The Siluria Messenger

June 2023

Going forward together . . .

A Visit with the Pastor . . .

Florida pastor and writer Sam Rainer noted his church has "no fewer than 20 pathways of communication" and that "overcommunication becomes the norm." This made me think about our Siluria pathways.

First, we engage the back page of "The Alabama Baptist." TAB sends 50 issues each year, and 12 include our monthly newsletter. The group rate means we pay \$1.35 each month per subscription which is less than postage used to cost us for weekly newsletters in the day.

The weekly worship bulletin is another venue with upcoming announcements and contact information.

A third pathway is the Sunday morning and Wednesday night announcement/prayer list. We give this to each attendee on Wednesday night and to each Sunday School teacher on Sunday to share with the classes.

During the pandemic we began an email newsletter currently going to 151 addresses each



week. A member asked lately if she could get this newsletter by text since she didn't have email, so I learned how to do this manually!

Facebook has become a primary outreach for most churches. "Siluria Baptist Church" is our public page with 696 followers and 650 "engagements" in the last month. "Siluria Baptist Family" is our private page for more "in-house" information with 239 members. Please request membership in this group if you've not already. Our weekly worship is available on both pages.

The website is another path: siluriabaptist.com. Websites are the "front door" for churches now when people are looking for one. Last year a nice couple from Illinois stopped by for worship en route to Florida having found us on the web while driving! The website has the latest financial statement, a copy of the TAB newsletter, weekly broadcast and a weekly devotion. We had 253 "visits" in the last 30 days. The website also has a giving option with more than \$6000 contributed to the church budget in April.

Another pathway is the occasional mailing. We

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mail postcards about events and time changes, and letters including major decisions such as the annual proposed church budget.

I've written a devotional column for more than 25 years and submit it weekly to as many outlets as possible. The "Shelby County Reporter" publishes every week, and occasionally there are surprises, such as "Kentucky Today" using a column last week. Each column has a tagline identifying Siluria Baptist Church.

So, not 20 pathways here, but 10 by my count. We try hard to keep everyone apprised of events and needs. If there's another pathway needed, let's talk about it.

Remember the weekly budget needs of our church as you travel this summer. The online giving option is available or electronic checking through your local bank. And faithful members mail checks every month.

Siluria is a great fellowship with a bright future.

Devotedly, Michael J. Brooks

Happy Birthday! 1 Clif Culpepper Fred Wingate 11 Julia Roy 11 Sherrie Doebler **14** Kaia McClain 15 Courtnie Lowery 17 Michelle Griffin **20** Mary Awbrey 20 Molly McAfee 22 Lydia Mosely 23 Susan Boyd 24 Steven Lint 27 Kali McKay 28 Steve Brandenberg 30 James Culberson 30 Mike Lumpkin And many more!

Church Staff



It's time for VBS 2023! All kids entering kindergarten through 6th grade in the Fall are invited to join us at VBS 2023 as we learn how to be a keeper of the kingdom! See the schedule below.

Kickoff Party Sunday, June 11 from 3:00 until 5:00 with a bouncy house, games, crafts, food truck, and VBS pre-registration!

Vacation Bible School June 12 - 16 from 5:00 until 8:00. Each night will start with dinner and registration / nametags.

At Friday's Family Night, parents/guardians will get to see what their kids have been working on and then we have a chance to get to know each other at dinner in the Fellowship Hall.

See our website for more information and to pre-register.

Michael Brooks, Pastor michaeljbrooks2020@gmail.com
Luther Foreman, Music Minister LV4man@hotmail.com
Cody Seals, Youth Minister codyseals215@gmail.com
Katie Abney, Ministry Assistant siluriabaptist@gmail.com
Visit our website at siluriabaptist.com

Dates to Remember

- **4** Deacons Meeting
- 11 VBS Kickoff Party
- **14** Flag Day

12-16 Vacation Bible School

18 Father's Day

Homebound of the Month

Mary Awbrey

Congratulations, Grads!

Rosie Davidson Alex Massey Chloe Johnson Claire Johnson

Staff Anniversaries

Katie Abney June 4, 2007 16 years

Michael J. Brooks June 30, 2014 9 years