

## 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, March 16, 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

#### Deacon of the Week

Rusty Banack

#### Monday, March 17, 2025

4:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal (choir room)  
6:00 PM Risk Takers for Christ  
6:30 PM Men's Bible Study  
7:00 PM TCC Rehearsal



#### Tuesday, March 18, 2025

7:30 AM Men's Prayer  
6:00 PM Trustees Committee Meeting (Conference Room 107)

#### Wednesday, March 19, 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

Meatloaf, mashed potatoes  
w/gravy, veggies,  
roll/butter & dessert  
Dinners are \$8 each

#### Thursday, March 20, 2025

7:00 PM Youth Group

#### Birthdays Wishes - March Nonagenarian (90-99)

We would like to say **Happy Birthday** to our nonagenarian member:  
Charlotte Selph - March 14 (95)

#### Easter Lilies

Order a lily for Easter Sunday to honor 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 \$15 each. Lily request forms are available all around the campus. Place your order by **Sunday, March 30, 2024.**



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

## News and Notes



#### Sunday Prayer Ministry \* Prayer Chapel after Worship, 11:30 AM

We welcome anyone who needs prayer to join our prayer team in the Prayer Chapel every Sunday after the 10:30 AM worship service. This is a time to find healing, hope, encouragement, care, and a deeper commitment to discipleship as the Holy Spirit leads you! We offer listening ears and open hearts. Please see Deacons Chris and Carla Rumas for more information.

#### March Committee Meetings:

##### Tuesday, March 18, 2025

6:00 PM Trustees Committee Meeting (Conference Room 107)

##### Wednesday March 26, 2025

4:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting (Executive Library)



#### CareNet 41st Annual Walk for Life \*

##### Saturday, March 22, 2025 at Riverside Park

The annual CareNet Walk for Life will kick off at Riverside Park with registration at 8:00 AM. All funds raised will help local women and families in need. Go to [carenetwalk.com](http://carenetwalk.com) for more information.

#### Alabama Mission Team \* March 23 - 27, 2025

The Alabama Mission Team will be coming to stay in our Family Life Center for a few days. These students will be helping around our campus and our community. They volunteer during their spring break to give back to different communities. This group will be coming from Columbiana, AL. When you see them around our campus be sure to welcome them to our church.

#### "Be the Light" Missions Sunday: One Service, Lunch, Missions Fair \*

##### Sunday, March 30, 2025

Join us for ONE Service at 10:30 AM on March 30th for Missions Sunday. Worship includes communion and special guest, Rev. Dr. John Keith of the TCBA (SBC). Lunch and missions fair to follow. The theme is "Be the Light!"



#### Church Workdays/Youth Car Washes Scheduled for 2025

- Saturday, April 5, 2025
- Saturday, July 12, 2025
- Saturday, October 11, 2025

Lunch will be provided on each workday. Mark these dates on your calendar! 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. *"Many hands make light work!"*

#### Stations of the Cross \* Good Friday, April 18, 2025 at 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Stations of the cross is a self-guided journey through scripture of Jesus' Last Supper to when his body is placed in the tomb. This year our stations will focus on the theme "Lord, Teach Us to Pray". This is a wonderful Easter event for the whole family; and a great opportunity to invite a friend.

#### FBC Preschool Spaghetti Supper & Art Show \* Saturday, May 3, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Continue to support us in updating our playgrounds. Join us for a night of fundraising and family fellowship! Student Art Show \* Silent Auction \* Spaghetti Dinner. Sponsorship opportunities are available - contact LeeAnne Parrish at 772.562.3037 or email at [preschool@fbcvero.org](mailto:preschool@fbcvero.org). **Purchase tickets in advance - go to [fbcp.betterworld.org/events/supper](http://fbcp.betterworld.org/events/supper).** \$15 Adults & \$10 Children. This event takes place in the Family Life Center, Building C.



## Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Deliver us from evil...

Stand firm in the Lord.

Be strong and take heart.

