

# 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! Nursery is provided for infants and preschool children in both services.

## This Week’s Opportunities

### Sunday, September 14, 2025

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

**Deacon of the Week**  
Cristina McClure

### Monday, September 15, 2025

6:00 PM RiskTakers for Christ - Living H2O Initiative  
6:30 PM Men’s Bible Study  
7:00 PM TCC Rehearsal



### Tuesday, September 16, 2025

7:30 AM Men’s Prayer  
6:00 PM Trustees Committee Meeting

### Wednesday, September 17, 2025

3:45 PM Clothing Room Opens  
4:00 PM Sr. Adult Committee Meeting  
5:00 PM Wednesday Friends  
5:00 PM Fellowship Dinner  
5:45 PM Prayer/Bible Study

**Wednesday Supper Menu**  
Beef stew over rice, cornbread  
and dessert - Dinners \$8 each

### Thursday, September 18, 2025

12:00 PM Personnel Committee Meeting  
3:00 PM Call to Prayer  
4:00 PM Nominating Committee Meeting  
6:30 PM Youth Group

### Friday, September 19, 2025

4:30 AM VB Football Breakfast

## Committee Meetings

### Tuesday, September 16, 2025

6:00 PM Trustees Committee Meeting

### Wednesday, September 17, 2025

4:00 PM Sr. Adult Committee Meeting

### Thursday, September 18, 2025

12:00 PM Personnel Committee Meeting  
4:00 PM Nominating Committee Meeting

### Wednesday, September 24, 2025

4:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting

### Contributions

Gifts were given to the Preschool Fund in memory of Margaret Pierce.

# News and Notes

### Inquiring Guests & New Members Class \* Today 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. The seminar is an informative, informal time of sharing about the history, mission, and ministries of the church. Please see Pastor Joe or Kristina (and to get the address). Light refreshments will be served.

### "A Call to Prayer" Prayer Group \* Thursday, September 18, 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.

### Budget Packets are due by September 22, 2025.

### 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.

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

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.

### Wednesday Night Supper and Bible Study

Dinner begins at 5:00 PM and Bible study begins at 5:45 PM. Our Bible Study series will be on 1 Timothy.

### 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)

### Music Rehearsals Resume

Treasure Coast Chorale - Mondays at 7:00 PM  
Sanctuary Choir - Wednesdays at 7:00 PM  
Both of these rehearsals will meet in the Music Building D.

### Hurricane Season Is Here!

We want to remind everyone that hurricane season is from June 1 to November 30. Please be sure to stock up on supplies such as water, food, medications, batteries, pet food, etc.



### September is State Missions Offering Month

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



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

### 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.



# The Worship of God

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 14, 2025

God of holy wisdom, we are seekers on the way to a deeper wisdom  
and a wider vision. Our lives are full of information and opinions,  
but in the midst of it all we long to hear the voice of wisdom –  
Your wisdom, God – cutting through the noise and teaching us how to live.

## 8:30 AM Worship Service

Opening Praise - *Shout to the Lord*

Welcome - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Worship Songs - *I Walk By Faith / I Will Call Upon the Lord*

Pastoral Prayer - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

A Response - *Alabaster Box* - Gigi Seaholtz

Scripture Lesson - James 1:1-8 (NT p. 179) - Cristina McClure  
This is the Word of God for the people of God./**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon - “Asking for Wisdom” - Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

Time of Response - *Seek Ye First*

Offertory Prayer - Cristina McClure / Offertory - Judy Carter, piano

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 Dr. Ray Adams, organ  
*Little Prelude in C* J.S. Bach

Opening Sentences

Leader: Wisdom cries out in the streets.

**People: We hear and struggle to understand.**

Leader: Come and listen to the words of life and love.

**People: We hear and proclaim our faith in the one who brings life.**

Leader: Let us worship the God of life and wisdom whose words guide  
our life on the right paths.

**People: Loving and caring God, we come this morning seeking wisdom  
and guidance for our lives. Open us to your words of life and  
love and truth. May we proclaim with our tongues what we  
know in our hearts. In this time of worship, help us more fully  
understand what it means to truly be a disciple, a follower of  
the way of Jesus, a follower of the path of wisdom. May the  
words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be  
acceptable to you, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.**

(singing hymn #211, stanza 1)

***I love Thee, I love Thee, I love Thee, my Lord:***

***I love Thee, my Savior, I love Thee , my God:***

***I love Thee, I love Thee, and that Thou dost know;***

***but how much I love Thee my actions will show.***

(Choir)

*Be ye doers of the Word...*

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

\*Hymn of Praise (# 19) *KREMSE*  
*We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer*

Choral Affirmation Summer Choir  
*Be Thou My Vision* arr. Alice Parker

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

\*Song of Praise (# 522) *BY AND BY*  
*When the Morning Comes*

The Tithes and Offerings of a Grateful People

\*Offertory Prayer Cristina McClure

Offertory *In Heavenly Love* Dr. Ray Adams, organ

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

Children’s Sermon Patti Carter

Scripture: James 1:1-8 (NT p. 179) Cristina McClure

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia  
“Asking for Wisdom”

\*Hymn of Response (# 293) *GALILEE*  
*Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult*

\*Benediction Rev. Dr. Joe LaGuardia

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

\*Music Upon Departure Dr. Ray Adams, organ  
*Praeludium* W. Karges

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

### Sermon Notes

#### 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>



#### Flowers

The flowers & vases on the Welcome Center and on the credenza in the pass through are in celebration of Betty Roddenberry’s birthday.

#### 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).