

# 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, August 24, 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 Summer Choir Warmup (sanctuary)  
10:30 AM Worship Service  
4:00 PM Zoom Sunday School Class

Deacon of the Week  
Nancy Griffis



### Monday, August 25, 2025

6:00 PM Risk Takers for Christ/Living H2O Initiative  
6:30 PM Men’s Bible Study

### Tuesday, August 26, 2025

7:30 AM Men’s Prayer Group

### Wednesday, August 27, 2025

3:45 PM Clothing Room Opens  
5:00 PM Wednesday Friends  
5:00 PM Fellowship Dinner  
5:45 PM Prayer/Bible Study

**Wednesday Supper Menu**  
Chicken Enchiladas, black beans  
& rice, roll with butter, and  
dessert - Dinners \$8 each

### Thursday, August 28, 2025

6:30 PM Youth Group

### Friday, August 29, 2025

4:30 AM VB Football Breakfast

### Birthday Wishes - August Nonagenarians (90-99)

We would like to say **Happy Birthday** to our nonagenarian members:  
Wanda Knight - August 21 (92)  
Shirley Jones - August 25 (90)

### First Baptist Church Apparel: Dress Shirts, Oxfords, 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>



### Offering Envelopes

Please confirm by October 31, 2025 that you would like to receive 2026 offering envelopes.

### Contributions

Gifts to the Women’s Ministry for baby blankets. Gift to FBC Preschool in memory of Margaret Pierce.

# News and Notes

## Faith and Film \* FBC Summer Movies Series \* Today at 3:00 PM

This summer, FBC has hosted several series exploring the intersection of faith and culture. Join us: Today - “**Bonhoeffer Pastor, Spy, Assassin**”. This final faith-based movie will be followed by a brief time of discussion. This movie is PG-13. Pizza, refreshments, and desserts will be served; and there is no cost to attend (thanks to our sponsors). Please text your RSVP and # attending to Jean and Richard at 561.350.0643 or call the church office.

## G.R.O.W. Team Meeting \* Tuesday, September 2, 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](mailto:office@fbcvero.org))

## Ladies Devotions \* Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 6:30 PM

All ladies are invited to come for fellowship. Bring a friend, a snack and a devotion to share. We will meet in the Family Life Center!

## Church Game Night \* Saturday, September 6, 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.

## Inquiring Guests & New Members Class \* Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 3:00 PM

All guests, prospective members, and new members are invited to the home of the LaGuardias for the next Church Orientation seminar. This is not a requirement for membership, nor obligates you for membership. The seminar is an informative, informal time of sharing about the history, mission, and ministries of the church. Please RSVP with Pastor Joe or Kristina (and to get the address) by Friday, September 12, 2025. Light refreshments will be served.

## Season of Wednesday Night Supper and Bible Study

Dinners and Bible study begins for a new season at 5:00 PM. Our Bible Study series will be “Parables: Stories Jesus Still Tells”.

## 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](mailto:familyminister@fbcvero.org)

## Deacon Nominations

Deacons are servant-leaders in our church, and it is an honor to serve. All of us have the potential to be a deacon, and it is God who provides the gifts to do so! If you do not wish to serve, please contact the church office at [office@fbcvero.org](mailto:office@fbcvero.org) by Sunday, September 7, 2025. Candidates must be members of First Baptist Church for one year or longer. They also must be at least 21 years of age.



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



# The Worship of God

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
August 24, 2025

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed,  
for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you;  
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10



## 8:30 AM Worship Service

**Opening Praise** - *All Things are Possible*

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

**Worship Songs** - *God Will Make a Way / Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

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

**A Response** - *Great is Thy Faithfulness / Seek Ye First*

**Scripture Lesson** - Luke 12:22-34 (NT p. 57) - Nancy Griffis  
This is the Word of God for the people of God./**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon** - “Think like an Evangelist” - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

**Time of Response** - *Change My Heart, O God*

**Offertory Prayer** - Nancy Griffis / **Offertory** - The Band

**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, in the Christian calendar, is the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost. The Sundays following Pentecost highlight the Church’s work in the world and acknowledge the words of Christ in Acts 1:8: empowered by the Spirit, Christ’s followers bear witness of him to the ends of the earth. The color for this season is green, signifying the growth of the Church. We thank Judy Carter and Dr. Ray Adams for their leadership in worship! Cover photo by Sierra Williams.

### **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, Riley Faulknier, Jacob Longnecker,  
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

*Hymn to Joy*

Dr. Ray Adams, organ  
Beethoven/Hopson

Opening Sentences

Leader: We come to worship, weighed down with worry;  
**People: Worry about money, worry about work, worry about the future.**  
Leader: We come to worship hoping to hear a word;  
**People: A word of hope, a word of assurance, a word of peace.**  
Leader: Jesus reminds us that we do not need to worry. If God cares for the birds of the air and the grass of the field, won’t God care for each one of us?  
**People: We come to remember that God knows our every need and will provide.**  
Leader: Let us worship God.

(Singing)

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed, Thy hand hath provided; great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you—Allelu, alleluia!*

Prayer, Welcome and Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

\*Hymn of Praise (# 395)

*CWM RHONDDA*

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

Choral Affirmation

*His Eye is On the Sparrow*

Summer Choir

arr. Schrader

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

\*Song of Affirmation (# 550)

*I’D RATHER HAVE JESUS*

*I’d Rather Have Jesus*

The Tithes and Offerings of a Grateful People

\*Offertory Prayer

Nancy Griffis

Offertory

*Here I Am, Lord*

Dr. Ray Adams, organ

\*Doxology (# 253)

*OLD 100th*

Children’s Sermon

Kristina LaGuardia

Scripture: Luke 12:22-34 (NT p. 57)

Nancy Griffis

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

“Think Like an Evangelist”

\*Hymn of Response (# 47)

*HYMN TO JOY*

*God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

\*Benediction

Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

\*Closing Affirmation (# 462)

*MALOTTE*

*Our Father...*

\*Music Upon Departure

*Hornpipe (Water Music)*

Dr. Ray Adams, organ

G.F Handel

Songs and words used with permission.

CCLI # 1219241

**\*All who are able, please stand.**

Streaming License #2036378

### **Sanctuary Flowers**

The beautiful flowers gracing our sanctuary this morning are in loving memory of Jon Mangeot.

### **Thank You**

The Clothes Closet Crew would like to thank the congregation for the multitude of donations. It has been so helpful. The need has been great during this hot weather. Thank you again, and keep it coming - God is good!

### **Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee has 2 openings: Trustees Committee 3 year term and Sr. Adults Committee balance of the 2025 term. Contact Tammy Jones 772.559.2137 if interested.

### **VBHS Fighting Indians Football Breakfast \* Friday Mornings**

Indian River County Sports Ministry will host a weekly breakfast during the High School football season. Come and help serve the football team and cheerleaders as they fellowship and hear an encouraging, Bible-based testimony. The day begins at 4:30 AM in the Family Life Center, Large Social Hall.

### **August Staff Birthdays**

Kristina LaGuardia - August 13  
Joey Rumberger - August 20  
René LaRosa - August 21

### **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).

### **Christian Sympathy**

Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of Margaret Pierce. Margaret passed away on Thursday, August 7, 2025. She had been a member of First Baptist Church for 70 years. On Saturday, September 6, 2025 a funeral visitation will be held at 10:00 AM, with a funeral service at 11:00 AM. Both will be in the Sanctuary. A reception will be held in the FLC.

### **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.