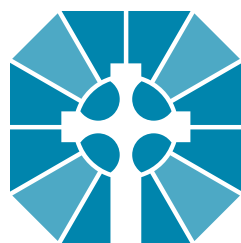


# A CITY-CENTER CHURCH



## CHURCH & PASTOR PROFILE



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH *of*  
CHATTANOOGA



# WHO WE ARE

## CHURCH VISION

We are a city-center church compelled by Christ's love to make disciples in our homes, city, and the world.

## CHURCH PURPOSE

**GLORIFY** the Triune God

**EDIFY** the church family for godly living, and,

**TESTIFY** to the world about the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## CORE VALUES

- Love and Worship of God
- God's Word
- Prayer
- Unity
- Fellowship/Community
- Spiritual Growth
- Evangelism
- Outreach
- Cultural Engagement

<https://1stpresbyterian.com/about/vision-values/>



# MORE ABOUT US

**Our History:** Presbyterian missionaries to the Cherokee Indians in the Chattanooga area started First Presbyterian Church Chattanooga (FPCC) in 1840. The church has faithfully served this city and produced many of its leaders since its origin and has remained missionally minded through the years. FPCC is not only the oldest church in Chattanooga, it is the oldest organization of any kind remaining in Chattanooga. We are the mother, grandmother or great-grandmother church of most other local Presbyterian churches and among the earliest churches in the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) denomination.

**Our Leadership:** We are governed by a Session of 25 sessional (active) ruling elders with 11 non-sessional and seven emeritus ruling elders. We are also led by a 44-man Diaconate board. We have two full-time assistant pastors, one part-time assistant pastor, a church administrator, a worship director, an interim choral music director, and directors who oversee our camp, children’s, youth and world missions ministries.

**Our Facilities:** Our main facility was erected in 1910 in downtown Chattanooga. In 1966 a Fellowship Hall wing was added. In 1981 we added an adjacent 10-story office building which is called The Tower. In 1995 our youth building was erected. We are also blessed to own 127-acre Camp Vesper Point (CVP) on the Tennessee River/Chickamauga Lake reservoir. CVP operates on an approximate \$800,000 annual budget.

**Our Congregation:** We are a multi-generational, loving, Bible-centered, praying church that loves God and strives to share the good news of Jesus to our city and the world. We currently offer two Sunday morning worship services – a traditional service and a more casual style service. We have 891 members of whom approximately 100 are homebound. Our members come from across the Chattanooga area. The demographics of our church are below.

PEOPLE	GROUP
512	Females
379	Males
482*	Heads of Household
125*	Children* (Nursery – 5th grade)
78	Youth (6th – 12th grade)
113	Ages 0 - 29
156	Ages 30 - 49
107	Ages 50 – 59
515	Ages 60 & above

\* includes non-members





# WHAT WE DO

## MINISTRY TEAMS

Under the oversight of the Session and leadership of the Diaconate, our ministry teams provide a way to encourage, equip and engage the congregation in ministry and volunteer opportunities. Our ministry teams include:

**Worship and Music:** The aim of this team is to help the church extol the greatness, wonder, beauty, and perfection of our God. Worship is experienced corporately through the power of the Holy Spirit inspiring the preaching of God's word, the offering of praise through music, and the participation in other biblical elements of worship. Pre-COVID-19 we averaged 539 worshippers on Sunday mornings.

**World Missions:** We are passionate and active in spreading the gospel to the world. Our World Missions ministry is overseen by an executive board led by a World Missions executive director and assistant director and has its own budget. We recently celebrated our 69th Annual World Missions Conference.

**Care:** The Care Team is responsible for oversight, development, and care of "the inward life" of the church body. This includes the sanctification of the believer through education and discipleship. It also includes the many facets of pastoral and volunteer service ministries provided through Congregational Care and the Church Life Partnership.

**Camp Vesper Point (CVP):** CVP is the camp and retreat ministry of the church. Every summer approximately 800 youth and 65-80 camp workers from across our region attend CVP. Every camper is presented the gospel and many are brought into God's Kingdom. The camp is also used year-round for events by our church and by other Christian groups.

**Children and Youth:** The Children's Ministry focuses on discipling our children ages from infancy through 5th grade. Our vision is to help children "See Jesus, Savor Jesus, and Share Jesus." The Youth Ministry seeks to make disciples of Christ, teaching and leading students, grades 6 – 12, to develop a personal, transformative faith in Christ.

**Outreach:** This team supports congregational participation in spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ through a variety of local outreach ministries and home mission endeavors, including financial support of Tennessee Valley Presbytery church plants.

