

In times
like these,
Illinois Baptists rise
to meet
the need



Ministry innovation



Community transformation



Church revitalization



Mission Illinois Offering & Week of Prayer

September 13-20, 2020

It's time to pray for state missions

missionillinois.org



IBSA

2020 Mission Illinois Prayer Guide

SUNDAY: Crisis

The work of all our churches was tried in the pandemic that closed our buildings and demanded new ministries. IBSA continues to find new ways to equip leaders, revitalize churches, and encourage sharing the gospel on our Illinois mission field.

Pray for the IBSA Executive Team to lead effective ministry as the recovery continues.

MONDAY: Innovation

The immediate response of our churches to the pandemic was to develop new ways of teaching and gathering online. IBSA created multiple resources to assist in shepherding, even when our church members are apart. Together we found new ways to share Christ.

Pray for IBSA missionaries, church planters, and pastors who are reinventing ministry to meet today's needs.



Watch the Mission Illinois video at missionillinois.org

TUESDAY: Leadership

Many pastors tell us their number-one need in the local congregation is effective leaders. IBSA is equipping church leaders through webinars, peer groups, learning cohorts, and training nights, plus support from zone consultants across the state.

Pray for the Leadership Development Team and consultants in 10 Illinois zones who share insight on site to encourage churches and pastors.

WEDNESDAY: Transformation

For communities in need, transformation looks like churches and leaders meeting physical needs—masks and disinfectant, groceries and hot meals—and standing strong for the gospel where it is desperately needed.

Pray for the Mobilization Team, and leaders in missions and campus ministries across Illinois.

THURSDAY: Priority

When Coronavirus caused cancellation of the Priority Women's Conference, the team took the meeting online and participation grew dramatically. The pandemic has shown that skillful church leaders can be nimble, wise, and strong.

Pray for our women's ministry leaders and our Communications Team who give hands, feet, and voice to the missions work of Illinois Baptists.

FRIDAY: Revitalization

With 80% of SBC churches plateaued or declining, revitalization is an important ministry to help pastors and leaders turn congregations in the right direction: upward and outward. While Coronavirus caused most congregations to shut down, IBSA's missionaries offered training for new ministries through webinars and other content.

Pray for the Church Revitalization Team and churches that tackle renewing growth in a declining culture.

Saturday: Mobilization

When the pandemic prevented sending teams abroad or even across the state, our state missionaries focused on aiding Disaster Relief workers with COVID-19 response and connecting frontline responders with trained Southern Baptist chaplains.

Pray for Illinois Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers, and SBC-endorsed chaplains in healthcare facilities throughout the state.

SUNDAY: Giving

While some state conventions are scaling back ministries due to pandemic-related financial difficulties, IBSA is able to move forward with ministries that meet current needs. We hired two new managers in anticipation of reopening our camps and resuming discipleship events for students and adults.

Pray for IBSA's Operations Team, and for managers and staff of IBSA's two camps, Streator and Lake Sallateeska.