

Panorama

A PUBLICATION OF ALABAMA WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

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WMU[®] God's mission.
Our passion.

ALABAMA WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION encourages missional living by challenging, equipping, and empowering Alabama Baptists to fulfill the Great Commission.



Missions Discipleship Spotlight:

Finishing Well & Starting Strong

Many of us have wrapped up our year in missions discipleship efforts. As we close out this year, we encourage you to, first, take a break. Rest. Thank God for His faithfulness and for all He has done this year, and ask Him to give you renewed vision and passion for the upcoming year. Then, begin planning ahead to ensure that you and your church's missions discipleship groups have the strongest start possible in the fall.

Take these steps to start strong in the fall:

- View National WMU's 2022-2023 catalog by visiting <https://www.wmu.com/2022-23catalog> to ensure you are utilizing all available resources.
- Register for Alabama WMU's Connect event on July 22-23, 2022, at AlabamaWMU.org/connect, and nominate a young woman (grades 9-12) to join you for Emerging Leaders Forum.
- Ensure Alabama WMU has up-to-date contact information for your church's missions discipleship leaders by visiting AlabamaWMU.org/connectwithus and completing the leader contact information form.



A Word from the Executive Director



Candace McIntosh

I, like many of you, was heartbroken by the report released by the SBC Sexual Abuse Task Force. Please join me and our staff in praying for the survivors of abuse, for our denomination to move forward with a repentant heart, and for Southern Baptists to seek God's wisdom as we put into place appropriate procedures for the future. Even prior to this report, assisting churches in being safer places has been a priority of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, and your church can receive a scholarship to begin Ministry Safe in your congregation. For more information visit alsbom.org/safe.

I also encourage you to read Dr. Rick Lance's blogs (RickLance.com) - especially his entry entitled Ten Reasons: Now More Than Ever. This blog outlines 10 reasons Cooperative Program giving is so important, now more than ever - the first being support of our International missionaries.

Your Cooperative Program and Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering

gifts are hard at work as we welcomed our first overnight Missions Adventure Campers this week at WorldSong! What a JOY, after two long years, to have missions camp in full swing! Our missionary family serving at camp this summer is here because the mom felt called to serve as a missionary during missions camp at WorldSong. What a wonderful opportunity for our campers!

We also are hard at work preparing for Connect at Shocco Springs on July 22-23. What a blessing this time is going to be! We are especially excited to introduce a Hispanic track that will be taught in Spanish. This year, we are working alongside the Cultures Office at the SBOM to begin Missions Discipleship in our Hispanic churches. This has been EXCITING! I hope you will join us for this time away for enrichment and training. For more information, visit AlabamaWMU.org/Connect.

Blessings to each of you! How very grateful I am for you and your leadership.



