



IN THE KNOW

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FERNANDINA BEACH

Lengthen Your Cords

MAKING ROOM FOR MORE PEOPLE TO KNOW AND FOLLOW JESUS

"Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes" (Isaiah 54:2).

God spoke those words to a people who had every reason to think small. Their best days looked like they were behind them. And the Lord told them to go buy more tent pegs. That is where I find our church this fall. God has stretched the tent, and He is telling us not to hold back.

WHAT GOD HAS DONE

This summer *Outreach Magazine* named First Baptist Fernandina Beach one of the 100 fastest-growing churches in America, and then selected us as one of fifteen churches to profile in depth. I want to be careful with that. A ranking never saved anybody. But it does confirm something you already know from the parking lot on Sunday morning: God is drawing people to this church, and He is doing it through ordinary members who invite their neighbors, pray for their coworkers, and show up to serve. That recognition belongs to you. Not only are people attending, but they are joining, and we are also on track to baptize a record number of people who are professing faith in Jesus. To God be the Glory!

CENTRAL NASSAU: THE DOORS ARE OPEN

Some of you know how the Central Nassau Campus began. I wish I could tell you it came from months of fasting and prayer. The truth is we ran out of parking. Our worship center seats around 900 people and our lot holds about 300 cars, and when we expanded our education space we lost fifty more spaces. We added

services, we studied balconies, we counted every stall. We had maxed out the island.

But God was doing something bigger than solving a parking problem. He had raised up a generation of leaders in this church who were ready to build something new, and if we did not give them a frontier they were going to find one somewhere else. At the same time, leaders in the Florida Baptist Convention were telling us that central Nassau County needed more gospel-preaching churches, not fewer. The fastest-growing corridor in our county had young families, new subdivisions, and long commutes to Jacksonville. So we asked the Lord what it would look like to send some of our best to start something new right here at home. Central Nassau was the answer.

Under the leadership of Campus Pastor Josh Wood, that congregation grew, baptized new believers, and became a true church family meeting in borrowed space in Yulee. And now they have a home. On Sunday, October 4, we celebrated the Grand Opening Sunday at Central Nassau. I had the privilege of preaching there live that morning, and it was one of the sweetest mornings of ministry I have had in a long time. We got to stand in the building your giving made possible. We got to worship alongside people who had been faithful for months in a space that was never meant to be permanent. And we got to watch God answer a prayer that started with something as unglamorous as a full parking lot.

Let me also make a direct appeal. If you live off the island, or you cross the bridge every Sunday to get here, I want you to prayerfully consider making

Central Nassau your home campus. Not because we want fewer people on the island, but because that campus needs greeters, teachers, worship team members, and kids workers, and because your neighbors are far more likely to visit a church three minutes from their house than thirty. Central Nassau is not a satellite. It is First Baptist Fernandina Beach, closer to where you live. Same preaching, same mission, same family.

LOOKING AHEAD

The fall calendar is full, and every date on it is an open door for you to walk through and bring someone with you. On Wednesday, **October 28**, the Fall Festival returns at both campuses at 6 PM, and it remains the single largest outreach event of our year. Thousands of families from our community will walk onto our property that night. We need you there serving, and we need you inviting.

On **November 8** we will celebrate Family Child Dedications in the second service. Fernandina Beach Christian Academy will honor our veterans and active-duty military at a special chapel on **November 5**. Our men will gather for the Sporting Clay Event on **November 14**, and our next Growth Class is **November 15**. On the evening of **November 22** we will share the Low Country Boil together as a church family. Throughout November, Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes give every family in this church a way to put the gospel in a child's hands somewhere in the world.

Then comes Christmas. Our Christmas Concerts are Saturday and Sunday, **December 12 and 13**, at 6 PM. Christmas Eve services are at 3 and 5 PM on **December 24**. If there is one Sunday a year your unchurched friends will say yes to an invitation, it is Christmas. Start praying now about who you will bring. And put **February 19 and 20** on your calendar for the Men's Kingdom Challenge as we open 2027.

