

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, February 2, 2025

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

GROUNDHOG
DAY

Monday, February 3, 2025

- 6:00 PM Risk Takers for Christ
- 6:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting
- 6:30 PM Men’s Bible Study
- 7:00 PM TCC Rehearsal

Deacon of the Week
Bob Hiller



“Love Thy Neighbor”

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

- 7:30 AM Men’s Prayer
- 2:00 PM G.R.O.W.
- 6:30 PM Ladies Devotions

Wednesday, February 5, 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 Night Supper
Baked tilapia, breaded scrod,
rice pilaf, coleslaw & dessert
- Dinners are \$8 each

Thursday, February 6, 2025

- 7:00 PM Youth Group

Saturday, February 8, 2025

- 5:00 PM Church Game Night - (FLC)

Birthday Wishes - January Nonagenarians (90-99)

We would like to say **Happy Birthday** to our nonagenarian members:
Myrtle Holman - January 7 (93) and Lowell Mowry - January 26 (97)

Office Supplies

The church office is in need of letter size, 20lb weight, white copy paper. If you would like to donate some paper, please drop it by the office. Thank you!

Welcome Our New Deacons

In 2025, we welcome these new deacons: Dominica Anderson, Tommy Anderson, Alice Bays, Bob Hiller, Casey Lunceford, Cristina McClure, Carla Rumas, Chris Rumas and Paul Schlicht. A commissioning and ordination service will take place on Sunday, February 16, 2025. Deacons rotating off will also be recognized.



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News and Notes

G.R.O.W. Team Meeting * Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 2:00 PM

G.R.O.W. meets the first Tuesday of each month for about an hour in the Family Life Center (Building C). We reach out to others with a card, letter or phone call. We have cards and stationary for you to use. If you have questions, please contact the church office. (office@fbcvero.org)

Ladies Devotions * Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 6:30 PM

All ladies are invited to come for our Valentine’s Day fellowship. Bring a friend, a snack and a devotion to share. We will have prayer items available for you to take. Ladies devotions will take place in the Large Social Hall in the Family Life Center.

Church Game Night * Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 5:00 PM

We are getting together for a game night! Bring your favorite game and game night snacks! Tea and water will be provided. Come and have a great time with friends! We will meet in the Family Life Center.

St. Simons Sr. Adult Retreat Meeting * Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025 at 6:45 PM

If you are attending the CBF-GA Sr. Adults Retreat in St. Simon's Island, Georgia, in May, please plan to attend this brief meeting to touch base and catch up on lodging and travel plans, as well as the retreat agenda.

One Worship Service, Lunch, Church Conference * Sunday, February 16, 2025

Join us for Sunday School at 9:30 AM and one Worship Service at 10:30 AM. We will have lunch to celebrate our Living the Vision campaign, followed by church conference in the Family Life Center.

Motion for Sabbatical * Church Conference, Sunday, February 16, 2025

The Personnel Committee voted several years ago to afford Pastor Joe a clergy sabbatical. The sabbatical will be for 12 weeks (or 8 weeks depending on receiving a grant) in late summer of 2026. Information is located in a tri-fold brochure in the welcome center, as well as online in a new webpage devoted to the sabbatical through our church website. The by-laws require a simple majority vote. Please see Pastor Joe or Adam Crawford for any questions or concerns.

Call to Prayer * Thursday, February 20, 2025

Our next monthly prayer meeting will be in the Prayer Chapel from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Pray for our church, families, community, nation and world.