Make plans now for your observance

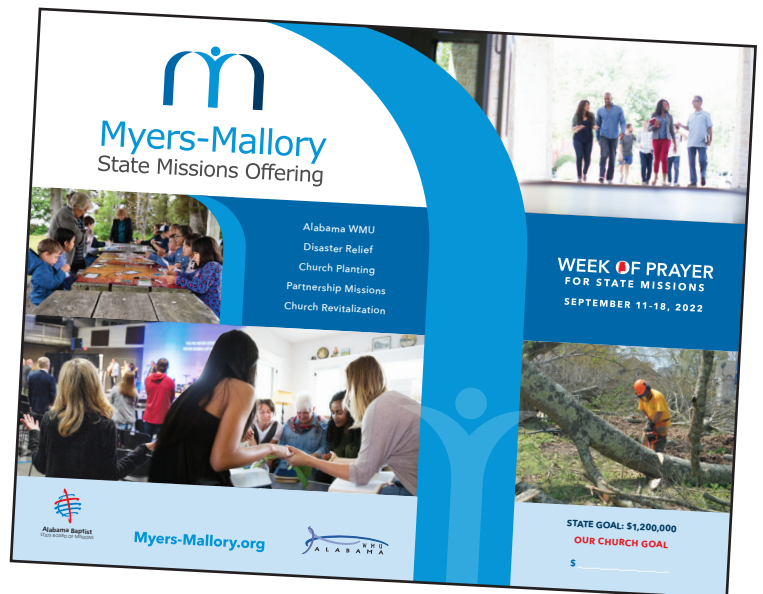


Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR STATE MISSIONS

SEPTEMBER 11-18, 2022

Myers-Mallory.org



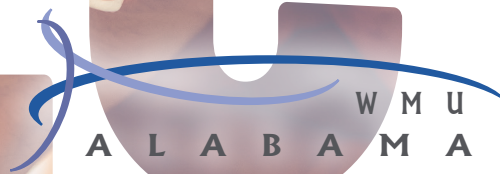
Order free promotional materials for your church at Myers-Mallory.org/resources

»» Connect ««

Alabama WMU Enrichment
& Leader Training

JULY 22-23, 2022

Shocco Springs Conference Center, Talladega, AL



with
Bible Study Leader

Connie Dixon
National WMU President

For rates and reservations:
Shocco.org or 800.280.1105

For more information:
AlabamaWMU.org/connect
800.264.1225 ext. 2325

FEATURING:

- **ENGAGING BREAKOUT CONFERENCES** on a variety of current topics
- **MISSIONARY TESTIMONIES** from North American and International missionaries
- **OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP TRAINING** opportunities for new or seasoned WMU, Women's Ministry and Royal Ambassadors leaders
- **HISPANIC WMU LEADERSHIP TRAINING** taught in Spanish on Friday and Saturday
- **EMERGING LEADERS FORUM** for girls finishing grades 9-12 who are selected as rising leaders

»» Connect ««

Alabama WMU Enrichment & Leader Training

PERSONAL & MINISTRY ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES with breakout conferences on topics including:

- > Doing Missions as a Family
- > Bible Study Methods for Life
- > Live, Pray, Go, Do
- > Rejoice in Hope: The Ministry of Encouragement
- > The God of Miracles
- > This Year in WMU

QUALITY LEADERSHIP TRAINING for all church and associational directors, coordinators, facilitators, leaders and other team members of:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Women's Ministry | Youth on Mission |
| WMU | Girls Ministry |
| Women on Mission | Girls in Action |
| myMISSION | Children in Action |
| Adults on Mission | Mission Friends |
| Acteens | Royal Ambassadors |

PLUS
Hispanic WMU
Leader Training
in Spanish

CONNECT IS OPEN TO EVERYONE, NOT JUST LEADERS.

For more information:

AlabamaWMU.org/connect
khelms@alsbom.org
800.264.1225 ext. 2325

For rates/booking:
shocco.org
800.280.1105

FRIDAY, JULY 22

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 2:00 PM | Breakout Conferences |
| 3:00 PM | Associational WMU Leadership Conference |
| 3:00 PM | Breakout Conferences |
| 4:00 PM | Breakout Conferences |
| 4:00 PM | Emerging Leaders Forum Check-In |
| 5:00 PM | Dinner |
| 6:15 PM | Worship Gathering |
| 8:00 PM | Special Event, including a visit with Rosalie Hunt |

SATURDAY, JULY 23

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| 7:00 AM | Breakfast |
| 8:00 AM | Breakout/Leader Training Conferences |
| 9:00 AM | Breakout/Leader Training Conferences |
| 10:15 AM | Worship Gathering |
| 12:00 PM | Lunch |
| 1:15 PM | Breakout/Leader Training Conferences |
| 2:15 PM | Breakout Conferences |
| 3:00 PM | Emerging Leaders Forum Concludes |

This event is made possible in part by gifts given to the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering and through the Cooperative Program.



FOR ALL THE LATEST ALABAMA WMU UPDATES:



@alabamawmu
@worldsongmissionsplace
@WMUcomplete



@alabamawmu



@alabamawmu
@worldsongmissionsplace
@alabamawmustudents

Upcoming Opportunities to Pray and Get Involved

**CHRISTMAS
BACKPACKS**
FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS



Because of Alabama Baptists, Christmas Backpacks has become a thriving ministry effort. In 2021 alone, 12,544 backpacks filled with gifts and the Gospel message were distributed through compassion ministry sites across the Southeast. More than 1,000 of those backpacks were distributed through nine Alabama Baptist Church plants in poverty-stricken areas of our state.