GIVE US THREE HOURS

Here is what I am asking of every member this fall. Give First Baptist three hours a week. One hour in worship, where you are coached in the Word. One hour in a group or class, where you build community with people who will know your name and carry your burdens. And one hour serving, where you join the commission Jesus gave us. Coaching, Community, Commission. Three hours. That is not a heavy yoke. It is the normal Christian life, and it is how a church of our size stays a family instead of becoming a crowd.

God has enlarged the tent. Now He says, do not hold back. Lengthen your cords. Strengthen your stakes. Let us go find out how far He intends to stretch it.


Pastor Zach





From First Gathering to Grand Opening

By Josh Wood
Central Nassau Campus Pastor

On January 14, 2024, a small group of us gathered in prayer before the very first worship service of FBFIRST Central Nassau. I still remember the mix of excitement and holy nervousness that morning. We didn't have a finished building or a long history in this place—just a clear call from the Lord, a handful of faithful people, and a shared conviction that God wanted to do something new in the heart of Central Nassau County.

Nearly three years later, as we prepare to celebrate the Grand Opening of our new 12,600-square-foot worship and ministry facility on October 4, 2026, my heart is overflowing with gratitude. This journey has been nothing short of the Lord's faithfulness on display.

I want to begin by thanking God. He is the One who opened the door, provided every need, grew the work far beyond what we could have planned, and kept us focused on the Gospel. Every baptism, every new family, every wall that has risen, and every life that has been changed points back to Him. Soli Deo Gloria.

I also want to thank the entire FBFIRST family—especially our Island Campus family. You didn't

just send us; you released some of your best leaders, prayed for us, gave generously, and cheered us on every step of the way. Your willingness to multiply rather than protect what you already had made this campus possible. Pastor Zach, the deacons, staff, and every member who embraced the vision of "one church, two locations"—thank you. Your partnership has been a gift.

To the Central Nassau family who have walked this road with us: thank you. From the earliest setup teams who arrived before anyone else, to the greeters who made every newcomer feel at home, to the children's and student ministry volunteers who poured into the next generation, to the worship team, to those who gave sacrificially, served behind the scenes, and simply showed up week after week—you have been the heartbeat of this campus. Your faithfulness in the early days, when we were still figuring things out, and your continued joy through construction, modular buildings, and every season of growth have been a constant encouragement to me. I would be amiss not to also thank my family. My wife, Sheena, and five kids have supported and pushed me in ways only they and the Lord know. I am blessed to say the least.

I'm especially grateful for the staff and ministry leaders who have carried so much of the day-to-day load, for the many hands that helped us purchase and expand our 13.5-acre property, and for every person who has prayed, invited a friend, or stepped into a new area of service. You have shown me what it looks like to stay "on the scent of souls."

As we step into this new building designed to seat hundreds and serve generations, I am keenly aware that the facility is a tool, not the goal. The goal remains the same: to glorify God by making and equipping disciples of Jesus Christ right here in one of Florida's fastest-growing corridors.

On October 4, we gathered to dedicate this space and celebrate nearly three years of God's kindness. It was a special opportunity to give thanks together for all He has done and to look forward with expectation to all He will do.

Thank you, FBFIRST family. It has been one of the greatest privileges of my life to walk this journey with you. The best is still ahead.



THE ZACH & DAN SPORTING CLAYS TEAM CHALLENGE

GOOD SHOTS. GREAT PEOPLE. BIGGER PURPOSE.

A day of outdoor fun, fellowship, and friendly competition
for the men of our church.

Get ready for a little friendly competition! FBFirst Men's Ministry is excited to host the Zach & Dan Sporting Clays Team Challenge, Saturday, **November 14**, at Amelia Shotgun Sports, 10 AM, \$45 per participant. More than just a competition, this event is an opportunity for men across our church family to spend time together, build relationships, and enjoy a great morning outdoors. Whether you're an experienced shooter or relatively new to sporting clays, there's a place for you on the course.

