

ST. ELMO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

*Our purpose is to be a Spiritual Family that Knows, Lives Out of, and
Proclaims the Wonder of God's Grace in Jesus.*



August 16, 2026

Rev. Daniel Wells, Pastor

4400 St. Elmo Avenue • Chattanooga, TN • 37409
423-821-1424 • www.stelmopres.org

THE MINISTRY and the MISSION

This Week at St. Elmo Presbyterian Church and Community and Live streaming on YouTube

Sunday August 16

9:45am Davis Mooney with RUF-UTC
10:30am Worship Service
6:00pm North Chattanooga Community Group meets — Contact Ethan or Madison Greene

Wednesday August 19

7:00pm Ecumenical Community Group meets — Contact Carol Wildeman or Diane Reichmann
7:30pm Diaconate meets — Contact Ed Sunder or Betsy Sunder

Thursday August 20

10:30am Men's Bible Study meets — Contact Chris Dodson

Friday August 21

6:00pm Chickamauga Community Group meets — Contact Jack or Barbara Beckman

Saturday August 22

9:00am Women's Ensemble practice — Contact Margaret Stewart or Lynn Hall

Nursery

Worship Service

August 16 Ellie and Bea Potter
August 23 John and Kathy Tucker

Little Lambs

SummerPlease check the "Busy Bags" in back

TO VOLUNTEER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL NURSERY, WORSHIP NURSERY, OR LITTLE LAMBS:

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/Y9AW7H4A](https://tinyurl.com/y9aw7h4a)

***Navigate between sign ups through the tabs at the top of the page*
Or you can contact Ashlee Wells.**

Upcoming

Sunday, August 23 Youth Group Kick-Off Party! More information TBA
Sunday, August 30 Sunday School for all begins — More information coming. *The Fortunes will be with us.*
Sunday, August 30 Little Lambs resumes!
Monday, August 31 Women's Monday Evening Bible Study meets — Contact Edith Dryden
Saturday, September 5 Women's Bible Study Brunch-both groups at Margaret Stewart's house
Tuesday, September 8 Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study meets — Contact Edith Dryden
Saturday, September 19 Fall Church Workday 9:00am-12:00pm

THE MESSAGE

WORDS OF MEDITATION

Christ is the brook of delights from which God the Father has given us to drink; he is the fount of life and the river of peace.
— Cyril of Alexandria (5th cent)

Prelude

Announcements

Musical Preparation

JESUS WELCOMES US

Greeting

Call to Worship

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever;

To him who alone does great wonders, for his steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 136)

Invocation

Hymn of Praise: O Worship the King (#2)

JESUS RECONCILES US TO HIMSELF

Corporate Confession of Sin

O God the Father of heaven, *have mercy upon us.*

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy upon us.*

O God the Holy Spirit, *have mercy upon us.*

Be merciful to us and spare us, O Lord.

Be merciful to us and deliver us, O Lord. (Martin Bucer, 16th cent)

Silent Confession of Sin

Hymn of Confession: What Wondrous Love is This? (#261)

Assurance of Pardon

This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. - 1 John 3:20-21

Hymn of Assurance: O Great God of Highest Heaven (Rejoice! #80)

JESUS RECEIVES OUR GENEROSITY

Offering of Gifts and Thanksgivings

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!

Covenant Children's Lesson

Children may use the activity bags located in the back of the sanctuary during the service

JESUS INTERCEDES FOR US

Intercessory Prayer & 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 debts as we forgive our debtors,

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

JESUS SPEAKS HIS LOVE TO US

Prayer of Illumination

Reading of the Word: Exodus 12:1-13 & Luke 22:14-23

JESUS HEARS OUR PLEDGE OF FAITH

Confession of Faith

There is also a spiritual eating of Christ's body; not such that we think that thereby the food itself is to be changed into spirit, but whereby the body and blood of the Lord, while remaining in their own essence and property, are spiritually communicated to us, certainly not in a corporeal but in a spiritual way, by the Holy Spirit, who applies and bestows upon us these things which have been prepared for us by the sacrifice of the Lord's body and blood for us, namely, the remission of sins, deliverance, and eternal life; so that Christ lives in us and we live in him, and he causes us to receive him by true faith to this end that he may become for us such spiritual food and drink, that is, our life.

(Second Helvetic Confession, 1566)

JESUS SEALS HIS LOVE TO US

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Consecration

Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

It is fitting and right to do so.

