

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 and sensory room are provided for children in both services.

This Week’s Opportunities

Sunday, October 26, 2025

7:45 AM Worship Team Warmup
8:30 AM Worship Service
9:15 AM The Gathering
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Sanctuary Choir Warmup
10:30 AM Worship Service

Deacon of the Week
Bob Hiller

Monday, October 27, 2025

5:30 PM FBC Sewing
6:00 PM RiskTakers for Christ
6:30 PM Men’s Bible Study
7:00 PM TCC Rehearsal



Tuesday, October 28, 2025

7:30 AM Men’s Prayer
5:30 PM FBC Sewing Group

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

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

Wednesday Supper Menu
Meatloaf, mashed potatoes w/
gravy, veggies, roll/butter
& dessert.
Dinners \$8 each

Thursday, October 30, 2025

4:30 AM VB Football Breakfast
6:30 PM Youth Group

Saturday, November 1, 2025

10:00 AM Operation Christmas Child Prep Day

Birthday Wishes - October Nonagenarians (90-99)

We would like to say **Happy Birthday** to our nonagenarian members:
Johnny Carpenter - October 6 (91) - Rolland Laramore - October 8 (92)

Committee Meetings

Monday, November 3, 2025

6:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting

Monday, November 10, 2025

7:15 PM Deacons Meeting

Please note: date change for Deacons Meeting



2206 16th Avenue * 772.567.4341 * www.fbcvero.org

News and Notes

Daylight Savings Time! * Sunday, November 2, 2025

Don’t forget to “fall back” one hour for an extra hour of sleep! Daylight savings time is here!

Samaritan Soup Bowl * Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 4:30 PM

Join us in the Family Life Center 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM for the 33rd Annual Soup Bowl Event benefiting Catholic Charities’ Samaritan Center. We will be serving soup, fresh bread, iced tea, water and dessert. Eat-In or To-Go Soup: \$5.00 - & \$15 - Quart. Pottery Bowls (\$20 each) will be sold here as well as the Heritage Center 2140 14th Ave on Thursday, November 6, 2025 -9:00 AM - 7:00 PM.



Communion/Lunch/Church Conference/2026 Budget Discussion at 11:45 AM * Sunday, November 16, 2025 * Family Life Center

We will be celebrating communion at our one worship service. Church Conference will include the 2026 Budget Discussion. The Nominating Committee will be announcing new members for next year’s committees for approval. Please plan to attend this important Church Conference. Lunch will be served. The budget vote will take place on Sunday, November 23, 2025.

“Fluffing of the Greens” * Monday, November 24, 2025 at 9:00 AM.

After being compressed into cartons for storage all year, the miles of greenery (not really miles, but a few feet) that we have for the Advent Season will need to be fluffed. It won’t take very long with many willing hands. Join us as we prepare God’s house for Advent.

Wednesday Night Supper and Bible Study

Join us for dinner at 5:00 PM and Bible study begins at 5:45 PM. Our Bible Study series is on Sacred Pathways: Avenues of Christian Growth.

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 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: Sanctuary Narthex and Church Office.

Poinsettia Orders

During the Advent/Christmas Season, a beautiful array of poinsettias signifying the Glory of God, grace our sanctuary. Order a poinsettia for the Advent Season to honor an individual or to memorialize a loved one. Bring your message to the church office or drop it in the offering plate with a check or cash for \$20. Order deadline is Sunday, November 9, 2025.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes * Due Back Sunday, November 16, 2025

OCC shoeboxes are available to pick up and fill. For any questions, please call Kim Orndorff at 772.532.1816. Shipping for each shoebox is \$10.

Celebrating God's Call!

At the direction of Dr. Michael Carter, a council for Kristina LaGuardia's ordination in her role as Minister of Children, Youth, and Families will include: Deacon Chair, Jerry Johnson; Personnel Chair, Casey Lunceford; Church Moderator, David and Amy Johnson and son, Dylan; Chris and Carla Rumas; Adam and Dr. Kristy Crawford and daughters, Ali and Ella. Community supporters who will join the process of discernment are Rev. Dr. Leo George, Rev. Tammy Snyder, and Rev. Dr. Karen Hardaway.



The Worship of God

Reformation Sunday
October 26, 2025

On November 10, 1483, Martin Luther was born to peasant parents in Eisleben, Germany. He grew up to become the most important catalyst for the Protestant Reformation. No matter that Luther appears to be nothing more than a distant cousin on our family tree—this is a date that Baptists ought to circle and celebrate in gratitude.

