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.

November 8, 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 November 8
9:15am Sunday School for All (2 classes for adults available)
10:30am Worship Service

Monday November 9
7:00pm Women's Bible Study meets at church — Contact Edith Dryden

Tuesday November 10
10:00am Women's Bible Study meets at Joni Harbert's — Contact Edith Dryden
10:45am Fellowship Hall in use — Contact Marylu

Wednesday November 11
7:00pm Ecumenical Community Group meets — Contact Carol Wildeman or Diane Reichmann

Friday November 13
4:00pm Session retreat until Saturday afternoon

Nursery

Sunday School
November 8 Ashlee Wells and Amy Daugaard
November 15 Ashlee Wells and Kathy Tucker

Worship Service
November 8 Kate Tinholt, Shelley and Zoë Madueme
November 15 Lisa Eames and Laurel Slavovsky

Little Lambs
November 8 Jack and Barbara Beckman
November 15 Glen and Becky Wieldraayer

To volunteer for Sunday School Nursery, Worship Nursery, or Little Lambs:
https://tinyurl.com/y9aw7h4a

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

Deacon of the Month: Kedric Webster

UPCOMING

Sunday, November 15	**College-age Lunches at Stroms'**
Friday, November 20	**Youth Group Lock-in through Saturday, November 21**
Sunday, November 29	**First Sunday of Advent**
Sunday, December 6	**Annual Christmas Celebration**
Saturday, December 12	**Annual Youth Group Christmas Party**

College Students
Join us
Learn more

THE MESSAGE

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

The holiness of the church is the holiness of Christ in which it shares by grace, being anointed with his anointing, sanctified with his sanctification, and so sharing in his holy relation to the Father through the Holy Spirit. -T. F. Torrance

Prelude

Announcements

Musical Preparation

JESUS WELCOMES US
Greeting

Call to Worship

One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.
On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made. *(Psalm 145)*

Invocation

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

JESUS RECONCILES US TO HIMSELF
Corporate Confession of Sin

Holy Lord, we have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, of failure to find Thy mind in Thy Word, of neglect to see Thee in our daily life. Our transgressions and short-comings present us with a list of accusations, but we bless Thee that they will not stand against us, for all have been laid on Christ…Go on with Thy patient work, answering 'no' to our wrongful prayers, and fitting us to accept it. Purge us from every false desire, every base aspiration, everything contrary to Thy rule…Deliver us from every evil habit…everything that dims the brightness of Thy grace in us, everything that prevents us from taking delight in Thee. Then we shall bless Thee, God of Jeshurun, for helping us to be upright. Amen. *(The Valley of Vision)*

Silent Confession

Hymn of Confession: Come You Sinners, Poor and Needy (Rejoice #22)

Assurance of Pardon

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. - Romans 8:28-30

Hymn of Assurance: Thy Mercy, My God (Rejoice #99)

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
3 and 4 year-olds may go downstairs to Little Lambs

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 For Illumination

Reading of the Word: Genesis 34:1-31

Preaching of the Word: "Unlovable, Yet Loved: The Gospel According to Jacob" - The Grievous Chapter — Rev. Daniel Wells

JESUS HEARS OUR PLEDGE OF FAITH

Q. What comfort is it to you that Christ will come to judge the living and the dead?
A. In all my sorrow and persecution I lift up my head and eagerly await as judge from heaven the very same person who before has submitted himself to the judgment of God for my sake, and has removed all the curse from me. He will cast all his and my enemies into everlasting condemnation, but he will take me and all his chosen ones to himself into heavenly joy and glory. (Heidelberg Catechism #52, 1563)

JESUS SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING
Hymn of Departure: 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus (#679)

Benediction

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

- ☐ Colleen Stevens
- ☐ Kathleen Stevens
- ☐ Darrell and Margaret Stewart
- ☐ Pris Strom
- ☐ Teresa Harwood: Guatemala
- ☐ Rock Creek Fellowship
- ☐ Our U.S. Senators
- ☐ **THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN NORTH KOREA (1)**
- ☐ Pray for our faithful witness to our neighbors

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

College Students
Join us
Learn more

THE MISSION and THE MINISTRY

From Todd and Liz Crusey:

In February 2027, the MTW missionaries in England and Scotland are holding a UK Team Retreat. We will meet at a Christian Conference Center in Derbyshire from February 13-15, 2027. The purpose of this retreat is for rest and refreshment, as well as a deeper sense of community for our UK missionaries.

