

Season of Prayer 2017

For State Missions and the Janie Chapman Offering
For State Missions, Missions Education, and Great Commission Living

Family Missions Page

Pray, Proclaim, Permeate

Scripture: ²“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ³ At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison - ⁴ that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.” Colossians 4:2-4, ESV

Note: Obtain information about the missions topics and specific prayer requests for each day from the 2017 Season of Prayer for State Missions Prayer Guide. The information can also be found on the South Carolina WMU web page at www.scwmu.org.

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Introduction: The Great Commission given in Matthew 28:19-20 KJV commands: ¹⁹“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; ²⁰Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” The church at Jerusalem saturated the community with the gospel. Churches today must do likewise: make disciples, baptize, and teach. Let us be faithful in reaching families, cities, states, nations, and the world.

Sunday, September 10

As the 2017 Season of Prayer for State Missions begins, be faithful as a family to pray for and learn about missions within South Carolina and to support the Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions. Be willing to do without something for a week and place in a “Janie Jar” coins and cash you would have spent. Have family members identify what they are willing to give up. Thank them for their obedience and willingness to sacrifice for others.

PRAY that each family member be encouraged daily to pray and sacrifice “for Janie and missions” in South Carolina.

Monday, September 11

Gather the family around the table. Read aloud Colossians 4:2-4. Share how Baptists are *Sending by Reaching the Nations* here in America, even in South Carolina! Talk with your family about the Swahili language church. Discuss what else is going on in South Carolina (Sharing, Starting, and Strengthening churches). Share Pastor Mutabesha’s testimony: “God has worked in my life and kept me alive; now I want to be a living sacrifice for Him.” Learn different phrases in Swahili. Write encouraging notes to Pastor Mutabesha and Abner Baptist Church. For contact information, please email Melanie Becht, South Carolina WMU at melaniebecht@scbaptist.org.

PRAY that all Swahili speakers will be found and invited to the church; the church can gain financial stability; the Congolese can learn English and find jobs and will have a continued strong relationship with Abner Baptist Church; the pastors will have time to do the work of the Lord and Pastor Augustin will find a daytime job that enables him to use his education and experience.

Tuesday, September 12

Talk with your family about homelessness, poverty, and imprisonment, big issues affecting people in South Carolina. Share how South Carolina Baptist churches are reaching out to schools in their communities to help the children become successful. As a family, plan “A Christmas to Remember” for one family affected by these issues. Discuss how your family can pray for the homeless, the poor, and the imprisoned. Share stories from *Sharing: Heart4Schools*, *Mentors at Myrtle Beach First Baptist Church*, and *Supporting Teachers at Cedar Creek Baptist Church, Aiken*, and future plans related to outreach to families of students, teacher support, and Backpack Buddies. Discuss how your family could plan a mission support project to help families in need, engaging others within your church. Ask if a family member is willing and able to become a reading buddy.

PRAY that God will lead churches to establish Reading Buddy programs and to adopt local schools and that God will open doors with families that lead to spiritual conversations.

Wednesday, September 13

Ask your family how changes in congregations affect churches (limited finances and hands to accomplish goals). Share about Oak Grove Baptist Church and Hub City Church in Spartanburg; relate that Hub City desires to permeate the community with the Gospel, but also has been called to missions work in Haiti. Indicate how the ministry expanded to a village in the mountains of Haiti, resulting in a church and a school for the 98 children living there. Let them know that the Janie Chapman Offering provides funds to plant new churches. Consider making pillowcase dresses for girls at the school in Haiti, and obtaining t-shirts for boys. Patterns for pillowcase dresses can be found at www.wmu.com. Ask your family to pray about the possibility of your family being part of a missions team to minister in Haiti as God leads.

PRAY for unity in the church as two congregations merge and welcome new members; for new families to become a part of the church; and for steadfastness in looking outward to the community and the world to win the lost for Christ.

Thursday, September 14

Ask your family about strengthening churches: Discuss Citadel Square Baptist Church, its history and how it has been strengthened through a Chinese Congregation and Centerpoint Church. Share how God has worked in the life of Stephen Prinz and in Central Baptist, Gaffney. Write notes expressing encouragement and appreciation to Citadel Square and Emanuel AME in demonstrating Christian love during most difficult and trying times. For contact information, please email Melanie Becht, South Carolina WMU at melaniebecht@scbaptist.org.

PRAY for all the churches as they make disciples; for Craig Tuck as he transitions to Director of Missions in the Charleston area, and for Steve Herron as he serves as the new pastor of Centerpoint.

Friday, September 15

Review stories from the Strengthening Churches section of the *Leaders Guide* with your family; share this from Pastor Johnny Bridges: “God has given us a vision, and that is to make disciples. It’s not about a particular program, but it’s about God’s calling.”

PRAY for unity in the church as congregations adapt to changes and for all the churches as they make disciples.

Saturday, September 16

Take time as a family to **PRAISE** God for His grace, love, and mercy; for the opportunity to learn and serve; for the fullness of the “Janie Jar” as you prepare for Sunday. Write a summary of your family’s experience during the 2017 Season of Prayer for State Missions to review next year.

Sunday, September 17

PRAY that Christians continue to **Pray, Proclaim, Permeate** as opportunity presents, all to the glory of God.