

Santa Rosa Baptist Association

6820 Hwy 87 N Milton, FL 32570 phone:850.623.8873 Fax:850.623.1157

*An electronic copy of the VIEW is on our website: www.srassociation.org

Associational Mission Strategist: Jim Waters, jim@srassociation.org

Administrative Asst.: Patti Smidt, patti@srassociation.org

Faith & Hope Counseling available at our office, call 850.471.3430 Ext. 3

VIEW

Associational Mission Strategist

Mark Estes, in his new book *The Road We Must Travel Again*, shares several thoughts that are worth reflecting on this week:

- The modern Western church has gotten really good at the “come and see” model.
- But here’s the tension: Jesus never said, “Come check out my temple.”
- Jesus said, “Go.” Go into all the world. Go to the highways and byways. Go and make disciples.
- Go touch the untouchable. Go love the unlovable. Go to the places polite religion tries to avoid. Go to the places the Pharisees thought were detestable.

As churches of the Santa Rosa Baptist Association, may we always remember where true ministry often takes place—not merely within the four walls of our church buildings, but beyond them. While we are grateful for the buildings God has entrusted to us, they are simply bricks and sticks when the Church—the people of God—is not inside them. The Church is at its best when it leaves the building, carrying the hope of the Gospel into homes, neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, and to the ends of the earth.

May we continue to gather for worship, encouragement, and equipping, but may we never lose sight of the fact that we gather in order to go. Jesus has called us to be a people on mission, faithfully taking the Gospel wherever He leads.

Now onto the happenings of the month....

As I reflect on the past month, I continue to be grateful for what God is doing through our churches as we serve Together for the Kingdom. Whether serving locally through Vacation Bible School, watching many of our churches step out on mission in our community and ultimately to the ends of the earth, or preparing for a new school year, God continues to use our churches to make an eternal impact.

Excited to Be a Southern Baptist

I left this year’s Southern Baptist Convention encouraged and thankful to be part of a family of churches committed to the Great Commission. Although we are imperfect people, our partnership through the Cooperative Program allows us to accomplish far more together than any one church could accomplish alone.

This year’s reports reminded us of the incredible work God is doing:

The North American Mission Board (NAMB) reported more than **1,000,000 baptisms across Southern Baptist churches**

during the past three years.

The International Mission Board (IMB) commissioned **63 new missionaries** to take the Gospel to the nations.

Our **six Southern Baptist seminaries** continue to thrive as they prepare the next generation of pastors, missionaries, and ministry leaders.

Every one of these ministries is made possible because our churches faithfully partner together through the Cooperative Program. Thank you for your continued generosity and commitment to Kingdom work.

Crossover Orlando

One of the highlights of the month was the opportunity to serve alongside **Pine Terrace Baptist Church** during **Crossover**, the evangelism emphasis that precedes the Southern Baptist Convention.

Our team had the privilege of serving at three sports outreach events, including two track meets and an all-football tournament. These events provided opportunities to build relationships, share the Gospel, and encourage families throughout the Orlando area. It was exciting to watch churches working together to reach their communities with the hope of Christ.

For the week, nearly 20,000 gospel conversations. 1,077 salvations, 554 churches participated. **Together for the Kingdom**

Vacation Bible School Season

It has been a joy visiting many of our churches as they have been immersed in Vacation Bible School. Every year I hear countless testimonies from adults who say their journey of faith began at VBS. Never underestimate what God can do through a week of intentional Gospel teaching, loving volunteers, and faithful churches.

I especially appreciated seeing our churches cooperate by sharing decorations, ideas, resources, and encouragement with one another. That spirit of partnership beautifully reflects what it means to serve Together for the Kingdom.

Thank you to every volunteer, teacher, recreation leader, kitchen worker, and pastor who invested countless hours to make VBS a success. Your labor is making an eternal difference.

