

## IMPORTANT DATES:

April 1 - 30th	30 Days of Prayer
April 11 <sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am	Sacred Saturdays In-Person Prayer
April 18 <sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am	Sacred Saturdays In-Person Prayer
May 5 <sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am	Commitment Sunday Our Collective Yes
June 7 <sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am	1 <sup>st</sup> Forward Sunday Presentation of Gifts



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OF VIENNA

# Forward Together:

ONE Church, ONE Goal  
30-Day Devotional Guide

First Baptist Church of Vienna  
Dr. Vernon C. Walton, Senior Pastor

 450 Orchard St. NW  
Vienna, VA 22180



[www.fbcv.org](http://www.fbcv.org)

ONE CHURCH  
ONE GOAL

"And I told them of the hand of my God which  
had been good upon me, and also of the  
king's words that he had spoken to me.  
So they said, "Let us rise up and build."  
Then they set their hands  
to this good work."

NEHEMIAH 2:18

FORWARD TOGETHER: ONE CHURCH, ONE GOAL  
Commitment Card

*A sacred promise. A step of faith. A declaration of unity.*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

MY FOUR-YEAR COMMITMENT

After prayerful consideration, I/we commit to minimally give  
\$1500 per year toward the Forward Together Capital  
Campaign over the next four years:

GIVING SCHEDULE

I plan to give:

- Weekly: \$\_\_\_\_\_ per week
- Monthly: \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month
- Quarterly: \$500 three times per year
- Annually: \$\_\_\_\_\_ per year
- One-Time Gift: \$\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

And I told them of the hand of my God which had been good upon me, and also of the king's words that he had spoken to me.

So they said, "Let us rise up and build." Then they set their hands to this good work.

# -NEHEMIAH 2:18



# A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Grace and peace to you, First Baptist family,

I greet you in the strong, saving, and sustaining name of Jesus the Christ. It is with both joy and expectation that I place this devotional guide into your hands as we journey together through this season of vision, sacrifice, and forward movement. God has been faithful to us. Through every trial, every transition, and every triumph, the Lord has kept us, and now the same God who has brought us this far is calling us to go further.

As we embrace this season of Forward Together: One Church, One Goal, we anchor ourselves in the Word of God. In Nehemiah 2:18, the people declared with one voice, “Let us rise up and build.” That declaration was not just about walls, it was about unity, vision, and shared responsibility. It was about a people coming together, trusting God, and committing themselves to the work ahead. That same call rests on us today. We are not just maintaining ministry, we are building for the next generation.

As you pray and reflect, know that we are also moving intentionally toward a sacred moment in the life of our church.

We are paving the way to Commitment Sunday on May 3rd, when I will ask each member of this body to prayerfully bring forward their commitment cards as an act of faith and unity. This is not about pressure—it is about participation. It is about each of us seeking God and responding in obedience, so that together we can move forward into the future God has prepared for us.

I encourage you to take your time with these devotionals. Pray over them. Reflect on them. Discuss them with your family and fellow believers. Let them stir your faith and strengthen your commitment. This is not just about a campaign, it’s about consecration. It’s about aligning our hearts with God’s will and stepping forward together in obedience.

Church, the time is now. The vision is clear. The call is strong. And the promise of God is sure. So let us rise, together. Let us build, together. Let us move forward, together.

With Gratitude and Anticipation,



Dr. Vernon C. Walton, Senior Pastor

# WEEK 1: ONE SAVIOR

Luke 24:6

*"He is not here, but is risen..."*

Early that morning, before the sun had fully stretched across the sky, they came looking for Jesus in a place where dead things belong. But the angel spoke up and shifted everything: "He is not here, but is risen." That declaration still echoes through time, reminding us that our hope is not buried, our help is not hidden, and our Savior is not stuck in yesterday's grave. We don't serve a memory—we serve a living Christ. And because He got up, we can get up too.

There is only **one Savior**, and His name still has power. Power to heal what's been broken, power to lift what's been heavy, power to save to the uttermost. In a world full of substitutes and stand-ins, we anchor ourselves in the truth that Jesus alone is our Redeemer. Not our money, not our connections, not even our own strength—but Jesus. And when we move forward as a church, we don't move in our own name—we move in His name, the name that is above every name.

**Because He Lives,  
We Are Made Whole.**

## WEEK 1 READINGS & REFLECTIONS

During Lent, we confronted our brokenness. Easter proclaims that Christ restores what sin shattered. This week invites us to sit with the truth that wholeness is not self-achieved — it is resurrection-given.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. Where did I experience brokenness during Lent?
  2. What part of my life needs resurrection power right now?
  3. How does knowing Christ makes me whole change how I see myself?
  4. What does "wholeness" look like for my family, my relationships, my church?
  5. How does personal wholeness prepare me for communal unity?
- Write down one area of brokenness and pray daily for Christ to bring resurrection healing.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Luke 24:6 Romans 8:11 Isaiah 53:5 2  
Corinthians 5:17 John 20:21 Colossians 1:20  
Psalm 147:3**

## WEEK 2: ONE BODY

Ephesians 4:4–6

*“There is one body... one Lord, one faith, one baptism...”*

The Apostle Paul reminds us that we are not scattered pieces—we are one body. Different gifts, different backgrounds, different stories—but still one body. And if we’re one body, then what affects one of us touches all of us. When one rejoices, we all rejoice. When one struggles, we all lean in closer. Unity is not uniformity—it’s harmony. It’s the beautiful sound of many voices coming together under one Lord.

