

2023



COOPERATIVE
PROGRAM

Prayer Calendar



THANK YOU

for committing to pray this year for the Great Commission Ministries listed in this prayer guide, which are all made possible by Alabama Baptists' gifts through the Cooperative Program. In this guide, you'll find prayer prompts for ministries related to the State Board of Missions, State Convention entities and the Southern Baptist Convention. As we commemorate the Alabama Baptist State Convention's 200th anniversary this year, there's nothing more important we can do than to bathe our cooperative Kingdom efforts in prayer. Your prayers and your gifts through the Cooperative Program are making a difference around the world. Thank you!



January

Your Church

Pray

Missions begins at the local church. Pray this week for your church's involvement in the Great Commission and the partnership that exists among Alabama's 3,230-plus Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program.

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January

Rick Lance **and the State Board of Missions**

Pray

Pray for State Missionary and Executive Director Rick Lance as he provides leadership at the State Board of Missions for 40 missionary colleagues who help provide resourcing, conferencing and encouragement for Alabama Baptist churches in many areas of Great Commission Ministries. (Connect with Dr. Lance at RickLance.com)

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January

Office of LeaderCare

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Ken Allen and his staff as they assist Alabama Baptist churches and associations to be on the leading edge of training and development of current and future leaders in order to fulfill the Great Commission and grow healthier churches. Pray also for Intentional Leader training events beginning this week. (Learn more at alsbom.org/LeaderCare)

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January

Office of Worship Resources

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Karen Gosselin who serves as coordinator of Worship Resources, assisting Alabama Baptist congregations in proclaiming the Gospel through music and engaging a lost and dying world with the truth and hope of Christ that worship brings. (Learn more at AlabamaWorship.org)

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January

Office of Evangelism

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Daniel Wilson as he leads the Office of Evangelism and seeks to equip Christians to share the Gospel. Pray that the State Evangelism Conference taking place January 29-30 in Birmingham will be effective in encouraging Alabama Baptists to tell the Good News.

(Learn more at EvangelizeAL.org)

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February

The Board of Aid for Students in Church-Related Vocations

Pray

Your CP gifts fund scholarships for students at the University of Mobile pursuing a church-related vocation. Pray for the board as they interview applicants and for each student who has sensed a call to ministry.

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February

Facilities Services

Pray

Pray for the Kingdom servants who minister in Facility Services. Wally Lacey and a staff of facility assistants provide a consistent labor of love during each week as an act of practical stewardship for the SBOM Office Facility in Prattville.

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February

Global Hunger

Hunger Sunday is February 19

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Kristy Kennedy as she communicates with Alabama Baptists about hunger needs in Alabama and the world. As Alabama Baptists give and hunger needs are met, pray that many will respond to Christ in faith. (Learn more at alsbom.org/hunger)

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February

Children's Honor Choir

Pray

Pray for this auditioned choir of 4th-6th graders from all around Alabama as they lead in worship during their tour March 3-5 in the Prattville area and that God will raise tomorrow's worship leaders from this group of young musicians.

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March

North American Missions

Pray

During this Week of Prayer for North American Missions, pray for church planters across the U.S. and Canada. They have been deployed by the North American Mission Board to spread the Gospel to key urban areas and beyond. Also, pray for Serve Tour Montgomery taking place March 10-11, as hundreds of volunteers descend upon Alabama's River Region to make a difference in the lives of hurting people. (Learn more at alsbom.org/ServeTour23)

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March

Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief

Pray

Pray for the Yellow Shirt Army – those trained Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers serving in our state and beyond when disasters strike. Pray for State Missionary Mark Wakefield, disaster relief strategist, as he leads and coordinates the ministry. This month begins an intensive time of volunteer training, so pray for leaders and learners alike in this ministry. (Learn more at sbdr.org)

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March

Partnership Missions

Pray

About 400 missionaries with the International and North American Mission Boards call Alabama home. Pray for State Missionary Scotty Goldman, director of the Office of Global Missions, as he seeks to help Alabama Baptists make missional connections with these missionaries. (Learn more at a18c.org)

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March

Church Planting

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Brian Harper, lead church planting strategist, who encourages and equips church planters to start new congregations in network with Baptist associations. Pray for church planters, their families and team members as they spread the Gospel.
(Learn more at PlantAlabama.org)

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April

The Gospel to Everyone

Pray

As Christians around the world observe Holy Week, pray for Alabama Baptists' efforts to point people to the Resurrected Christ. Pray especially for The Gospel to Everyone, an initiative through the Office of Evangelism to reach every neighborhood in our state with the Good News of Jesus Christ. (Learn more at TheGospelToEveryone.org)

