

Panorama

October 2009 Volume 10, Issue 3

Seeking wisdom
Touching lives
Caring globally
Finding fellowship
Passing it on



The New Alabama WMU Web Site, www.alabamawmu.org, Has Launched!



IT'S FINALLY HERE! After months of behind-the-scenes preparation, we are proud to announce the launch of www.alabamawmu.org.

The new site is both beautiful and user friendly. We are sure it will prove to be a valuable resource in your ministry.

Some of the great features of the Web site include:

- ~ Mission Alabama updates
- ~ Online ordering of free materials
- ~ Information about all Alabama WMU events
- ~ Details about WMU and Women's Ministry training opportunities
- ~ Info about Alabama WMU ministries
- ~ Information and resources for leaders of all WMU age-level ministry groups, as well as Women's Ministry
- ~ Resources for each of the annual offerings

And just in case you happen to type in our old Web address, don't worry. During this transition time, the old address will still take you to the new site. You can bookmark www.alabamawmu.org in your Web browser now to prevent any future confusion.

"We designed this site to be as user-friendly as possible," said Lucretia Mobbs, Alabama WMU consultant for women's and e-ministries. "Even though it already contains the most current Alabama WMU information and resources, we hope to add even more exciting features in the near future." Mobbs will be responsible for maintaining the site. If you have suggestions or comments, feel free to e-mail her at lmobbs@alsbom.org.

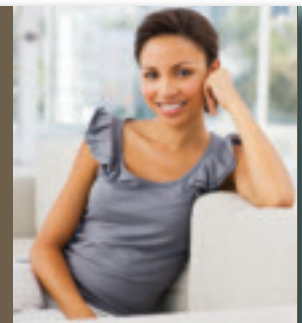
It is our desire that www.alabamawmu.org will be your first stop when you need help and resources in your ministry.

In this issue...

Meet Erin Bishop, the new Missions & Ministry Consultant for Students

Get to Know the Members of the Acteens Challenge Team

Acteens Challenge Team Member Ashley Long shares her personal testimony





Meet the New Alabama WMU Student Consultant, Erin Bishop

Erin Bishop was recently hired to serve as the part-time missions and ministry consultant to students for Alabama WMU.

Originally from Blairsville, Ga., Erin received her bachelor of family and consumer science from the University of Georgia. She then went on to earn her master of divinity degree from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in California.

Erin grew up in the missions education programs of WMU. She brings to the job a passion for missions and students, as well as a wealth of experience. Erin has previously served as a campus minister intern, a student ministry director, a camp staff member for LifeWay Christian Resources and a semester missionary to Tacoma, Wa., with



the North American Mission Board. She also was a volunteer summer missionary to Southeast Asia with the International Mission Board.

Erin is married to Adam Bishop who serves as the student minister at Heritage Baptist Church in Montgomery. They have one son, Max.

Erin may be reached by phone at 800.264.1225 ext. 224 or by e-mail at ebishop@alsbom.org.

Please join us in welcoming Erin to the Alabama WMU staff.

My testimony

I became a Christian at my home church when I was six years old. I grew in my faith there as a young child. As I became a teenager, I realized I was no longer growing in Christ, so I rededicated my life to Him after a Disciple Now weekend.

A few months before I turned 14, I felt God was calling me into missions. I didn't want to listen, but He just kept calling. I said to God, "I don't know what you want me to do with my life, but please show me." God showed me Romans 1:16, and I prayed and accepted His plan for my life.

Acteens is one of the most important things I do at my church. It has made a big impact on my life and changed the way I look at missions. Recently, I was able to put what I have learned in Acteens into practice on a mission trip with my family.

We went to Helen, Ga., with "Families on Mission" through the North American Mission Board. We had Bible study for kids at a camp resort. We had puppet shows, music, Bible stories, and crafts. One afternoon we did river clean up, and the next day, we had a gas buy down. People received four dollars off their gas purchases. We pumped their gas for them, cleaned their windows, gave them drinks and popcorn, and handed out evangelistic tracts. Two people accepted Christ as their Savior during the gas pay down! It was amazing!

I encourage all families to go on a mission trip together. It will truly bring your family closer and forever change the way you look at missions.

Ashley Long

Ashley, a high school senior, is a member of the Alabama Acteens Challenge Team and First Baptist Church in Alabaster.

Get to Know the 2009-2010 Acteens Challenge Team



Sarah Kuykendall, First Baptist Church, Prattville

Sarah is an Acteens Activator, Emerging Leader and school majorette. She also serves as Key Club president, Beta Club treasurer, National Honor Society secretary and SGA representative.

