon, Lyndall Jones, Faye Thompson, Susan Vick, Zindel Wilkins, Mark Henderson, Shirley Mooney, Debbie McGhee, Irene Beasley, Dillon Pody, Ken Bradford, Kaitlyn Paceley, Wendy Monroy and her baby, Samantha, Donald Caine, Jana Johnson, Barbara Bailey, Randy McDaniel, Mickey Grogan, Brian Smith, Betty Culver, Christopher Keeton, Don and Frieda Gillum, Rhonda Beasley, and Linda Hatchett.

Prayer Focus: Spirit-Infused Prayer

The Spirit's Intercession for Believers



Learning to Pray in the Spirit

The apostles Paul and Jude both refer to praying “in the Spirit,” and Paul also speaks of praying “with the Spirit.” While I have long considered classical Pentecostal and Charismatic interpretations of these phrases, I sensed the need to approach them with fresh humility. So I turned to the Lord in prayer: “Holy Spirit, You are my teacher and guide into all truth. Teach me what You mean by praying in the Spirit.” What follows is what I believe He taught me—a reminder that even an old dog can learn new tricks provided it has the right Teacher. Prayer in the Spirit assumes a living relationship between the Holy Spirit and the one who prays—a relationship Paul develops in Romans 8 as he describes the Spirit’s intercession in times of deep struggle.

Romans 8 continues Paul's teaching on the believer's relationship to the Law. What cannot be fulfilled in the flesh becomes possible through the Spirit, who forms a transformed heart able to live by God's commandments. Paul contrasts the carnal mindset with the Spirit's liberating work, which leads believers into the life of Christ. This work is seen first in the assurance of salvation: the Spirit bears witness with our spirit and enables us to cry, "Abba! Father!" Freed from the carnal mindset, we are free to be led by the Spirit of God.

Suffering, Groaning, and Glory

Being led by the Spirit does not spare believers from suffering. Paul says present sufferings cannot compare with the glory to be revealed at the resurrection. Creation itself suffers under the fall and waits for final redemption, "groaning" like childbirth. This recalls the "birth pangs" Jesus describes in Matthew 24—earthquakes, disasters, and other signs of creation under strain. Believers also "groan within ourselves" as we await the resurrection.

"Groan" suggests pressure so deep it comes out in sighs or wordless anguish. Creation's groaning may be pictured in hurricane winds or earthquakes, which echo childbirth or severe pain. Believers likewise groan under suffering for Christ. This suffering has marked the Church age and will end only at Christ's return, when we are delivered from the physical and emotional pressures of this life, including increasing persecution.

The Spirit's Intercession

Though the Father knows our needs before we ask (Matt. 6:8), in weakness we often do not know how to pray as we should. The Spirit meets us there, empathizing with our suffering and interceding with "groanings too deep for words." His intercession is divine communion with the Father on our behalf, according to God's will.

The Spirit's intercession does not always mean immediate deliverance from suffering. Rather, it gives us the assurance that God is at work in every circumstance for our ultimate good, shaping us into the image of Christ and keeping us secure in His love. Whether we are maligned for our faith, insulted for our commitments, or persecuted for the cause of Christ and His kingdom, we are not without help. Christ Jesus, our intercessor at the right hand of God, is "able to come to the aid of those who are being tempted"—that is, those who are being put to the test.

As we shall see, praying "with" or "in" the Spirit means prayers are offered with empathy for the needs of others. Intercession requires a willingness to enter the pain of others and then lift our spirits with groans and sighing on their behalf. This is Spirit-infused prayer!



Weekly Calendar

Sunday School – 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.

Prayer Meeting tonight at 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night Bible Study at 5:30 p.m.



Sunday, August 2nd

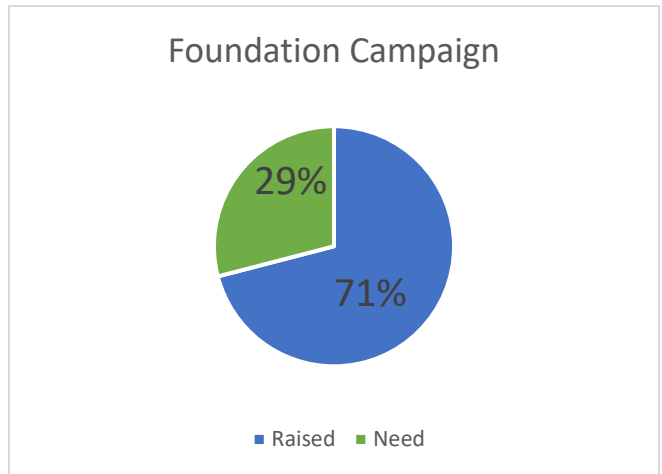
We will pray blessings on all students, teachers and support staff.

To celebrate, the Men's Club will be hosting our annual indoor picnic after worship. The women have been asked to make the desserts. Please see Mike Cleveland or Miriam Kramer with any questions.

Administrative Board Meeting

Monday, August 3rd at 5:30 p.m.

Goal: \$12,584.30
Raised: \$8,930.00
Deadline: May 2027



Our communion offering for August 2nd will go toward SAFE.

SAFE is a community based, nonprofit organization whose purpose is to provide meaningful opportunities for families, to contribute to the growth of our community, and to promote community cohesion.

SAFE established three goals for its strategic agenda: 1) identify critical needs; 2) investigate feasible solutions and funding sources; and 3) develop a plan of action to improve the quality of life for youth and families. For 20 years SAFE has been committed to its mission, vision and values to empower and impact families and the community in order to foster the positive and healthy development of our youth, families, community, state and nation.

Vision Statement

Connecting Congregation and Community
with Jesus Christ
through the Presence and Power
of the Holy Spirit!

For your convenience, a QR code has been provided for our giving page
if you prefer to tithe and/or donate by card.
Be sure to choose which funds you are giving to. Thanks!