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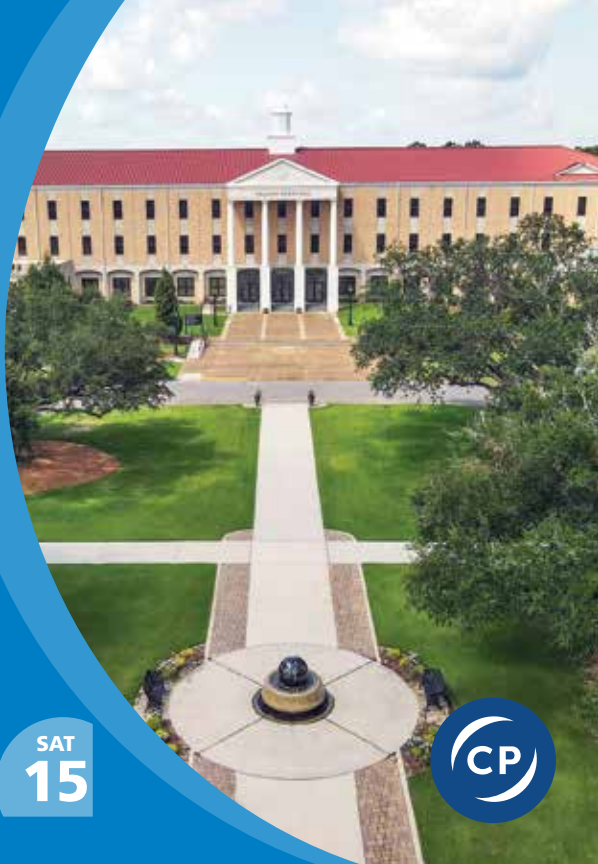


April

Alabama Baptist Education Commission

Pray

Pray for the Alabama Baptist Education Commission as they seek to be good and equitable stewards of the funds entrusted by Alabama Baptists during each year's Annual Meeting in adopting the Great Commission Ministries budget.



April

Bible Drill

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Belinda Stroud, children's specialist in the Office of Sunday School & Discipleship, as she assists participating Alabama Baptist congregations with their Bible Drill ministries for children, youth and high schoolers. Pray for regional Bible drills taking place this time of year.
(Learn more at KidzLinkAL.org)

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April

Discipleship

Pray

This week, pray for discipleship efforts taking place through churches across Alabama. Lift up the Alabama Disciple-Making Conference April 24-25, that participants would leave with a renewed passion for discipling others. (Learn more at MakingDisciplesAL.org)

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April

Alabama Baptist Retirement Centers

Pray

Pray for the staff and residents of four campuses of care in the Alabama Baptist Retirement Centers. Pray for ABRC as it offers educational programs to help churches and associations call attention to the needs of senior adults. (Learn more at abrc.org)



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May

Alabama Baptist Children's Homes & Family Ministries

Pray

Pray for Rod Marshall, president and CEO of Alabama Baptist Children's Homes & Family Ministries, as he leads them to provide foster care, campus foster homes, family care, college care and Pathways Professional Counseling. (Learn more at AlabamaChild.org)

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May

Our Southern Baptist Seminaries

Pray

Pray for the 20,000 students enrolled in six Southern Baptist seminaries. Pray for the presidents, administration and staff as they provide equipping for students preparing themselves for the work of Gospel ministry. (Learn more at sbc.net)

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Intercultural Ministries & Deaf Ministries

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Rick Barnhart and the staff of the Office of Associational Missions & Church Planting as they encourage Alabama Baptists to reach out to all with the Gospel in our culturally diverse state. Pray for State Missionary Kristy Kennedy as she coordinates efforts to reach Alabama's Deaf population for Christ. (Learn more at DeafMinistriesAL.org)



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May

Collegiate Student Missions

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Chris Mills as he helps deploy dozens of Alabama Baptist college students this summer to mission points in Alabama, the U.S. and the world. Pray for the students who serve and that many people will receive Christ as the Gospel is shared.
(Learn more at OneMissionStudents.org)



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May

June

Vacation Bible School

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Patty Burns, Vacation Bible School strategist, as she equips Alabama Baptist VBS leaders in one of the most time-proven tools to reach out to children, students and families with the Gospel and training in the Scriptures. As summer begins, pray for spiritual fruit to come from Vacation Bible Schools being held by churches across Alabama. (Learn more at KidzLinkAL.org)

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June

SBC Executive Committee

Pray

Pray for leaders at the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee as they seek to be faithful stewards of receiving and distributing dollars given in support of denominational ministries. Pray too as they recommend the Convention's annual operating budget and other business takes place at the SBC annual meeting June 11-14 in New Orleans. (Learn more at sbc.net)

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June

Men's Ministry

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Larry Hyche as he encourages and equips Alabama Baptist men to be missional in their thinking and intentional with their actions – all for the sake of making disciples and glorifying God. Pray especially for events like Fortify and Called, coming up later this year, which help equip young men to handle complex, life-changing issues. (Learn more at AlabamaMen.org)

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June

Shocco Springs Baptist Conference Center

Pray

Summer is an extremely busy time for Shocco Springs! Pray for Russell Kliner, executive director, and his staff as they seek to glorify God by providing a distinctly Christian environment for guests to experience Shocco's purposes of training, evangelism, inspiration, recreation and spiritual resources. (Learn more at shocco.org)

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Flip page and turn calendar around for July-December prayer points.



