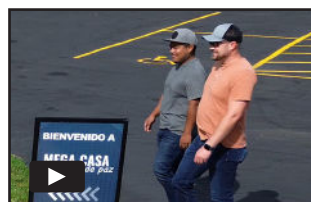


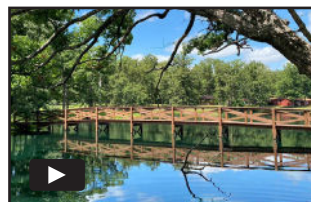
RE-IGNITE – After attending an IBSA evangelism conference, Pastor Will Ferguson, of Canton, decided he needed help reigniting an outward focus in his church. So, he called Scott Harris, Director of Evangelism at IBSA. Harris travels the state helping churches re-engage their neighborhoods with the gospel. Within just a few months a plan was in place and they were seeing God move.



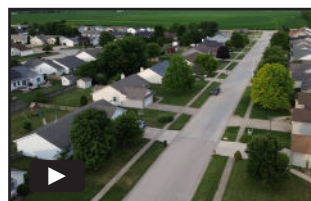
RELATE – Every hero needs a guide, a faithful partner who helps them fulfill their mission. For many church planters in Illinois, that guide is Kevin Jones, IBSA Church Planting Director. From helping them connect with training, partners, and resources to navigating the challenges of pastoral ministry as a fledgling church, he's by their side.



RECHARGE – Getting away to nature can be powerful. The world can slow down. The mind can quiet. And the heart can open to the Spirit of God. Streator and Lake Sallateeska Baptist Camps fill this need. At these rural retreats, weary pastors find rest and rejuvenation. And every summer, students flock to the grounds for fun, and leave changed by the power of the gospel.



RIGHT HERE – The term “mission field” can create visions of far-off places, but with over 8 million lost people, Illinois is a mission field in need of the gospel. Through the work of IBSA, Illinois Baptists cooperate together to plant and support new churches, ignite new fires of evangelism in existing churches, and reach students and recharge pastors at two rural retreats.



*Download the 4 video stories at MissionIllinois.org

*DVD available upon request. Email MissionIllinois@IBSA.org

**TOGETHER WE CAN
REACH OUR
ILLINOIS MISSION FIELD
WITH THE HOPE
OF THE GOSPEL**

**RIGHT
HERE**

IS A MISSION FIELD

**MISSION ILLINOIS
OFFERING & WEEK OF PRAYER**

September 8 - 15



missionillinois.org

There is a mission field RIGHT HERE in Illinois.

With over **8 million lost people** and 1.8 million immigrants from over 50 nations in our state, the need for the gospel is right here within our borders. When your church gives to the Mission Illinois Offering, you're investing in missions and ministries that reach throughout the state, impacting lives in all kinds of communities.

Your MIO giving **stays 100% here**, fueling gospel focused work in the small towns, unchurched communities, college campuses, and big cities of Illinois.

There is a mission field right here, and the Illinois Baptist State Association is focused on reaching Illinois lives.

Participate in the 2024 MIO, and help reach our Illinois mission

Your MIO giving directly provides for Illinois missions and ministry through...

- Support for **planting new churches** throughout Illinois
- One-on-one **evangelism** and **missions consultations** helping churches discover new ways to reach changing communities
- **Retreat spaces** at IBSA camps to help rejuvenate pastors and send them out recharged
- **Student camps** and **events** where kids and teens both hear the gospel and learn to share the good news of Jesus with their friends
- and much more!

Here's how you can lead your church to join together in the Mission Illinois Offering.

Prepare

As soon as you receive the Mission Illinois Offering promotion kit, start planning for participation.

- Begin regular prayer for MIO supported ministries and about your church's participation.
- Ask the missions committee or a mission-minded church member to help lead planning and promotion.
- Set a giving goal. Prayerfully set an increase over last year. If new to MIO participation, consider your church's other missions offering giving to help set an appropriate goal.
- Download or order resources to learn about and promote the Illinois focused missions that MIO supports.
- Schedule the week of prayer and offering on your church calendar.
- Request a speaker from IBSA during August or September to share about state missions.

Promote online

During the month of August.

- Post the MIO theme video on your website.
- Highlight downloadable MIO content through church email and social media.
- Set up Mission Illinois as an option through your online giving and share with church members.

Promote at church

During late August and September.

- Advertise on visual slides, in the church newsletter, and Sunday bulletin.
- Place posters in prominent locations.
- Share about MIO and Baptist state mission work during church announcements.
- Show the videos in worship during the four Sundays of September.

Participate in prayer and giving

During your scheduled offering Sundays in September.

- Provide each worship attender with a prayer guide and **offering envelope**.
- Pray for the individuals and ministries served by the offering.
- Remind worshipers they are part of a family of nearly **900 Illinois churches working together** to reach our state.
- Ask people to give to help your church meet its goal.
- Promote and collect the offering, both online and in worship services.

