

discovering **FIRST**

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Live.
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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OF PENSACOLA

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Welcome

Welcome to Discovering First! I am so glad you have decided to attend this class today. My hope is for you to get a glimpse into what our God is doing at First Baptist Church of Pensacola. In this time, you will learn our history, theology, ministry structure, and organization strategy. Please don't hesitate to ask questions as we are here to serve. If you find us to be your new church home, we gladly welcome you! If you are not ready to make that commitment, don't fret. We are simply glad you decided to come and learn more about our faith family.



Listen, learn, and see what God is doing here at our church. Our mission is to *glorify the Father by following the Holy Spirit in sharing the story of Jesus*. Enjoy your time with us!

Blessings,

Pastor Dave Snyder



How We Got Here

First Baptist Church of Pensacola, FL originated on Sunday, May 2, 1847 under the preaching and organizing efforts of Rev. Alexander Travis and Brother Joseph Mitchell from Alabama. It was called Pensacola Baptist Church of Christ. They first met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Hendrix near Seville Square. They worshiped in various places until finally erecting their first building in 1852 on a lot purchased on what is now Government Street near Seville Square. The members had already voted to change the name of the church to Pensacola Baptist Church and now they had a church home.

The Civil War had devastating effects on the church's life for many years. However, a remnant survived. After the war, the church regathered and reorganized on October 9, 1870. It enjoyed a period of fruitful years alongside the growth of the town. Sometime after 1870, the church minutes began referring to the "First Baptist Church of Pensacola." Since beginning in 1847, the church had been affiliated with the Alabama Baptist Convention, but in 1886 they united with the Florida Baptist Convention.

In 1891, the church was given property by Col. and Mrs. W.D. Chipley on the corner of La Rua Street and Palafox Street. Construction began to build the first structure at that site, but a breakout of yellow fever brought progress to a halt. However, it was finally completed and the church worshiped there for the first time on April 21, 1895. The church would go on to survive two world wars and even flourish and grow for many years. By 1941, the church's membership had grown to over 2000 members.

It expanded its outreach and ministry efforts in many ways during that time, even establishing what is now Baptist Hospital in 1943. Continued growth of the church culminated in the building of a new sanctuary in which they began worshiping on October 28, 1956, and in which we still worship today. It was built as a replica of the sanctuary of First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas. For years, it was thought that the church sat at the highest

elevation in Pensacola and the top of the cross at the top of the bell tower was the highest point in the state of Florida. For us, this serves as a symbolic reminder of our calling to be a light for Jesus Christ in the downtown area. As Jesus told His followers: "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

A few years after the current sanctuary was built, the church called Dr. James "Jim" Pleitz in 1959 to be its Pastor. This became significant in two ways. First, he became the longest tenured Pastor in the church's history from 1959-1978. Second, the church experienced its most significant growth during these years. It was even named Guidepost Magazine's "Church of the Year" in 1970 by Norman Vincent Peale. Dr. Pleitz retired a year later and moved back to Pensacola, served the church as its interim Pastor from 1996-1998. (It was known to be said during those years, "We need to call a pastor soon or we're going to have to build!"). The church named the Chapel in his honor and gave him the title of Pastor Emeritus that he carried until his passing.

In May of 2000, the church broke ground on a major building expansion, which included the additions of children's education and worship space, the Chapel named after Dr. Pleitz, Chipley Hall named after Elizabeth Ann Chipley, the atrium lobby, and the Clyde K. Bizzell Church Library, who served alongside Dr. Pleitz. The dedication of these additions was held in November of 2001. Then in 2008, what had been the Christian Activities Center for many years was renovated and reopened as the Paul Royal Recreation Outreach Center (also known as the R.O.C.), named for Rev. Paul Royal, who also served alongside Dr. Pleitz.

Through the years, First Baptist has been consistent in the biblical witness of the gospel of Jesus Christ and a desire to express His love to the community and the world in His name. First Baptist has maintained a strong sense of autonomy and resilience in its worship, fellowship and sense of mission. And in the calling of our new Senior Pastor, Dr. Dave Snyder, on July 8, 2018, we have embarked on a new chapter. With the help of God's grace, we will continue First Baptist's legacy of being a faithful and fruitful Baptist church for the glory of God!

Information prior to 1985 was taken from the official history book published by First Baptist Church. Written by Toni Clevenger and edited by Martha Trotter. Copies are available in the church library.

*You are the light of the
world. A city on a hill
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In the same way, let your
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What We BELIEVE

1. WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD.

"The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter."