People of God, as you come to the table, what do you proclaim?

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come back again.

The Bread (The Church's One Foundation #348, 1st & 2nd Stanzas)

The Cup (The Church's One Foundation 3rd & 4th Stanzas)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

JESUS SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING

Hymn of Departure: The Church's One Foundation (5th & 6th Stanzas)

Benediction

THE MINISTRY and the MISSION

Please take this with you to pray for these individuals and groups this week:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Lance, Julie, Drew, Aaron, and Luke Wescher | ☐ Our Mayors and City/County Officials |
| ☐ Zach Wescher | ☐ THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN SUDAN (4) |
| ☐ Glen and Becky Wieldraayer | ☐ Pray for our faithful witness to our neighbors |
| ☐ Jim and Carol Wildeman | |
| ☐ Aaron and Katrina Fortune: Swiss L'Abri | |
| ☐ First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga | |

Gospel Generosity: Jesus and his person, work, and heart are the reason to be a cheerful giver, see 2 Corinthians 8:9, 9:7. Let's commit ourselves to the Message, Ministry, and Mission of SEPC.

For Online Giving for Your Tithes and Offerings



You can use this QR code or you may go to -
<https://tinyurl.com/mr7h9e89>

Permission to print music and lyrics: CCLI#418158

Permission to show movies/videos: CVLI# 505553334

THE MISSION

Aaron and Katrina Fortune Swiss L'Abri

- ✓ Our sabbatical will be starting up around mid-late August, and we are planning a trip to Chattanooga! We are so excited to see you all and to be back in a place with love (not that we don't love it here in Switzerland, but looking forward to taking Zoe to Mr T's, etc.).
- * We will be coming late August/early September for two weeks and are hoping to stay in St Elmo (if possible). ***We're currently looking at options of places to stay and would like to rent out a place just us 4 to have some nice family time after a busy season. If you guys have any recommendations/ideas of good spots, let us know!*** We found a couple of ideas on Airbnb, so we'll probably go with that, but thought we'd ask in case you've got some suggestions.

PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN SUDAN (4)

ONE PASTOR DIES, ANOTHER ABDUCTED IN ATTACK IN SUDAN'S NUBA MOUNTAINS

International Christian Concern, August 7, 2026

In the hills of Sudan's Nuba Mountains, grief continues to deepen as Christian communities face repeated attacks on their leaders.

On July 24, fighters from a breakaway faction of the Sudan People's Liberation Army-North (SPLA-N) stormed the Dabbi area of Heiban County in South Kordofan. During the assault, *Episcopal Pastor Adel Idris Jongool was shot and seriously injured. He died from his wounds on July 27. The same wave of violence saw the abduction of Pastor Yaqob Ibrahim Tia of the Sudanese Church of Christ, along with other Christians and church leaders.*

The attack is part of an alarming pattern of targeted violence against clergy in the region, coming only weeks after the killing of Catholic priest Father Youhana Al-Amin in nearby Kauda.

Process the Pain

Local believers are still struggling to accept the loss.

"What has happened is so catastrophic and tragic," a local pastor, who wished to remain anonymous, told International Christian Concern (ICC). "We are very concerned about our lives as Christians, but the fact that our brother has passed on to the Lord is a comfort. He was a man who loved to share the gospel, and he will forever remain in our hearts. We ask that ICC pray for us so that we may have the strength to endure this persecution."

Another believer, who also asked to remain anonymous, shared the Scripture that has become his source of strength:

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord," he said. "Revelation 14:13 is the only Scripture that is comforting us right now. We were not prepared for such attacks, but now we are diligent and intentional in watching and praying amid persecution. All we can do is trust in the Lord. We ask that you pray for us, and the Lord will strengthen us." 🙏



Pastor Adel Idris Jongool belonged to the predominant-ly Christian Otoro ethnic group in South Kordofan.

