

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Kyle Pool

Opening Prayer: John Patchell

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Ricardo Alvillar

Assisting: Sibio Farrington
Tyler Christian

Sermon: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Dale Wiles

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Chad Futrell

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item

Canned meat/chili

Sermon Notes *What's In A Name?*

May 7, 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 41 Issue 6

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 Lord's Church Shouldn't...

The Lord's church is the one that was established in A.D. 33 in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost. The Lord's church is the one that Jesus built (Matt. 16:18) and purchased with his own blood (Acts 20:28). The Lord's church is the one body the apostle Paul recognized as being valid (Eph. 4:4). There is only one body that the Savior has promised to save (Eph. 5:23). It is imperative to understand that we are not discussing what denominations were established to do. Denominations may do whatever their founder, or current adherents, desires them to do to please men, but they will never please to God. If the church of our Lord is to be faithful, it must only do the bidding of its founder, Jesus Christ. Jesus told His apostles that the world would hate them (John 15:19), so it should come as no surprise that doing only what is authorized by Jesus will never please most men.

The Lord's church was not established to exist in secret! It makes one sick to hear those who profess to be members of the Lord's church avoid telling people they are a member of the church of Christ. Too many Christians will tip-toe for miles on eggshells before admitting they are members of the church of Christ. Even upon being forced to make the admission, they apologize by saying, “But we don't believe we are the only one's going to heaven.” Revelation 21:8.

What is wrong with the name church of Christ? Am I ashamed that Christ built His church? Am I embarrassed that the church wears His glorious name? Do I not want the church to be connected with the Savior? Brethren, these questions deserve an honest answer. Many members need to begin thinking for themselves and cease following the liberal change-agents who would place the church under a bushel (cf. Matt. 5:13-16). Faithful soldiers of the cross will boldly proclaim the essentiality and eternal destiny of the Lord's church. We cannot keep the church a secret and save the souls of men!

The Lord’s church was not established to provide entertainment for its members! One can search the Bible from beginning to end and never find one incident where God has sought to entertain His people. It can be demonstrated, however, that God *“would have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth”* (I Tim. 2:4). It is also true that *“the Son of man came to seek and save that which was lost”* (Luke 19:10). We read that it was the Lord’s desire *“that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name unto all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem”* (Luke 24:47). When the early church was persecuted and scattered, they did not offer all types of entertainment to attract people. They did, however, go *“about preaching the word. And Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and proclaimed unto them the Christ”* (Acts 8:4-5). The early church realized that the Gospel was the only *“power of God unto salvation,”* and they were not ashamed to proclaim it (Rom. 1:16).

The early church did not seek to attract people with eloquent dramatized skits laced with fingernail-biting excitement! Neither did the early church have “youth ministers” to entertain and babysit the young or a “sunset minister” to transport the older saints to every play and flower garden within driving distance. Didn’t the first and second century church know that because of severe persecution they would have to cater to the wants of both young and old in order to grow? The wisdom of man says that the early church was destined to fail. The result — the early Christians who feared God and unashamedly proclaimed the Gospel grew by leaps and bounds (cf. Acts 2:41; 4:4; 5:14; 6:7; 9:31).

The Lord’s church was not established to provide a soothing answer to man’s sins! The majority of men want to live in sin, enjoy the pleasures of the moment, and be told that all is well with their souls. Consider modern euphemisms for sin. Alcoholics have a **disease**, homosexuals have a **defective gene**, fornication is simply an **affair**, lying is **misinformation**, and sin is tolerated as a **mistake**. Brethren, we can ill afford to pat members on the back, accept their contribution, and overlook sin! All sin is deadly (Rom. 6:23), and all must repent (give up and make restitution) of their sins or lose their souls. Even though not “politically correct,” Christians will teach sinners that they must “repent or perish” (Luke 13:3).

May we keep in mind that the Lord’s church was established to do what no man-made institution can do, make peace between God and man. Let us therefore not lose sight of the glorious purpose and mission of the Lord’s church.

- BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 4/30/23
Bible Class: 42

A.M. Worship: 65

Wed. B. C.: 22

Family News and Notes

Jan Keene’s ex husband passed away suddenly. She and her daughter are in Oklahoma with the family. **John Patchell’s** niece is struggling with her health. **Solomon Harrington**, and his family were with us last week for worship, glad they are back in North Carolina! **John Williams** is slowly recovering from knee surgeries and a broken leg. **Chuck Perkins’** coworker, **Mark Thibeault** is not doing well at this time. **Linda Williams’** mother, **Mary Pipkens** and her brothers, **Wayne** and **Harry**, are in need of prayer because of serious health concerns. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo. **Linda Hernandez** has a significant heart problem. She will be having surgery this week. 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 5 active duty members here at Cape Fear.

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

Bible Reading Plan

May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13
1 Ki 21-22	2 Ki 1-4	2 Ki 5-8	2 Ki 9-12	2 Ki 13-16	2 Ki 17-19	2 Ki 20-22
Ps 126	Ps 127	Ps 128	Ps 129	Ps 130	Ps 131	Ps 132

Events

Mens’ lunch: This Friday at Golden Corral at 11am
Cards and gifts for **Dustin Pool:** place in graduation box in the foyer until May 14.
Wedding shower for Trent & Aslyn: a couples tea, at the Hatchers’ from 10-12 (get recipe cards from Melany Hatcher)
Wedding shower for Jacob and Katie: congregational potluck on June 25th after worship

