



The Siluria Messenger

March 2024

Siluria Baptist Church

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siluriabaptist.com



A Visit with the Pastor . . .

Last year we had a number of memorial gifts entrusted to our church. Of course, we're sad to say farewell to those who precede us to heaven, but it's true that memorial gifts may offer lasting tribute to our loved ones. This is a worthy consideration in times of loss.

Who's Your One?

Churches today face challenges not known a generation ago. My dad, a Christian layman, often said, "If we provide space and preach the gospel, the church will grow." We try to do both, but we live in a different culture.

Churches used to have a weekly night for visitation. I remember very few times I wasn't invited in to tell people about Christ and his church. However, today it's called "cocooning" when we come home at night, close the garage door and don't leave. Most don't want intrusions, and many won't open the door at night. Someone

posted on our neighborhood Facebook page a few weekends ago a picture of Jehovah's Witnesses at their door (using a door cam, no doubt), and "warning" us they were in the neighborhood. Years ago we didn't have door cams or Facebook to worry about when making visits, but we did have German Shepherds!

Today, the finest witness we have is "a culture of invitation." Friends and neighbors are open to our invitations to worship and other events. You have an entre with those who know and love you, and your personal invitations are meaningful.

That's why I asked our Sunday School leaders to help us fulfill "Who's Your One?". This tool was developed by our North American Mission Board. We focus on one unchurched person we know, pray for them for a month, and invite them to Easter worship at Siluria. It's a simple program based on a culture of invitation, and also on Jesus' admonition that we not forget the one.

I suppose every church struggles with fellowship vs. evangelism. Fellowship means we know our group and we're comfortable with them. This is fine. But evangelism means there are others not in our group who should be, and when they come to us, we need to practice hospitality. Jesus taught that 99 safe in the fold wasn't good enough if one sheep was outside. That "one" could be me, or you, your son or grandchild.

Every "one" is significant.

Vote Your Values

Alabama is part of "Super Tuesday" on March 5. Be sure to vote in the presidential and local primary election. This election determines who will be on the ballot in November.

Devotedly,
Michael J. Brooks

| Birthdays | |
|-----------|------------------|
| 1 | Tracey Bush |
| 1 | Tammy Jenkins |
| 3 | Rafael Rangel |
| 3 | Amanda Anderson |
| 4 | Leigh Anne Davis |
| 8 | Michael Brooks |
| 8 | Valentina Rangel |
| 10 | Jeani Blair |
| 11 | Allen Massey |
| 13 | Glenn Moore |
| 13 | Jody Smith |
| 17 | Devin Douglas |
| 17 | Penny Franklin |
| 17 | Allan Garrett |
| 18 | Gunnar Byrd |
| 26 | Wyatt Tucker |
| 31 | Chuck Douglas |
| 31 | Greg Sims |
| 31 | Hugh Massey |

Who's Your One?

Where to begin:

1. Remember your purpose
 - a. You exist to know Jesus AND make Him known.
2. Pray for opportunities.
 - a. Ask Jesus to give you a chance to share Him today.
3. Engage people
 - a. Be intentional about interacting with people you can point to Jesus.
4. Build relationships and start gospel conversations.
 - a. Be willing and ready to bring Jesus into every conversation.
5. Remain faithful.
 - a. Keep planting and watering the seeds and watch God make them grow.

Share your testimony

Share the Gospel

1. God loves you. (John 3:16)
2. Jesus died for you. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)
3. Salvation is available to you. (Romans 10:9)

Church Staff

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Michael Brooks, Pastor | michaeljbrooks2020@gmail.com |
| Cindy Wingate, Interim Music Director | cindywingate4@gmail.com |
| Cody Seals, Youth Minister | codyseals215@gmail.com |
| Katie Abney, Ministry Assistant | siluriabaptist@gmail.com |

Visit our website at siluriabaptist.com

Dates to Remember

- 3 Deacons Meeting
- 10 DST - Spring Forward
- 24 Palm Sunday
- 29 Good Friday
- 30 Easter Egg Hunt
- 31 Easter

Students of the Month

Tanner Hall

Homebound of the Month

Betty Sims & Don Bunn



Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30
10 a.m. – Noon
5th grade and younger
Rain or Shine