

# 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, May 11, 2025 - Happy Mother’s Day!

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

**Deacon of the Week**  
Jonnie Hill

### Monday, May 12, 2025

6:00 PM Risk Takers for Christ/Living H2O Initiative  
6:30 PM Men’s Bible Study  
7:00 PM TCC Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Tuesday, May 13, 2025

7:30 AM Men’s Prayer Group  
6:00 PM Church Council Meeting  
7:15 PM Deacons Meeting

**Fellowship Dinner:**  
Chicken & rice, mixed  
vegetables, roll/butter &  
dessert  
Dinners are \$8.00 each

### Wednesday, May 14, 2025

3:45 PM Clothing Room Opens  
5:00 PM Fellowship dinner  
5:00 PM Wednesday Friends  
5:45 PM Prayer Meeting/Bible Study  
7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, May 15, 2025

3:00 PM Call to Prayer  
7:00 PM Youth Group

### Mother’s Day Offering

This offering goes to benefit Florida Baptist Children’s Home.  
Services: residential care, foster homes, emergency residential treatment,  
continuing education, counseling and referrals.  
Locations: Miami, Fort Myers, Lakeland & Tallahassee.



2206 16th Avenue \* 772.567.4341 \* [www.fbcvero.org](http://www.fbcvero.org)

# News and Notes

## Sunday Prayer Ministry \* Prayer Chapel after Worship, 8:30 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 (early service), Chris and Carla Rumas (second service) and Dr. Cristina McClure (playground).

## CareNet Baby Bottle Campaign

CareNet Pregnancy Center’s “fill up a baby bottle” campaign is from Mother’s Day (May 11) to Father’s Day (June 15).

## Call to Prayer \* Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 3:00 PM

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.

## Treasure Coast Chorale Presents: “Singing with the Beatles” \*

### Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 4:00 PM

Join us as enjoy the music of the “British Invasion” of the BEATLES!! Doors will open at 3:00 PM.

## Faith and Culture Series \* Wednesdays 5:45 PM, beginning May 21, 2025

Join us on Wednesday nights from May 21, 2025 - June 11, 2025 for our "Faith and Culture" series at 5:45 PM (after dinner) as we explore how faith informs a variety of vocations and cultural topics. We will have guest speakers addressing AI, faith and politics, affordable housing, and law. The sessions will be a hybrid of lecture and round table discussion format, with Q and A to follow. See a flyer or Pastor Joe for more details. Invite the community to join us!

## Upcoming Committee Meetings

### Tuesday, May 13, 2025

6:00 PM Church Council Meeting  
7:15 PM Deacons Meeting

## First Baptist Church Apparel: Dress Shirts and Golf Shirts!

Let the community know that First Baptist Church is on mission! We now have the ability to purchase shirts and apparel online through Scott's Sporting Goods! Choose from a variety of styles, colors, and price points. Find our online store at:  
<https://scottssportinggoods.chipply.com/FBCvero>



## One Worship Service, Communion & Church Conference \*

### Sunday, June 1, 2025

Join us for Sunday School at 9:30 AM and one Worship Service at 10:30 AM. At 11:45 AM Church Conference will meet in the sanctuary.

## Ascension Sunday \* Sunday, June 1, 2025

The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Christ commemorates the Christian belief in the bodily ascension of Jesus into heaven.

## Game Night \* Saturday, June 7, 2025

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, Building C.

## Pentecost Sunday \* Sunday, June 8, 2025 at 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

Please wear **RED** and join us as we celebrate the Spirit. The Christian holiday of Pentecost is a moveable feast, which is celebrated on the 50th day from Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as described in the Acts of the Apostles.



# Easter Stories

## The Worship of God

### Fourth Sunday of Easter

### Mother’s Day, May 11, 2025

## Easter Stories: Walking with Jesus as Easter People

God has given us mothers to carry, raise, teach,

and mold us into godly people.

Of course, no mother is perfect,

and not everyone grows up with a loving mother.