The Bible was inspired by the Holy Spirit of God.

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

2 Timothy 3:16-17

The Bible is God's revelation of Himself to humankind.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us."

John 1:1, 14

The Bible is trustworthy and authoritative for life and the church.

"And the words of God are flawless, like silver refined in a furnace of clay, purified seven times."

Psalms 12:6

"This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word."

Isaiah 66:2

The Bible's goal is the salvation of souls.

"You have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ."

2 Timothy 3:15

2. WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE REVEALS GOD AS ONE GOD IN THREE PERSONS.

"There is one and only one living and true God. The eternal God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being."

There is one and only one true living God.

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:2-3

*"Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is One. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."
Deuteronomy 6:4-5*

God has revealed Himself as a Father who loves us.

"God, as Father, reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ."

*"Yet, O Lord, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."
Isaiah 64:8*

*"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.'"
Matthew 6:9*

God has revealed Himself as the Son, Jesus Christ, who redeems us.

"Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ, He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His death on the cross and in His resurrection, He made provision for the redemption of human beings from sin."

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."
John 3:16*

*"God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them...God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."
2 Corinthians 5:19, 21*

God has revealed Himself as the Holy Spirit who indwells and empowers us.

"The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. He exalts Christ. He convicts of sin, of righteousness and of judgment. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service."

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body."

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8

3. WE BELIEVE ALL HUMAN BEINGS WERE CREATED BY GOD IN HIS IMAGE, BUT WERE SEPARATED FROM GOD BECAUSE OF THEIR SIN, AND ARE IN NEED OF BEING SAVED BY FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST ALONE.

"Human beings were created by the special act of God, in His own image, and is the crowning work of His creation. By his free choice human beings sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created persons in His own image, and in that Christ died for them; therefore every person possesses dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love. Salvation involves the redemption of the whole person, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification."

"So God created man in his own image; in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."

Genesis 1:27

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

Romans 5:12

Regeneration is the Spirit of God enabling a person to repent and believe the gospel.

"When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

Acts 3:26

Justification is God declaring the sinner not guilty and right before him based on faith in His Son, Jesus Christ.

"He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification. Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Romans 4:25, 5:1

Sanctification is the believer being transformed into the likeness of Christ by grace through faith and obedience.

"(We) have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ."

1 Peter 1:2

Glorification is the believer being finally changed to share in the glory of Christ in eternity.

"Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may share in his glory."

Romans 8:17

4. WE BELIEVE THE LOCAL CHURCH IS THE BODY OF CHRIST MADE UP OF BAPTIZED BELIEVERS, AND IT IS GOD'S WILL FOR EVERY BELIEVER TO BE A MEMBER OF ONE FOR MUTUAL FELLOWSHIP, EDIFICATION, AND MISSION.

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is a local body of baptized believers who are associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. This church is an autonomous body whose members are equally responsible. The New Testament speaks also of the church as the body of Christ, which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages.

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is part of it."

1 Corinthians 12:27

"God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way."

Ephesians 1:22-23

5. WE BELIEVE THE CHURCH SHOULD OBSERVE BELIEVER'S BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER AS THE TWO ORDINANCES CHRIST GAVE TO HIS CHURCH.

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2:38

"Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?"

1 Corinthians 10:16

6. WE BELIEVE IT IS THE MISSION OF EVERY CHRISTIAN AND CHURCH TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST AND MAKE DISCIPLES FOR HIM.

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by personal effort.

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20

Our MISSION

First Baptist Church Pensacola exists to glorify the Father, by following the Holy Spirit in *sharing the story* of Jesus.

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

With the story of Jesus, we want everyone to...

HEAR IT.