God never intended for us to do this work alone. We are connected, divinely woven together for a purpose bigger than any one person. That means we can’t afford division, distraction, or disconnection. The same Spirit that saved us is the same Spirit that binds us. So as we move forward, we move together—shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart—because there is one body, and we belong to each other.

**Wholeness leads to unity.**

## WEEK 2 READINGS & REFLECTIONS

### **“Wholeness Leads to Unity.”**

Easter doesn’t just heal individuals, it forms a people. Christ makes us one body, one family, one community. Unity is the fruit of wholeness.

### **REFLECTION QUESTIONS:**

1. What relationships in my life need healing or forgiveness?
2. How does unity strengthen the witness of the church?
3. What does it mean to “protect” unity rather than “create” it?
4. Where do I see God calling our church to deeper oneness?
5. How can I personally contribute to unity this week?

Reach out to someone in the church you haven’t connected with in a while. Offer encouragement.

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Psalm 133:1 Ephesians 4:4–6 Acts 4:32  
Philippians 2:2 Colossians 3:13 Romans 12:5  
John 17:21**

## WEEK 3: ONE SACRIFICE

Romans 12:1

*“Present your bodies a living sacrifice...”*

*Paul doesn't ask us for leftovers—he calls us to lay our whole selves on the altar. Not a dead sacrifice, but a living one. That means we keep showing up, keep giving, keep serving—even when it stretches us. A living sacrifice breathes, moves, and sometimes feels the weight of what it costs. But it is in that offering that we discover true worship.*

*We often think sacrifice is about loss, but in the Kingdom, sacrifice is about transformation. When we give ourselves fully to God—our time, our gifts, our resources—we are not diminished, we are developed. And as a church, if we're going to move forward, it will require something from all of us. Not equal giving, but equal sacrifice. Because when everybody brings what they have and lays it before the Lord, God has a way of multiplying it for His glory.*

**Unity through shared sacrifice.**

## WEEK 3 READINGS & REFLECTIONS

### **“Unity Expresses Itself Through Shared Sacrifice”**

Sacrifice is the language of love. Christ's sacrifice makes us one; our sacrifice reflects that oneness. This week prepares our hearts for giving — not from pressure, but from worship.

### **REFLECTION QUESTIONS:**

1. What does sacrificial giving mean to me?
2. How has God been generous to me this year?
3. What fears or hesitations do I need to surrender to God?
4. How does giving unify the church?
5. What is God asking me to release so He can multiply it?

Pray over your Forward Together commitment with your household.

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Romans 12:1 Proverbs 3:9 Mark 12:44 2  
Corinthians 9:7 Luke 6:38 Matthew 6:21 2  
Samuel 24:24**

## WEEK 4: ONE FUTURE

Nehemiah 2:18

*“Let us rise up and build...”*

*Nehemiah stood before a people who had grown used to broken walls and lowered expectations. But he carried a vision from God, and when he shared it, something shifted in the atmosphere. The people responded with one voice: “Let us rise up and build.” That’s more than construction language—that’s a declaration of faith. It says we believe tomorrow can be better than today.*

*We are not just inheriting a past—we are building a future. And that future belongs to all of us. It’s going to take vision, yes—but also commitment. It’s going to take prayer—but also participation. We can’t sit on the sidelines and expect the walls to rise. God has given us the blueprint, and now it’s time to pick up our tools. Because when we move forward together, with one heart and one goal, there is no limit to what God can build through us.*

**Rise up  
and  
build.**

## WEEK 4 READINGS & REFLECTIONS

**“Rise Up and Build.”**

**Wholeness → Unity → Sacrifice → Building**

This week focuses on stepping into the future God is calling us to build together.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- What future do I believe God is preparing for our church?
- How does my commitment help build that future?
- What legacy do I want to leave for the next generation?
- Where do I sense God strengthening my hands for the work?
- How can I pray for our church during this season?

Walk around the church campus (physically or mentally) and pray over each area.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Nehemiah 2:18 Nehemiah 4:6 Nehemiah 6:3  
Psalm 127:1 Habakkuk 2:3 Jeremiah 29:11  
Ephesians 3:20 Psalm 78:4 Joshua 24:15**



## **\$1.2 MILLION (4 YEARS)**

- **\$400,000 Debt Retirement**
- **\$800,000 – Capital Improvements**
- **Major Projects:**
- **Parking Lot Replacement:** Improved safety, accessibility, and first impressions.
- **Carpets Replacement:** A refreshed, clean worship environment.
- **Restroom Upgrades:** Modern, comfortable, and accessible facilities.
- **Kitchen Modernization:** Better support for fellowship, repasts, and outreach.
- **HVAC Replacement:** Reliable comfort and energy efficiency.
- **Updated Youth Spaces:** Technology updates and modernization of classrooms.

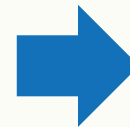
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## THE ASK

### NOT EQUAL GIVING, BUT EQUAL SACRIFICE

Every member of our church has a place in this campaign. Whether you are able to give a large gift or a modest one, your participation matters.

In Nehemiah's day, every family worked on a different section of the wall, but when they finished, the wall stood as one unified structure. The same is true for us.



**Every member is asked to give \$1,500/year above their tithe.**

### WAYS TO GIVE

- Weekly (\$30/week)
- Monthly (\$125/month)
- Three times per year/(\$500/x3)
- Annually (\$1500)
- One-time gifts (any amount)