

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 Posted by Rev. Daniel Wells on his Facebook page:

Ashlee and I have some important news to share with you.

Yesterday I was examined and received by the Tennessee Valley Presbytery to be the next Pastor at ***St. Elmo Presbyterian Church - PCA*** in Chattanooga.

It wasn't my plan to be in Cortland, NY at ***Church Of The Redeemer*** for only six years. I had a twenty-year vision for this church and place, but that vision blinded me to the needs of my family.

While it is difficult to leave behind a beautiful church community after all the ways they have gone above and beyond to love my family, I know that I need to care for my family as well.

We hope that more sunshine, better school options, a neighborhood with many relational opportunities for our kids, and being a few hours closer to family will be good for our household.

We are excited to be received by a jovial and compassionate church family at St Elmo Presbyterian Church. They have an amazing legacy of gospel ministry in their neighborhood with their previous Pastor, Cal Boroughs. And their interim Pastor during COVID, Bill Massey, has helped them maintain a gospel-centered culture during a unique season of transition.

By God's grace, I am leaving very healthy flock in Church of the Redeemer. They have a wonderful future of gospel ministry ahead of them, and I am sad that I won't be a part of it. Their next Pastor will be a blessed man in getting to shepherd this church. Like the Apostle Paul expressed to the church in Philippi, "It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace...For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus," (Philippians 1:7-8) it is right to feel this way about my extended spiritual family at Church of the Redeemer.

And I am blessed to become Pastor of another healthy church that is St Elmo Presbyterian. I can't believe I get to pastor such a gifted group of people and be on mission with them.

Please pray for us as we try to finish well here in New York over the next five weeks. While we are excited for this transition, I myself am still grieving and want to cherish this remaining time with some of my best friends here in Cortland.

Warmly in Jesus,  
Daniel

\*\*\*Edit: I neglected to mention my wonderful brothers in the New York State Presbytery.

This is by far my favorite presbytery, and I doubt I'll find one better. Looking forward to my final gathering with them next month.