God is with us here and now.

God's love is saving us, now and always.

Turn to the Lord in prayer.

## Worship Service at 8:30 AM

**Opening Praise** - *Rock of Ages/How Firm a Foundation*

**Invocation and Welcome** - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

**Worship Song** - *I Will Call Upon the Lord / Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

**Pastoral Prayer** - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

**Musical Response** - *Just a Closer Walk With Thee*

**Scripture Lesson** - Philippians 3:17-4:1 (NT p. 153) - Rusty Banack  
This is the Word of God for the people of God./**Thanks be to God!**

**Message** - "Deliver us from Evil" - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

**Time of Response** - *Jesus, Draw Me Close*

**Offertory Prayer** - Rusty Banack / **Offertory** - Dr. Ray Adams

**Benediction** - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

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

Today, in God's Great Story of Redemption known as the Christian Year, is the Second Sunday in Lent. Lent is a forty day period (Sundays are excluded from the count) that aids us in preparing for the transforming power of Easter. The color for Lent is purple, which represents royalty and repentance. It reminds us to take inventory of our life in preparation for Easter. Our Lenten theme of "Lord, Teach us to Pray" reminds us to come away and commune with our Heavenly Father that we may be strengthened for the journey with Jesus to the cross. Throughout Lent we will be using the petitions of The Lord's Prayer to guide our thoughts as we seek to deepen our prayer life and walk closer with the Lord.



### 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, Abigail Gast,  
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

Music Upon Gathering Dr. Ray Adams

Opening Prayer Sentences All in unison

Mighty God, we come into your presence from many different places and situations. Light our way in this time of worship. Calm our hearts, focus our thoughts, and strengthen our faith as we pray and praise this day.

(Choir)

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heav'n. Give us today our daily bread.*

*Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us, save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.*

*For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.*

*Amen.*

Invocation & Welcome Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Call to Worship

Leader: God, our Light and salvation, calls us to worship.

**People: We gather in faith, confidence, and praise.**

Leader: Come; seek the face of God.

**People: God's face shines upon us with grace and love.**

Leader: Be strong, my friends, for God is here!

**People: Thanks be to God for God's strong, wonderful presence with us!**

\*Hymn of Worship (# 456) *PRECIOUS LORD*  
*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Ministry Moment - Personnel Committee Casey Lunceford

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Choral Affirmation Sanctuary Choir  
(arr. C. Kirkland)

*Fight the Good Fight*

\*Hymn of Affirmation (# 448) *CLOSER WALK*  
*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

Tithes and Offering of a Grateful People

\*Offertory Prayer Rusty Banack

Offertory Dr. Ray Adams

\*Doxology (# 253) *OLD 100TH*

Children's Sermon Patti Carter

An Affirmation from Psalm 27 Rev. Dr. Michael Carter  
*The Lord is My Light* (Frances Allitsen)

A Prayer of Confession—(Prayed in unison)

**O God, we often feel scattered and lost, separated from you and from one another. Gather us in. Comfort us in our loneliness. Dispel our fears. Deliver us from evil. Correct our wayward feet and strengthen our faith, that we might hear your voice, trust your promises, and stand firm in your ways—through your light and love.**

A Time for Silent, Personal Prayers of Confession

An Affirmation

Choir:

*Forgiven, I've been forgiven; God has looked beyond my sin, saved me from what I might have been, gave me a new life within, I am forgiven by His grace.*

**People:** (Singing # 329, refrain)

*Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within; grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin.*

Scripture Lesson: Philippians 3:17-4:1 (NT p. 153) Rusty Banack

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia  
"Deliver us from Evil"

A Special Celebration Ed and Jan Page

\*Hymn of Invitation (# 450) *NEED*  
*I Need Thee Every Hour*

Opportunities for Service & Benediction Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

\*Closing Affirmation (# 462) *MALOTTE*  
*Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name...*

\*Music upon Departure Dr. Ray Adams, organ

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\*All who are able, please stand.

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