

## Bobby Gilstrap

**To:** Template UPDATED 01 29 09  
**Subject:** You On MISSION in Michigan - 2009  
**Importance:** High

### **Greetings Nancy,**

It was good to hear from you regarding service with us "**ON MISSION in Michigan**" in 2009. We are eager to see where God will lead us in ministering together.



We have a tremendous need for partners who will help us evangelize our area. I hope you will take a few minutes to find out more about our [association through our web site](#) at [www.findMIchurch.org](http://www.findMIchurch.org). You will discover that **80% of Michigan's population is lost** (click here). There are more lost people in the state of Michigan than **42 of our states** have in total population. We have more lost people here than over **142** of the **156+** countries where Southern Baptist have international missionaries assigned. Since the majority of our churches run under 50 in Sunday School [our need](#) (click here) for partners is great! Thank you for your desire to partner with us to reach our communities for Christ.

We are in the planning stage for 7 to 8 weeks of intensive outreach that will focus on jump-starting new churches or revitalizing existing churches. We will use mission teams for community surveys and scouting new work areas, evangelistic block parties, Canning Hunger Outreach, photo evangelism, classic car show outreaches and other potential evangelistic opportunities. ([Click HERE](#) to review some of the evangelistic tools we have available.) If I can answer additional questions for you related to any of this, please feel free to call me or send me an e-mail.

The **ATTACHED Information Sheet** is to assist us in matching your team with a host church that will go with your request. I realize that there may be several areas that you will have to make an "educated guess," but do the best you can to give us enough information to help us know your group. **Please complete it and return it to us today if possible.** It should only take a few minutes. I realize that you already gave me some of this information, but please humor me so we can have this information in a form to pass on to church leaders.

*Also, mark your calendar ...* we will be hosting **two Mission Leader Orientations (MLO)** on March 20-21 and May 15-16, 2009. This two-day orientation will provide your mission team leadership with extensive information on ministry in our setting and finalize most trip details. You will also have the opportunity to see the area where your team will be working and meet local leadership who will assist you while on the mission field. You and several of your leaders are invited to attend this informative time which will formally begin on the first day (at 2:00) with a general orientation, training and an **authentic** Michigan meal. Your activities will conclude by 2:00 pm on the second day by exploring your mission field with your mission trip host.

At the **MLO** we will also provide you with **2** or more **Resource CD's** containing preparation

and training materials for your mission experience and for conducting evangelistic block parties, servant evangelism, canning hunger, sports evangelism and more (**Click [HERE](#)** to see more local resources). Each team also receives our customized ***Mission Trip Manual*** to assist with preparation for coming to our area (*published each January*).



In the last four years our association has partnered with our 30 churches /missions to host more than 75 mission teams to accomplish numerous activities to start new churches and reach out into our neighborhoods. We have hosted over 2,500 volunteers that have served more than 67,500 volunteer hours.

We have discovered that the mission teams that have attended a **[Mission Leader Orientation](#)** are better prepared and have more productive ministries than many of the other teams. In fact, many of our churches won't host teams that do not attend one of our **MLOs**. I would strongly encourage you to plan to have one or more of your leaders attend one of these two orientations.

Thank you again for your contact. I look forward to answering any other questions and receiving your information sheet. Our prayer is that you will be able to join us "***ON MISSION in Michigan***" in 2009.

***Your Partner in God's Harvest,***

**[bobby.gilstrap](#)**, Director of Missions, Michigan  
**Huron & Southeastern Baptist Associations**

"Churches Linked Together to Communicate Christ!"

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