

Welcome to First Baptist Church!

Welcome to First Baptist Church, where we celebrate God's love and Christ's salvation, engage in ministry near and far, and empower each person to be the good news of Jesus Christ in Vero Beach. Please see an usher for any concerns, and fill out a Connection Card for the offering plate.

We welcome children in our worship services: The presence of children is a gift, and we celebrate their wiggles, cries, and play as we teach them how to "play" and be the church! We hope that you feel the warm embrace of the First Baptist family and grow deeper in the Lord. Nursery is provided for infants and preschool children in both services.

This Week's Opportunities

Sunday, January 4, 2026

9:15 AM The Gathering
9:15 AM Worship Team Warmup
9:30 AM Sunday School
9:30 AM Choir & Brass Warmup
10:30 AM Worship Service

Monday, January 5, 2026

6:00 PM Risk Takers for Christ
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study
7:00 PM TCC Rehearsal

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

7:30 AM Men's Prayer
6:30 PM Ladies Devotions
NO G.R.O.W. Meeting

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

3:45 PM Clothing Room Opens
5:00 PM Wednesday Friends
5:00 PM Fellowship Dinner
5:45 PM Prayer & Bible Study
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 8, 2026

6:30 PM Youth Group

Birthday Wishes - January Nonagenarians (90-99)

We would like to say Happy Birthday to our nonagenarian members:
Myrtle Holman - January 7 (94)
Lowell Mowry - January 26 (98)

Clothes Closet Needs

The clothing closet is in need of men's winter clothes (sweaters, sweat shirts, and jackets). All sizes are accepted (but medium, large and extra-large are in high demand). Thank you in advance!

Fellowship Dinner - Wednesday, January 7, 2026

5:00PM

Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Beans, Peach Cobbler

Deacon of the Week

Jonnie Hill

Men's Bible Studies * Mondays at 6:30 PM and Tuesdays at 7:30 AM

Get into God's word and join in accountability as "iron sharpens iron" in several small groups that meet in the Executive Library. Tuesday group goes to breakfast after Bible devotion and prayer.

Youth Fellowship

Thursdays 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Middle and High School youth are invited to the gym with the Youth Team for a time of fellowship, devotional, and fun. Email Kristina LaGuardia for more details at familyminister@fbcvero.org

Little Birthday Angels

Little Debbie Birthday Cakes are being collected for our ministry partner, Little Birthday Angels. Drop off areas for the cakes are:

**First
Baptist
Vero Beach**

2206 16th Avenue
Vero Beach, FL 32960
772.567.4341
www.fbcvero.org

News and Notes

Celebrating God's Call! * Today!

The Ordination Council for Kristina LaGuardia's ordination as Minister of Children, Youth, and Families has unanimously endorsed Kristina's ordination to the Gospel Ministry. We thank the Ordination Council for their prayers and discernment in this process: Amy (chair), David, and Dylan Johnson; Casey Lunceford (secretary); Adam, Dr. Kristy, Ali and Ella Crawford; Jerry and Connie Johnson; Chris and Carla Rumas; Rev. Dr. Michael and Patti Carter. Community members include Rev. Dr. Karen Hardaway, Rev. Tammy Snyder, and Rev. Dr. Leo George.

Ladies Devotions * Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 6:30 PM

All ladies are invited to come for fellowship. Bring a friend, a snack and a devotion to share. Ladies devotions will take place in the Small Social Hall in the Family Life Center.

New Wednesday Series * Beginning January 7, 2026 at 5:45 PM

This season we will launch our new missions theme on "Arise!" for our entire church, encouraging everyone to think intentionally about growing our church and God's kingdom. Wednesday Bible studies will provide the blueprint for growth and discipleship as we "ARISE and build!"

Committee Reorganization Luncheon *

Sunday, January 11, 2026 at 12:00 PM

New committee members will be meeting with committees. Agendas, officers, when and how often you will meet, and goals for the New year will be the center of discussion. This meeting, which follows worship and features a light luncheon, will be held at 12:00 PM.

Pastor Sabbatical Update

The Personnel Committee and Sabbatical Team are excited to present to the congregation Rev. Kevin Kroitor as the Sabbatical Interim Pastor while Pastor Joe is away from July 13 - Sept. 6, 2026. Rev. Kroitor, who currently serves as Director for Youth for Christ here on campus and as pastor in Belle Glade, will be preaching in both services on **Sunday, February 1, 2026** so you can get to meet him. He will also join us on a Wednesday night in the spring so you can spend more time with him.

Sunday Prayer Ministry *

Prayer Chapel after Worship, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

Anyone who needs prayer may join our prayer warriors in the Prayer Chapel every Sunday after worship. Our prayer warriors are Sheryl Farrington, Chris and Carla Rumas, and Dr. Cristina McClure (playground).

Welcome New Deacons!

We thank our newest deacons for answering the call to serve our church. Welcome Bruce Carley, Diane Dees, Sandy Jinorio, Paul Schlicht, Audrey Sexton, Rick Vavak, Charlie Winters, and Laura Attwood. Deacon ordination and commissioning will be held in late January.

Coming Soon! New Photo Directory!

We will begin to sign up families and individuals for our new photo directory starting January 11, 2026. Photo sessions will take place February 19 - 21 2026. Information on how to sign up for a time slot will be forthcoming!



ARISE! 2026 * NEHEMIAH 2:18

The Worship of God

Epiphany Sunday

Ordination of Kristina LaGuardia

January 4, 2026 at 10:30AM

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gifts. Christ appointed some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers. Christ did this to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, and for serving a broken world.

