

2022 Woman's Missionary Union Report

Praise the Lord for the response of Alabama Baptists to the ministry of Christmas Backpacks! WMU groups, churches and associations worked together to collect 12,544 backpacks. These gifts were delivered to ministry partners along the Mississippi River Delta, areas of Kentucky devastated by tornados, Tennessee, Ohio and to nine church plants in underserved areas of Alabama. Associations and churches partnered to deliver and distribute backpacks. This represents the Gospel going forward to 12,544 children and their families. To God be the Glory!

WMU members across the state provided gift bags for international students participating in International Friends Retreat. Three events were held (Covington Association, WorldSong Missions Place and Colbert-Lauderdale Association). These bags assist in developing relationships that lead to Gospel conversations.

More than 700 people continue to pray daily for the salvation of the people of Pakistan through a daily texting ministry. As a result of these prayers, 33 people accepted the Lord during 2021. In addition, our mission personnel experienced favor in receiving visas from the government. Mission support through prayers and giving is a critical part of the work of WMU.

The ministry of WorldSong experienced a resurgence in the fall with nearly 400 children and adults attending Fall Missions Festivals on the campus. Participants learned to pray and support our missionaries, as well as had an exciting time enjoying the outdoor fun there. This and the return to summer camps would not have been possible without the work of nearly 200 volunteers who aided in helping prepare the campus for campers over the year.

Missions Adventure Camp at WorldSong returned summer 2022 with 250 in-person campers from across the state. In addition, the WorldSong Travel Teams offered one day camps in six locations. Four of these locations were association camps. Over three hundred children participated in this mission day camp where they learned about God's work in West Africa.

Despite the challenges when the 2021 ministry began, staff was able to train nearly 450 missions discipleship leaders in-person and using Zoom. Praise the Lord for these faithful leaders.

Forty of these were Hispanic leaders from eleven churches that gathered in October to learn about missions discipleship and the importance of keeping missions at the forefront of the church. Eight churches committed to begin WMU work.

During the 2021 Biennial Meeting Alabama WMU elected new officers and trustees. Shirley Smith of Andalusia was elected president and Lanell Smith of Lapine as vice president. Melanie Veazey of Alexander City was elected a second term as recording secretary. Whitney Exline, Judy Gay, Debra Pierce, Jennifer Scott, and Ines Velez were elected as trustees.

Great Commission Conversations and Ministers' Wives Connection monthly Zoom calls continued throughout the year.

The Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering was the largest collection to date. Praise the Lord for the faithfulness of Alabama Baptists to the cause of missions.