The challenge will feature a 12-station course with 72 targets per participant. And here's where the fun

begins: participants will be divided between Team Zach and Team Dan. Teams will be selected based on each participant's known shooting ability to create a balanced competition and give shooters of every skill level an opportunity to contribute.

Registration is now open:
fbfirst.com/men-s-ministry



Come ready for some friendly competition, plenty of fellowship, and the chance to see whether Team Zach or Team Dan takes home the bragging rights!

Save the Date!

Mark your calendars now for
2ND ANNUAL MEN'S KINGDOM CHALLENGE

FEBRUARY 19-20, 2027

ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE:

INSHORE FISHING TOURNAMENT • GOLF TOURNAMENT
PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT • SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

The weekend will conclude with an incredible worship experience led by **John Glosson**, along with a powerful message from special guest speaker **Tony Nolan**.

We can't wait to see you there!





Community Outreach

By John Sauer
Community Outreach Coordinator

Global Impact Celebration

We just finished our 4th Annual Global Impact Celebration, where we had the opportunity to encourage and care for our local and international missionaries.

GIC was a life-changing experience for our missionaries and their families, as well as our members and guests. What a privilege to see how God is working through these servants around the world!



repaired the septic system at our North Property! Our “new” Community Resource Center is now being used more and more, and we are excited to see how God continues to use this building to serve our community.

Community Alliance of Nassau

The Community Alliance meets at the Resource Center to bring local nonprofits together so we can share resources, work together, and become more effective in serving Nassau County.



volunteers an opportunity to spend time with friends and families.

We are now back to serving everyone a nutritious meal from 5–6PM before gathering to hear Pastor Zach’s message. Come join us!

Hope House

We continue to serve a hot meal at the Salvation Army on the last Monday and first Friday of each month. Each time we serve, we provide approximately 120–140 meals to our friends in need. It is a privilege to sit down, share a meal, build relationships, and let people know they are loved.

Community Resource Center

1080 Olive Street
A big shout-out and thank you to some very special friends who

Rather than duplicating services, our goal is to work together to address some of the greatest challenges facing our community, including affordable housing, mental illness, and transportation.

In August, Jamie Reynolds and Priscilla Eljaiek from Barnabas shared information about the many resources they provide. In September, Caitlin Miller shared about the Nassau County Coalition for Community Health and the resources available through their nonprofit network.

We are grateful for the organizations and individuals who continue to come together with a spirit of cooperation and a desire to make a difference..

Food Ministry

Wednesday Evening Meals

Although we did not serve meals to our congregation during July, our volunteers continued to make sure our unhoused neighbors and struggling families were cared for. July also gave our food ministry

Cornerstone Men's Group

Steve Williams and the Cornerstone Men's Group continue to meet at the Resource Center on the second Tuesday of each month. We are thankful for the ways the Resource Center is becoming a place where relationships are built and people can come together.

Free Haircuts

We are so excited about our partnership with Erin Lumkins and her team at Southend Barbers!

Beginning in September, we started providing free haircuts for those in our community who need them. We will continue this ministry on the first Wednesday of every month from 4:30–5:30 p.m. at the Community Resource Center. We will have three barber chairs and three stylists available each month. Come on in and bring a friend! You'll be glad you did.

Serving Our Community

It is truly a pleasure to serve this community. We believe God has placed us here to love people, build relationships, meet needs, and help people take their next right step.

If you would ever like to join us in serving, please text me at 908-675-1263 or email me at JohnSauer@FBFirst.com.

I'd love to have you join us!