**Discipleship:** The purpose of the Discipleship Ministry Team is to equip adults at First Presbyterian Church to practice discipleship (making and maturing disciples) so that together we will glorify God, edify the church, and testify to the world about the gospel.

## PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

Recognizing the difficulty of the pastorate and the demands upon a pastor, the Session has instituted the Pastoral Care Committee to befriend and walk beside our pastors.



# OUR UNIQUE Chattanooga AREA

**Natural Beauty, Lifestyle and Economy:** Chattanooga is known as the “Scenic Center of the South.” With its towering mountains, lush valleys, and abundant rivers and tributaries, the Chattanooga area truly displays the beauty of God’s creation and makes Chattanooga a wonderland for outdoor enthusiasts. There is also an abundance of enjoyable local attractions. Chattanooga is a great place to live with a competitive cost of living and is home to multiple large corporations. The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) is located across the street from our church and PCA-affiliated Covenant College overlooks our city from neighboring Lookout Mountain. In addition to quality public schools, we have many excellent private schools.

**Location:** Situated at the southeast corner of Tennessee near Georgia and Alabama, Chattanooga is centrally located in the Southeast. Key interstate highways which run through Chattanooga make it a 2-hour drive to Atlanta, Nashville, Knoxville, and Birmingham.

**Demographics:** Living within Chattanooga’s city limits are 184,561 people and 364,286 people live within Hamilton County. In greater Chattanooga there are 548,359 residents that includes Tennessee residents and neighbors living just across the Georgia and Alabama borders who frequent the Chattanooga area. The 18-county region has a population of 1,072,446. The Chattanooga city limits racial makeup is 57% White; 32% Black; 5% Hispanic; 2.5% Asian and 3.5% Other. (References: worldpopulationreview.com; datausa.io)



# OPPORTUNITIES

## for Growth & Improvement

We have a legacy of impacting our city and the world for Christ. It is with great anticipation that we prayerfully look to God for guidance in continuing the mission He has entrusted to us. During the last 24 months of transition, we have sought the Lord's will for our church, and we have identified and are working on several church health concerns which are categorized below.



**Unity in Worship:** We have differences of opinion about the style of corporate worship. We desire to resolve this issue through brokenness and repentance so we can continue to love one another and thrive.

**Maximizing City-Center Location:** Within a five-mile radius of our front steps are three major demographics: a growing population of educated professionals, UTC college campus, and the working poor. We have room for growth in effectively ministering to our diverse neighbors.

**Diversity of Membership:** The makeup of our congregation is not representative of our community's racial and socio-economic makeup and we are missing the vibrancy of other cultures. We aspire to be a receiving church that welcomes people of different races and economic levels into our church.

**Church Direction:** Although we developed our "preliminary" church vision in the fall of 2019, we await our next senior pastor to adjust and champion it. Improved coordination between the Session and Diaconate is needed to advance our church vision.

**Session:** The Session is working on operational improvements in areas of efficiency, spiritual oversight, and trust in Session leadership of the church. There is a need for strong elder leaders including younger men. We aspire to shepherd our flock responsibly.

**Communication:** The Session recognizes the importance of coordinating the work of the church ministries and keeping the congregation informed at the appropriate level of detail. A multi-faceted communication approach is needed for our multi-generational congregation.

**Church Organization:** The Session and church administration are working to coordinate our ministries to ensure that we are doing the right things in order to fulfill our vision.

**Singles Ministry:** There is not a meaningful ministry to singles in our church.

**College Ministry:** There is not a meaningful ministry to college students in our church.

**Missions:** We are currently studying our church's historical balance between world missions and local missions, including the resources devoted to each.

