

The Siluria Messenger

December 2023

Going forward together . . .



Siluria Baptist Church

10696 Hwy 119 S

Alabaster, AL 35007

(205) 663-7904

siluriabaptist.com

A Visit with the Pastor . . .

The Budget and Finance Committee spent a Saturday workday recently to formulate a proposal for 2024 (our budget is calendar year). As they've done for the nine years I've known, they included all ministry requests from our elected leaders without alteration. I think this is a mark of trust in our leadership and faith that God will provide for our needs as we obey him.

Members of the committee are happy to respond to any questions you might have: Lee Griffin, Terri Douglas, Addie Lee and Annette Massey. We'll mail this proposal to the church family soon. We ask for your consideration and approval on December 10.

The committee also dealt with special offerings. A special offering is available to the congregation at large and independent of the regular budget. At one point we had nine, and this year we have seven. I suggested we have five in 2024. Four are our regular denominational offerings (Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, Mallory/Myers and

Shelby Daily Bread Shop), and the fifth is the Samaritan's Purse ministry.

It's true there's no shortage of good causes, and we could schedule a special offering every month. It's also true that individuals can support any cause they wish whether it's publicized or not. For example, two deacons mentioned their personal support of Big Oak Boy's Ranch. And the church reserves the right to promote a unique offering if the need arises. In one church we gathered love gifts for a family about to lose their house, so we realize that we must be sensitive to human need.

But we also give priority to our weekly budget supporting local ministries and denominational cooperative mission support.

God's church has always relied on the tithes and offerings of her people to do her work. We cannot assess, nor coerce, but only share what we believe God wants us to do and ask for your systematic support. Remember the giving option

at siluriabaptist.com and through your bank's Bill Pay system. Nearly one-half of church members give electronically today.

I've been forthright enough in the last year to suggest to families in loss to consider memorial gifts to the church's building fund. Flowers are nice, but memorial gifts can last much longer and do much more. I'm grateful for families who've helped us in our building and property ministry by considering this option.

Many thanks to Cindy Wingate for serving as our interim music minister. We've begun to advertise for the more permanent position and the Personnel Committee invites your suggestions and recommendations.

The Christmas season is upon us. Please know that Donna and I wish you the best and most meaningful Christmas ever as we worship the newborn king.

Devotedly,
Michael J. Brooks

Birthdays	
5	Perry McClain
6	Theresa Hutchinson
11	Dale Cox
11	Matt Lowery
11	Carla Bishop
12	Caleb Douglas
12	Timothy Smith
17	LJ Griffin
18	Chris Williams
20	Frances Gibson
21	Linda Durrett
21	Kevin Johnson
22	Wade Conatser
22	Carrie Powell
23	Luther Foreman
24	Charlotte Parvin
25	Janice Claus
27	Vicki Brandenburg
30	Charlotte Foreman



Volunteers Needed!
Homebound Christmas Basket
Packing Party
Dec. 9 at 9 a.m.



Please bring a covered dish and
join us for lunch in the
Fellowship Hall on Dec. 10



We hope to see you
and your family
and friends at the
Candlelight
Communion
Service

at 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve!

Merry Christmas

**Lottie Moon Christmas
Offering**
is our special offering for
December

Visit imb.org/generosity/lottie-moon-christmas-offering/
for more information

Church Staff

Michael Brooks, Pastor
Cindy Wingate, Interim Music
Cody Seals, Youth Minister
Katie Abney, Ministry Assistant

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Visit our website at siluriabaptist.com

Dates to Remember

- 3 Deacons Meeting
- 3 Seekers Christmas Party
- 3 Contemporary Service
- 9 Homebound Baskets
Packing Party 9 a.m.
- 10 Called Business Mtg
- 10 Holiday Meal
- 10 Hbound Baskets Avail.
- 24 Regular am service only
- 24 Candlelight Communion
Service 5 p.m.
- 27 No Midweek Activities
- 31 Entire regular schedule

"For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given"
Isaiah 9:6

Homebound of the Month

Frances Gibson
& Linda Durrett