Student Ministry

Students Growing in Faith and Living on Mission



By Caleb Goltz
Student Leader



God is continuing His work within the student ministry at FBFirst! Each Wednesday night and Sunday morning gives us another opportunity to see students take steps of faith and discover what it means to follow Jesus in every area of their lives. As we have entered a new school year, we have seen students move from simply attending to actively participating in kingdom work. Students are serving on worship teams, welcoming one another, inviting friends, engaging in small groups, stepping into leadership, serving, and actively trying to reach their schools for Jesus.

As we are in transition, seeking out who God has called to be our Next Gen Pastor, we have continued to grow and raise up teenagers who love God and want to live their life wholeheartedly for His glory. Our Wednesday night teachings have been through the parables of Jesus in order to challenge students to look beyond what may be familiar stories and discover what Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of God. We don't want students to just know more about Scripture, but that Scripture would shape the way they live, love, serve, and follow Christ.

During GIC, the students were able to partake in multiple events and dinners that gave them access and information to learn more about missions to help decipher a potential call to mission in their lives. Throughout the entire week, we had the pleasure of serving the missionaries, praying over them, and worshipping with them as we celebrate the work that they have done to reach people that have not heard the Gospel. Please continue to pray for the students as we look forward to what God will do in their lives, alongside those who He will call to ministry or missions.



Senior Adults

Growing, Serving & Fellowship Together

By Frank Camarotti
Senior Adult Pastor

Our Senior Adults at First Baptist continue to stay active in ministry, discipleship, and fellowship. From special outings and meals to opportunities to grow in our faith, there is always something happening!

Recently, our Senior Adults enjoyed a trip to the Kennedy Space Center, followed by a wonderful Fish Fry dinner, prepared and hosted by the men of our church and the Kitchen Committee.

Mark your calendars for two upcoming fellowship events at First Baptist: our Senior Adult Hawaiian Luau Dinner on **November 14** at 4 PM and our Senior Adult Christmas Dinner on **December 5** at 4:00 PM.

For those looking for a little help with technology, Becky Clark teaches an iPhone class on **Wednesdays** for anyone who would like to learn more about using their phone. To sign up, call Becky at 912-592-0003.

Whether we're learning, serving, traveling, sharing a meal, or simply spending time together, our Senior Adults have many opportunities to stay connected and continue growing as disciples of Christ. Come join us—we'd love to have you!



Sunday Evening Prayer Service

Coming Together as a Church Family in Corporate Prayer

By Robert McKenzie
Prayer Service Team

Prayer is essential to the life of the church and the life of every Christian. Prayer is the means by which we hear from God, thank Him for His blessings and provisions, and gain strength and assistance from the Holy Spirit for such things that God has promised in His Word. There are situations we face in life in which we must pray because: *“So Jesus said to them, ‘If you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”* (Matthew 17:20-21). While we can – and do – pray wherever we are, there is something especially powerful when God’s people gather together in corporate prayer.

We are excited to begin gathering on Sunday evenings for prayer, and we invite everyone to join us.

- Every Sunday, starting Oct. 25
- 5 PM – 5:45 PM
- Community Resource Center, North Property

The order of service will simply be scripture readings and prayers. During our prayer service, we will take time to praise and worship the Lord and give thanks to Him for His presence in our lives. We will pray for the ministries of our church and for the outreaches in our community we serve. We will pray for our pastors and church staff. We will pray for your

individual needs that you bring to the prayer service.

A familiar scripture is Matthew 18:20, *“For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”* This is an encouraging promise. What if 20 or 30 are gathered? What if 200 or 300 are gathered?

“Oh! Yes (the prayer service) is the place to meet with the Holy Ghost, and this is the way to get His mighty power. If we would have Him, we must meet in greater numbers; we must pray with greater earnest, and believe with firmer steadfastness. The prayer service is the appointed place for the reception of power.” (Charles Spurgeon)

Perhaps you have never attended a prayer service before. Please don’t let that keep you away. You do not need to know the “right” words to say, and you will never be put on the spot or be expected to pray aloud. If you believe in the power of prayer and want to join fellow believers in corporate prayer, then please join us Sunday evenings.