July

Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

Pray

Pray for Brent Leatherwood, president, as he and the ERLC staff encourage Southern Baptists to strive for the preservation of religious liberty and remain Biblically faithful regarding critical moral and ethical issues in a rapidly changing culture. (Learn more at erlc.com)



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July

Office of Communications & Technology Services

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Doug Rogers, office director, as he leads a team of specialists who help keep Alabama Baptists aware of how Cooperative Program gifts are making an eternal difference for Christ in our state and beyond.



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Alabama Christian Life Commission

Pray

Pray for CLC members as they seek to be a voice for Alabama Baptists related to vital concerns including religious liberty, the sanctity of human life from the womb to the tomb and many other moral and ethical issues.



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July

Office of Church Health

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Rob Jackson as he seeks to provide effective resources to strengthen local Alabama Baptist congregations. Pray that together we can be healthy leaders guiding healthy churches endeavoring to be even more effective in Great Commission Ministries. (Learn more at ChurchHealthAL.org)

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July

Preschool and Children's Ministries

Pray

Pray for a team of state missionaries – Belinda Stroud, Patty Burns, Karen Gosselin and Larry Hyche – along with Trish Jackson of Alabama WMU as they provide Alabama Baptists with conferences and other resources related to preschool and children's ministries. (Learn more at KidzLinkAL.org)

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August

Youth Ministry

Pray

As another new school year is upon us, pray for State Missionary Ben Edfeldt, director of the Office of Collegiate & Student Ministries, and his staff as they provide equipping opportunities and other resources for local Alabama Baptist churches to reach youth and students for Christ. (Learn more at YMLink.org)

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August

Collegiate Ministry

Pray

There are more than 300,000 unreached students on Alabama's college and university campuses. Pray for Ben Edfeldt, director of the Office of Collegiate & Student Ministries, as he leads 17 state missionary colleagues who serve as campus ministers to reach and disciple university students in Alabama with the Gospel. (Learn more at BCMLink.org)

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August

The Alabama Baptist

Pray

Pray for Jennifer Davis Rash, editor-in-chief, and her staff as they aim to provide Alabama Baptists with concise and balanced reporting of events from the world of religion with moral and ethical issues examined from a Biblical standpoint. (Learn more at TheAlabamaBaptist.org)

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August

Office of Sunday School & Discipleship

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Daniel Edmonds, office director, and his staff as they encourage Alabama Baptists to reach and maintain excellence in Sunday School and to equip disciples in connecting people to Christ, community and the Great Commission.

(Learn more at DiscipleMakingAL.org)

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September

University of Mobile

Pray

Pray for Lonnie Burnett, president, as he leads UM to be a place where students are equipped to follow God's calling in an academic community where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is at the core of everything that is done.

(Learn more at UMobile.edu)

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September

State Missions

Pray

This is the annual Week of Prayer for State Missions! Join with other Alabama Baptists in praying for five strategic priorities: Alabama Woman's Missionary Union, disaster relief, partnership missions, church planting and church revitalization. Also pray as to whether God may be leading you to support these initiatives through the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering. (Learn more at Myers-Mallory.org)

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September

The A. Earl Potts Scholarship

Pray

Your CP gifts help fund a college scholarship named in honor of Dr. A. Earl Potts, executive director of the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions from 1984-1990, for students at the University of Mobile. As a new school year is now underway, pray for the Alabama Baptist students who benefit from this scholarship as they seek to honor the Lord through their education and eventual careers.

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September

Alabama WMU

Pray

Pray for Candace McIntosh, executive director, as she leads Alabama WMU in encouraging missional living by challenging, equipping and empowering Alabama Baptists to fulfill the Great Commission. Pray also for the ministries which take place at WorldSong Missions Place each year, including this weekend's International Friends Retreat. (Learn more at AlabamaWMU.org and WorldSongRetreat.org)

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October

Associational Missions

Pray

Pray for State Missionary Rick Barnhart, director of the Office of Associational Missions & Church Planting, and for directors of missions in 74 local Baptist associations across Alabama as they partner together and strategize to reach Alabama for Christ. Many associations have their annual meetings this month, so lift up your association as it gathers.