Ashley Long, First Baptist Church, Alabaster

Ashley is a high-school senior who loves working with children.

She is a praise band leader, American village volunteer, VBS teacher, and is in her church's youth ensemble.



Rebekah Seay, Eastmont Baptist Church, Montgomery

Rebekah is a high-school senior. She is on the Eastdale Mall Teen Team and is a Montgomery Symphony volunteer. She is a cheerleader, plays volleyball and is a member of her church praise team.

To enlist a member of the Acteens Challenge Team to speak to your group, contact Erin Bishop at 800.264.1225 ext. 224 or ebishop@alsbom.org.

Message from *Candace McIntosh*



Candace McIntosh

I can hardly believe more than 10 years have passed since I was first employed by Alabama WMU. These have been 10 very full and rewarding years! As I look back over this journey, I can honestly say my time at Alabama WMU has been marked by Alabama Baptists' commitment to the Great Commission.

When I joined the staff under the leadership of Beverly Miller, Alabama WMU was poised to move into a new decade with missions at its forefront. Dr. Rick Lance had just begun to make his mark on the lives of Alabama Baptists, giving us focus and vision for the decade ahead. Throughout these 10 years the State Board of Missions' motto (We have One Mission - the Great Commission, One program - the Cooperative Program, and Many Ministries - Great Commission Ministries) has penetrated our work, anchoring our commitment to train up leaders who are living a life that reflects God's commission in every aspect of who we are.

A great deal has changed in those 10 years, but one thing has remained steadfast - your commitment to fulfilling the Great Commission no matter the cost. I continue to be thankful to represent a group of believers like yourself who understand God's heart for a lost world - thankful that you are willing to pray diligently for those serving on the mission field and the people they love, to give freely even in difficult economic times, and to go when God calls you.

As I write this article, we are in the midst of the Kathleen Mallory Mission Offering season. This past year has been a strong year in Alabama WMU. The attendance in our missions events increased, we trained more leaders, and we had an incredible response in participation in our mission trips/projects. All of this was made possible by the gifts you give through the Kathleen Mallory Mission Offering and the Cooperative Program. I want to personally thank you for trusting us with your financial gifts.

But I can't help but sense as we move into this new decade that God is calling us to go deeper. What does that look like? It will mean something different for each of us, no doubt. My prayer is that God will break our hearts to the point we are unable to sit still. I pray our brokenness causes us to take that next step whatever it is! Maybe it is a deeper commitment to prayer, to take that first mission trip, to speak to your neighbor, to lead your church to adopt a people group, to lead a Bible Study or just to surrender all of who you are to Christ and His leadership in your life. I pray as we move forward we will allow His compelling love to give us boldness to take the next step...



Mission Alabama Is Underway



Mission Alabama is a new web-based missions education resource featuring missions opportunities right here in Alabama. Each month, you will be challenged in a new and exciting way to be involved in God's work in Alabama through prayer and hands-on missions activities.

View the current Mission Alabama ministry opportunity now on the Alabama WMU Web site, www.alabamawmu.org.

Mark your calendar

October

23-24 Fall Missions Festival for Children, WorldSong

23-24 Baptist Nursing Fellowship/ Parish Nurse Retreat, Shocco Springs

29 Fall Missions Festival for Adults, WorldSong

November

2 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer

17-18 Alabama Baptist Convention, Whitesburg BC, Huntsville

29-Dec 6 International Missions Emphasis, Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

December

Nov 29 - Dec 6 International Missions Emphasis, Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

January

15-16 Student Missions Weekend, WorldSong

30 Executive Leadership Team Meeting, Baptist Building, Montgomery



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Panorama

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Visit Alabama W.M.U. on the Web at
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WorldSong's Web Site Gets a Makeover!



WorldSong Missions Place's Web site,
www.worldsongretreat.com, has under-
gone an extreme makeover.

Along with a great new look, you
will find information about summer
missions camp and other events at
WorldSong, adventure rec programs
and global classroom programming.

Also available on the site is informa-
tion about each lodge and the rates for
booking a lodge for your group's retreat.
Applications to be a part of the 2010
summer camp staff can be downloaded
there, as well.

If you have not visited the
WorldSong Web site in a while, we
encourage you to take a minute to see
the refreshing changes and get up to
date about all the exciting things
happening at WorldSong.

Visit www.worldsongretreat.com today to see all the exciting changes!