To help promote this, we are looking for volunteers from some of our supporting churches to come over and provide childcare for our missionary kids during the retreat. This would consist of organizing activities for younger children during our group sessions and providing a nursery for our babies and toddlers. The ideal candidates for this type of ministry would be retired couples and/or empty nesters who would be interested in serving our UK missionaries in this way. MTW organizes something similar for our larger area retreats.

If there are people who are interested in serving in this way, we could also organize some extra activities before or after the retreat where they could visit some of our national partner churches and maybe get in some educational sightseeing. Our MTW UK Team may be able to cover the cost of lodging and food during the retreat, but travel to and from, as well as any additional in-country travel, meals, and lodging would be the responsibility of those coming.

We'd be delighted if St. Elmo would prayerfully consider sending some folks over to join a short-term team to care for our UK missionaries.

Please reach out if you have any questions.

God is Able,

Todd

_____

Liz & Todd Crusey

Church Planting in London



Channels of Love
Thanksgiving Baskets

During November we are collecting donations once again to provide **thirty $30 Walmart gift cards** as part of the Thanksgiving baskets Channels of Love gives to its clients.

First Pres has donated the non-perishable items for the baskets for many years. These gift cards are programmed to be used only for fresh produce and turkey/ham.

The sum of $900 sounds big, I know. However...

We are thankful that $257 was raised at the St Elmo Feast Day bake sale—enough for just over 8 cards!

So we only need enough for 22 more!!

Our congregation is composed of about 50 family units (depending on how you count them!), so if each family gave $15 we could easily do this—with some to spare.

Please use the QR code → or write a check to SEPC and designate in the memo line that it is for Channels of Love. Cash gifts can be put in the jar at the back of the sanctuary.

Channels will be ordering the cards in the next week or two and will be distributing the baskets the first couple of days of Thanksgiving week.

Thank you so much for participating in giving to our clients, many of whom will not be with families of their own on Thanksgiving Day.

Virginia (for Channels of Love)

THE MISSION and THE MINISTRY

Teresa Harwood
Guatemala

Prayer Requests

1. For Holi's continued recovery (dog)
2. For me, as I make plans/decisions regarding next year, and also dealing with lots of random little difficulties that have popped up (ie canceling a flight, trying to update my SIM card for my phone) that have become more complicated than they would seem
3. For the Christian schools I work with as they get ready to start end-of the-year classes with a new curriculum Missionary Venture volunteers developed



Q36 **Did Adam act for himself alone in the covenant of life?**
A36 No. He represented the whole human race.

Q37 **What effect did the sin of Adam have on you and all people?**
A37 We are all born guilty and sinful.

Q38 **How sinful are you by nature?**
A38 I am corrupt in every part of my being.

Q39 **What is the sinful nature that we inherit from Adam called?**
A39 Original sin.

Q40 **Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?**
A40 No. Our hearts must be changed before we can believe in Jesus and go to heaven.

Q41 **What is this change of heart called?**
A41 The new birth, or regeneration.

PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN NORTH KOREA (1)

"Our prayers can go where we cannot. There are no borders, no prison walls, no doors that are closed when we pray."

—BROTHER ANDREW

Right now, believers in North Korea gather in secret basements to worship. Christians in Afghanistan hide their Bibles beneath floorboards. Pastors in Iran face imprisonment for preaching the Gospel. They feel isolated, forgotten, and desperately alone—but your prayers can reach them instantly.

