

Interim Associational Missionary Report

One of the seven miracles Jesus performed as a sign of His divine nature was the feeding of the 5,000 (John 6:1-13). Most often we focus on the Lord taking two small fish and five barley loaves to feed the large crowd. My message this month is to observe the people involved in the miracle. Two types of individuals were present that day, consumers and investors; three, if you count the disciples as investors-in-training.

The great crowd following Jesus were consumers. They wanted to see the miraculous signs Jesus performed. Later, these consumers would eat as much as they wanted after the Lord blessed the fish and bread. Shortly thereafter, many of these consumers turned away because they would not accept the challenging words of Jesus.

The inner circle of Jesus' disciples were consumers being prepared to become investors. Clearly, they were willing to follow Jesus, to become fishers of men (Mark 1:17). But they had much to learn about being an investor in kingdom work. Philip said they didn't have enough money to buy bread for the multitude. Andrew was skeptical about how far two fish and five loaves would go.

Only one investor stepped forward. A boy with two fish and five loaves, small though they were. Yet the lad was willing to invest them in the hands of Jesus. The Lord could have fed the 5,000 in any way He chose. The tiny offering revealed the magnitude of His divine power. Yet sometimes we overlook the more subtle point Jesus was making: investors in kingdom work do not have to be important or magnanimous givers. They only need enough faith to offer what they have.

After four months as your Interim AMS, I have discovered the same three types, both as individuals and as churches. Some like the idea of consuming what the SRBA can provide, but make no effort to be involved. Fortunately, we have many investors in the kingdom work of SRBA, financially and, more importantly, by their active participation. It is also a blessing to see churches who are beginning to experience the value of cooperative efforts, investors-in-training. May we all have the goal to be more like the boy, willing to place what we have in the hands of our Lord.

Keep the SON in your eyes.

Tom Doubt

WMU News

October 22 is designated by the Southern Baptist Convention as the Day of Prayer for Associational Missions. The SRBA has been blessed with Directors of Missions/Associational Mission Strategists who have had a heart for the local church/local church pastors and for the lost. Our Ministry Teams consist of men and women, gifted in their ministry area, with a passion for bringing glory to the name of Christ and reaching the mission field that is the South Roanoke area.

As Women on Mission, let us pray our churches will continue to have unity of heart with the heart of God and with each other as we continue in the Kingdom work God has for us through this association.

Serving Him with you,

Corby Bunting
SRBA WMU Director

Available Ministry Positions

Belhaven: Full-time ordained Pastor - email resume to: belhavenmissionaryb@gmail.com or by mail to: Belhaven Missionary Baptist Church, PO Box 400, Belhaven, NC 27810 Attn: Attention: Wade Boswell/Pastor Search

Bible: Youth Minister/Director (full-time) - Contact the church at 252-243-7078 or bmbcwilson@gmail.com

Webbs Chapel: Part-time Youth Pastor - Contact Pastor Stephen Duncan revstephenduncan@gmail.com

West End, Williamston: Full-time Pastor - Send resume to: applicant.webc@gmail.com

Go to southroanoke.org/church-jobs/ for additional information.

Prayer Prompt

Let us pray for the Associational Missionary Search Team asking the Lord to pour out His Spirit on them, and that He would make His words known to them, especially during the search process.

Proverbs 1:23

SRBA Prayer Team



AMS Search Team Update

Your SRBA AMS Search Team has been meeting twice a month. The position announcement which the Search Team recently crafted is currently viewable on the SRBA website, the digital version of the Biblical Recorder, and will appear in the printed October edition of the Biblical Recorder. Due to the publishing dates of the Biblical Recorder, new applications will now be accepted through November 15th rather than November 1st as previously reported. The announcement has also been sent to the North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina Baptist Conventions. We are now reviewing resumes for viable candidates as they are received. Please continue to pray that we would be open to God's leading for the person He has chosen.

AMS Search Team

Messenger Registration Guidelines Annual Gathering of SRBA Churches October 16, 2023

- (a) One messenger from each affiliated church; an individual messenger for each one hundred resident members or fraction thereof, up to a maximum of seven messengers per affiliated churches;
- (b) The Pastors of all affiliated churches;
- (c) The elected officers of the Association;
- (d) The Leadership Council Members

The annual gathering is open to elected messengers and any others from SRBA churches who would like to attend as guests. You may register on the SRBA Website, SRBA Facebook page or we can send you the pre-registration form. If you plan to come to the meal, you must pre-register by Wednesday, October the 11th so Williamston Memorial will know how many to prepare food for.

Attention Church Clerks

The 2023 Annual Church Profiles are due in the office October 6th. Please let us know if you need any assistance.