THE MESSAGE AND THE MINISTRY

Women's Bible Study Events

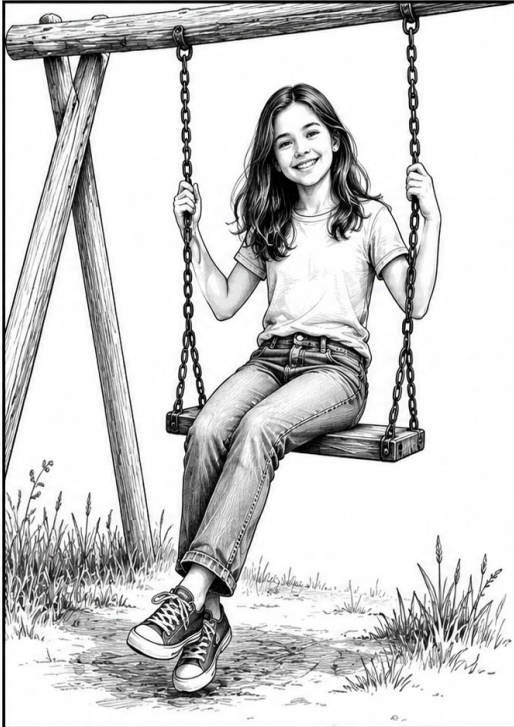
- Brunch on Saturday September 5 at 10:00-11:30 at Margaret Stewart's house.
If you've been interested in joining, you are welcome to come!
Please bring brunch food along.
- The Monday Evening Bible Study will have their first meeting on Monday evening, August 31 at 7:00-8:30pm (venue still to be determined). Please contact Edith Dryden if you're interested in joining.
- The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will have their first meeting on Tuesday morning September 8 at 10:00-11:30 in Joni Harbert's house. Please contact Edith Dryden if you're interested in joining.

THE MINISTRY

Women's Ensemble Practice

We are going to have our women's ensemble singing Sunday, August 30. We will need three practices, so we will have practice time Saturday morning, August 22, and 29 at 9:00 at the church. There are lots of other things getting started this month, so we will all have to plan on fitting these practices in on Saturdays. Thank you in advance for being willing to do that!

We will sing a song from our ensemble book, so bring it along if you have a copy. If you have not sung with us before or it's been a while, please come sing if you can. Please let us know if you can sing on August 30. Thanks, Margaret and Lynn



Q15 Who wrote the Bible?

A15 *Chosen men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.*

Q16 Who were our first parents?

A16 *Adam and Eve.*

Q17 How did God create man?

A17 *God created man, male and female, after his own image.*

Q18 Of what were our first parents made?

A18 *God made Adam's body out of the ground and Eve's body out of a rib from Adam.*

Q19 What else did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?

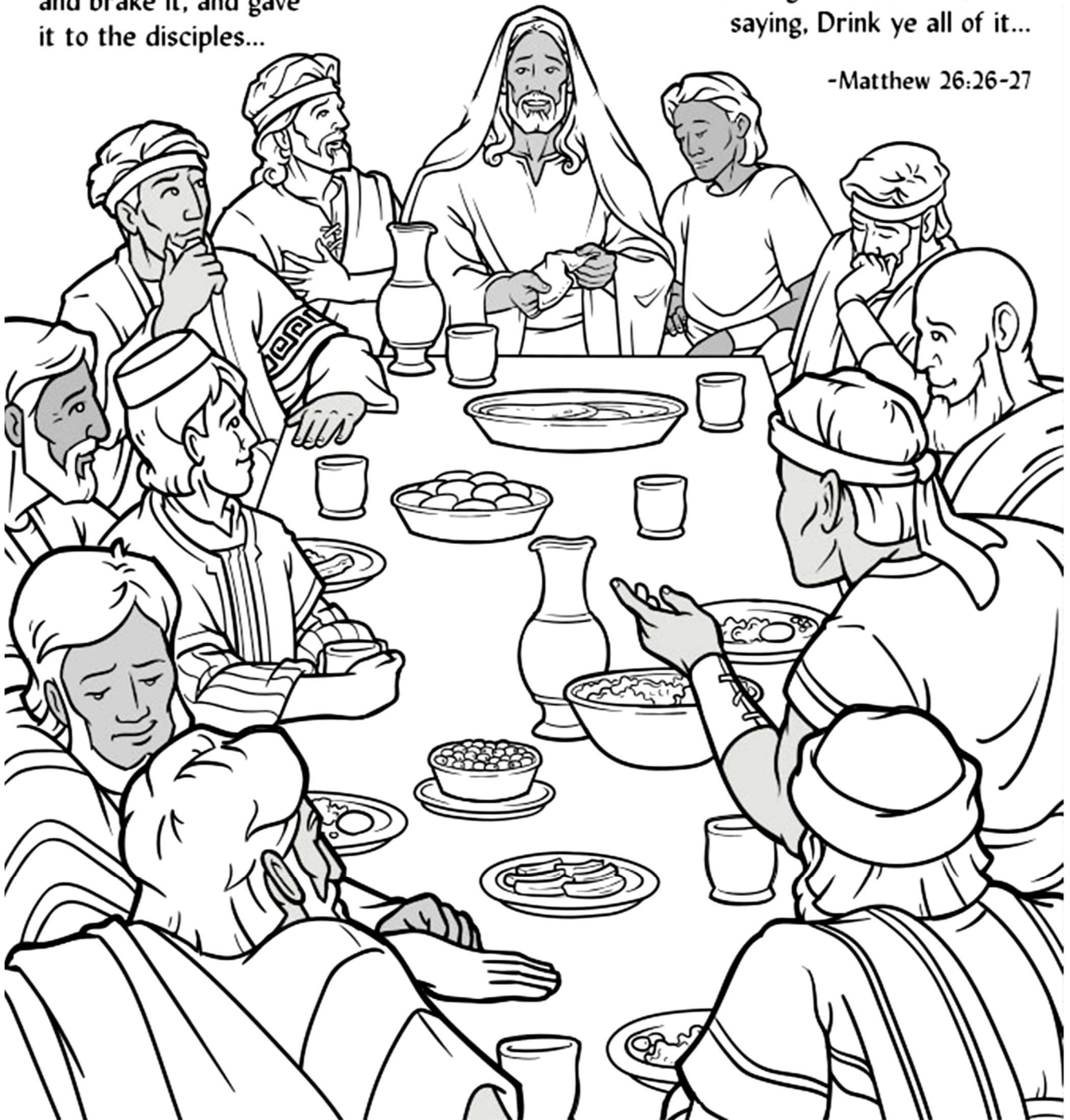
A19 *He gave them souls that will last forever.*

