

Welcome from Pastor Tim...



Good morning! My name is Tim Lantzy, and I'm the senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Crystal River. I'm so pleased that you decided to join us today. We are a friendly church, and I hope you will also find us to be a loving church. I would love the opportunity to get to know you better and to talk about what God is doing in your life. Please call the church office and we can schedule a time to visit.

A Note to our Guests...

We're so excited that you have joined us today. You are important to our church family! Please take a few moments to complete the *Communication Card* in your welcome packet or in the pew in front of you. Pastor Tim will be greeting people immediately following the worship service. Please stop by and say hello. Pastor Tim would love to meet you!

Service Times & Schedule of Activities

Sunday

Contemporary Worship 9:30 a.m.
 Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m.

Bible Study is available at 8:15 & 9:30 & 10:45 a.m. for Adults
Children's Worship at 9:30 & Bible Study at 11:00 a.m. for Children & Youth.
See Sunday School listings in the Welcome Center.

All Wednesday Night Activities

The River After School Program..... 2:30 p.m.
 Children Awana 6:00 p.m.
 River Student Worship..... 6:00 p.m.
 Adult Bible Study and Prayer..... 6:00 p.m.
 Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m.
 Celebration Singers..... 7:15 p.m.

Thursday

Sowing Seeds (Quilting Ministry)..... 9:00 a.m.
 (Women on Mission meets the 1st Thursday of each month except July & August)

How To Find Online Services

You can find us on our website at firstbaptistcr.org. Drop down on the Sermon tab and you will find Pastor Tim's Sermons along with his Verse By Verse teachings from Wednesday Night Bible Study. The Sermons and Verse By Verse are one week behind on-campus services. For Sunday school teaching from Explore The Bible, you can find us on [Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com), search "The You Project Mike Howard," click on the logo. Sermons and Bible Study videos are also hosted on Rumble.com ("FBCCR Sunday Sermons" & "Verse By Verse with Pastor Tim"). For more information on what is happening here at church, sign up for the Constant Contact Sunday & Wednesday Happenings emails by calling the Church Office. We will email you the materials that correspond with what you watch online. We also send out important information regarding our church family. See you online!

Meet Our Staff

Dr. Tim Lantzy, Senior Pastor
 Pastor Tim Wuester, Minister of Worship Arts
 Pastor Cliff Ford, Minister to Students
 Donna Cusick, Director of Children's Ministries

Church office hours 8:30-3:30 Monday-Friday
700 N. Citrus Avenue, Crystal River, FL 34428
Phone 352-795-3367; Fax 352-795-3714

Email: fbccr@firstbaptistcr.org Website: www.firstbaptistcr.org

On Deck This Week...

Office Closes..... Wednesday @ 12:00 p.m.
 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service..... Wednesday @ 6:00 p.m.
 Office Closed Thursday

Merry Christmas!

Office Closed Friday

GIVING SUNDAY

A Special Day Of Giving

A special thank you to all those who gave a sacrificial gift on Dec 7. If you were unable to give then, we have extended "A Special Day of Giving" until December 31 @ Noon.

"A Special Day of Giving"

- Would you be willing to tithe this Sunday?
- Would you be willing to make up for a missed Sunday?
- Would you be willing to give a double tithe for just one week?

You've Got Mail

Mail boxes are up and ready. They are set up near the Welcome Center where you can send and receive your Christmas cards to and from our church family. Please put the card in the drawer with the person's first letter of their last name. We have separate boxes for our Ministerial Staff to cut down on the overflow, so make sure you put theirs in the box with their last name on it. Don't forget to check the drawer with your last name to see who has sent you Christmas wishes as well!

O Holy Night

Let's celebrate Christmas! Come join us for a festive afternoon of beautiful Christmas Music at a combined Vocal and Handbell concert on Sunday, December 21, at 3:00 p.m. Come join us at the First United Methodist Church, 8831 W Bradshaw Street, Homosassa, featuring FUMC Vocal Choir and Citrus Ringers Handbell Choir. Feel the magic of the season, join the sing along, share the joy and receive the spirit of Christmas in your heart. Admission is FREE, but an offering would be graciously accepted and much appreciated.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24 @ 6:00 p.m.



Christmas Hours

The church office will be closing at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24. It will be closed on Thursday, Christmas Day and Friday, December 26 as well. December 31, there will be no evening activities due to the Christmas break.

2026 Contribution Envelopes

The contribution envelopes for 2026 are now available, you may pick them up in the Welcome Center. If you do not find a box with your name, please contact the Financial Office to obtain one.

(Tithes & Offerings, as well as Year end contributions for 2025 need to be placed in the offering on December 28, dropped off at the office before 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31, or be post-marked no later than December 31.)

A thousand times in history a baby has become a king, but only once in history did a King become a baby.



Deacon Meeting

There is a Deacon meeting on Sunday, January 4, at 12:15 p.m. in room 201. Deacons please make every effort to attend.



