

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Tyler Christian

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Kyle Pool

Assisting: Cam Christian
Ricardo Alvillar

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Luka Herrera

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Byran Hatcher

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Julius Cook

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item

Snack Size Trail Mix/Nuts

Sermon Notes *Faith Under Fire*

I. _____ *Ye*

II. _____ *Fast in the Faith*

III. *Be* _____ *Like Men*

IV. *Do* _____ *in Love*

July 20, 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 2

The Cape Fear Crier

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

The Blessings of Faith

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.” James 1:17

The blessings and rewards of a righteous life — a faithful life with the Lord — is rich indeed. As a righteous servant of the Lord, we do not fear the “powers that be” in civil government. Since we “live unto the Lord” (Rom. 14:8), we abide by the laws of the land — that is, unless they conflict with God’s laws — then we obey God rather than man (Acts 5:29). We don’t have to run from the law because we’ve stolen someone’s property (Eph. 4:28). We don’t have to be afraid of the IRS because we’ve cheated on our taxes (Rom. 13:6-7). We don’t fear the hatred and malice of another human being because we’ve committed adultery with their wife or husband (I Cor. 6:18; Rom. 13:9).

As a righteous servant of the Lord, we do not fear contracting lung, throat or mouth cancer because we puffed on tobacco or chewed on its leaves. We don’t fear getting aids because of acts of sodomy. We’re not concerned about contracting hepatitis or having deformed children because we’re shared dirty needles of drug users. It never enters our mind of getting drunk and killing someone on the highway because we love the taste of alcohol. A life of righteousness is far removed from all these things. They pose no threat or danger to our lives.

Sleeping with a clear conscience is a blessing. Can you imagine how many people go to bed at night in fear and anguish? They are in continuous turmoil and misery. They are constantly reminded that their ungodly life may catch up with them and they will be found out and have to pay the price. This is not the case with Christians. We sleep good at night. We are at peace with ourselves and all men. We delight in the joy that is unspeakable.

Being a righteous servant of the Lord brings the confidence and peace that can only come from the Lord. We have no fear of what men may do to us because they cannot harm our soul. Jesus said,

“And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell” (Matt. 10:28). The writer of Hebrews declared that if the Lord is our helper, then we should not fear what men can do to us (13:6).

As a righteous servant of the Lord, our roots sink deep in the love of the Lord, we have the peace that passeth all understanding which shall keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:7). Oh, what a blessing to be at peace with the Lord!

Being a righteous servant of the Lord brings upon us all spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3). These are the most precious because they are eternal. No matter what happens to us in this life physically, a faithful Christian enjoys showers of spiritual blessings.

The forgiveness of our sins is one such blessing. When Jesus shed his blood on the cross, it was for all humanity. The Hebrew writer recorded, *“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man”* (Heb. 2:9; cf. Rom. 8:32; II Cor. 5:14-15). Jesus himself said, *“For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins”* (Matt. 26:28).

Having the remission of sins means we do not have to pay the penalty for our sins. Eternal separation from God is the price to be paid. But, Jesus redeems those who obey him. To the church at Ephesus Paul wrote, *“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace”* (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14).

An eternal home in heaven is a reward that is beyond comprehension. Our loving heavenly Father so richly grants us the ability to be there with him for ever more. *“For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ”* (I Peter 1:11).

As a righteous servant of the Lord, our design is to **praise God**. In the Psalms we read: “Ye that fear the LORD, praise him; all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him; and fear him, all ye the seed of Israel” (22:23).

As a righteous servant of the Lord, our design is to bring **glory to God**. At the birth of Jesus, a multitude of the heavenly host was found praising God “...saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men” (Luke 2:13-14).

We bring glory to God in the church. *“Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end”* (Eph. 3:21). This is not done in institutions of human origin. We do not bring glory to God in fraternal organizations or government agencies. Some of these organizations do good works in the community, but that is not where God receives the glory. The church of Christ does its own work so that God receives the glory, not some super organization that man has conceived.

As Christians, we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Praise be unto our God. He is the God of all!

-BTH

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 7/13
Chapters Read: 302

B.C.: 23
Worship: 48

Daily Bible Readers: 11
Wednesday: 24

Family News and Notes

It’s a girl! **Jordan and Khadijah** welcome their baby girl, Y’Shanti Viola Graham. She was 6lb. & 13oz. Born Friday night July 18th. Grandparents **Alex and Geraldine** are overjoyed! **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. **Ally** is in West Virginia with her grandparents to help out. **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.

Bible Reading Plan

July 20	July 21	July 22	July 23	July 24	July 25	July 26
2 Chr 33-34	2 Chr 35-36	Ezra 1-2	Ezra 3-4	Ezra 5-6	Ezra 7-8	Ezra 9-10
Rev 19-20	Rev 21-22	Ps 1	Ps 2	Ps 3	Ps 4	Ps 5

Events

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

Loris Lectureship: August 29 & 30. Kerry Duke & David Hill speaking.

