

## **Privileged to Serve**

### *Morning Worship*

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Tyler Christian

Lord's Table:  
Presiding: Sibio Farrington

Assisting: Luka Herrera  
Cam Christian

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Wink Oxendine

### *Those serving Wednesday*

Teacher: Byran Hatcher

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Julius Cook

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Tyler Christian

**Pantry Item**  
Chef-Boy-R-Dee

## Sermon Notes *Unconditional Election*

*I. Free \_\_\_\_\_ Agency*

*II. \_\_\_\_\_ In Salvation*

*III. Is God a \_\_\_\_\_ of persons?*

*IV. The \_\_\_\_\_*

January 11, 2026

Volume 52 Issue 2

Welcome!

Cape Fear  
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr  
Fayetteville, NC  
28304

Phone:  
(910) 425-1108

Website:  
[capefearcoc.org](http://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

# The Cape Fear Crier

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

## **Why Instrumental Music in N.T. Worship is Sinful**

With respect to mechanical instruments of music being used in the worship of God, the New Testament does not grant any authority for their use. It is not walking by faith to employ its use, and if we do not walk by faith, we sin against God. Consider, Christ never AUTHORIZED it, the Holy Spirit never COMMANDED it, no Apostle ever SANCTIONED it, no New Testament writer ever ENDORSED it, and no New Testament church ever EMPLOYED it! The use of it is a sin. It is a sin because it cannot be used in faith and obedience.

Instrumental music rejects New Testament authority. Jesus has all authority in heaven and earth (Matt. 28:18), and He never instructed its use. The Holy Spirit led the apostles into all truth (John 16:13), and He did not lead them to use it. God tells us what He requires, and when we reject what He says, we reject His salvation, because salvation only comes to those who obey Him (Heb. 5:9).

Instrumental music goes beyond that which is written. We are not to think above that which is written (1 Cor. 4:6). We must not add to or take away from God's word (Rev. 22:18-19). We must not go beyond the doctrine of Christ, for doing so removes us from fellowship with God and Christ (2 John 9-11). To teach and practice another gospel than what God has given is to invoke the wrath of God upon us (Gal. 1:6-9).

Instrumental music violates scriptural worship. Our worship must be in “spirit and truth” (John 4:24). To worship in truth is to worship according to the truth. God's word is truth (John 17:17); hence, we must worship according to the instructions of the New Testament. When something other than the human voice is employed, we violate God's specified plan of worship and no longer worship according to the truth.

Instrumental music causes division. God hates division and those who cause it (Prov. 6:19). Jesus prayed for unity (John 17:20-21). The apostles taught and commanded unity (1 Cor. 1:10). Those who cause division are to be marked and avoided (Rom.

16:17). The one who introduces its use causes division. The one who adds to what God commanded is the one who causes division, not those who contend for what God authorizes!

Leroy Brownlow gives four logical arguments as to why mechanical instruments of music cannot be used in worship of God. (*Why I Am A Member of Church of Christ*, pp.178-179).

*Argument One:*

1. Every Scripture is given that the man of God may be furnished unto every good work (II Tim. 3:16-17).
2. No Scripture authorizes instrumental music in worship today (cannot be found).
3. Therefore, instrumental music in worship today is not a good work.

*Argument Two:*

1. It is a violation of the Lord's will to go beyond the things which are written (I Cor. 4:6).
2. Musical instruments in New Testament worship have not been written (cannot be found).
3. Therefore, those who use musical instruments in worship today violate the Lord's will.

*Argument Three:*

1. "So belief cometh of hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ" (Rom. 10:17).
2. The word of Christ does not give us musical instruments in worship (cannot be found).
3. Therefore, instrumental music in worship is not an act of faith.

*Argument Four:*

1. God has given us all that pertains to life and godliness (II Peter 1:3).
2. What God has given does not mention instrumental music in New Testament worship (cannot be found).
3. Therefore, instrumental music in worship today does not pertain to life and godliness.

Sound reasoning from a respected brother in Christ. The honest person who wants to lovingly obey God must conclude that use of mechanical instruments of music in New Testament worship is sinful and must not be used.

-BTH

## By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 1/4  
Chapters Read: 202

B.C.: 30  
Worship: 62

Daily Bible Readers: 9  
Wednesday: 32

## Family News and Notes

**Cookie** is going to Indonesia to teach the ladies at the Bible college in Manado. She will also speak at two ladies' day events. **John McDougle, Geraldine Harrington's** uncle, is not doing well. Jennifer's coworker, **Nicole Jones**, is going through personal health issues and family struggles. **Barbara Norris, Jeanette Freshley's** mother, is struggling with her health. **Linda Jenkins'** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins'** parents need prayers, and the family is going through a lot of stress. Many members are sick in our current cold/flu season.

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

## Bible Reading Plan

| Jan 11   | Jan 12   | Jan 13   | Jan 14   | Jan 15   | Jan 16   | Jan 17   |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Pg 38-41 | Pg 41-45 | Pg 45-47 | Pg 47-51 | Pg 52-55 | Pg 55-60 | Pg 60-63 |

## Events

**Game Day:** Saturday, Jan 17th at 2 pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring games and snacks!

**Silver Linings:** Friday, Jan 16 at 11 am. Bring your lunch!

**Winter Fellowship:** at the Hatchers'. Sunday, Feb. 1, at 5 pm. Bring tailgate fare.