DLife Group-Starting A New Year

Our group completed a 3-year small group fellowship and review of the New and Old Testament in December. We will be starting from the beginning in the New Testament book of Matthew. Beginning January 13, 2026, we will continue to meet on Tuesday's at 6:00 p.m., at the church in room 201. In Matthew 4:19, Jesus said "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." This was not a call to join a discipleship program but an invitation to a lifestyle of disciple-making. Prayerfully consider joining us for a weekly small group fellowship and Bible study. A sign up sheet is available in the Welcome Center. For more information please contact our church office or Jim LaGuidice, 305-490-8099.



Looking to the New Year

- Jan 1—Office Closed
- Jan 5—John Collins Celebration of Life
- Jan 10—Winter Jam
- Jan 17 & 18—Manatee Festival
- Jan 24—CRWC Membership Rally
- Feb 6-7—D-NOW
- Feb 21—Awana Grand Prix
- Mar 6—Women's Event
- Mar 21—Spring Fling
- Mar 23-27—Spring Break
- Mar 28 & 29—Passion Play
- Apr 5—Easter
- Apr 12—Citrus Community Handbell Concert
- May 6—Awana Awards Night
- May 10—Mother's Day
- May 13—Agape House Sale
- Jun 8-12—Youth Camp
- Jun 15-19—Vacation Bible School
- Jun 21—Father's Day

Agape House Needs

It's getting cold outside. Agape House is in great need of men's clothing size XS, S and M. They also need Men's coats any size and blankets of all sizes too. Please help us fill this need as soon as possible. Thank you, Agape House Team



Kid's Worship in the Clubhouse: Available for ages 4-5th grade during all worship services. Drop off: 9:20 and 10:50. Nursery is also available.



Nursery for Infants to 3 years old

Dec 21	9:30 a.m.	Connie Hopkins Jazzy & Lily
	11:00 a.m.	Marylou Rusovitch Elizabeth Cusick
Dec 28	9:30 a.m.	Katy Maguire Needed
	11:00 a.m.	Elizabeth Cusick *Needed

Music & Multi Media Schedule

Dec 21	Camera	Projection	Sound	*P
9:30 a.m.	Jim Watson	Mark Stolze	*Needed	e
11:00 a.m.		Sam Graham	Jim Watson	d
Dec 28	Camera	Projection	Sound	n
9:30 a.m.	Jim Watson	*Needed	Mark Stolze	g
11:00 a.m.		Tina Sauers	Brenda Bruni	

Welcome to Worship!

9:30 a.m.

Countdown Video		
Welcome & Announcements		Pastor Tim Lantzy
Video	Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	
Mission Statement & Prayer		
Praise & Worship		Pastor Tim Wuester
	<i>Shout For Joy</i>	
Fellowship		
Praise & Worship		
	<i>God So Loved</i>	
	<i>He Shall Reign Forevermore</i>	
Prayer & Offering		Pastor Tim Wuester
	<i>What Can I Do</i>	
Sermon Video		
Message		Pastor Tim Lantzy
	"The Cradle, The Cross And The Crown"	
Invitation		
	<i>What Can I Do</i>	
Closing Prayer		Pastor Tim Lantzy

11:00 a.m.

Pre-Service		Pattie Williams Handbells Robert Snider Organ
	<i>Joy To The World</i>	
Call To Worship		
	<i>Because We Believe #519</i>	
Welcome & Announcements		Pastor Tim Lantzy
Video	Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	
Mission Statement & Prayer		
Fellowship		
Praise & Worship		
	<i>God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen</i>	
	<i>What Child Is This #198</i>	
	<i>Away In A Manger #205</i>	
Handbell Praise		Handbell Choir
	<i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	
Prayer & Offering		Pastor Tim Wuester
Handbell Praise		Handbell Choir
	<i>Go Tell It On The Mountain</i>	
Sermon Video		
Message		Pastor Tim Lantzy
	"The Cradle, The Cross And The Crown"	
Invitation		
	<i>I Have Decided To Follow Jesus #434</i>	
Closing Prayer		Lee Stokes

merry Christmas!

Deacon Ministry

Remember to call a Deacon if an emergency comes up in your family and you need prayer support. Please call:

Deacon of the Week: Booker Brooks 352-513-3007

Sermon Notes

Christmas 2025

"The Cradle, The Cross, And The Crown"

Philippians 2:5-11

On Campus: December 21, 2025

Online: December 28, 2025

Three Main Events In Jesus' Ministry:

1. The _____.

"He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness" (Philippians 2:7)

The lesson from the cradle is that Jesus _____ with us in our suffering.

2. The _____.

"And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!" (Philippians 2:8)

"Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2)

The lesson from the cross is that Jesus _____ about us in our sin.

3. The _____.

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9-11)

"They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4)

"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10)

The lesson from the crown is that Jesus _____ for us in our struggles.



December 21, 2025



Our Mission Statement

First Baptist Church of Crystal River exists to touch hearts and transform lives by sharing the love of Jesus Christ.