Church Workdays/Youth Car Washes Scheduled for 2025

Our first church workday/youth car wash is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2025. We will have something for everyone to do - both inside and outside. Our history room will also be open each workday for those who wish to help organize our church historical documents. The second church workday/youth car wash will be on Saturday, July 12, 2025. It will be a mostly inside church workday event as it is in the middle of summer. The final church workday/youth car wash for the year will take place on Saturday, October 11, 2025. Once again, there will be inside and outside things for us to do on the church campus. Lunch will be provided on each workday. Mark these dates on your calendar! *“Many hands make light work!”*

February Committee Meetings:

Monday, February 3, 2025

- 6:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

- 6:00 PM Church Council Meeting

- 7:15 PM Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

- 6:00 PM Trustees Committee Meeting - Conference Room 107

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

- 4:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting - Executive Library



The Worship of God
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Sunday, February 2, 2025

Worship Service at 8:30 AM

Opening Praise - Every Move I Make

Prayer & Welcome - 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Worship Songs - Your Love is Amazing / You Are My King

Pastoral Prayer - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

A Response - They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

Scripture Lesson - 1 Corinthians 13 (NT p. 134) - Bob Hiller
This is the Word of God for the people of God. / Thanks be to God!

Message - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia - "A Mission of Love"

Time of Response - Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Offertory Prayer - Bob Hiller / Offertory - Dr. Ray Adams

Benediction - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Closing Song - May the Peace of God / Doxology

The Christian Calendar proclaims God’s story of redemption throughout the year. Today is the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany in the Christian Year. Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the world. In the Season after Epiphany we continue that emphasis, calling attention to how the church presents Christ to the world. The color for this Sunday is green, which is symbolic of the growth of Christ’s renown.



- Pastoral Ministry Team:
Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia, Rev. Dr. Michael Carter,
Dr. Ray Adams and Kristina LaGuardia
- Ministry Assistants:
Aaron Marckel, Millie Portante,
Pat Smith and Roy Strickland
- Worship Team:
Dr. Ray Adams, Judy Carter, Lance Lunceford, Richie Mola,
Hunter Scoville, and Billy Smith
- Technical Support Team:
Jim Aldendorf, Roger Butler, Hayden LaGuardia,
Philip Smith, and Stephen Smith
- First Baptist Church Preschool
René LaRosa and Leeanne Parrish
- Nursery Workers
Kim Piscitelli, Zoe Gordon, and Shyanna Nowell

Worship Service at 10:30 AM

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you love one another.
John 13:35

Music Upon Gathering Dr. Ray Adams, organ

Call to Worship ST. BRENDAN’S

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
All praise to the Father, from whom all things come.
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!

Invocation & Welcome - 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Opening Sentences Written by Katherine Hawker

Leader: Jesus offers a new-old commandment that we should love each other.

People: With the incredible power and the unfathomable depth of
God’s love for us, we can—and we must—love one another!

Leader: And it is in this, our love for one another, that the world will
know whom and what we worship.

People: Come, children of God, let us love one another!

*Hymn of Worship (# 208) BEECHER

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Choral Affirmation Sanctuary Choir (Hal H. Hopson)

The Gift of Love
Nancy Lesslie, soloist

*Hymns of Affirmation SAFETY / FISHER

(# 546) Love Lifted Me (1,2,3)
(# 545) Love is the Theme

Tithes and Offering of a Grateful People

*Offertory Prayer Bob Hiller

Offertory Dr. Ray Adams

*Doxology (# 253) OLD 100TH

Children’s SermonPatti Carter

Pastoral PrayerRev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Musical Affirmation (# 567, stanza 1)
The love of God is broader than earth’s vast expanse,
’Tis deeper and wider than the sea.
Love reaches out to all to bring abundant life,
For God so loved the world His only Son He gave.
Share His love by telling what the Lord has done for you,
Share His love by sharing of your faith,
And show the world that Jesus Christ is real to you
Ev’ry moment, ev’ry day.

Scripture Lesson - 1 Corinthians 13 (NT p. 134)Bob Hiller
This is the Word of God for the people of God. / Thanks be to God!

SermonRev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia
“A Mission of Love”

*Hymn of Response (# 385)ST. PETER
In Christ There Is No East or West

*BenedictionRev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

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

*Music upon DepartureDr. Ray Adams, organ

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Looking for a Place to Serve?

MISSIONS
What Are You Doing?

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.