

2026 MISSIONS STUDY

Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering



by Alabama WMU Executive Director Candace McIntosh

Last year, Alabama Baptists gave the second-largest Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering gift since the inception of the offering 10 years ago. I continue to be encouraged by the faithfulness and generosity of Alabama Baptists to support the Great Commission through steadfast giving and fervent prayer. Living out the Great Commission begins in our homes and churches and reaches to our communities, across our state, and around the world. Nearly half of Alabama's population is considered unchurched, living lives separated from the hope of the Gospel. Your generous gifts and committed prayers empower the work of five Great Commission Ministries, allowing Alabama Baptists to share Christ, meet critical needs, and advance Gospel impact throughout our state and beyond.

continued



Alabama Baptist
STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS

Statewide Goal: \$1,200,000

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continued

BECAUSE OF YOUR FAITHFUL GIVING...

- More than 800 women gathered at events hosted or supported by Alabama WMU this past spring. Nearly all participants responded to the next steps God placed on their hearts to intentionally share the Gospel, and 16 women received Christ as their Savior.
- Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief deployed 407 volunteers to Greenville, Miss., in January and February in response to Winter Storm Fern. Volunteers ministered to hundreds of households, meeting physical needs while faithfully sharing the Gospel. As a result, 16 individuals professed faith in Jesus Christ.
- There are currently nine active replanters within our Church Planter Network of more than 70 pastors who have been assessed, trained and resourced. Each replant reports an average attendance between 100 and 400, reflecting God's work of bringing new life through a legacy Gospel foundation.
- Alabama Baptists collected and distributed more than 15,000 Christmas Backpacks to Mississippi River Ministry sites and Alabama church plants. Through this outreach, more than 500 professions of faith were recorded.
- One church that partnered with the Office of Evangelism & Church Revitalization had an average attendance of 12 and no youth ministry. Within a year, the church has now connected with 38 students with an average of 17 attending weekly, welcomed 88 individuals in worship on Easter, and has developed stronger and more meaningful connections within their community.

WEEK OF ———
PRAYER
——— *for* STATE MISSIONS ———

YOUR GIFTS HELP SUPPORT THESE GREAT COMMISSION MINISTRIES:

Alabama WMU
Disaster Relief
Church Planting
Partnership Missions
Church Revitalization



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PREPARATION FOR

PASTORS & CHURCH MISSIONS LEADERS

GATHER missions leaders in your church (pastor, missions pastor, WMU director, etc.) for a time of prayer for state missions and for planning your churchwide Week of Prayer.

PLAN with your leadership team.

1. Set a date for your observance. Suggested dates are September 13-20, 2026. If those dates present a conflict for your church, feel free to choose another time. Set your church's offering goal. The statewide goal is \$1,200,000.

2. As a team, make a plan for promotion. Reserve space in church newsletters, on social media calendars, in worship service presentations and other outlets you plan to use for promotion. Visit Myers-Mallory.org/resources to explore the resources for the Week of Prayer and offering.

ORDER materials for churchwide distribution and for use in missions discipleship or other small groups. Consult age-level leaders to determine their needs, and, if possible, submit one order for your church.

SOME OPTIONS FOR PROMOTION INCLUDE:

- Displaying posters throughout the church, distributing prayer guides, and placing envelopes in pews
- Utilizing one or more of the videos or graphics available at Myers-Mallory.org during worship services
- Enlisting a state missionary or Alabama WMU consultant to speak to your congregation or group
- Promoting on social media and in the church newsletter using graphics available at Myers-Mallory.org
- Using the activities in this study guide during missions discipleship gatherings like Mission Friends, Children in Action, GA, RA, Acteens, Women on Mission, etc. or during other discipleship times

Order free Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering materials by:

1. Ordering online at Myers-Mallory.org/resources
2. Calling 334.613.2225
3. Emailing dclark@alsbom.org

Activities for PRESCHOOLERS

Read the Myers-Mallory Prayer Guide to familiarize yourself with the areas of ministry referenced below.

