

Creative Ways to Promote the Willis J. Ray State Mission Offering

What would happen if Arizona Southern Baptists fervently interceded for our neighbors who need a relationship with Jesus Christ?

What would be the impact if each Southern Baptist church prayerfully set a goal and sacrificially gave to the Willis J. Ray State Mission Offering?

What a difference your prayers and giving will make in eternity!

As you prepare to lead your church Sept. 16-23 during the Week of Prayer for the Willis J. Ray State Mission Offering, consider these possibilities:

Education

- Use the DVD with the message from Steve Bass sharing about the Willis J. Ray State Mission Offering. Consider using it in Sunday worship, prayer meeting or in mission groups.
- During worship services, recognize Arizona Southern Baptist Disaster relief workers. Ask one volunteer to give a brief testimony.
- Invite one of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention facilitators to speak at your church during the month.
- Make the prayer guides available for your church family. Use the posters to help your congregation understand the need to share the gospel in Arizona.

Giving

- Prayerfully set a church goal.
- Encourage families to set their own goal. Allow them to give over several weeks, if necessary, to reach that amount.

Prayer

- Host a prayer walk at your church for state missions. Using the prayer guides, make six prayer spots. You may want to add additional decorations, such as a state map marking featured ministries, an empty plate and cup for inner city missions, college banners for Christian Challenge ministries, etc.
- During worship, publicly pray for your pastors and their families. Consider having members gather around them before you intercede.
- Make centerpiece prayer cards for your church's September fellowship meals. Summarize one State Mission Offering prayer request per card. If no meals are planned, put a card near refreshments offered on Sunday mornings.
- Ask each Sunday School class to pray for at least one request Sept. 16 and 23. Include your preschoolers and children!
- Promote individual intercession. Encourage families to use the prayer guide at home, possibly at meal time. Prayer changes our hearts.
- Have older preschoolers and children, during mission group or Sunday School time, make their own prayer reminder card or poster.
- Select one of these six ministry areas and continue to intercede throughout the year.