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Church	05/16/26 06/15/26	2026 Total
Antioch Fellowship	50.00	300.00
Avalon	0.00	2,620.32
Bagdad First	67.50	378.61
Berrydale	405.21	2,298.57
Billory	716.00	2,194.00
Blackwater	139.98	1,217.49
Calvary	0.00	250.00
Cora	867.49	2,897.91
East Side	125.00	750.00
Ferris Hill	2,858.29	8,117.31
Floridatown	150.00	750.00
Friendship	0.00	467.92
GB First	0.00	0.00
Harold First	84.00	428.00

Church	05/16/26 06/15/26	2026 Total
Hic. Hammock	0.00	100.00
Immanuel	0.00	4,750.00
James Street	48.00	254.67
Jay First	129.57	570.23
Live Oak	50.00	250.00
Living Truth	1,241.00	6,837.00
Midway	0.00	110.00
Milton First	1,438.00	8,615.45
Mission Casa	50.00	150.00
Navarre First	0.00	1,746.97
New Bethel	143.13	820.74
New Life	168.20	1,032.34
Olivet	576.90	3,184.56
Pine Level	495.30	2,342.93

Church	05/16/26 06/15/26	2026 Total
Pine Terrace	1,952.90	12,622.79
Pleasant Home	0.00	1,858.38
Providence	0.00	0.00
Replicate	0.00	750.00
S. R. Shores	445.27	1,224.37
Springhill	0.00	225.00
Stump Springs	300.00	300.00
The Point, SBC	98.72	474.39
Wallace	2,258.56	6,327.46
Woodbine	200.00	1,200.00
Viet. Christian	0.00	0.00
Viet. Living Faith	0.00	0.00
Anonymous Church	800.00	5,001.00
Total GIFTS	15,859.82	83,418.41



We appreciate all of you and your giving; as you give to your church, the church gives to the association. In this way, we all work together for the Kingdom of God, seeing people saved and lives changed!! Thank you so much!

Upcoming Events Continued from Pg. 1

PRAYER **PLEASE remember to pray for all our church JULY Vacation Bible School Ministries (VBS), and our churches local, and international Mission trips.**

SAVE THE DATE:

July 14 - 8am 4 pm @ Jay First **Registration, Dental Bus**

July 20-24 - **Mobile Dental Bus Ministry**- Jay First

July 30 - Men's Barn Meeting - Antjuan Marsh @ Living Truth

August 1 or 2 - Back to School Prayer Walk - Contact your church for more information.

August 3 - **WEST REGION - 9-3pm. "Practical Preaching"**, speaker Stephen Rummage @ Olive Baptist, Pensacola.

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September 10 - **West Region Youth Leader Retreat** - @ 5 Bridges Church, Panama City Beach. 10 - 4 pm.

September 12 - **REGIONAL Women's & Teens Edify Conference** @ Immanuel Baptist, Pace. 7:30 -3:30pm, Vendor Shopping, Lunch, Many breakout sessions.

Sept. 21-22 -**Next Gen Summit** @ the FL Bapt. Convention Early bird special \$15 til Aug. 21st. Afterward \$30.

Back-to-School Prayer Emphasis

As summer draws to a close, we also begin preparing for a new school year. The first weekend of August (1st, and 2nd) will once again be our annual emphasis on praying for our schools.

I encourage every church to consider adopting a school or schools near your campus. Reach out to the principal and ask how your church can pray for the faculty, staff, students, and families as they begin another year.

This simple act of prayer and encouragement can open doors for lasting relationships and demonstrate Christ's love to those serving in our educational community.

Thank you for faithfully serving the Lord and for partnering together through the Santa Rosa Baptist Association. It is a privilege to serve alongside each of you as we continue to strengthen leaders, encourage churches, engage our communities, and work Together for the Kingdom. Finally, Please continue to pray for the leaders in our churches in the following areas:

- Sense our Lord's clear direction
- Sense our Lord's encouragement
- Sense our Lord's conviction of sin
- See our Lord's provision
- Walk in the power of the Holy Spirit

Pressing Toward the Mark,

D/W

Dr. Jim Waters, Associational Mission Strategist

