

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Julius Cook

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Kyle Pool

Assisting: Tyler Christian
Luka Herrera

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Cam Christian

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Byran Hatcher

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item
Ramen Bowls

Sermon Notes
Walking By Faith

I. *The _____ of Faith*

II. *The _____ of Faith*

III. *The _____ of Faith*

July 13, 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 50 Issue 1

The
Cape Fear Crier

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

God's Rules

Is it not amazing that most people will accept some rule book written by men over **the** rule book written by God? Countless millions profess to believe in God and the Bible and then they put their faith and trust into man-made creeds. It is again amazing that these people either can not or do not desire to see the error in their reasoning. The Scriptures plainly declare, “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works*” (II Tim. 3:16-17). It was Hosea who said, “*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children*” (Hosea 4:6).

People who enjoy engaging in or watching certain sporting events have absolutely no problem in comprehending the fact that there are **rules** that govern these games. After three strikes in baseball, the batter is declared to be “out.” Do fans become upset and complain that this rule should be ignored in some cases? Surely there are circumstances where a batter can benefit from “four strikes” before returning to the dugout! In football, the team with the ball has four attempts to travel ten yards in the proper direction for a “first down.” What if after four attempts the running back is within “one inch” of a first down? Does the referee say, “Because this is such an important game and you have come so close to picking up the first down, I’m going to give it to you.” No, such a statement is not made because **everyone** understands that the teams must abide by the **rules** of the game.

Does one really believe in the game of baseball or football who will not abide by the rules of the game? No, not at all! They may believe in another version of the game, but they do not believe in the game as outlined in the rule book that governs it. Why can people not see this same truth in the spiritual realm? **One does not really**

believe in God who refuses to accept His Word as truth on any matter.

The players on a sports team must conform to the rules that govern that sport. The rule book for a particular sport does not conform to the player’s whims and wishes. The same thing is true in regard to the God’s Holy Word. The Bible does not conform to the thoughts and wishes of men, but men must conform to the Word of God (cf. Rom. 12:2). One will not save his soul or incur God’s blessings by refusing to live by the Holy Scriptures. Man must accept the truth that his thoughts are not God’s thoughts and his ways are not God’s way (Isa. 55:8).

Let us note some areas where many who profess to be followers of Christ do not abide by God’s rules.

The majority of those who profess to be Christians think they were saved at the point of belief. They do not believe that baptism (immersion) is necessary for salvation. They conclude that “he that believeth and is **not** baptized shall be saved.” The Word of God says, “*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved*” (Mark 16:16a).

The majority of people who profess Christianity believe that there are **many** different roads (ways) leading to heaven. The Word of God says, “*Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it*” (Matt. 7:13-14).

Man believes that one can **join** the church of his choice and be saved. The Word of God says, “*And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved*” (Acts 2:47).

Most churches today wear man-made names and thus honor the founder of such church. The Word of God shows that Christ’s church is to wear His name (Rom. 16:16) and honor is to be given to the Lord who purchased the church (Acts 20:28) and is its founder (Matt. 16:18).

Most people today who profess to be Christians believe and practice salvation by “faith only.” The Word of God says, “*Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and **not by faith only***” (James 2:24).

God’s rule book (the Bible) states that Christ is the “*head over all things to the church, which is his body*” (Eph. 1:22-23). The Bible says there is only “*one body*” (Eph. 4:4), and Christ promises to save only “*the body*” of which He is head (Eph. 5:23). One is not a Christian and cannot go to Heaven who refuses to follow God’s rule book!

- BTH

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 6/15
Chapters Read: 302

B.C.: 23
Worship: 48

Daily Bible Readers: 11
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. **Ally** will go to West Virginia to be with the family as well. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston**, **Vicky Carver**, **Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth**, **Barry & Melany Hatcher**, **Frances Salaz**, **Linda Hernandez**, and the **Davis** family.

Thank you for all the prayers while I was away. I had a great trip and will give a report on Wednesday night.

Bible Reading Plan

July 13	July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	July 18	July 19
2 Chr 19-20	2 Chr 21-22	2 Chr 23-24	2 Chr 25-26	2 Chr 27-28	2 Chr 29-30	2 Chr 31-32
Rev 5-6	Rev 7-8	Rev 9-10	Rev 11-12	Rev 13-14	Rev 15-16	Rev 17-18

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. Please let Byran know if you plan to attend.

Labor Day Fellowship: Monday September 8

