Announcements: Chad Futrell

Chad Futrell Song Leader:

Opening Prayer: John Williams

Lord's Table:

Presidina: Scot Parchman

Steve Pool Assisting:

Kyle Pool

Byran Hatcher Sermon:

Closing Prayer: Brynn Hatcher

Evening Worship

Song Leader: N/A

Opening Prayer: N/A

Sermon: N/A

Lord's Supper: N/A

Closing Prayer: N/A

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: N/A

Scripture: N/A

Reading: N/A

Invitation: N/A

> **Pantry Item** Corn

Sermon Notes Where Are You?

I.

II.

111.

3808 Village Dr Fayetteville, NC 28304 Phone: (910) 425-1108 Website:

Find us on Facebook!

Wednesday Night: B.C.

Ladies' Class:

Elders Scot Parchman Wade Hedgepeth Byran Hatcher

Deacons Steve Pool John Williams

January 24, 2021

#### Welcome!

Cape Fear Church of Christ

capefearcoc.org

Service Times Sunday: B.C. 9:00am Worship 10:00am 5:00pm Evening

7:00pm

Tuesdays10:00am

# Cape Fear Crier

The

Volume 32 Issue 4

"Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel." Isaiah 12:6

### Rejoice Always

"Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice" (Philippians 4:4).

The Apostle Paul encouraged the church at Philippi to remain in a state of joy. Not only this passage, but just a few verses prior to 4:4 Paul wrote, "Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord" (3:1). Paul found reason to be joyful. He had experienced, and was at the very time of writing to this church going through difficult times. Yet, he still encouraged Christians to rejoice.

Our world is short on so many things: food, opportunity, even time, but the greatest shortage is joy. The German philosopher, Nietzsche opined, "I would believe in their salvation if they looked a little more like people who had been saved." Unfortunately, he might be more right than we would like to think. It does seem as though some Christians act as though they were, "baptized in vinegar and weaned on a pickle." That is not the Christian life! It should be filled with joy.

God is the author of joy. Paul wrote to Timothy, "Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords" (1

Timothy 6:15). God is on that is blessed, happy and joyous. The place where He resides is filled with joy and love - Heaven. It is a place where there are no tears and no darkness. Those with joy reflect the goodness and purity of Almighty God.

The Bible is all about one promise - JOY! The New Testament is a symphony of joy. Angels announced joy when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus promised His disciples joy when He was under the shadow of the cross. He even said their joy would be full (John 15:10-11). The book of Acts is triumphant joy forged in the crucible of persecution. The Kingdom of God is joy. The fruit of the Spirit is joy.

Joy is not just a passing pleasure, a mere moment. Pleasure is a good stimulation of our senses which is but short-lived, cannot be sustained and must be sought after again and again. That kind of joy can easily degenerate into indulgence and then further into sin. Joy differs from "happiness" and "pleasure." Happiness is best experienced through a relationship with others, while joy is internal as a result of knowledge of the truth.

Joy is a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). It is a fruit, not a work. It cannot be directly produced. It can be pruned by spiritual discipline, enriched through Bible study, strengthened by prayer, and matured in obedience to the Lord! Joy is a by-product, a serendipity if you will, of a deep and abiding faith held through a pure conscience toward God. The more you know God, the more joy you have.

- BTH

# **By the Numbers**

Attendance 1/10/20 Bible Class: 25 Contribution: N/A

A.M. Worship: 45 DB Readers: N/A P.M. Worship: N/A Chapters Read: N/A

## **Family News and Notes**

Claudia Farrington is having a difficult time right now. Frances Salaz is going through chemo. Vicky Carver's son, Joe, needs our prayers right now. A coworker of Steve Pool passed away suddenly. Please keep the family of Bobby Petty in prayer. The Oliver family will be moving to Texas soon. Venson has been reassigned to Fort Bliss. We wish them well. We have been blessed thus far that none of our members have had serious complications with Corona Virus, though we have all been affected negatively. We do want to pray for those family members that have lost loved ones these past 11 months.

Active military: Pray for our active duty military members; they could be called to a conflict area at a moment's notice. Remember to pray for their families as well.

Also remember: Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Alex Freshley, Lettie Gray, Frances Salaz, Tylia Landrum, Gwen Jennen, John and Linda Williams, the Pollard family, Claudia Farrington, Rick Caldwell, Margaret Eads, and Thelma Adams. Please pray for those in Bible Studies, teachers and students!

## **Bible Reading Plan**

Jan 24	Jan 25	Jan 26	Jan 27	Jan 28	Jan 29	Jan 30
Lk 11-12	Lk 13-14	Lk 15-16	Lk 17-18	Lk 19-20	Lk 21-22	Lk 23-24
Ps 24	Ps 25	Ps 26	Ps 27	Ps 28	Ps 29	Ps 30

#### **Events**

Ladies Bible Class: Cancelled for January 26th because of construction

Monday Reminder: Every Monday morning at 8am on Facebook/YouTube

Wednesday Devotional Message: Wednesday evening at 6pm on Facebook/YouTube