In addition, all requests for backpacks in the Mississippi River Delta were met, including sites hard hit by tornadoes. More than 1,300 backpacks were sent to ministry sites in Appalachia, as well. And more than 20 Alabama Baptist churches and

associations formed direct partnerships with ministry sites to help in the distribution efforts and ongoing ministry at those sites.

Alabama Baptists gave more than 12,500 backpacks filled with gifts and the Gospel message in 2021.

Here's how you can be a part of the Christmas Backpacks ministry:

- Pray! Begin praying now for individuals, churches and associations to participate in packing backpacks. Pray also for groups to be willing to partner with distribution sites. Pray for the logistics of coordinating and distributing 12,000+ backpacks across the Southeast - lots can go wrong!
- Pack a backpack yourself or with a group from your church. Think of ways to get others involved with you.

For more information: AlabamaWMU.org/christmasbackpacks

MK Re-Entry Retreat

August 2-6, 2022
WorldSong Missions Place

connections will form, the right information will be shared, and that these MKs will begin to feel at home as they adjust to life in the United States.

Alabama WMU is honored to host the 2022 National MK Re-entry Retreat. We will welcome Missionary Kids to the United States from all over the world as they come to the U.S. for college. This is a huge transition for these students as they leave their families and their homes to come here. Pray for these MKs and for the volunteers who will help lead the retreat. Pray that



Join us

for these upcoming opportunities:

July 2022

22-23 Connect, Alabama WMU Enrichment & Leader Training, Shocco Springs

22-23 Emerging Leaders Forum, Shocco Springs

August 2022

2-6 MK Re-Entry Retreat, WorldSong

13 One Day Training, State Board of Missions Facility

September 2022

11-18 Week of Prayer for State Missions & Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering

13 Ministers' Wives Connection, online

20 Great Commission Conversations, online

22 PAK Prayer, online

24 Alabama International Parents Fellowship, State Board of Missions, Prattville

Get Involved:

Visit AlabamaWMU.org to sponsor a gift card for an MK, write notes of encouragement to MKs, and for other ways to minister to these special kids.



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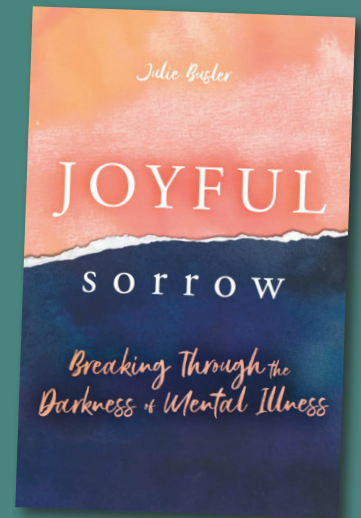


National WMU Launches New Project HELP Emphasis Focused on Mental Health

Project HELP is an initiative of WMU, SBC that identifies a critical issue, seeks to raise awareness about the issue, and provides practical approaches anyone can implement to open the door for both meeting needs and sharing the Gospel. Past Project HELP emphases have included issues such as poverty, human exploitation and refugees.

In September 2022, WMU will introduce a new focus, Project HELP: Mental Health. Between suffering a global pandemic, political unrest around the world, natural disasters, soaring violent crime rates and a worldwide economic crisis, it is vitally important for churches and individuals to understand the critical nature of mental health and its effect on society as a whole.

One of the first available resources for this emphasis is a book entitled *Joyful Sorrow* by former missionary Julie Busler, who currently serves as president of Oklahoma WMU. Julie understands the pain of mental illness and has learned trials not only humanize us but increase our capacity to be used by God. This is the first of a number of resources that will follow over the course of this several-year emphasis on mental health and our response.



For more information visit AlabamaWMU.org/WMUinitiatives beginning in August 2022.