

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Brynn Hatcher

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Kyle Pool

Assisting: Sibio Farrington
Tyler Christian

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: Brynn Hatcher

Pantry Item

Canned/microwave pasta

Sermon Notes *Healthy Marriages*

I. _____

II. *Loving* _____

III. *Willing* _____

January 22, 2023

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

Volume 40 Issue 4

The Cape Fear Crier

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

The One Body, The Church!

The Bible clearly reveals that the church of the Lord is one body (Eph. 4:4). A human body with two or more heads would be considered an abnormality. The same would be true of a human head having two or more bodies. The human body is used in the Scriptures as a metaphor or illustration of the church of Christ.

The church of our Lord is one body. The apostle Paul says, “*Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular*” (1 Cor. 12:27). It is not a body, some body, or any body! There is only one body, but there are many members of the one body. Paul likewise taught, “*so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another*” (Rom. 12:5).

In the world, there are many different religious bodies all claiming Christ as the one head. Such surely is the wistful thinking of man because such a concept cannot be found in the word of God! Christ promised to build only His church (Matt. 16:18). He never claimed to build one belonging to someone else. The apostle Paul did not die for the Lord's church and neither did Peter or Apollos (1 Cor. 1:10-13). The church and the body are terms that refer to the *same* thing. The Bible, in speaking of what God purposed for Christ says, “*he [God] put all things in subjection under his [Christ's] feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all*” (Eph. 1:22-23). There is only one body for which Christ died (Eph. 4:4; Acts 20:28) and there is only one body He has promised to save (Eph. 5:23).

The act of baptism ushers one into the one body of Christ. Paul proclaims, “*For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit*” (1 Cor. 12:13). The same apostle taught the Galatians, “*For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ*” (Gal. 3:27). Peter commanded those on Pentecost to “*Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins*” (Acts 2:38). In giving the Great Commission Jesus says, “*He that believeth and is*

baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:16). Bible baptism is a burial and not a sprinkling as is evidenced by studying the fourth verse of the sixth chapter of Romans.

All people are to be members of the same body. It matters not whether one is young or old, rich or poor, educated or uneducated -- all who obey God’s word are members of the same body. To the Galatians Paul said, *“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise”* (Gal. 3:28-29).

Each member of the one body is important. *“And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you”* (1 Cor. 12:21). All members of the body are to work together for the glory of God. What one member does or does not do can have an effect on the rest of the body. It is also easy for folks to see that one leg does not travel in one direction while the other leg travels in the opposite direction and yet both legs end up at the same destination. Such is the claim of many religious groups who contend that although they take different routes (in doctrine and worship) they will all arrive at the same destination (Heaven).

Jesus taught the truth, saying, *“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity”* (Matt. 7:21-23).

There is to be no division in the one body of the Lord. The plea of the inspired Scriptures is that members of the body are to give *“diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace”* (Eph. 4:3). Please note that this is not some man-made, man-agreed upon unity, but rather the *“unity of the Spirit.”* One who desires to go to Heaven will listen to the Spirit speak through the Word instead of listening to men speak through their creed books!

Religious division is sinful and contrary to the will of Christ. It is not the church of man’s choice but rather the church which Christ built (Matt. 16:18) that people should give their allegiance to.

Pride will stand between many people and their obedience to the Gospel. Bias and prejudice will cause multitudes to reject the simple truth found in God’s word. How horrible it will be for those who had every opportunity to see and understand, yet chose to remain blind to God’s truth!

-BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 1/15/23

Bible Class: 36

A.M. Worship: 60

Wed. B. C.: 35

Family News and Notes

John Patchell’s niece, is struggling with her lupus. **Sarah Collier, Julie Carver’s** niece, is seriously ill. **Solomon Harrington, Geraldine Harrington’s** son, is struggling with some health problems. **Nazreen Sahib**, coworker of **Jennifer Hatcher**, has stage 4 cancer. **John Williams** is slowly recovering from knee surgeries and a broken leg. **Chuck Perkins’** coworker, **Mark Thibeault** is not doing well at this time. The **Perkins** family has been dealing with COVID. **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 a significant heart problem. 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

Jan 22	Jan 23	Jan 24	Jan 25	Jan 26	Jan 27	Jan 28
Gen 43-44	Gen 45-46	Gen 47-48	Gen 49-50	Ex 1-3	Ex 4-6	Ex 7-9
Ps 22	Ps 23	Ps 24	Ps 25	Ps 26	Ps 27	Ps 28

Events

Teachers’ Meeting: Sunday, Jan 29th, after morning worship.

Christian Evidences Seminar: March 3-5. Jeff Miller speaking

Mens’ Fellowship: March 11. Gold Hill Road church of Christ