Imagine what God might do when His people faithfully gather week after week and seek Him together. Prayer can strengthen our church, deepen our relationships with one another, encourage those who are



struggling, and help us become more attentive to God’s direction.

- Let us *“bear one another’s burdens”* – Galatians 6:2
- Let us *“comfort each other and edify one another”* – 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- Let us *“with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ”* – Romans 15:6

Make Sunday night prayer service @ 5 PM a part of your weekly routine. We look forward to seeing you there!

Celebrating What God is Doing!

By Sarah Howard

God is continuing to work in powerful ways through our church family! This year, we have celebrated 116 baptisms and welcomed 177 new members—each representing a life changed by the Gospel and a person taking a step of faith. These milestones remind us that God is growing His church as people follow Jesus, connect in community, and take their next steps of faith.

If you are interested in becoming a member, being baptized, or learning more about your next step, please contact Sarah Howard at sarah@fbfirst.com.

Baptism & New Members

We have so much to celebrate! Behind every number is a story—a person who has taken a step of faith, a family finding a church home, and a life being impacted by Jesus Christ. Baptism is a beautiful picture of new life in Christ, while welcoming new members reminds us that God continues to bring people together for worship, discipleship, community, and service.

Church family, thank you for being part of what God is doing! Every invitation, prayer, conversation, Bible study, act of service, warm welcome, and Gospel witness matters. God uses His people to reach people.

As we celebrate these milestones, let's remember that they are just the beginning. Our calling is not simply to see people come through our doors, but to make disciples who follow Jesus, grow in His Word, connect in community, serve others, and share the Gospel.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them..." — Matthew 28:19

Let's thank God for what He has already done—and continue praying, inviting, serving, and believing for even greater Kingdom impact in the days ahead.

To God be the glory!



Celebrating New Life Through Beach Baptism

God is at work! Over the past two months, we have celebrated 27 people following Jesus in believer's baptism at the beach! Each baptism represents a life changed by the Gospel and someone publicly declaring, *"I have decided to follow Jesus!"*

Baptism is a beautiful picture of the new life we have in Christ:

"...just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life." — Romans 6:4

What a joy it is to celebrate these individuals and encourage them as they take this important step of obedience. Twenty-three baptisms in two months—and we believe God is not finished! Let's keep celebrating changed lives and new life in Jesus!

Our next Beach Baptism:

Saturday, November 7th at Peter's Point @ 10 AM



Take Your Next Step with Growth Track

Are you ready to learn more about who we are, where we're going, and how you can be part of what God is doing at our church? Growth Track is your next step!

Growth Track gives you an inside look at our 3 C's — Coaching, Community, and Commission — and how they help shape our mission of making disciples and growing together as a church family. During Growth Track, you will also take a Spiritual Gifts Test designed to help you discover how God has uniquely gifted you to serve. We'll also discuss the four main expectations of our volunteers and leaders, giving you a clearer picture of what it means to serve and lead with excellence.

Whether you are considering membership, are a new member, or have been part of our church for years but have never attended Growth Track, we encourage you to join us! It's a great opportunity to



discover more about our church, connect with others, and find your next step in serving and growing.

Our next opportunity for Growth Track is **November 15th** at 9 AM.

Don't miss the opportunity to discover your gifts, understand our mission, and find your place in what God is doing through our church. Come discover how you can move from simply attending to actively growing, connecting, and making a Kingdom impact!

Please reach out to Sarah Howard if you have any questions. sarah@fbfirst.com



Making Memories, Creating Traditions

Gather together, make memories, and start a new tradition.

By Zach Zettler
Children's Pastor



When I was growing up, I can remember so many different traditions our family had—especially at Christmas.

One tradition we always looked forward to was going to my grandparents' house and spending the night during Christmas break. All 15 of us would gather together under one roof! It was always loud, a little chaotic, and a whole lot of fun.