1. Welcome preschoolers at eye level. Provide blocks and encourage preschoolers to build two churches about two feet apart from one another. As they build, talk about people in two churches in Alabama who helped each other. Then provide an Alabama map and toy cars. Let preschoolers drive around Alabama. Say: "Some people have to drive far to get to church." Tell them what a blessing it is to live close to their church!

2. Show a picture of Shannon Maddox*. Tell preschoolers about Shannon Maddox. She went to Mission Friends when she was a little girl! She loved hearing about missionaries. When she grew up, she got to be a missionary, too! Now she helps women in Alabama tell more people about Jesus. Ask each preschooler to repeat after you: "Jesus loves you." Say: "You can be like a missionary and tell people about Jesus."

3. Show a picture of Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief's Quick Response Kitchen*. Let preschoolers pretend to cook for people whose houses have been affected by storms. Talk about people who work with Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief. They cook and give food away to people who are hungry. One lady who was helped after a storm years ago is now a helper to others. The Bible tells us to "help one another." Ask: "How can you be a helper?"

4. Invite a nurse to come talk to preschoolers.

Let the nurse talk about what she learned in school and how long it took her/him to finish the nursing program. Tell them about Alabama Baptist Nursing Fellowship. When students finish nursing school, Alabama Baptist Fellowship gives each one a Bible so the nurses can tell stories about Jesus found in the Bible. Have the nurse tell preschoolers about how she/he shares the love of Jesus working as a nurse.

5. Roll a soft baseball to preschoolers. Then tell them about Pastor Brian Williams in Alaska, which is very far from where we live! He wanted to do something special for children in his community in the summer. He thought about a baseball camp. He didn't have enough money to buy baseball bats and gloves, but people in Alabama did! They sent boxes of balls and gloves to Alaska. Remind preschoolers that they can share the things God has given them with others.

6. Talk to preschoolers about the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering.

Say: "The money we give to the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering helps Alabama Disaster Relief, Alabama WMU and Partnership Missions that helps partner churches with missionaries." Give each child a tube of M&Ms. Say: "After you have eaten your M&Ms, you can put money in the tube and bring it back to church. Your money will help others." A printable M&M tube label* is available. Remind preschoolers and their parents when to return their offering.

**Download these resources at Myers-Mallory.org/resources*

Read the Myers-Mallory Prayer Guide to familiarize yourself with the areas of ministry referenced below.

1. When a disaster happens, people often have a hard time finding a way to eat.

Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief has a new Quick Response Kitchen that allows volunteers to get food out faster. In advance, collect paper plates and play food. Set up a relay race: create a volunteer space for assembling plates and a space for survivors. Read the Prayer Guide Day 3 story and discuss why disaster survivors quickly need access to food. Divide into teams. Give each team plates and a box of play food. Guide children to assemble a meal, deliver the plate and return to collect more food. Continue until every child has had a turn. Emphasize teamwork by asking two children to carry a plate together, or set up obstacles and discuss obstacles ABDR volunteers encounter. Close with the Prayer Guide Day 3 prayer prompts.

2. Alabama Baptist Nursing Fellowship helps nurses use their skills to tell people about Jesus.

In advance, print "Hands that Help" outlines* and collect markers. Read the Prayer Guide Day 2 story and share how nurses use their skills to help people and tell others about Jesus. Distribute "Hands that Help" pages. Inside the hand, ask them to write or draw ways people can help others physically (bandages, food, help someone walk, etc.). Around the outside of the hand, ask them to add ways to help people know about Jesus (pray, give a Bible, invite them to church). After the activity, ask volunteers to share what they wrote. Talk about how God can use our hands to care for others, just like the nurses in the story. Close with Prayer Guide Day 2 prayer prompts.

3. God used money we gave to the MMSMO to help Theron Hawkins plant a new church called New Life Haitian Baptist Church.

In advance, print the "God Is So Good" Haitian Creole handout* for children. Read the Prayer Guide Day 4 story. Discuss why people want to worship in their own language. Pass out the handout and explain you are going to teach children to sing "God Is So Good" in Haitian Creole, the primary language spoken in Haiti. If

you have a younger group, you can use a call and response to teach the song (you sing one line and invite children to echo your words). After singing, talk about how it felt to worship in another language. Close with the Prayer Guide Day 4 prayer prompts.

