

Those Serving Today:	
<u>Morning</u>	
Announcements:	Phil Byrd
Song Leader:	Chad Futrell
Opening Prayer:	Ron Austin
Lord’s Table:	
Presiding	Eric Austin
Assisting:	Calvin Austin
	Mark Price
	Alex Freshley
Sermon:	Byran Hatcher
Closing Prayer:	Jon Williams
<u>Evening</u>	
Song Leader:	Chad Futrell
Opening Prayer:	Eric Austin
Sermon:	Byran Hatcher
Lord’s Supper:	Calvin Austin
Closing Prayer:	Venson Oliver
Those Serving Wednesday:	
Song Leader:	Chad Futrell
Opening Prayer:	TBD
Scripture:	Jake Byrd
Reading:	Ps. 106:9-22
Invitation:	Byran Hatcher
<div><u>Pantry item of the week:</u> Pencil Erasers</div>	

Sermon Notes

E Pluribus Unum

I.

II.

III.

IV.

Welcome,
Visitors!

Cape Fear Church of Christ

3808 Village Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28304

Minister: Byran T. Hatcher

Phone: (910) 425-1108

Services:

Sunday:

Bible Class 9:00am

Worship 10:00am

Evening 5:00pm

Ladies’ Class:

Tuesday 10:00am

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00pm

Website: capefearcoc.org

Preaching the Truth in Love!



Stealing Watermelons

A friend of mine grew up on a cotton farm in West Texas Once I remember him telling me that farmers in that area would often plant a few watermelon vines in their fields. The farmers generally wouldn’t grow these melons to sell, but rather to eat – and to share! Most of the farmers didn’t mind if a group of young people would occasionally grab a melon out of their patch and enjoy it together.

Despite the generosity of the local farmers, on occasion a of group of teenagers was known to visit one of the local watermelon patch-es during the night and help themselves to as many delicious watermel- ons as they could eat. Not only that, they would also smash some of the melons that they didn’t eat.

Now, why would they do that? When they probably could have received the farmer’s blessing in obtaining a few melons, why did they choose to steal them under the cover of darkness, and even destroy many of the watermelons that they didn’t even care to eat? Some would say it was just plain “meanness.” That is probably true, but we also learn something about ourselves and about how temptation works. . .

What makes Sin so appealing is that it is pleasurable: And, there is some- thing about us that finds that pleasure difficult to resist. So, in our mo- ments of weakness (all too frequent), we indulge ourselves even though we know in our hearts that it is wrong. We enjoy the pleasure, but only for a moment (see Hebrews 11:24-25).

This is part of sin's deception: it promises pleasure but doesn't advertise that its pleasure is short lived. It also ignores the consequences. Sin, therefore, is very alluring.

God has blessed us with everything that we need, and more! "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (James 1:17). Yet, Satan wants us to believe that there is more to be gained by "stealing" – going outside the will of God to experience some temporal pleasure. The truth is that this is Sin, and Sin has terrible, eternal consequences (Romans 6:23; Revelation 21:8).

But God, because of His great love for us, continues to give. In fact, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

We show contempt for the love of God when we disobey Him and commit Sin. Yet, He will forgive us if we will believe in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from our sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Matthew 10:32), and be baptized (immersed) in the name of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38). Then, as we "walk in the light" of His Word, He will continue to cleanse us from all sin (1 John 1:7).

Stealing watermelons may be a thrill to some, but needed forgiveness and true, lasting joy are found in following God's will. Aren't you tired of stealing watermelons?

- BTH

By The Numbers		
Attendance 8/2/15		
Bible Class: 56	A.M. Worship: 74	P.M. Worship: 57
Contribution: \$2,819.26	DB Readers: 19	Chapters read: 455

Family News and Notes

Prayer Requests

Margaret Langston is back in Village Green Room 101 after a short stay in the hospital. **Vera West** fractured a couple vertebrae in her back. **Francis Salaz** had a test recently and will have surgery in about a week.

Thomas Turnage (friend of **Elaine Pound**) is going through some family problems right now. **Kevin and Chasity Mitchell** need our prayers. **Linda Boston** is facing some trying times. Several members are starting new jobs this summer. We wish them all the best.

Phil Byrd's parents are declining in health. **Brian Cimbura, Gloria Emerick's** son-in-law is in Afghanistan.

Rudy Gray is back at home. **Linda Williams** has been doing better with her ankle. **Active military.** Please keep all our active duty military members in your prayers. They could be called to a conflict area at a moments notice. Remember to pray for them and their families as well.

Also, please remember: **Margaret Langston, Vera West, J. D. and Vicky Carver, Carolyn Pierce, Anita Bottger, Rudy and Lettie Gray, Alice Morrison, Gay Mathis, Lloyd and Cecil Kimbrel, Francis Salaz, Becky Pool, Tylia Landrum, Gwen Jennen, John & Linda Williams, Tiffany Oliver, Jaimie Phillips and Thelma Adams.**

Special Recognition

The month of August, John Williams is updating the picture board. If your picture is not on the board, PLEASE see John so he can take your picture and update the board. Thanks to Linda B, Kim and Mya A. The baptistery is now sparkling clean!

Events

Polishing the Pulpit: August 21-28 in Gatlinburg, TN. Register online now if you are planning on attending.

Fall Gospel Meeting with Eddie Craft. September 13-16.

Young Men's Worship: Sunday Evening August 30th. (If you can host the teen devo this month see Byran)

Our monthly singing will change to Sunday night! The monthly singing will be the 1st Sunday Night of the month beginning September 6th. (There will be no singing night in August)

Next **Men's lunch** will be September 3rd @ Golden Corral on Skibo