But every mother out there — from the one who feels

she was born to be a mom to the one who struggles

with the title — deserves honor and praise

for the role God has given them.

A role that reflects God's love in a deeply profound way.



8:30 AM Worship Service

Opening Praise - Hear Our Praises

Welcome & Invocation - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Worship Songs - You’re Worthy of My Praise / Calling Out to You

Pastoral Prayer - Kristina LaGuardia

A Response - The Family of God

Message - Romans 16:1-16 (NT p. 126) - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia  
“Co-Workers in Christ”

Time of Response - I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Offertory Prayer - Jonnie Hill / Offertory - Dr. Ray Adams

Ministry Opportunities / Benediction - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Closing Song - May the Peace of God

Today, in God’s Great Story of Redemption known as the Christian Year, is the Fourth Sunday of Easter. The church decided long ago that one day was not enough to contain all the joy, celebration, and importance of Easter, so the Season of Easter lasts for fifty days. This festival season begins with Easter Sunday and ends on the Day of Pentecost. Through joyous proclamation, prayer, righteous living, and worship, we, as Easter people, proclaim that Christ is risen indeed! The color for the Easter season is white. Today we also celebrate the Christian home by recognizing and giving thanks for our mothers. Pisit Heng, unsplash.com.



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  
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

Nursery Workers

Kim Piscitelli, Zoe Gordon, and Shyanna Nowell

10:30 AM Worship Service

Music Upon Gathering Dr. Ray Adams, organ

Opening Sentences

Leader: The grace and peace of our risen Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: We gather together to worship our loving, nurturing God,

People: Who, like a mother, knows us intimately,  
loves us unconditionally,  
teaches us the way we should go,  
and comforts us in times of need.

Leader: How shall we love the Lord our God who has  
poured out such love upon us?

People: We shall love God with all our hearts, minds, souls, and  
spirit.

Leader: How shall we demonstrate that love?

People: We shall live that love in all that we do, think, and say.

Leader: Now thank we all our God

People: With heart, and hands, and voices!

\*Hymn of Praise (# 638) NUN DANKET  
Now Thank We All Our God

Welcome & Invocation Kristina LaGuardia

Choral Acclamation Sanctuary Choir  
All Are Welcome (Marty Haugen)

\*Hymn of Affirmation (# 44) DIX  
For the Beauty of the Earth (1,3,6)  
This chorus (# 386) will be sung as a postscript to this hymn.

I’m so glad I’m a part of the fam’ly of God—I’ve been washed in the  
fountain, cleansed by His blood! Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod; for  
I’m part of the fam’ly, the fam’ly of God.

Tithes and Offering of a Grateful People

\*Offertory Prayer Jonnie Hill

Offertory Dr. Ray Adams, organ

\*Doxology (# 253) OLD 100TH

Children’s Sermon Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Pastoral Prayer Carla Rumas

Sermon - Romans 16:1-16 (NT p. 126) Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia  
“Co-Workers in Christ”

\*Hymn of Response (# 305) ASSAM  
I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

We Follow Our Lord in Baptism Teagan Davis  
James Toupin

\*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

Songs and words used with permission. CCLI # 1219241  
\*All who are able, please stand. Streaming License #2036378

Correction from Sermon, May 4: Pastor Joe cited that the events in John 21 happened a few days after Easter morning, confusing the timeline in John 21 with those in John 20. He regrets the error. Also, some clarification about the post-resurrection stories: In Matthew and Mark, Jesus directs his disciples to Galilee to meet him on a mountain of his choosing (absent is the upper room experience in John 20). In John, it seems that Peter goes to Galilee on his own accord. Jesus’ statement in John 20:5, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” implies that Peter was in the wrong place at the wrong time, apart from Jesus’ direct command. But this is a matter of interpretation. Pastor Joe appreciated the conversations about this topic after the sermon: keep his feet to the biblical fire, as it were!

Worship Notes