One of my favorite parts came when we would all head out together to go Christmas caroling to some of my grandparents' friends. Of course, my grandparents absolutely loved it because it gave them an opportunity to show off their family! Looking back, though, I realize it wasn't really about the caroling. It was about being together, making memories, and creating traditions that we would remember for years to come.

At FB Kids, we understand that children and families thrive on traditions. Traditions give families something to look forward to, create opportunities to slow down and spend time together, and become memories that our children carry with them long after they grow up.

Throughout the year, we love creating these special moments as a church family. In the spring, we celebrate Palm Sunday and Easter with our children waving palm branches in worship, a live donkey, and even a special question-and-answer time with "Jesus

and His disciples." And this Christmas, we're excited to start a new tradition together!

Christmas Gingerbread Decorating

On **Wednesday, December 9**, from 6–7:30 PM, FB Kids will host our first Christmas Gingerbread Decorating event!

This will be an intentional evening for families to gather around the table, enjoy some food, decorate gingerbread houses, and—most importantly—make memories together. There will be plenty of icing, plenty of candy, and I'm sure, plenty of laughter!

Maybe your family already has a whole list of Christmas traditions. Or maybe you're new to the area, your family is growing, or you're simply looking for something new to do together this Christmas season. Come join us and start a new tradition with your family! We would love for this to become one of those special events your children look forward to year after year—one that brings families together and gives us an opportunity to celebrate the Christmas season as a church family.

Come make some memories, enjoy some time together, and help us begin a new FB Kids Christmas tradition! To sign up, scan the QR code.



Child Safety- Not Just for Kids

Protecting children
and strengthening our
church safety practices

By Zach Zettler
Children's Pastor

Child safety is paramount to a church, and it's not just for kids. Policies and procedures are among the most important things ministries working with minors (under 18 years old) can have in place to protect the church membership and the young families who attend. Over the past 3 years, FB Kids has poured in countless hours of research and writing policies and procedures for those working with minors, and thankfully, that season has come to an end.

This past October, we hosted auditors from ECAP (Evangelical Council for Abuse Prevention) with the prayerful hope of becoming fully accredited as a church that has taken major security and safety precautions. These policies and procedures didn't come lightly – there were many lengthy discussions and extensive research that helped create a safer environment for children and teenagers.

So, what does this mean for us as a church? It continues to mean we are on the right track for creating an environment where children and teenagers will be protected and cared for at all costs. It means, as a church, there are a few changes in how we go about onboarding new volunteers and a commitment to be the very best we can when minors are around. It also means we take abuse prevention very seriously. So, if you are volunteering or serving in an area where there are minors, please bear with us; we are protecting you and those around you.

Becoming ECAP accredited is literally a dream come true. It has caused us to improve in areas where we once were lacking or even didn't fully understand the severity. It has opened the eyes of many in our congregation to take a broader look at how and why we do things through



the lens of child safety. There are exciting days ahead – and our children benefit the most from it!

Global Impact Celebration

Our Global Impact Celebration (GIC), held September 23–27, was a powerful time of encouragement, fellowship, and commitment. We had the privilege of welcoming missionary partners from our local community and around the world and hearing firsthand how God was working across the globe. Their stories of lives transformed through the Gospel challenged and inspired us to live with greater Kingdom purpose. We also prayed that God would call new missionaries from within our own church family. Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and willingness to serve as we continue making a lasting difference locally and around the world.

**Go
Pray
Give**



Tommy Davis!

