



NORTH SHORE
Fellowship

North Shore Fellowship Church Profile

*“We exist to glorify and enjoy God by gathering in
worship and fellowship,
growing in grace and Christ-likeness,
and going on mission in our community and the world
to bear witness to Christ and his gospel.”*

118 Woodland Ave,
Chattanooga, TN

pastorsearch@nsfellowship.org
(423) 266-3757



NORTH SHORE Fellowship

Welcome to North Shore Fellowship Church's Pastoral Profile.

Thank you for your interest in North Shore Fellowship Church! We are excited that you are considering joining us in this important season of discernment and growth. This profile is designed to give you a look at our church—our values, our leadership, and our ministries—as well as the pastoral role we are seeking to fill. It serves as both an introduction to our community and a tool for us to start a conversation with you.

As you read through this profile, you will learn more about who we are and what we are passionate about. We hope it provides clarity, but we also understand that some details may raise questions or invite further discussion. Please know that we welcome any inquiries you have, whether about North Shore Fellowship Church itself or any aspects of the profile that may need more explanation. Our goal is to foster an open dialogue where we can share more about our church and hear about how your vision, skills, and calling align with ours.

We look forward to connecting with you and exploring the potential for ministry together.

Sincerely,

The Search Committee at North Shore Fellowship Church

Overview

North Shore Fellowship (“NSF”) is a growing congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (“PCA”) located in the North Shore district of downtown Chattanooga. Our church sits in ZIP code 37405, a walkable urban neighborhood known for its blend of historic homes, young families, professionals, students, and long-time residents. Our membership includes many North Shore and North Chattanooga residents, along with many active members from across the broader Chattanooga region.

As a congregation of the Tennessee Valley Presbytery, NSF shares the PCA’s confessional commitment to the authority of Scripture, Reformed theology, and the ordinary means of grace as articulated in the Westminster Confession of Faith.

We exist to glorify and enjoy God by gathering in worship and fellowship, growing in grace and Christ-likeness, and going on mission in our community and the world to bear witness to Christ and his gospel. Our congregation is marked by theological depth, relational warmth, and a visible love for our city. We are large enough to support a full range of ministries, yet relational enough that members are (and expect to be) known, shepherded, and formed in Christian community.

Who We Are

Our church culture reflects several defining traits:

Gospel-centered	The finished work of Christ shapes our music, liturgy, preaching, counseling, discipleship, and mission.
Warmly Reformed	We embrace historic Reformed theology with conviction while striving to communicate it with sensitivity, charity, and accessibility.
Relationally Strong	We seek to be welcoming, authentic, and community-oriented. Connections are often made organically as well as through organized activities.
Lay Engaged	Ministry is not solely staff-driven but shared broadly with members.
Mission Minded	We actively look for ways to reach our neighborhood, our city, and the nations with the Gospel.

We seek to be a church where both longtime believers grow in Christian maturity through worship, fellowship, and the ordinary means of grace, and spiritual seekers are converted by the power of the Holy Spirit through gospel proclamation and Christian witness. Several NSF members have come to faith through the ministry of the church—by simply getting caught up in the “communion of saints.” And many more members have grown and matured in Christ in significant ways well after becoming members, a testament to NSF’s culture of patient discipleship through meaningful relationships. Our covenant children are lovingly nurtured in the faith through worship, prayer, and biblical instruction, and are seen as integral members of the covenant community.

Congregational Snapshot

As of April 2026



1,018

Total Members



257

Family Units



759

Communicants



Roughly 45% of members participate in discipleship groups, fellowship groups, or bible studies

Worship Attendance

Three Services: 8:30, 9:45, & 11:00

150 - 300

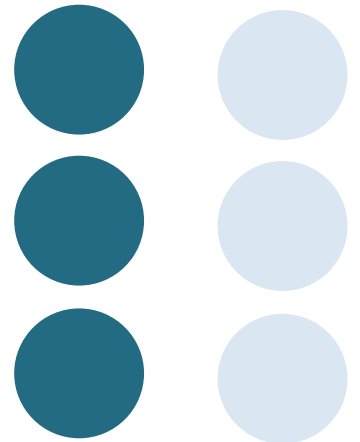
Avg. Attendance
Per Service

600

Total Avg.
Attendance

220

Avg. Sunday School
Attendance



Leadership

11

Active
Ruling Elders

16

Active
Deacons

9

Full Time
Staff

12

Part Time
Staff

Financial

Our annual church budget is about two million dollars. Our budget numbers reflect a church that is both stable and growing.

Ministry Life

Our ministries are structured to move people toward maturity in Christ and engagement in the life of the church.

Corporate Worship

Our worship services are both reverent and joyful, and consist of Word-centered liturgy, congregational singing, and expository preaching that engages both heart and mind. We aim for worship that is historically rooted, spiritually vibrant, and intelligible to newcomers. We regularly celebrate the sacraments through frequent (i.e., nearly weekly) observance of the Lord's Supper and the administration of baptism. We also carve out time in each service for announcements on ministry activities, congregational life, community engagements, and updates from our missionaries.

