

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Frank Thompson

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Ben Grant

Assisting: Julius Cook
Jacob Clark

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Ricardo Alvillar

Those serving Wednesday

Opening Prayer: TBD

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Tyler Christian

Pantry Item

Baked Beans

Sermon Notes *Eating Sour Grapes*

I. _____ *Views of Sin*

II. _____ *Views of Sin*

III. _____

September 8, 2024

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

Website:
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 9

The Cape Fear Crier

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

United In Christ Jesus

A serious responsibility given to Christians is to cooperate with others of like precious faith. Man is usually more or less a helpless creature when acting alone. God did not endow him with the same natural instincts and abilities as He did the animal kingdom. For this reason man usually learns to depend upon and to trust others for help, even for basic sustenance of life. Men seldom fight wars alone. The bully is quiet when he does not have his cronies to back him up. It is a true proverb, there is strength in numbers. Solomon said, *“Two are better than one”* (Eccl. 4:9). Ben Franklin said, “Let us stand united; for divided we shall fall,” but it was Jesus who said, *“And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand”* (Mark 3:25).

God has instituted a fellowship, a kinship that gives the Christian a place of safety, comfort and strength. It is called the church. In order for the church to remain strong, it requires the cooperation of all its members. One of the first problems Paul dealt with at Corinth was their division, *“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment”* (1 Cor. 1:10). The church at Corinth was ineffective because of division.

Paul teaches cooperative work by using the human body as an illustration, *“For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?... 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.... Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular”* (1 Cor. 12:14-27).

Some members do not cooperate because they have the wrong

disposition. In Paul’s illustration of the body’s members, the foot underestimates its value because it is not the hand (v.15). The ear has the same problem because it doesn’t have the job of the eye. These kinds of members do not do anything because they either waste their time wishing they were as talented as another, or are jealous because they believe someone else is going to get more recognition than they will. On the other hand, some have an opposite disposition. These think they have no need for anyone else because they think they are so much better than all other members (v.21).

Paul says each member should supply its part, *“From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love”* (Eph. 4:16). This illustration teaches both individual and cooperative activities for the good of the whole (“whole body fitly joined together” and “every joint supplieth” and “maketh increase of the body”). The functions of the various parts of the human body brings to mind a story of a blind man and a cripple man who wanted to go to a certain place: The crippled man climbed onto the strong back of the blind man and started their journey. The blind man did the walking, and the cripple man did the seeing. Through cooperation they both reached their destination.

Solomon teaches the wisdom of cooperation by referring to the locust, *“The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands”* (Prov. 30:27). Man has hardly seen any more destructive insect than the locust, all because they work so well together. God’s people should be banded together with such force upon the world. If we did, billions more could hear the Gospel of Christ.

The basis of Christian unity is in God’s Word. Paul began to handle the division of the Corinthians by first reminding them to be united in teaching, mind and judgment, *“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment”* (1 Cor. 1:10). What they were to speak was the pure word of God.

God’s people are to walk by the same rule (Phil. 3:16). We are to *“earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints”* (Jude 3, ASV). There cannot be a right union nor proper cooperation without strict adherence to God’s word. But there must also be a strong desire to love the brethren enough to be willing to cooperate.

-BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance week of 9/1/24	Daily Bible Readers: 13	Chapters Read: 425
B.C.: 33	A.M.: Worship: 51	Wed.: 41

Family News and Notes

Amy Sparks brother, **Todd**, passed away on Wednesday. **Jan Keen** will have a lot of tests before her surgery for cancer in October. **Cathy, Julie Carver’s** sister, has been in ICU since August 20th. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver’s cousin is still recuperating from a stroke. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **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**.

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

Sep 8	Sep 9	Sep 10	Sep 11	Sep 12	Sep 13	Sep 14
Eze 27-28	Eze 29-31	Eze 32-34	Eze 35-37	Eze 38-39	Eze 40-41	Eze 42-43

Events

Gospel Meeting: October 20-23 with Brock Shanks.
Cleanup Day: October 5th. 9-noon. Sign up on small table in foyer.
Silver Linings: Friday, Sept 20th @ 11am. Bring your lunch.