4. Brian Williams uses baseball to tell children in Alaska about Jesus. Our state offering helped pay for the cost of sending baseball equipment for his baseball camp ministry. In advance, gather a variety of equipment for different sports (or pictures of the equipment) and place the items in a box. Label three to four areas around the room with sport names: baseball, basketball, football, tennis. Read the Prayer Guide Day 5 story. Invite each child to select an item from the box and place it in the correct category. (Note: If you don't have space, download the "Match the Sports" worksheet* instead.) After children complete the activity, talk about why children need the correct equipment to learn a new sport and how sports can be used to tell others about Jesus. Close with the Prayer Guide Day 5 prayer prompts.

5. Shannon Maddox first learned about missions as a little girl at church. Many people taught her about Jesus. Now she is a leader who helps other women tell people about Jesus. Read the Prayer Guide Day 8 story. Ask: Who has taught you about Jesus? Explain that our faith and example can influence many people. Ask children to stand in a circle. Choose one child to be the leader. As the leader makes easy motions (clapping, walking in place, raising arms, etc.), have the group follow. After 10-20 seconds, choose a new leader. The group follows the new leader. Continue choosing a new leader every 10-20 seconds. After the game, ask why leaders need to teach others. Ask them to think about who they can teach about Jesus. Close the session by praying through the prompts in Prayer Guide Day 8.

Give children an offering envelope and remind them when to return their offering.

**Download these resources at Myers-Mallory.org/resources*

Activities for STUDENTS

Read the Myers-Mallory Prayer Guide to familiarize yourself with the areas of ministry referenced below.

1. Feed the People. Using either online shopping through grocery store apps or by going to a physical grocery store, have students break into groups to plan and price a meal they might make for 100 people during a disaster situation. It needs to be easy, quick and filling for families in need. Do the exercise yourself first to give them a budget that is doable but makes them recognize the trade-offs, particularly with high grocery prices. Share about Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief and the work they do to feed people during disasters around the country.

2. Haitian Charcuterie Night Prep Work: Assign different dishes from the following fritay charcuterie board to students or choose a couple of the components and make them yourself. As your group samples the different street foods common in Haiti, discuss New Life Haitian Baptist Church and the work the Lord is doing there for the Haitian diaspora from the Prayer Guide Day 4.

Fritay Charcuterie Board:

<https://www.savorythoughts.com/haitian-fritay/>

3. Play Ball! Using a children's soft baseball set, set up a mini baseball field in a room at your church (or outside if you have the room). Break your group into teams and play an inning or two of baseball (or kickball if outside or in a gym). When finished, discuss the work of Alaskan missionaries using baseball to reach students in the summertime described in Prayer Guide Day 5. Help students understand that the activities and hobbies they enjoy in their everyday lives provide opportunities to share the Gospel message.

4. Full Circle It's hot potato - with a twist. Using a ball or other soft object, have the students stand in a circle and do one round of traditional hot potato where they pass the object quickly as though it's hot. Use music or a timer to call the end of the round, the goal being not to have the potato at the end. To

make things more fun, do subsequent rounds where the students switch directions or even pass it at your call. When finished, discuss the full circle moment of Janice Mason and the impact of Alabama Disaster Relief on her life as told in Prayer Guide Day 7.

5. More Countries Than She Can Name Print blank maps of the United States and have students either pair up or get in groups and see how many states they can label. For round two, challenge students to label a world map and see how many countries your group can identify. Transition into discussing Shannon Maddox and her role as a campus minister, leading students on mission to more countries than she could name, found in the Prayer Guide Day 8 story. Discuss how all her experiences, even from her earliest days as a Mission Friend, prepared her for her current role in leading women in Alabama to share the Gospel at home and around the world.

US Map:

<https://gisgeography.com/state-outlines-blank-maps-united-states/>

World Map:

<https://www.waterproofpaper.com/printable-maps/world.shtml>

6. First Aid Practice Prep Work: Obtain the following items and place them in a bag as a first aid kit (all available in the first aid section at Walmart or often can be borrowed from a first responder or avid hiker in your church): thermal heat blanket, bandages, gauze pads, antiseptic wipes or solution, burn cream, tweezers, adjustable splint kit, cold pack, tourniquet, etc. Discuss the purpose of the items in your kit, even bringing in a nurse or first responder to help if they're available. Transition into discussing the Alabama Baptist Nursing Fellowship found in Prayer Guide Day 2 as they empower nurses in missions domestically and abroad.

