

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 31, 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

Deacons of the Week

Tammy Jones
&
Alice Bays



Monday, September 1, 2025 - Labor Day

NO Risk Takers for Christ/Living H2O Initiative
NO Men’s Bible Study
Church Office is Closed

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

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

Wednesday Supper Menu

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

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

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

Thursday, September 4, 2025

6:30 PM Youth Group

Friday, September 5, 2025

4:30 AM VB Football Breakfast

Saturday, September 5, 2025

10:00 AM Funeral Visitation - Margaret Pierce
11:00 AM Funeral Service - Reception following the service
5:00 PM Church Game Night

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.chippy.com/FBCvero>



Did You Know.....

Labor Day in the United States is a public holiday celebrated on the first Monday in September. It honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, laws and well-being of our country.



News and Notes

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)

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

All ladies are invited to come and fellowship. Bring a friend, a snack and a devotion to share. Ladies devotions will take place in the Large Social Hall 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.

September Committee Meetings:

Monday, September 8, 2025

6:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

6:00 PM Church Council Meeting

7:15 PM Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

6:00 PM Trustees Committee Meeting

Music Rehearsals Resume

Monday, September 8, 2025

7:00 PM Treasure Coast Chorale

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

Contributions

Gifts were given to the Preschool Fund in memory of Margaret Pierce. Gifts were given to the Women’s Baby Blanket Fund. A gift was given to the Scholarship Fund.

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.

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 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.

September is State Missions Offering Month

Please use the special envelope in your offering packet or pew rack. You may also designate the funds in the memo portion of your check. State Missions support disaster relief.



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

Next Steps in Missions and Evangelism

Pursuing Your Purpose in Christ

The Worship of God

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025

"Live as if you thought that Christ might come at any time.

Do everything, as if you did it for the last time.

Say everything, as if you said it for the last time.

Read every chapter in the Bible, as if you did not know whether you would be allowed to read it again.

Pray every prayer, as if you felt it might be your last opportunity.

Hear every sermon, as if you were hearing once and forever.

This is the way to be found ready.

This is the way to turn Christ’s second appearing to good account.

This is the way to put on the armor of light."

J.C. Ryle

8:30 AM Worship Service

Opening Praise - *Days of Elijah*

Welcome - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Worship Songs - *How Great Thou Art / Glorious Day*

Pastoral Prayer - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

A Response - *Soon and Very Soon*

Scripture Lesson - Luke 12:35-40 (NT p. 57) - Tammy Jones
This is the Word of God for the people of God./**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon - “Expect the Unexpected” - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Time of Response - *Refiner’s Fire*

Offertory Prayer - Tammy Jones / **Offertory** - Rev. Dr. Michael 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, in the Christian calendar, is the Twelfth 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. 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 Dr. Ray Adams, organ
O Land of Rest arr. Dale Wood

Opening Sentences

Leader: One day we will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky,
with power and great glory!

People: Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!

Leader: No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in
heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. So we also must be ready, because
the Son of Man will come at an hour when we do not expect Him!

People: Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!

Leader: We wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great
God and Savior, Jesus Christ!

People: Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King! Hallelujah!

(Singing hymn 192, stanza 1)

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We’re going to see the King!

Prayer, Welcome and Passing of the Peace Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

*Hymn of Praise (# 10) *O STORE GUD*
How Great Thou Art

Choral Affirmation Summer Choir
Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning André Thomas

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

*Song of Praise (# 195) *SECOND COMING*
What If It Were Today

The Tithes and Offerings of a Grateful People

*Offertory Prayer Alice Bays

Offertory Dr. Ray Adams
Improvisation on *How Great Thou Art*

*Doxology (# 253) *OLD 100th*

Children’s Sermon Patti Carter

Scripture: Luke 12:35-40 (NT p. 57) Alice Bays

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Vocal Affirmation Rev. Dr. Michael Carter
The King is Coming William J. Gaither

Sermon Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia
“Expect the Unexpected”

*Hymn of Response (# 608) *O LAND OF REST*
We’ll Work Till Jesus Comes

*Benediction Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

*Closing Affirmation (# 462) *Our Father...* *MALOTTE*

*Music Upon Departure Dr. Ray Adams, organ
arr. D. Coleman
How Great Thou Art

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*All who are able, please stand. Streaming License #2036378

New Season of Wednesday Night Supper and Bible Study

Dinner and Bible study for a new season is at 5:00 PM. Our Bible Study series will be on 1 Timothy.

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.

Offering Envelopes

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

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.