We have three Sunday-morning worship services, each lasting approximately 60-65 minutes.

Discipleship

We prioritize making a big church feel small in both our worship facility and in our numerous opportunities for small group environments. 45% of our adult members are involved in a men's discipleship group, a women's study, or a fellowship group. *We are hoping to see this increase in the next few years with easier entry points and more opportunities.*

Next Generation

Families and children make up a significant portion of our church. Approximately 140 of our 257 households include children, representing close to 300 children and teens in the life of the church. With support from a large segment of the church, parents are highly invested in the spiritual formation of their children, and youth participation is strong. We encourage families to worship together. *We are considering ways to further strengthen our ministries to families.*

Ministry Life, Cont.

Our ministries are structured to move people toward maturity in Christ and engagement in the life of the church.

Buildings

Our worship facility is both a beloved component of our community and a limitation, requiring multiple worship services and limiting some ministries, especially our children and youth ministries. Classrooms in the main building for nursery through elementary school, along with the space for middle school, high school, and adult Sunday School in adjacent buildings, offer little room for growth. Space for church-wide functions and staff offices is also very limited. The Session intends to set a direction for additional building space before the arrival of a new Senior Pastor—one in which he can participate rather than one he is required to champion.

Mercy and Outreach

Our congregation is deeply committed to mercy ministry, local partnerships, and practical service opportunities. Members regularly volunteer and give sacrificially to meet needs inside and outside the church. Clearer on-ramps for members seeking new outreach opportunities is a priority for us in the next three to five years.



Our Community Context

The North Shore area provides a unique ministry setting:



Urban and adjacent neighborhoods with much to offer regarding the Chattanooga Culture.



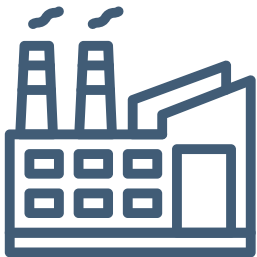
Chattanooga is also home to many recreational and outdoor activities centered on or near the North Shore. We have been featured as a top place to live by Outdoor Magazine numerous times.



Mix of socioeconomic backgrounds, termed by local merchants as “hip to historic.”



Highly educated population, with several nearby Christian colleges, including PCA’s own Covenant College.



Chattanooga has a growing manufacturing sector and a large young professional presence.

This environment means our next pastor must be comfortable engaging both churched and unchurched people, long-term residents and first-generation Chattanoogaans, families and singles, and people from a broad array of backgrounds.

What Makes Our Church Distinct

While rooted in historic Presbyterianism, members consistently identify several characteristics that distinguish our church from many traditional congregations:

Relational depth

Genuine friendships and pastoral accessibility are highly valued.

Missional Instinct

Members want to serve, not merely attend.

Intergenerational Life

Children, singles, young families, and retirees are all actively integrated.

Teachable spirit

People are eager to grow and receptive to biblical instruction.

Shared Pulpit

Our worship is guided by the music, liturgy, and means of grace. Our pastors largely serve as generalists and work as a preaching team.



What We Desire in Our Next Senior Pastor

We are seeking a shepherd who:

- Loves Christ and His church deeply
- Preaches Scripture clearly and faithfully, in a way that captures its relevance for today.
- Leads with humility and conviction
- Equips leaders rather than doing all the ministry personally
- Values pastoral presence among the people
- Affirms Reformed theology and biblical doctrine and articulates it clearly and winsomely
- Understands the need for strong institutional leadership and relational shepherding

Our congregation is not looking for a personality to build around, but a pastor who will faithfully steward the ministry Christ has already begun among us. Ideally, we are looking for someone who plans to live and minister in Chattanooga for a long tenure.

Closing Perspective

We are grateful for God's kindness to our church.

We sense genuine unity, eagerness for growth, and expectancy about what the Lord will do next.

We are praying for a senior pastor who will join us in that work, helping us deepen our love for Christ, strengthen our care for one another, and extend the Gospel faithfully in our city and beyond.

We are looking for a pastor who can help us refine our mission and vision for the future while retaining the cherished aspects of our church culture and history.

Thanks,

The Search Committee for North Shore Fellowship



Staff

Pastors



John Tomberlin
Associate Pastor



Nathaniel Lee
Associate Pastor



Jerry Harwood
Executive Pastor

For our staff and officers, check out
<https://nsfellowship.org/staff/>

Our Ministries

Worship

Youth

Fellowship Groups

Nursery/Children

College

Young Adults

Women

Men's

Local Missions

Global Missions



Pastoral Search Committee



From left to right:

Kate Royal, Peter Newman, Ryan Sandidge (alt), Sarah Beth Matthews, Lindy Oakes (alt.), Aaron Sehon, Natalie Northcutt, Ben Pitts, Whitney Smith