Give students an offering envelope to take home. Challenge them to personally give and remind them when and how to return their offering.

Read the Myers-Mallory Prayer Guide to familiarize yourself with the areas of ministry referenced below.

1. The first 24 to 48 hours following a disaster are a critical time for survivors. With a gas stove and serving window, Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief's new Quick Response Kitchen provides a way to rapidly provide hot meals. In advance, invite two volunteers to role play a disaster survivor and an ABDR volunteer who meet at the serving window. Provide simple prompts for the survivor (i.e., I haven't eaten anything in two days, and I don't know what I'm going to do.) Begin with the role play, then share the Prayer Guide Day 3 story. Break out in small groups and use the printable ABDR handout* to discuss what participants noticed in the interaction: what made the volunteer helpful ... or not; what it means to serve with both efficiency and compassion; and where are the "serving windows" in our everyday lives? Bring the group back together to share their insights. Ask participants to pray silently, asking God to show them a need they can meet and how they should respond. End with group prayer using the Prayer Guide Day 3 prompts. Ask God to equip each person to meet the needs He has shown them.

2. Alabama Baptist Nursing Fellowship empowers, educates and encourages healthcare professionals to use their skills to be on mission for Christ. In advance, create three posters using the following headings: "What do healthcare workers experience physically, emotionally and spiritually?", "What might healthcare workers need but not often receive?" and "What could meaningful encouragement look like for healthcare workers?" Share the Prayer Guide Day 2 story. Discuss the unique pressures healthcare workers face – long hours, emotional strain, compassion fatigue, frequent exposure to trauma and crisis. Provide markers and invite participants to visit each poster to consider a day in the life of a healthcare worker and write a response to the question. As a group, discuss the ideas generated by the posters, then ask: How can we minister to healthcare workers? Encourage practical

ideas and invite participants to identify one tangible way they can support a healthcare worker this week. Pray through the Prayer Guide Day 2 prompts.

3. With support from the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering and others, Theron Hawkins answered the call to plant New Life Haitian Baptist, providing a church where Haitians can worship in their heart language. In advance, print "Barriers to Bridges" handouts*. Read the Prayer Guide Day 4 story. Distribute handouts and ask participants to consider the barriers to worship created by differences in language and culture, distance and lack of resources and to write down ideas to bridge each barrier. Ask the group to share their thoughts and connect their ideas to the bridges built in Theron's ministry. Guide the group to ask God where your church can build bridges in your community. Pray through the Prayer Guide Day 4 prompts.

4. Funds from the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering help Brian Williams engage rural areas in Alaska with the Gospel. In advance, place paper and pens on each table. Read the Prayer Guide Day 5 story. Introduce the idea that God often uses what we already have to minister to others. Ask participants to list the resources they have available. Encourage them to think about tangible and intangible resources – materials, skills, connections, time, etc. After brainstorming, ask how these resources could meet local or global ministry needs. Reinforce the idea that provision for others often starts with recognizing what God has already provided. Pray through the Prayer Guide Day 5 prompts and ask God to open opportunities to share your resources with others.

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5. After a lifetime infused with missions, Shannon Maddox serves the women of Alabama by equipping and connecting women's leaders across the state. Give each participant blank paper and a pen. Introduce Shannon's story as a life shaped by many influences over time. Ask participants to listen for and record those influences as you read the Prayer Guide Day 8 story. Ask participants to turn their papers over and create a web or circle map with their name in the center. Ask them to add the people, groups or experiences that shaped their faith. Ask participants to share who invested in their lives.

Emphasize the ripple effect of discipleship across generations and provide time for participants to reflect on who they can encourage and disciple. Pray through the Prayer Guide Day 8 prompts.

Take time to pray for and collect the offering, or remind the group when the offering will be collected.

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