**2019 Woman’s Missionary Union Annual Report**

As the summer ended and the ministry year began, there was an excitement in the air as we anxiously awaited what God would accomplish in the coming months. On October 1 at 1:00 pm Alabama WMU launched one of her more bold and creative prayer ministries. Hundreds joined through a texting app to receive daily prayer requests to intercede for 365 days on behalf of the people of Pakistan. More than 1,113 people signed up to pray and an average of 750 pray daily. While we have heard tremendous stories of God moving, we watch as this story continues to unfold.

In December it became apparent that Alabama Baptists had once again embraced the Week of Prayer for State Missions and given generously to the Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering. The goal was exceeded with more than $1,264,000 given. To God be the glory!

On the backdrop of this wonderful work was the preparation of hosting the 2019 WMU Missions Celebration and Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in Birmingham, Alabama. Alabama WMU staff enjoyed working alongside state missionaries during Crossover Birmingham and representing Alabama Baptists in the State Board of Missions exhibit. In addition, they assisted in designing and setting up the SBC prayer room. Temporary Childcare Coordinator Becky Luther coordinated childcare for 130 preschoolers during the Pastors’ Conference and the SBC. There were 140 Disaster Relief volunteers from eight states who served. Local Arrangements Team Leader Sonja Bennett, and the nearly 40 volunteers she enlisted, worked registration and other activities during the three days of events hosted by National WMU. Alabama WMU and the State Board of Missions were grateful for the opportunity to serve through these various events.

There were many other service opportunities throughout the year. Below are additional highlights:

* Nearly 1,000 children and their leaders participated in Children’s Missions Explosions hosted in four locations across the state.
* Relaunched the ministry of Alabama Baptist Nursing Fellowship (ALBNF).
* Alabama BNF hosted mission trip to work with OneChild in the Dominican Republic and 4 members participated in a National BNF mission trip to Kentucky.
* More than 1,100 children, adults and leaders were engaged in missions through Fall Missions Festivals, Spring Fling and Missions Adventure Camp at WorldSong Missions Place.
* Boys Adventure Camp successfully merged with Missions Adventure Camp to become one at WorldSong Missions Place which resulted in an increased number of boys and teen boys attending camp.
* Assisted in the collection of 9,531 Christmas Backpacks that results in the Gospel being shared with at least these many children and their families
* Facilitated the partnering of 9 churches and associations with Christmas Backpacks host sites.
* Ladies Health Project in South Asia reported 65 receiving Jesus in the first quarter.
* More than 1,000 women, students and their leaders participated in events hosted by WMU.
* Missionary families continued to be supported through various means.

This has truly been a full year of opportunities to make much of our Savior through service and ministry.

During the July 27, 2019 Biennial Meeting new officers were elected. New officers are Melissa Bowen, Prattville, President; Shirley Smith, Dozier, Vice President; and Melanie Veazey, Alexander City, Recording Secretary.