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October

The Cooperative Program

Pray

October is Cooperative Program Month! Pray for State Missionary Jay Stewart as he leads churches to participate in giving through the Cooperative Program. Pray for the health of the Cooperative Program which enables a congregation to go into all the world, all the time, at the same time. Pray that as a result many will hear the Gospel and receive Christ. (Learn more at AlabamaCP.org)

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October

The Baptist Foundation of Alabama

Pray

Pray for John Ashworth, president of TBFA, as he leads his team to help Alabama Baptists in mobilizing financial resources for Kingdom purposes. Pray for the opportunities your family and your church may have to commit your resources to accomplish great things for the Lord. (Learn more at tbfa.org)



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October

Alabama Baptist Historical Commission

Pray

October 28 marks the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Alabama Baptist State Convention at Salem Baptist Church near Greensboro. Pray for Lonette Berg as she leads the Historical Commission to help churches learn, preserve and record our Alabama Baptist heritage, especially in this year of commemoration. (Learn more at ABHOnline.com)

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October

Christmas Backpacks

Pray

Pray for the recipients of the thousands of backpacks that were collected last week, filled with toys, hygiene items, a copy of the Christmas story and other gifts from Alabama Baptists. A ministry of Alabama WMU and the SBOM, these backpacks will be distributed to children living along the Mississippi River who are among some of the poorest in the U.S.

(Learn more at AlabamaWMU.org/backpacks)

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November

Alabama Citizens Action Program

Pray

Pray for Greg Davis as he leads ALCAP, "Alabama's moral compass," to be a resource for churches, organizations and interested individuals who desire to make Alabama a safer state for every citizen, with a focus on promoting an ethical, moral and responsible lifestyle based on Biblical standards. (Learn more at ALCAP.com)

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November

State Convention Annual Meeting

Pray

The Annual Meeting of the Alabama Baptist State Convention is November 14-15 at First Baptist Church, Montgomery. As we culminate a year of commemorating the convention's 200th anniversary and focus on the theme "Unfinished," pray for state convention leadership and messengers as they come together to worship and conduct business that honors the Lord and leads to more effective ministry. (Learn more at alsbom.org/convention)

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November

Thanksgiving

Pray

Pray this week with an extra measure of thankfulness for salvation and the mercy and grace of our great God! As we focus on giving thanks, pray each day with a heart of gratitude for all the Lord's blessings, with 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 as your guide. Also offer a prayer of thanksgiving for what God is doing through Alabama Baptists as we partner together through the Cooperative Program to fulfill the Great Commission.

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November

GuideStone Financial Resources

Pray

Pray for Hance Dilbeck, Jr., as he leads GuideStone in assisting pastors, ministers, missionaries and others in planning for retirement. Your CP gifts also support Guidestone's Mission:Dignity, which gives financial aid to retirement-age Southern Baptist ministers, workers and their widows in their time of need. (Learn more at GuideStone.org)

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December

International Missions

Pray

59% of the world today is considered unreached — meaning Jesus is not known or named among 4.5 billion people. During this Week of Prayer for International Missions, join Southern Baptists in praying for IMB missionaries who have been sent around the world to be steadfastly present among people who need to hear the Gospel. (Learn more at imb.org)

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December

Office of Financial Services & Human Resources

Pray

Every year, this office accounts for millions of dollars given through the State Board of Missions for Great Commission Ministries in our state and around the world. The end of the year is an especially busy time for the accounting staff, so pray for State Missionary Jo Ellen Johnson, CPA, as she leads in this sacred act of stewardship.

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December

Christmas

Pray

In these days leading up to Christmas, pray that the joy surrounding the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, would fill the hearts of all who follow Him. Pray that churches across our state would lift the name of Jesus high as the Light of the world, so that many would come to know Him as Lord during this season.

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December

Revival and Spiritual Renewal

Pray

In this final week of 2023, pray for revival and spiritual renewal to take place in believers, in our churches and in our nation. Pray for state missionaries Rob Jackson and Terry Long as they provide resources and conferences to help Alabama Baptists in praying for and seeking genuine revival.

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December

The Year Ahead

Pray

As 2023 draws to a close and 2024 begins, pray that the ministries of your church, association, the State Board of Missions and our Southern Baptist family would be even stronger together in the coming year. Pray for the spirit of cooperation to grow because we are stronger together than we are apart. (Learn more at AlabamaCP.org)

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THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME THIS YEAR TO PRAY FOR THE GREAT COMMISSION MINISTRIES MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GIFTS OF ALABAMA BAPTISTS THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM.

As we pray together, and as we give together, great things can happen for God! Continue your prayer journey by visiting alsbom.org/pray to sign up for regular prayer emails and notifications. And if you haven't already received your 2024 CP Prayer Calendar, be sure to request one at AlabamaCP.org.



Alabama Baptist
STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS



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This resource is made possible by gifts from Alabama Baptists through the Cooperative Program.