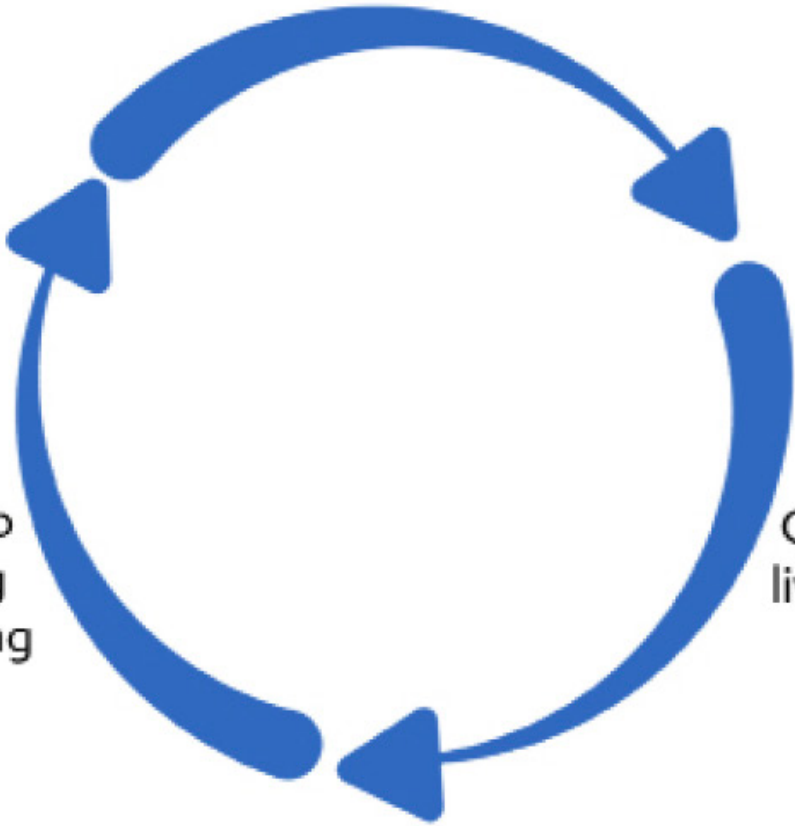
Our goal is for everyone to hear and experience God’s redemption story in our worship gatherings.

SHARE IT.

Our goal is for everyone to share the story by serving in a ministry and discovering his or her mission field.

LIVE IT.

Our goal is for everyone to live the story by connecting with a small group.



Structural FOUNDATIONS

HOW IS FIRST BAPTIST LED?

First Baptist Church of Pensacola, Florida is an autonomous body of baptized believers in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The Church recognizes the Holy Bible as the final authority on matters of belief. The body of believers, under the Lordship and direction of Jesus Christ, shall seek to disciple and minister to all people.

PASTOR AND LEAD STAFF

Meet weekly to pray, discuss and follow up on guests and ministry needs, consider and coordinate church and ministry activities.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Consists of the Chair and Chair Elect of Deacons, Chairs of primary committees, Ministerial Staff representatives, and major ministries and age group representatives. Meet monthly to deliberate and approve recommendations concerning church business and policy to be brought before the church.

COMMITTEES AND MINISTRY TEAMS

Carry out the various functions and ministry life of the church. Each committee or team has a liaison and ex-officio member from the Pastoral/Ministerial Staff team. Major items affecting the church's overall life, policies, and budget are sent to the Administrative Council and sometimes the church.

DEACONS

The Deacons meet monthly for prayer and to discuss how to better assist the Pastoral and Ministerial Team with shepherding and serving the needs of the church family.

CHURCH CONFERENCE MEETINGS

The church gathers quarterly on a Wednesday evening to hear reports and consider and approve recommendations from the Administrative Council and various committees and ministry teams affecting the overall life, policies, and budget of the church. The Annual Church Conference happens on a Sunday morning during worship to approve the annual budget and other matters if needed.

Our STAFF



Dr. Dave Snyder
Senior Pastor
dsnyder@fbcp.org



Peter Burmeister
Associate Pastor
of Administration
pburmeister@fbcp.org



Brian Hicks
Associate Pastor
of Discipleship
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Associate Pastor
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Scot Cameron
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Shelby Webb
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WHO ARE WE AFFILIATED WITH?

Pensacola Bay Baptist Association

60 churches and missions that work together to teach our county.

The Florida Baptist Convention

Over 2900 churches working together to reach our state.

The Southern Baptist Convention

Over forty-five thousand churches across America that cooperate together in a world-wide effort of missions and support.

WHERE DOES THE GIVING GO?

At FBCP, we encourage every member to give from a cheerful heart (2 Corinthians 9:6-7). We believe giving is an expression of worship. Giving helps make ministry happen and advances the Gospel in missions. At FBCP, 12 % of giving goes to missions. This is broken down by the following...

Pensacola Bay Baptist Association – 1%

Florida Baptist Convention – 1 ¼ %

Southern Baptist Cooperative Program – 1 ¼%

Church Directed Mission Fund – 8 ½ %

*Nearly 25 cents of every dollar goes directly to the mission field.

Membership

WHY JOIN A CHURCH?

At FBCP, we recognize the need for a formal membership. We ask you to commit to membership for four reasons.