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

By Anne Lacey Whitaker
Office Director



We are excited to officially welcome Tommy Davis to the FBFirst staff as our new Front Office Coordinator at the Island Campus. A familiar face to many in our church family, Tommy has served FBFirst faithfully in a variety of volunteer and leadership roles over the years. In his new role, he serves as the front-facing presence of our church office, welcoming and assisting guests while supporting our staff and day-to-day office operations.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Susan Hallman for more than six years of faithful service as our Receptionist and Ministry Assistant, and congratulate her on her retirement and this exciting new chapter. We are grateful for Susan's years of service and excited to have Tommy serving alongside our team!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Begins November 1st



PACKING PARTY EVENT:

Saturday, November 14
9am-11:30am
All are welcome.
Location: Gym

DROP-OFF due date:

Sunday, November 22

CHILDREN RECEIVE A TANGIBLE GIFT OF GOD'S LOVE AND A GOSPEL MESSAGE



Veterans Day Celebration

Honoring Those Who Served and Defended Our Freedom

By Micki Smith
Church Member

The Fernandina Beach Christian Academy will honor the veterans and active-duty military of Northeast Florida at a special program on Thursday, **November 5th**, at 9am in the Auditorium. Celebrating the 250th birthday of our Country, lower-school students will present in story and song their understanding and respect for those who protected and defended the 13 Colonies which became the United States of America in 1776. Middle-school students will represent soldiers from the first six major USA wars —the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War and World War I.

Each branch of the United States Armed Forces will be recognized including the United States Space Force which was officially established as the sixth military branch in 2019. This is the first new branch of the armed services in 73 years! Please let FBCA know if you are or have been a part of the Space Force! Email mickis642@gmail.com. We would like to have you be a part of our program! FBCA is also looking for additional WWII veterans who can attend this special service. For 13 years, FBCA has recognized that each generation must protect and defend our freedoms. Please invite your family, your friends, neighbors and co-workers to this special tribute for veterans and active-duty military. Everyone is welcome!





A Wonderful Turnout!

By Delaney Crews
Executive Assistant

Our New Members Dinner was such a hit that we reached max capacity! We welcomed 50 new and prospective members for an intimate evening of fellowship and connection. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal with beautiful views while getting to know some of the new faces in our FBFirst family.

Pastor Zach shared personally about the heart, mission, and vision of our church and took time to answer questions from those in attendance. It was a wonderful evening, and we're already looking forward to the next one!

These dinners will now be held quarterly, so keep an eye out for the next date and start inviting prospective members to join us!



NOVEMBER 22
5PM

This will be a special time to come together as a church family in gratitude, share a delicious meal, and celebrate God's blessings. We are thankful for all He has done—and we look forward with joy to all He has yet to do. Bring your family and invite a friend!

Let the good times boil!



Save the Date!

FALL FESTIVAL

FUN • FAMILY • COMMUNITY

BOTH CAMPUSES

This is your friendly reminder to mark your calendars and save the date for our annual Fall Festival!

In an effort to reach more families in our community, we've moved the event to

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 28

6PM-8PM

GAMES &
ACTIVITIES

CANDY &
TREATS

GREAT
FELLOWSHIP

COMMUNITY
CONNECTION

We can't wait to celebrate with you and look forward to an evening filled with fun, fellowship, and opportunities to connect with our community.

More Than a Fall Festival

Candy, trunks, inflatables—and intentional connections

By Zach Zettler
Children's Pastor

I love the Fall season. College football, cooler weather, and all that comes with a new season. As a church, during the Fall season, we have the opportunity to do something intentional.

Our annual Fall Festival is more than just candy. Our Fall Festival is an intentional opportunity to invite friends, neighbors, and everyone in the community to take their next step – literally on our campus. Sure, candy will be plentiful, there will be inflatables and trunks, but what makes Fall Festival important is the intentional conversations our people have with people who are walking onto our campus.

This year, we are intentionally changing the date. We have moved Fall Festival to Wednesday, October 28, from 6pm – 8pm. Why did we do this? Well, we believe we are able to reach more people on this night rather than competing with traditional trick-or-treating. We are a safe place for the community to join us. It's going to take 50,000 pieces of candy

again, 30-40 trunks, and lots of volunteers who serve as greeters, golf cart attendants, safety/security team, parking lot attendants, and a whole host of other things. We need you – not only on the Island Campus – but also at Central Nassau. This year, each campus will share in the excitement of reaching our respective communities. Where will you serve? There is a place for everyone – scan the QR code to get started.

