

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Sibio Farrington

Assisting: Ron Austin
John Patchell

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Ricardo Alvillar

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Chad Futrell

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item

Canned applesauce & fruit

Sermon Notes *The Church and Me*

1.

11.

111.

November 13, 2022

Volume 39 Issue 7

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!

Service Times

Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

The Cape Fear Crier

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

Living Life Your Way

Frank Sinatra can still be heard crooning, “I did it my way!” No doubt he did. There was a young man just recently that came into my office from across the street, seeking my help. He sat down in the comfy chair and just cried. I allowed him to shed tears for at least 5 minutes or so before I even said a word. I made note of the signs of a hard life he had lived in such a short time. The world had been very unkind to him, but he, in turn, was unkind to it. He had violated its demands and rules and it had assessed its punishment. He was a most pitiful sight sitting there in a puddle of tears. He was reaping what he had sown. After we got started talking he let everything out that he had done in life. He was often drinking and drunk. Those stupors led to wild times and wild women. He was too busy skirt chasing or addicted to pornography to work and so from his idleness he was now homeless. His body was not functioning at it should because of the drugs he had taken and his health was at risk. No doubt his life will be shortened significantly. So there he sat alone, across from a stranger - his only “friend.”

After he told me these things I asked him if he needed God. He responded in the affirmative, acknowledging that he had broken every precept God has ever given to man. I gave him the only hope I know exists, by coming to a true knowledge of Jesus, He alone can save. We set up a time for him to come back and continue our study of Jesus - but he never came back.

How sad it is that those that need God often realize it, but fail to act upon their knowledge. James says, “*Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves*” (1:22).

The individual must assume responsibility for his actions and then take action to make life better.

Luke 15 tells the story of one that had to do just that. The Prodigal Son was eating corn husks in a pig pen when he “came to himself.” Only by coming to oneself can you become better. The Prodigal Son never made progress until he came to himself. He saw himself where he was and envisioned where he would like to be: and without blaming anyone else, he traveled the distance from where he was to where he wanted to be; and it was a long way!

You cannot make the most of yourself if you are not yourself. Being yourself does not prevent you from improving. You should want to grow to be your best self, living your best life. As you improve, it should be done genuinely and as yourself. Paul even recognized his own individuality where growth was necessary to be the best disciple he could be.

The reason you must always be yourself is because you can never be anyone else. Trying to be someone else is to be no one because there can be only one of any person. Duplicates, copies, or clones do not count. They are all fraudulent. Clayton Moore, who portrayed The Lone Ranger, fell in love with the character and was rarely seen outside without a mask. He wanted to become the Lone Ranger. But it was fraudulent. He was unsuccessful except for in his own mind.

Every person is a success when he is his natural self. How you are, and what you are, when you are born is your highest self. It is natural and right for an eagle to soar high above the clouds. It is natural for giant squid to swim in the depths of the oceans. It is also right for pigs to wallow in muck and mire. None of these animals can change what they are. Neither can humans in regard to their gender. God has made us male and female. This is not only for the furtherance of our kind, but also for the individuals happiness. To violate this designation, is to invite all manner of heartache. Just as there is no purpose or success in a person trying to be a cat or a lizard, there is no use in trying to change one’s inherent physical traits. It is a great privilege just to be oneself.

Be your best self. Take action and obey God today!

-BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 11/6/22
Bible Class: 42

A.M. Worship: 65

Wed. B. C.: 24

Family News and Notes

Jeanette Freshley had a procedure done to repair a torn rotator cuff. Recovery is going slowly. **Elaine Turnage** had gallbladder surgery on the 10th. **Nazreen Sahib**, coworker of **Jennifer Hatcher**, has stage 4 cancer. **John Williams** is expected to have two more knee surgeries after his recovery. **Kim Perkins’** mother is in rehab and receiving special care. **Expectant mothers:** keep all our expectant mothers in your prayers: Brianna Johnson, and Monica Ullom. Linda Williams’ mother, **Mary Pipkens** and her brothers, **Wayne** and **Harry** all are in need of prayer because of serious health concerns. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo. **Linda Hernandez** has been dealing with a heart issue and has not been able to be at worship. Let’s remember one another in prayer. Pray for our world leaders at this time. Active military: Pray for all 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. We have 4 active duty members here at Cape Fear.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Deborah Ross**, and the **Davis** family. Please pray for those in Bible Studies, teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

Nov 13	Nov 14	Nov 15	Nov 16	Nov 17	Nov 18	Nov 19
Jer 37-39	Jer 40-42	Jer 43-45	Jer 46-48	Jer 49-52	Lam 1-3	Lam 4-5
Ps 133	Ps 134	Ps 135	Ps 136	Ps 137	Ps 138	Ps 139

Events

Silver Linings: Friday Nov 18 @ 11am

Trip Meeting: Sunday Nov 20 after morning worship in Langston Hall. Informational meeting for trip to Creation Museum and Ark Experience.

Baby Shower: For Brianna Johnson, Saturday, December 3 @ 2pm in Langston Hall.