THE MESSAGE

And as they were eating, Jesus
took bread, and blessed it,
and brake it, and gave
it to the disciples...

And he took the cup, and gave
thanks, and gave it to them,
saying, Drink ye all of it...

-Matthew 26:26-27



Welcome to St. Elmo Presbyterian Church pca

Sunday School for Children and Adults

Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:15am. Adults have two options: one class meets in the Adult Sunday School room downstairs, the other class meets in the Fellowship Hall. Children, 3 y/o through 12th grade, begin with a time of fellowship in the Sunday School wing, before proceeding to their classes. Sunday School breaks for the summer months.

Little Lambs

During Worship, children from 3 through 4 years old are welcome to attend their own Bible Lesson time downstairs after the Covenant Children's Lesson in the Sanctuary. Busy Bags in the back are available in the summer months.

Nursery Available

During Sunday School and Worship, the nursery is available for babies through 2 y/o, when they are ready for Little Lambs. A Mother's room adjacent to the Nursery is also available.

Youth Group

Youth Group for Middle and High School students meets on Sunday nights from 6 - 8pm, and typically taking a break on the first Sunday of the month. Youth Group meets once a month during the Summer months.

Christian Education Contact Information

Director of Youth and Children's Ministry:
TBD

- Nursery & Little Lambs: Ashlee Wells, sepcnursery@gmail.com
- Youth & Children's Ministry: sepcyouthgp@gmail.com

Parent Committee Chair: Lance Wescher



Online donations/offerings:

You can use this QR code or you may go to -

<https://tinyurl.com/mr7h9e89>

Past Sermons and Church Calendar

Sermons online: <https://soundcloud.com/SEPC4400/sets>

Calendar online: www.stelmopres.org/events



Find us on Facebook:

St. Elmo Presbyterian Church - pca

<https://www.facebook.com/StElmoPresPCA>



To join the St. Elmo Presbyterian Church Email List:

1. Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3hpenxju>
2. Enter your email address in the gray box
3. Enter your name in the gray box
4. Password is optional
5. Click "Subscribe" and you will be added to the list. You will receive an email with directions for sending an email to the list and also unsubscribing. If you have difficulty signing on, please email Jay Green at jay.green@covenant.edu.

Parking

*Please do not park in front of driveways, or IN driveways, or in front of garages.
Please try to park on the side streets and not on St. Elmo Avenue (painted bike lanes).*

Also, park to the right of the road (in the direction you are going) so that you are not ticketed by the police.

Permission to print music and lyrics: CCLI#418158