

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Frank Thompson

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Sibio Farrington

Assisting: Cam Christian
Ben Grant

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Jon Anderson

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Devotional: Jon Anderson

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Ricardo Alvillar

Pantry Item
Soup

Sermon Notes
Anatomy of the Gospel

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

IV. _____

V. _____

November 17, 2024

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!
Sermons 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 47 Issue 7

The
Cape Fear Crier

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

Restoring New Testament Christianity

Over the next couple of articles is some history about the Restoration movement, its need and plea.

The Lord's church began on the first day of Pentecost after the death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. The characteristics of His church are revealed to mankind in the Bible. By those characteristics the church can be identified. It is called the body of Christ, the church of God, churches of Christ, the kingdom of God, the house or family of God, and other identifications that show possession. Its members are called disciples, Christians, saints, priests and other terms found in Scripture.

The governmental organization of the church is relatively simple. Christ is the head. Members are organized into local congregations. Congregations are organized with elders having the oversight, deacons who serve, preacher and teachers, and all the membership making up the body. Each congregation is autonomous, or self-governing, inasmuch as there is no super-ecclesiastical organization of the Lord's church larger than a local congregation.

The creed of the church is Christ and the written creed (meaning what is believed) is the Bible. The worship consists of singing, praying, observing the Lord's supper, giving, and proclaiming the Word of God. The terms of entrance are hearing the Word, believing in Jesus as the Christ the Son of God, repenting of sins, confessing faith in Jesus as the Christ and being baptized into Christ for the remission of sins by His authority (in His name).

The church is united in mind, doctrine, practice, speaking the same thing, as the oracles of God, tied together by the bond of faith and fellowship in Christ in peace.

The work of the church is to evangelize the world with the Gospel, edify and build up itself (the saved), recover those who may fall away and render benevolent and charitable deeds to those in need as opportunity presents itself.

The inspired history of the early church shows the Lord's people doing the Lord's work the Lord's way. The New Testament gives us

His pattern to which we must adhere if we would be the Lord’s people and do the Lord’s work.

The Apostasy

As prophesied, there came a falling away from the truth (I Tim. 4:1-3; II Peter 2:1,2; Acts 20:28-30). The apostasy did not occur rapidly, but gradually over a long period of time. Many of the departures from truth occurred concurrently. There was first a change in the governmental structure of the church into an ecclesiastical hierarchy. The names of the church and its members were changed. Human creeds were introduced alongside of, and then instead of, the Bible. Traditions, doctrines of men, superstitions, and combinations of truth with pagan and heathen practices perverted God’s pattern. There was a change in the manner of worship, the terms of admission, the mission, purpose, and work of the church. Very little was left untouched by the apostasy.

Down through the years when these changes were taking place, there were voices that cried out against them, but to no avail. Many warned of the error involved, pleaded for people not to follow men but to return to God. But they were ignored, silenced by persecution and death, intimidated into retreat and the apostasy rolled on. Human history entered into the period historians call the Dark Ages.

The Reformation

Eventually, after several centuries, there were those who would raise their voices in opposition to the ruling powers, primarily the Roman Catholic Church, and survive. Their voices were not silenced but heard. They would not be ignored nor intimidated. Such were Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Knox, Ulrich Zwingli, and many others who are considered the “fathers of the Protestant Reformation.”

Moving rather rapidly now over history, suffice it to say that the Reformation Movement did not reform existing Romanism as was first intended. Rather, it produced Protestant denominationalism with its many names, churches, doctrines, creeds, practices, etc. All that characterizes the confused, contradictory, and chaotic religiously divided scene so evident today was produced to a great degree by the Reformation.

The Restoration

In the eighteenth century, men began to see the gross inconsistency of denominationalism. They began the plea for a return to New Testament Christianity. They urged people to go back behind denominationalism (the apostasy), all the way back to a “thus saith the Lord” found in the Scriptures. They urged that men preach what was preached then, speak as the oracles of God, speak where the Bible speaks, be silent where the Bible is silent, require what Scripture requires, neither add to nor take from what the Bible teaches. They desired men to recognize the Bible as the all-sufficient religious authority it claims to be (II Tim. 3:16-17). (Cont’d next week)

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 11/10
Chapters Read: 258

B.C.: 42
Worship: 55

Daily Bible Readers: 11
Wednesday: 34

Family News and Notes

Tommy Turnage’s mother, **Kathy Crocker**, is in the hospital in Dunn. **Gwen Jennen** is battling several illnesses. **Jan Keen** continues her chemotherapy. We have been encouraged by her attendance at worship. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver’s cousin is still recuperating from a stroke and hurricane damage to her home. **Gladys Wallace, Gloria Emerick’s** mother, is in hospice care in Oregon. Gloria is in Oregon at this time caring for her mother. **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 **Kris Wain**. Pray for our world leaders at this time and the upcoming election - it’s Tuesday!. 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

Nov 17	Nov 18	Nov 19	Nov 20	Nov 21	Nov 22	Nov 23
Acts 9-10	Acts 11-13	Acts 14-16	Acts 17-19	Acts 20-22	Acts 23-24	Acts 25-26

Events

Prayer Service: Wednesday November, 27. Men, let Byran know if you will be present.
Holiday Baskets: December 13 & 14. See Chad for details.
Holiday Party: at the Hatchers’, Saturday, December 14th @ 3:00pm.

