

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Ben Grant

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Kyle Pool

Assisting: Ricardo Alvillar
Luka Herrera

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Tyler Christian

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Devotional: Julius Cook

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Tyler Christian

Pantry Item

Ramen Bowls

Sermon Notes

Trust In God Who Helps

I. Do Not Lose _____

II. Do Not _____ The Past

III. Do Not _____ God

June 22, 2025

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 49 Issue 11

The Cape Fear Crier

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

Trees of Righteousness

There are so many different words or terms in the Bible that describe those who are servants of God. Many of them are well known, such as saints (Acts 9:13; Rom. 1:7) and brethren (Acts 11:29). However, many of them are not well known. One such designation is found in Isaiah 61:3. In this passage we read, *“To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called **trees of righteousness**, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.”*

Children of God are spoken of in Psalm 1 in the figure of a tree. *“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a **tree planted by the rivers of water**, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.”*

The man blessed of God is as a tree growing near an ample water supply. It does not fail to be nourished. It will grow and flourish to accomplish that for which it was created. A Christian will do the same. He/she will grow in the Lord and seek to do that which will bring glory to God. The apostle Peter wrote by inspiration saying, *“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever”* (II Peter 3:18). A Christian will grow strong in the Lord and the power of His might (cf. Eph. 6:10).

A principle of creation affirms that a tree bears fruit after its kind (Gen. 1:11-12). A peach tree bears peaches. A plum tree bears

plums. An apple tree bears apples. The Lord made this principle clear when he talked about false prophets in his sermon on the mount. He said, *“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them”* (Matt. 7:15-20). Christians will seek to be fruitful just as a tree is fruitful. That’s the very nature of our existence. What fruits do Christians bear? Our fruits are good, holy, righteous, godly. They are as God is and desires that we be. *“Ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your God am holy”* (Lev. 19:2). As *“he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation”* (I Peter 1:15).

We have many great and precious promises (cf. II Peter 1:4). Therefore, we’re told *“...to cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God”* (II Cor. 7:1). We are to cast down our imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ (II Cor. 10:5). This means we will *“...be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world”* (Phil. 2:15).

As “trees of righteousness,” we will *“...walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory”* (I Thess. 2:12). *“For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness”* (I Thess. 4:3-7).

Paul told Timothy to be an example before brethren (I Tim. 4:12). This would be done *“in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”* The Gospel shows us plainly *“...that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world”* (Titus 2:12).

When we realize this world will not stand forever and that we must give account of ourselves, it causes us to reflect upon the kind of people we should be *“...in all holy conversation and godliness”* (II Peter 3:11). We so live to *“...be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless”* (II Peter 3:14). Therefore, since the Lord is righteous, we strive to be like him (I John 3:7).

-BTH

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 6/15 B.C.: 23 Daily Bible Readers: 11
Chapters Read: 302 Worship: 48 Wednesday: 24

Family News and Notes

Jan Keen is still undergoing chemo. Please pray for her family members caring for her as well. **John McDougale**, **Geraldine Harrington’s** uncle, is not doing well. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver’s cousin is still recuperating from a stroke. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Gwen Jennen** is having health problems. **Carlton Norris**, **Jeanette Freshley’s** dad, is in hospice care and not doing well. **Barbara Norris** is also struggling with her health, Jeanette is trying to spend as much time with them as possible. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers. I will be going to Indonesia & the Philippines tomorrow. June 23 - July 8. I solicit your prayers for the trip as well as for Jennifer & Brynn while I am away. Brother Wayne Peele from Rockingham will preach for me while I am away. Also remember: **Margaret Langston**, **Vicky Carver**, **Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth**, **Barry & Melany Hatcher**, **Frances Salaz**, **Linda Hernandez**, and the **Davis** family. I plan to edit and post the bulletin on the church app and also have it on the church website while I am traveling.

Bible Reading Plan

June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28
1 Chr 7-8	1 Chr 9-10	1 Chr 11-12	1 Chr 13-14	1 Chr 15-16	1 Chr 17-18	1 Chr 19-20
Titus	Philemon	Heb 1-2	Heb 3-4	Heb 5-6	Heb 7-8	Heb 9-10

Events

No Men’s Lunch or Silver Linings for the month of July.

Men’s Training: Sunday, July 27th. We will eat at the building after morning worship and have our training class after lunch.