A Biblical reason: Christ committed to the church. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her - Ephesians 5:25

A cultural reason: We live in an age where very few people want to be committed to anything...a job, a marriage or family. This attitude has produced a generation of "church hoppers and shoppers". Membership swims against the current of America's consumer mentality and is an antidote to society. Membership sets us apart from the culture, allowing us to preserve our distinctive Christian beliefs and values.

A personal reason: Membership produces spiritual growth. The New Testament places a major emphasis on the need for Christians to be accountable to each other for spiritual growth. A person cannot be accountable when they are not committed to any specific church family.

A practical reason: Membership identifies our community and family. It defines who can be entrusted with positions of leadership within the church.

HOW DO I JOIN?

1. **Confessing Jesus as your Lord and Savior and being baptized by immersion.**
2. **If you have already been saved by Jesus, but have not been baptized by immersion... then join by following Him in believer's baptism.**
3. **Transfer of membership by letter from another Baptist church or church of like faith and practice.**

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME AS A MEMBER?

Protect the unity of our church. "So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding." Romans 14:19 Christ calls us to be a unified body, and each member must assist in this by acting in love toward other members (1 Peter 1:22), refusing to gossip (Ephesians 4:29), and by following the leaders that God has appointed in our church (Hebrews 13:17).

Share the responsibility of our church. Our church cannot grow by the sole efforts of our staff, so we ask you to share in the responsibility of ministry within our church. You can do this by praying for our church (1 Thessalonians 1:2), inviting those who don't know the Lord to attend (Luke 14:23), and by warmly welcoming those who are our guests (Romans 15:7).

Serve the ministry of our church. Each ministry in our church functions with the help of our members. You can serve alongside our church by discovering your gifts and talents (1 Peter 4:10), by being equipped to serve by our pastoral leaders (Ephesians 4:11-12), and by developing a servant's heart (Philippians 2:3-4).

Support the testimony of our church. Our church's potential within our own community depends heavily on its members. To protect the testimony of our church, you should attend faithfully (Hebrews 10:25), live a godly life (Philippians 1:27), and give regularly (1 Corinthians 16:2, Malachi 3:10).

Ministries

PRESCHOOL

Childcare for preschoolers is offered during Bible study and both services. Snacks, crafts, and a Bible lesson are curated to help you disciple your child to know Jesus. Our preschool ministry is located on the first floor in the preschool hallway.



*For more information on our Preschool Ministry
contact Kim Birthright at cministry@fbcp.org*



KIDS

On Sunday morning during the Contemporary and Traditional Worship Service, children in kindergarten through 3rd grade are invited to worship...like kids. Through Christ centered worship music, Bible stories and games, kids experience worship that stirs their hearts and encourages them to know God in a personal way. Our children's ministry is located on the first floor in the children's hallway.

*For more information on our Kids Ministry
contact Lauren Fain at lfain@fbcp.org*

CLUB56

Our fourth and fifth graders meet on Friday evenings for Club56, a time designed for them to experience Christ-centered community and to learn more about Jesus.



*For more information on our Preteen Ministry
contact Lauren Fain at lfain@fbcp.org*



STUDENTS

Middle school and high school students meet on Sunday mornings for Bible study and Wednesday evenings in the ROC, our recreational building. Our student ministry is an energetic bunch! Through fun activities and gospel-saturated ministry, our students grow to know Jesus more, love each other, and serve our church and community.

*For more information on our Student Ministry
contact Gage Gordon at ggordon@fbcp.org*

MEN’S MINISTRY

The Men’s Ministry at First Baptist Church is an active group of men who seek to serve the church and grow one another in Christ. The Men’s Ministry sponsors several Men’s Summit events throughout the year that gathers men together for a time of fellowship and a compelling message. The Men’s Ministry also sponsors events such as a Cornhole Tournament and a Clay Shoot that bring men together for a time of friendly competition. The Men’s Ministry also works alongside many other church ministries to fulfill the mission of the church.



*For more information on our Men’s Ministry
contact Quoc Vuong at mensministry@fbcp.org*



WOMEN’S MINISTRY

The Women’s Ministry at First Baptist Church is a dynamic group of women committed to serving the church and supporting one another in their faith journeys. We host a monthly event called “Gather,” where women come together for dinner and a devotion, fostering friendships and spiritual growth. Every two years, we also organize the “Tour of Tables,” an inspiring event featuring beautifully decorated tables and a guest speaker, creating a space for decoration conversation and fellowship.

