

**Privileged to Serve**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:  
Presiding: Tyler Christian

Assisting: Frank Thompson  
Ricardo Alvillar

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Jacob Clark

*Those serving Wednesday*

Opening Prayer: TBD

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Devotional: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Jon Anderson

Closing Prayer: Rob Sparks

**Pantry Item**  
Chili

*Sermon Notes*  
*The Way of Man*

*I. Not in \_\_\_\_\_*

*II. Not in Other \_\_\_\_\_*

*III. \_\_\_\_\_ in God*

August 18, 2024

Welcome!

Cape Fear  
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr  
Fayetteville, NC  
28304

Phone:  
(910) 425-1108

Website:  
[capefearcoc.org](http://capefearcoc.org)  
Find us on  
Facebook!  
Services are  
archived on our  
YouTube page!

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 46 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

**Blinded to the Truth of Baptism**

The apostle Paul stated that, “*the god of this world hath blinded the minds of the unbelieving, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should not dawn upon them*” (2 Cor. 4:4). So many in this world profess to believe in God, but their actions, or inactions in this case, belie their profession. How can people claim to be obedient to the Lord and then pick and choose the commands they desire to obey? It is because they have allowed themselves to be blinded to the truth.

The vast majority of denominations teach that baptism is not necessary for salvation. Some who claim to be members of the Lord’s church espouse that baptism is not essential for salvation. How can this be? The Bible declares the Word of God to be true (John 17:17). The apostle Paul admonished, “*let God be found true, but every man a liar*” (Rom. 3:4). Unless one has been blinded to the truth, he will always accept God’s Word over man’s word.

Billy Graham, the late champion of Baptist doctrine for years, calls on people to repent to be saved, but surreptitiously denies they must be baptized to be saved. Who is correct, Billy Graham or God? They both cannot be correct because the Law of Contradiction will not allow it.

The apostle Peter rightly accuses the Jews of crucifying the Christ (Acts 2:36). Divine inspiration then records, “*Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, Brethren, what shall we do? And Peter said unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*” (Acts 2:37-38).

Billy Graham, and those persuaded by his doctrine, are right when they say people must repent of their sins, but they are wrong when they say baptism is not necessary for forgiveness of sins. The conjunction “and” clearly shows that remission of sins is reserved for those who repent **and** are baptized. One cannot be baptized without

repentance or repent without being baptized and expect to be saved. God has spoken regarding the matter, and His Word takes precedence over the word of any man (including the Apostles, Gal. 1:8,9). Those not blinded to the truth of God's Word will desire to submit to what the Scriptures teach regarding salvation. Please note the following Scriptures and examples that prove baptism is essential for salvation.

1. The apostle Peter states that baptism saves a person (1 Peter 3:21). How can what Peter declares be true if baptism is not necessary for salvation?
2. Baptism is the act that puts one into Christ Jesus. Paul says, *"For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ"* (Gal. 3:27). If baptism puts one into Christ as God's Word teaches, how can one be saved without being baptized (outside of Christ)?
3. Baptism is a burial (not a sprinkling) and those who are baptized should then walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:4). False teachers declare that men are saved and have newness of life *before* they are baptized, but the Word of God teaches that newness of life comes *after* baptism.
4. The great commission states, *"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned"* (Mark 16:15-16). To repent of one's sins is to believe and obey the Lord's command, and to be baptized is to believe and obey the Lord's command! In the latter part of verse 16 it is not necessary to say "he that disbelieveth [and is not baptized] shall be condemned" because one who does not believe will not obey the Lord's commands. Thus, one who refuses to be baptized to be saved does so because he does not believe baptism is necessary for salvation. It is simply a lack of faith -- a failure to believe the Word of God.
5. Some 3,000 on Pentecost repented and were baptized in order to be saved (Acts 2:37-41).
6. Those in Samaria who believed the preaching of Philip were baptized (Acts 8:12).
7. The eunuch believed the teaching of Philip, confessed Christ, was baptized, and then went on his way rejoicing (Acts 8:36-39).
8. Cornelius believed and was baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 10:43-48).
9. The Philippian jailor believed and was baptized; Lydia was also baptized (Acts 16:31-33,15).

Do not be blind to God's truth and believe the false doctrine that the act of baptism has nothing to do with salvation. It does one no good to claim faith in God but refuse to obey the plain teaching of Scripture. -BTH

### By the Numbers

|                            |                          |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Attendance week of 8/11/24 | Daily Bible Readers: 13. | Chapters Read: 330 |
| B.C.: 47                   | A.M.: Worship: 60        | Wed.: 31           |

### Family News and Notes

**Jan Keen** still needs our prayers, she is finishing up some chemo treatments and will have surgery in October. **Ellen Brantley** is now at home and doing much better. She is still struggling to walk, but her speech and other motor skills are vastly improved. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver's cousin is now at home recuperating from a stroke. **Brittany Hunt**, coworker of Julie Carver, received the good news that she is cancer free! **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Drew Perrin** in the passing of his wife, **Paula**. **Carlton Norris**, **Jeanette Freshley's** dad, is in hospice care. **Linda Jenkins'** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins'** parents need prayers, also remember her brother **Kevan Wain**. Wade Hedgepeth's brother, **Dwight**, has some health challenges. Pray for our world leaders at this time and the upcoming elections. Pray for all active duty military members and their families. We have 4 active duty members here at Cape Fear.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston**, **Vicky Carver**, **Sandra Hedgepeth**, **Barry & Melany Hatcher**, **Frances Salaz**, **Linda Hernandez**, and the **Davis** family. Please pray for those in Bible Studies - teachers and students!

### Bible Reading Plan

|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Aug 18    | Aug 19    | Aug 20    | Aug 21    | Aug 22    | Aug 23    | Aug 24    |
| Jer 30-31 | Jer 32-34 | Jer 35-37 | Jer 38-40 | Jer 41-43 | Jer 44-45 | Jer 46-47 |

### Events

**Gospel Meeting:** October 20-23 with Brock Shanks.

**Mens' Lunch & Silver Linings** will resume in September.