Luther’s influence on Baptist faith and practice, while indirect, is nonetheless profound. We share many of the great reformer’s instincts and accents. Because the early Baptists had no big league theologians, we are indebted to Luther for his powerful articulation of a doctrine like “the priesthood of all believers.” In sum, no one is barred from direct access to God, and no one is exempt from ministry to others. This is the priesthood of all believers. We have always called it a “distinctive” Baptist doctrine, but nobody said it better or taught us more about it than our kissin’ cousin from Eisleben.

Happy Reformation Sunday!

John Thomason, Pastor of Northminster Baptist Church, 1983

8:30 AM Worship Service

Opening Praise - *Blessed Be the Name of the Lord*

Welcome and Prayer - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Worship Songs - *Firm Foundation / Rock of Ages*

Ministry Moment - Rev. Dr. Michael Carter

Pastoral Prayer - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

A Response - *I Walk By Faith*

Sermon - “Blessed Assurance” Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia
Ephesians 1:1-14 (NT p. 148)

Time of Response - *In Christ Alone*

Offertory Prayer - Bob Hiller / Offertory - Judy Carter

Ministry Opportunities / Benediction - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Closing Song - *May the Peace of God / Doxology*

First Baptist Church follows the Christian Calendar, which proclaims God’s Great Story of Redemption and helps mark the seasons of our life together. Today is Reformation Sunday, which commemorates the day, over 500 years ago, that Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. The color for Reformation Sunday is red, symbolic of the power and fire of the Holy Spirit. We thank Judy Carter and Joey Rumberger for their leadership in worship today!

Pastoral Ministry Team

Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia, Rev. Dr. Michael Carter,
Dr. Ray Adams and Kristina LaGuardia

Ministry Assistants

Millie Portante,
Pat Smith and Roy Strickland

Worship Team

Dr. Ray Adams, Judy Carter, Lance Lunceford, Richie Mola,
Joey Rumberger, Hunter Scoville, and Billy Smith

Technical Support Team

Jim Aldendorf, Roger Butler, Abigail Gast,
Hayden LaGuardia, Philip Smith, and Stephen Smith

First Baptist Church Preschool

René LaRosa and Leeanne Parrish

FBC Kids Staff

Kim Piscitelli, Zoe Gordon, Sam Guymon and Shyanna Nowell

Youth Volunteers

Willow Brown, Ali Crawford, Teagan Davis,
Dylan Johnson and Myla Wortham

10:30 AM Worship Service

Music Upon Gathering Joey Rumberger, organ

Opening Sentences

Leader: God is our refuge and strength.

People: **A very present help in trouble.**

Leader: Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains
tremble in its tumult.

People: **The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge!**

Leader: Come, behold the works of the Lord.

People: **God causes wars to end throughout the earth, breaking and
burning every weapon.**

Leader: Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted by every
nation in the world!

People: **The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge!**

(singing # 74)

*O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.*

*Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure!*

Invocation, Welcome, Passing of the Peace Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

*Hymn of Worship (# 8) EIN’ FESTE BURG
A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Choral Affirmation Sanctuary Choir
Assurance (arr. John Ness Beck)

Ministry Moment Rev. Dr. Michael Carter

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

*Hymn of Affirmation (# 406) SOLID ROCK
The Solid Rock

The Tithes and Offerings of a Grateful People

*Offertory Prayer Bob Hiller

Offertory Judy Carter, piano

*Doxology (# 253) OLD 100TH

Children’s Sermon Pattti Carter

Sermon - Ephesians 1:1-14 (NT p. 148) Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia
“Blessed Assurance”

*Hymn of Response (# 338) FOUNDATION
How Firm a Foundation

Opportunities for Ministry and Service

*Benediction Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

*Closing Affirmation (# 462) MALOTTE
Our Father, which art in heaven...

*Music upon Departure Joey Rumberger, organ

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*All who are able, please stand. Streaming License #20363780

Sermon Notes

Messiah Rehearsals

Thursday, November 6 – (7:00 PM – 9:00 PM) – Music Building D
Tuesday, November 18 – (7:00 PM – 9:00 PM) – Music Building D
Monday, December 8 – (7:00 PM – 9:00 PM) – Sanctuary
Saturday, December 20 – (2:30 PM – 5:00 PM) - Sanctuary

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).

Our Mission

To worship God and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ through word and action with our local community and around the world.