



mission illinois
Churches Together Advancing the Gospel

‘We cannot retreat’

Now, more than ever, the Cooperative Program is vital to advancing the gospel around the world. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced churches into new circumstances they wouldn't have chosen—circumstances that have served to keep most churches apart. But still, Baptists have stayed committed to the belief that we're better together.



SOCIAL DISTANCE, SPIRITUAL TOGETHERNESS – The new CP video is available at vimeo.com/ibsa/cptgether.

- ▶ In Chicago, church planters like Jonathan de la O are sharing Jesus in communities hard-hit by Coronavirus.
- ▶ In rural southeastern Illinois, Pastor Rob Windes is leading Freedom Baptist Church in Noble to maintain their Cooperative Program commitment, despite the economic impact of the pandemic.
- ▶ Across the state, Disaster Relief leaders have partnered with local associations to distribute bleach solution for churches to use as they prepare to reopen.
- ▶ Across the globe, some missionaries have embraced new assignments and mission fields, while others are finding new ways to meet their neighbors' urgent needs.

“The Cooperative Program is the fuel which funds our work regionally, statewide, nationally, and globally,” said **Ronnie Floyd**, CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. In a virtual report to Baptists, Floyd issued a challenge to stay committed to the cooperative spirit inherent in the Cooperative Program, despite numerous challenges churches are facing right now.

“Even in the midst of these challenges, I appeal to you today, keep our missionaries on the mission fields across the entire globe,” Floyd said. “People need Jesus, and people need Jesus now. We cannot and will not retreat in this hour of uncertainty.”

For Cooperative Program videos and resources, go to

▶ [IBSA.org/CP](https://www.ibsa.org/CP)

Illinois Baptist State Association

▶ **847** people groups

around the world are hearing the gospel from International Mission Board missionaries.

▶ **3,000+**

people groups still need to hear about Jesus.

▶ **3,600+** chaplains

are endorsed and trained by the North American Mission Board to serve in the military, state and federal prisons, disaster relief, and healthcare.

▶ **45** countries

have received COVID-19 relief through Send Relief, a joint partnership of the SBC's two mission boards.

Let's all stay on mission.

Cooperative Program support is more important than ever.



As our churches seek to recover from the COVID-19 crisis, please remember those who share the gospel worldwide on behalf of Southern Baptists.



Mission Illinois is a free Sunday bulletin insert reporting how Illinois Baptist churches reach the world through Cooperative Program giving to missions. Call the Illinois Baptist State Association at (217) 391-3119 or e-mail MissionIllinois@IBSA.org for a free subscription for your church.