**Culture Engagement:** We desire to learn and to respond appropriately to the "hot topics" of the day.

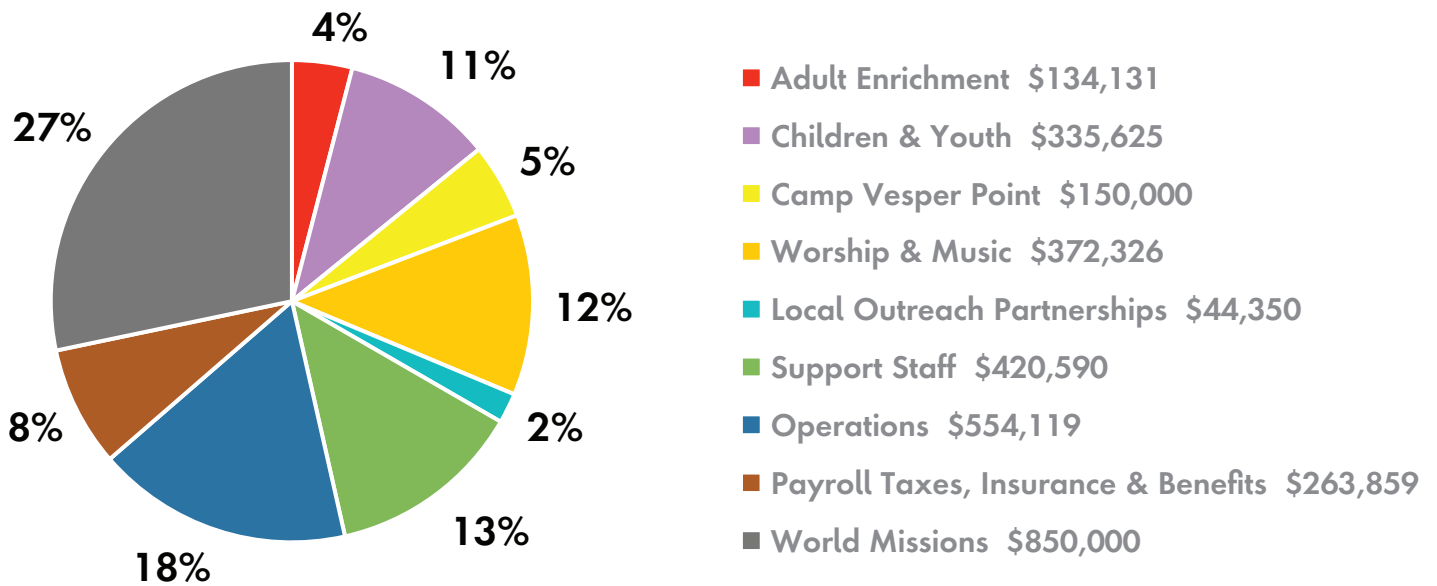


# WHERE WE GIVE

By God’s provision and faithfulness to us, our church is debt-free. Over the past three years the faithful giving to our church has resulted in an annual average income of \$3,361,066. Those funds go to two separate budgets: (1) deacons operating budget, FY2020 – FY2021 budget of \$2,275,000, and (2) World Missions budget, FY2021 budget of \$850,000.

## Total Budget 2020 - 2021

\$3,125,000



# THE MAN GOD HAS FOR US

With the guidance of God's Holy Spirit, we seek to find the next senior pastor that God is calling to fulfill His purposes for this part of Christ's body. Below is the profile of who we believe can help FPCC be all that God is calling us to be.

## Education & Experience:

- MDiv or higher
- Minimum 10 years pastoral leadership, preferably with three or more years as senior pastor of a 500+ member church, or equivalent experience
- Administrative experience with a staff and budget of a 500+ member church

## Theology Standards:

- PCA-ordained or eligible and willing to be
- Theology adheres to PCA Constitution, applied both personally and pastorally

## Pastoral and Ministerial Expectations:

- Preach the whole counsel of God's word, passionately, engagingly and accurately
- Regularly and clearly preach the cross of Jesus with a heart for the lost to be saved
- Model prayer, call the church to a prayer life that shows reliance on God and deep care for others
- Growth-minded in support of missions both globally and locally
- Celebrate and integrate a multi-generational congregation
- Equip the congregation to grow in our faith and knowledge of God
- Maximize city-center location, engaging diversity of demographics and cultures
- Speak the truth in love, hold to biblical truths dealing with cultural "hot topics"
- Have a shepherd's heart, intentional about knowing, loving and supporting our church members
- Know, support, and shape the ministries of the church
- Have church-planting vision. Implementation experience preferred

## Administrative and Leadership Expectations:

- Exercise winsome and decisive leadership of the church, lead by example, follow through on ideas
- Steer the church in concert with the Session to achieve our Mission and Vision
- Join elders as equals in Presbyterian governance as outlined by BCO
- Provide guidance to our worship services.
- Lead the congregation in healing our corporate areas of struggle,
- Train assistant pastors and counsel members for the building up of the body

## Personal Life:

- Love his family well
- Be personable, relational, and influential
- Seek involvement with his community and city; culturally engaged
- Demonstrate humility, having experienced God's healing amidst brokenness

Both he and his wife have sought the Lord in prayer and feel called to this position



## CONTACT US

If you feel God could be calling you to apply for this position, please register through the McGowan & Associates' website at: [mcgowanassocs.com/pastor-registration](http://mcgowanassocs.com/pastor-registration) and contact Ed Norton at [edward@mcgowanassocs.com](mailto:edward@mcgowanassocs.com).