

Santa Rosa Baptist Association

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

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VIEW

Associational Mission Strategist

A few weeks ago I spent time reflecting on Philippians 1:3–11, I was reminded of the precious gift God has given us in one another. Paul's words to the believers in Philippi capture much of what we experience serving together in the Santa Rosa Baptist Association.

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you." As we consider our fellow pastors and churches, gratitude naturally fills our hearts. God has graciously woven our lives and ministries together for the sake of the gospel. Though we serve in different congregations and communities, we share a common calling: to make Christ known, to shepherd His people faithfully, and to advance His kingdom.

Paul rejoiced because of the Philippians' partnership in the gospel. That same partnership is a blessing we enjoy today. We are not competitors laboring in separate fields; we are brothers serving on the same mission. We celebrate one another's victories, pray for one another's burdens, encourage one another through challenges, and stand together in the defense and proclamation of the gospel. Our churches may have different personalities and contexts, but our hearts are united in Christ and in His mission.

As we reflect on God's work among us, we find confidence in the same promise that strengthened Paul: "He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." The Lord who called us into ministry has not abandoned His work. He is shaping us, refining us, and faithfully accomplishing His purposes through our collective witness. When we grow weary, we are reminded that the success of the gospel does not rest upon our strength but upon His faithfulness.

Paul spoke of holding the Philippians in his heart. There is something deeply encouraging about knowing that we are not walking this road alone. Ministry can often feel isolating, but God has provided fellow laborers who understand both the joys and the challenges of shepherding His people. Our fellowship is more than denominational association; it is a spiritual bond forged by grace and sustained by a shared love for Christ and His church.

Therefore, our prayer for one another is the same prayer Paul offered for the Philippians: that our love would abound more and more, that our ministries would be marked by wisdom and discernment, and that our lives would bear the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ. May we continue to sharpen one another, strengthen one another, and spur one another on toward faithfulness.

As we serve together, may we never take for granted the blessing of this gospel partnership. May our unity be a testimony to the power of Christ, our fellowship a source of encouragement, and our shared ministry a means through which God receives glory and praise. For the privilege of serving alongside one another in the gospel, we give thanks to God

June & July Happenings:

Vacation Bible School

At last count, I have had the pleasure of attending 14 Vacation Bible Schools this summer. What a blessing it has been to see the different contexts and unique ways our churches share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with students. I am so thankful for the many children's ministry workers, VBS directors, and countless volunteers who have made the Summer of 2026 a mighty movement of the Gospel throughout our community through the vehicle of Vacation Bible School.

Men's Barn Meeting

Dr. Antjuan Marsh will be sharing this Thursday night at Living Truth for the Santa Rosa Men's Barn Meeting. I was blessed to graduate from Milton High School with Antjuan and still remember the night he called me from Troy University to tell me he had placed his faith in Jesus Christ. It has been an honor and joy to watch his ministry develop over the years. I hope you will make plans to join us.

Mission Trips

I won't take the time to mention every mission trip our associational churches participated in this summer, but I will say how encouraged I am by the priority our churches place on taking the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Our churches recognize the need for the Gospel not only in our local communities but also among people and places far beyond where we live. Go Jesus!

Preaching Opportunities

I have had the wonderful opportunity to be in many of our churches throughout the late spring and summer. During that time, I have preached or shared in the following churches: Calvary, Billory, Berrydale, Pleasant Home, Springhill, Woodbine, Wallace, Florida Town, New Life, and Pine Terrace. I always enjoy spending time with our SRBA churches and seeing firsthand how the Lord is at work among His people. My preaching schedule is somewhat clear for the Fall so reach out, I would love to come share with your precious church.

Waterfront Rescue Mission

Recently, I had the opportunity to serve alongside Pine Terrace at Waterfront Rescue Mission. We prepared chicken and dumplings, green beans, corn, cornbread, and topped it all off with peach cobbler. (Now I'm sure you're hungry!)

The highlight of the evening for me was leading worship. Logan Matthews, Worship Leader from Friendship, and Hudson Brown, son of Pastor Nathan Brown, led the music portion of the service, and I had the privilege of preaching. It was incredibly encouraging to see the response. At the end of the service, I invited the volunteers to come forward so we could pray with anyone who had a need. When I opened my eyes, people were lined up, some four deep waiting to be prayed for. What a powerful reminder that people are hungry for hope and eager to experience the love of Christ. Go Jesus!

Peer Learning Groups

Our Peer Learning Groups will resume in August. We will finish discussing last year's book, *Atomic Habits* by James Clear, and

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**"Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things.
In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. " 1 Chronicles 29:12**

Church	06/16/26 07/15/26	2026 Total
Antioch Fellowship	50.00	350.00
Avalon	2,620.32	5,240.64
Bagdad First	65.67	444.28
Berrydale	385.23	2,683.80
Billory	0.00	2,194.00
Blackwater	0.00	1,217.49
Calvary	250.00	500.00
Cora	0.00	2,897.91
East Side	125.00	875.00
Ferris Hill	1,293.40	9,410.71
Floridatown	0.00	750.00
Friendship	0.00	467.92
GB First	0.00	0.00
Harold First	65.00	493.00

Church	06/16/26 07/15/26	2026 Total
Hic. Hammock	0.00	100.00
Immanuel	4,750.00	9,500.00
James Street	46.82	301.49
Jay First	0.00	570.23
Live Oak	50.00	300.00
Living Truth	0.00	6,837.00
Midway	0.00	110.00
Milton First	1,114.56	9,730.01
Mission Casa	100.00	250.00
Navarre First	1,858.15	3,605.12
New Bethel	100.98	921.72
New Life	216.47	1,248.81
Olivet	390.48	3,575.04
Pine Level	283.15	2,626.08

Church	06/16/26 07/15/26	2026 Total
Pine Terrace	1,836.80	14,459.59
Pleasant Home	0.00	1,858.38
Providence	250.00	250.00
Replicate	0.00	750.00
S. R. Shores	0.00	1,224.37
Springhill	225.00	450.00
Stump Springs	300.00	300.00
The Point, SBC	77.48	551.87
Wallace	879.50	7,206.96
Woodbine	0.00	1,200.00
Viet. Christian	0.00	0.00
Viet. Living Faith	0.00	0.00
Anonymous Church	800.00	5,801.00
Total GIFTS	17,834.01	101,252.42

Thank
You...

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

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PASTOR'S PEER LEARNING GROUP MEETINGS:

Milton PLG: Aug. 13, 10:30am, at the SRBA office
FBC Navarre PLG: Aug. 20th, 10:30am @ FBC Navarre
Pace PLG: Aug. 27th, 11am @ Immanuel, Pace

SAVE THE DATE:

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.

August 3 - WEST REGION - 9-3pm. "Practical Preaching", speaker Stephen Rummage live-streamed at the SRBA office. Snacks & Lunch provided. Register on our website: sras-association.org/events

August 10 - Association Council Meeting @ Noon & Executive Committee Meeting at 6:30pm @ the SRBA office.

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. 8:30 -3:30pm, with Rachel Lovinggood. 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.

Oct. 18 - Santa Rosa Baptist 119th Annual Meeting - 3pm - 5:30pm. Fellowship Meal after -- Location TBD

I will distribute this year's book, "The Road We Must Travel Again" by Marc Estes. I am looking forward to another year of learning, growing, and doing life together for the sake of the Kingdom.

Back-to-School Prayer Emphasis

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

Last month I encouraged 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, it is vital to the mission of the SRBA that you 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