Every prayer you lift creates a bridge of hope that spans continents, crosses borders, and penetrates prison walls. Our persecuted brothers and sisters consistently tell us that knowing Christians worldwide are praying sustains their faith when everything else fails. Through our World Watch List research and field reports, your prayers target the most urgent needs with precision and purpose.

You don't have to feel helpless watching persecution from a distance. Your faithful prayers are already making an eternal difference.

THE MESSAGE



LearnOfChrist.com

SEPC Community Groups 2026

Community Groups are where we find community, care, and connection. The way we are ministered to and do ministry is through our Community Groups. Most of these groups are loosely based on geography. They have rhythms of Up (Bible study, devotion, prayer), In (fellowship, recreation), and Out (Mercy, Mission). Each Community Group has 'adopted' one of our mercy ministries, and a few of missionaries who are supported in SEPC's budget.

If you would like to plug into one of these Spiritual Families and experience Community, Connection, and Care, then reach out to the Community Group leaders and see when they will have their next gathering.

CHICKAMAUGA COMMUNITY GROUP
Leaders: Jack and Barbara Beckman (jack.beckman@covenant.edu; barbarabeckman5354@gmail.com
If you live beyond the outer bounds of St Elmo toward Chickamauga and NW Georgia, our Community Group gathers for food and fellowship, devotions and prayer. If you enjoy the sounds of children playing, our multigenerational group is for you! This group meets the first Wednesday and the third Friday of each month.

ECUMENICAL COMMUNITY GROUP
Leaders: Carol Wildeman and Diane Reichman (carol.wildeman@gmail.com; dmreichmann@gmail.com)
This group has been around for a long time in various forms. They excel in caring for one another, which is why they even have members from other churches in this CG. This is our one CG that isn't bound to one geographical area. So, this might be a good place for you if you aren't concerned with being in a CG close to where you live. I also appreciate this CG's emphasis on Micah 6:8 as they do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. They meet every Wednesday night.

FLINTSTONE COMMUNITY GROUP
Leaders: Ed & Betsy Sunder (edsunder@gmail.com; Betsysunder@gmail.com)
If you are in the Flintstone area this would be a wonderful group for you to check out! They have a meal together, fellowship, and occasionally discuss Pastor Daniel's sermons as well as sharing testimonies and prayer requests. This group meets the first and third Wednesday of each month.

NORTH CHATTANOOGA COMMUNITY GROUP
Leaders: Ethan and Madison Greene (ethangreene94@gmail.com; mmbgreene97@gmail.com)
For any of you who live north of the river then this CG would be perfect for you. Don't mind Ethan and Philip as they talk about Vols football. This group meets every other Wednesday.

ST ELMO COMMUNITY GROUP
Leaders: Jay and Beth Ann Green (jay.green@covenant.edu; ba.green70@gmail.com)
This group has been around for a while and has done a great job with hospitality and community. Moving forward, this CG will focus on the St Elmo neighborhood as its mission field and will help SEPC be involved with the neighborhood's calendar and rhythms. This group meets the first Wednesday and the third Sunday of each month.

SEPC Small Groups and Contacts

- **Men's Thursday Bible Study** — Meets the first and third Thursday of each month — Chris Dodson
- **Youth Group** — Meets during Sunday School and the first Sunday of the month at 12:15pm— Lance Wescher
- **Women's Fellowship** — Monday night or Tuesday morning Bible Study and various activities through out the year — Edith Dryden or Shelley Madueme
- **Young Adult/College Group** — Lunches 3-4xper semester at members' homes — Jay and Beth Ann Green

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 Sundays during Sunday School. Also, they meet on the first Sunday of each month during the church's First Sunday Potluck lunch. Youth Group meets once a month during the Summer months.

Christian Education Contact Information

- Nursery & Little Lambs: Ashlee Wells, sepcnursery@gmail.com
- Children's Discipleship Coordinator: Jessica Novikoff
- Youth 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/3hpcnxju
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