*For more information on our Womens’s Ministry
contact Lori Kizziah at womensministry@fbcp.org*

LEISURE TIMERS

Leisure Timers is a wonderful group consisting mostly of retired men and women who gather for fellowship and community. The Leisure Timers meet on the third Tuesday of each month here at First Baptist Church in Chipley Hall. Each meeting has a time of fellowship, a good meal, and either an educational presentation or some lovely entertainment. The Leisure Timers will also gather for various day trips throughout the year and will often have longer trips including some overseas travel. If you are retired and looking for a place to find fellowship and community, the Leisure Timers would be a great place to get involved.



*For more information on Leisure Timers
contact James and Shirley Callaway at jamespjc@aol.com*



MILITARY MINISTRY

Pensacola is called "The Cradle of Naval Aviation" with several military bases close by. Here at First Baptist Church, we welcome all members of the military, including veterans. We know that many active-duty military members may just be passing through, but we value them as vital members of our church congregation while they are here and even when they move on.

*For more information on our Military Ministry
contact Brian Hicks at bhicks@fbcp.org*

COLLEGE & CAREER

We have a wonderful group of college aged students who gather weekly for Bible study, attend conferences together, and have some great times of simply hanging out. This group welcomes not just college students, but any young adult looking for Biblical community.



*For more information on our College and Career Ministry
contact Brian Hicks at bhicks@fbcp.org*



YOUNG ADULTS

We have a thriving group of young adults who are seeking to reach the Pensacola area with the love of Jesus. They have two weekly small group Bible studies as well as other events throughout the year.

*For more information on our Young Adults Ministry
contact Brian Hicks at bhicks@fbcp.org*

WELCOME TEAM

Our Welcome Team Ministry is a key component of Sunday mornings and our special events. We believe that having smiling faces greeting our members and guests with the love of God as they walk into the church helps set the tone for the rest of their day. Our Welcome Team also helps provide guests with information about how to get connected to the church and where the important places in the church are located.



*For more information on Welcome Team
contact Brian Hicks at bhicks@fbcp.org*



CART TEAM

We have a great group of folks who are dedicated to helping others get to our main buildings with ease. They drive our golf carts around campus and pick our members and guests up at their vehicles and deliver them to the church building of their choice. They are especially popular on rainy Sundays.

*For more information on our Cart Team
contact Brian Hicks at bhicks@fbcp.org*

PERSONAL TOUCH MINISTRY

This is a wonderful ministry that our church has been involved in for a long time. This ministry provides a meal to families who have recently lost a loved one. They want to help the families have one less thing to worry about and share the love of Christ through the gift of food.



*For more information on our Personal Touch Ministry
contact Brian Hicks at bhicks@fbcp.org*



GRIEF MINISTRIES

Here at First Baptist Church, we understand that some of the most challenging moments of our lives come during the loss of a loved one. We participate in Grief Share Ministries as well as Stephen Ministries to walk through the grieving process with those that have lost a loved one.

*For more information on our Grief Ministries
contact Brian Hicks at bhicks@fbcp.org*



MUSIC & WORSHIP

Sanctuary Choir - The Sanctuary Choir sings each Sunday in our Traditional service and rehearses on Wednesdays at 7 PM in the Choir Room.

Orchestra - The orchestra plays each Sunday in our Traditional service and rehearses on Wednesdays at 6 PM in the Sanctuary.

Gospel Choir - Gospel Choir rehearses Tuesdays at 9 AM in Pleitz Chapel.

Sanctuary Bells - Our handbell ensemble performs for select Sundays and seasonal programs and rehearses on Sundays at 4 PM in the Handbell Room.

Clarion Choir - Clarion Choir is for 6th through 12th grades, and rehearsal is on Sundays at 4:00 PM in room S404.

First Kids - FirstKIDS is for 3 year olds through 5th grade. Join us for music, discipleship and fun on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM.

Music Academy - Music lessons for guitar, violin, and other instruments are available.

For more information, contact Scot Cameron at Scameron@fbcp.org



CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP BAND

Auditioned instrumentalists and singers serve by leading worship at our Contemporary service and rehearse on Wednesdays at 7:15 PM in Chipley Hall.

For more information, contact Jason Givens at jgivens@fbcp.org

MEDIA TEAM

Our Media volunteers are critical team members for both our Contemporary and Traditional services. Different opportunities to serve are sound, lights, screens, photography and videography, broadcast cameras, and TV Broadcasting Tech.