Remember, our Fall Festival is about one thing – intentionality. Will you be intentional about showing up and finding someone to help them take their next step?



One Day: A Christmas Story

An inspiring evening of music, scripture, and worship.

By Jennifer Hudson
Music Director

Get ready for a joyful night of music and a telling of the Christmas story like you've never heard before.



The Worship Ministry is excited to invite you to our Christmas Choir and Orchestra Concert on Saturday, December 12th and Sunday, December 13th, both at 6PM. This concert will feature the unique musical program, "One Day" by composer John Bolin. This beautiful retelling captures the heart of God's promise of hope, love and peace. It reminds us in a busy season that God does not forget His people, and that something wonderful

can begin in ordinary, difficult circumstances. It invites us to reflect on what Christmas truly means: God with us.

Our award-winning choir is excited to present this program for our local audiences, as they will also present it alongside other incredible musicians in New York City at the legendary Carnegie Hall on November 29th! Join us on December 12th or 13th for inspiring songs, meaningful

readings, and moments that make the season worshipful. Come and be refreshed with the history of the greatest story ever told in this musical experience, drawing its uniqueness from Scripture, as well as great works similar to Handel's "Messiah" and the iconic Broadway show "Fiddler on the Roof." This program is suitable for ages 5 and up, and admission is free with no tickets required. Don't miss this night of musical storytelling, and be sure to invite your family and friends!



Save the Date!

CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA
CONCERT

**One Day - God's Great
Story of Redemption**

*The Christmas story told like
you've never heard before*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH @6PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH @6PM

CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICES
A Candelight Celebration

Thursday, December 24

Celebrate the birth of Jesus with us this Christmas Eve! Join us for a special service filled with worship, Scripture, and a reminder of the hope and joy we have because Jesus came.

**Island Campus 3PM & 5PM
Central Nassau 1 PM**

Bring your family and friends as we pause from the Christmas busyness and celebrate the true reason for the season!

Jesus is born. Come celebrate with us!

JOIN PASTOR ZACH **WEEKDAYS**

RADIO BROADCAST

Outreach Mission

WBTG – 106.3 FM

Sheffield, AL | 9:30 AM

WRZN – 720 AM

Ocala, FL | 9:30 AM

WTMN – 1430 AM

Gainesville, FL | 9:30 AM

WIWA – 1270 AM

Orlando, FL | 9:30 AM

WAYR – 550 AM

Jacksonville, FL | 8:30 PM
Sundays

WTLN – 990 AM

Orlando, FL | 2:00 PM

WTRJ – 91.7 FM

Jacksonville, FL | 7:30 AM

**WLEB – 93.1 FM, 97.7 FM,
98.7 FM & 106.3 FM**

Lebanon, PA | 7:00 PM



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Live at
10:45 AM

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ONE CHURCH. TWO LOCATIONS. ONE MISSION.

2026 Calendar Highlights

OCTOBER

28 Fall Festival

NOVEMBER

- 1 Operation Christmas Child
- 4 Surviving the Holidays
- 5 FBCA Veterans Celebration
- 7 Beach Baptism
- 11 Veterans Day
- 14 Men's Sporting Clays
- 15 Growth Track
- 22 Low Country Boil
- 26 Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 4 Women's Christmas Celebration
- 12 /13 Christmas Concert
- 24 Christmas Eve service

Island Campus

1600 South 8th Street, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034
904.261.3617 | [FBFIRST.COM](https://fbfirst.com)

SUNDAY WORSHIP | 9:00AM and 10:45AM
WEDNESDAY | 6:00PM (5:00PM Dinner)

Central Nassau Campus

86050 Hamilton Street, Yulee, FL 32097
904.261.3617 | [FBFIRST.COM](https://fbfirst.com)

SUNDAY WORSHIP | 10:45AM
WEDNESDAY | 6:00PM