For more information, contact Shelby Webb at swebb@fbcp.org

Missions

MISSION FIRST

First Baptist Church Pensacola has a long, deep, and rich Missions-Minded history of being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community and beyond. Our Mission First building showcases our commitment to Hear, Live, and Share the Story of Jesus, serving as the hub for several local, domestic, and international ministries.

We offer many opportunities where you can use your time and talent to make a real impact when you serve.



C. A. Weis Elementary

Through our partnership, we have several programs to serve this school and the surrounding community. Backpack Buddies help nourish futures, ensuring children don't go hungry over the weekends. Our First Friends and Warmth for Weis programs go beyond meals, providing essential support and hope to children, families, teachers, and school staff. Each year we deliver more than 500 new pairs of shoes, along with clothing, blankets, school supplies and more. We also partner with Park Place Baptist Church through our Church-To-Church Food Ministry and outreach, along with prayer walking the area to support the families throughout this community.

Church-To-Church Food Ministry (C2C)

Hunger knows no bounds and it impacts every corner of our community. We are blessed to partner with local churches as we tackle food insecurity in our area. We offer several opportunities to join the fight against hunger with this hands-on ministry, turning compassion into action as we nourish our community together.

Foster and Adoptive Care Ministry (LEAFF)

Imagine this: The Church steps in. A stranger, bearing gifts of hope, arrives on the doorstep. A bag of groceries, a cozy bed, or a bundle of diapers – small acts that ripple into a life transformed. That's the heartbeat of our foster ministry – serving children and families in our community who are facing crisis. While not everyone is called to be a Foster Parent, every believer can play a vital role in supporting these families through many opportunities and needs.

Operation Christmas Child

Through Operation Christmas Child (OCC), a project of Samaritan's Purse, our community is uniting to share the love of Christ with children in desperate need across the globe. In every box we pack, there lies the potential to change a life. Imagine a child living in a third world country, or a child who lives in a community hit hard by a natural disaster receiving a shoebox filled with essentials and a handwritten note sharing the love of Jesus. These boxes are delivered to Christian Pastors throughout the world, enabling them to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with children in their community. It's through these boxes that The Greatest Journey Discipleship Program is introduced and that moment can be transformative - not just for the child receiving the box but for their family and their entire community as they come to know Christ through local churches empowered by these gifts.



Samaritan Hands Ministry

This ministry has been a beacon of hope, meeting both physical and spiritual needs with food, clothing, shoes, utility assistance, and related services as well as Christian counseling for all the Lord brings our way. A kind smile, a listening ear, a helping hand can truly be the light in someone's darkest hour and together we can be a safety net for those who feel lost, abandoned or are struggling.

Sewing For Jesus

What if someone offered you the opportunity to positively change the trajectory of a young girl's life? At Sewing for Jesus, we are on a mission to impact lives by sharing God's love and hope through tangible gifts that reach both local and global communities. Whether you sew at the Mission First building or from the comfort of your own home, your skills—sewing or non-sewing—are invaluable. Tasks like cutting, stuffing, folding, and packing are all essential to creating beautiful items that will change lives for generations to come.

Send Relief

A collaboration of the International Mission Board (IMB) and the North American Mission Board (NAMB), Send Relief works to meet needs and change lives. There are people in our community and around the world who desperately need help, and Send Relief provides a way for you to respond directly to these needs in lasting, meaningful ways while sharing the hope of the gospel.

Florida Baptist Disaster Relief and Recovery Ministries

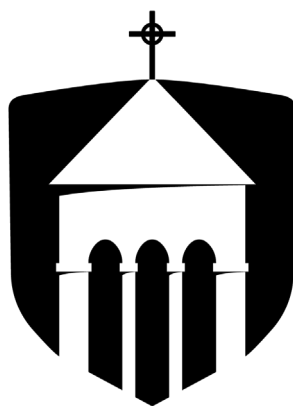
The mission of Florida Baptist Disaster Relief and Recovery Ministries is to “Make a difference” in times of disaster by connecting Florida Baptist Churches and Associations to people and communities impacted by disaster and by responding with Help, Healing, and Hope, that demonstrates and shares the love of Christ.

Domestic and International Mission Trips

From church planting and supporting mission efforts like IMB and NAMB, to sending church planters across the country or abroad, we partner with several Southern Baptist sending organizations to carry the story of Jesus around the world.

**To learn more about any of these opportunities and others,
please contact Craig Bonelli at cbonelli@fbcp.org.**





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