

The Siluria Messenger

May 2023

Going forward together . . .



Siluria Baptist Church
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A Visit with the Pastor . . .

The Temptations sang, “When it’s cold outside, I have the month of May.” And now we have it, too! Spring is finally here with the promise of summer closely following. This month we celebrate our mothers and take time to honor those who died in our nation’s conflicts.

May is also a time we pause to pray for the USA.

The National Day of Prayer was begun as a joint project of the U.S. Congress and President Harry Truman in 1952. It’s a time we reflect on our heritage, seek God’s wisdom for our leaders and pray for wisdom as we select leaders.

The next several months will be filled with political news. “Super Tuesday,” March 5, is less than one year away, and this is the time we Alabamians will help to choose the two persons

who seek the presidency later next year, along with other offices, of course.

I think it’s true that we’ve had some office-seekers who would’ve been great leaders, but they were terrible campaigners. They didn’t survive the rigors of the campaign season.

We’ve also had negative campaigning.

In political items collecting we speak of lithos, cellos, jugates, flashers and antis. The “antis” are the pinbacks that castigate officer-holders or candidates. A common design reads, “President Blank is doing the work of three men,” and pictured on the button is either Moe, Larry and Curly or the Marx brothers! But our generation has seen the rise of negative campaigning in the broadcast media—radio and TV. Consultants say these work, and sway opinion. Alas, this is sad. I wish campaigns could be positive, but we’ve had a measure of negativity since 1776.

All of this to say we must seek God’s wisdom in 2023 and 2024 as the political season unfolds.

Let me thank the congregation for your support and prayers in the past month. My cancer was detected early and removed, so I am fortunate. I quoted Forrest Gump lately who noted, “After the storm, shrimpin’ was easy.” After having cancer, nothing else in life seems too hard!

I’ve known some wonderful people not so fortunate with their cancers, including my mother and father-in-law. The providence of God is often a mystery. I can’t explain why some are healed and some are not. What I do know is that every day is a gift, and we need to use every day to serve God. As pastors often say during invitations, “We’re not promised tomorrow.”

Devotedly,
 Michael J. Brooks

Birthdays	
5	Sandra Hancock
5	Clay Massey
9	Dian George
14	Kingston Massey
15	Bertie Nelson
15	Ann Graham
15	Micah Douglas
22	Jacob Haller
26	Ann Dyar
30	Lee Griffin
30	William Barbee



National Day of Prayer
 May 4



Join us for a fellowship meal May 28. It will be potluck style, so we need some of you to bring meat. Thank you!

May Ministry

BibleSticks from
 Faith Comes by Hearing

These are digital audio players loaded with the New Testament and select Psalms and provided to active military and veterans. \$25 buys one BibleStick.

Church Staff

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Dates to Remember

- 4 National Day of Prayer
- 7 Deacons Meeting
- 7 Church Council Mtg
- 14 Mother’s Day
- 20 Armed Forces Day
- 28 Fellowship Meal
- 29 Memorial Day

Students of the Month

Jacob Haller

Homebound of the Month

Margaret Hardy

Staff Anniversary

Cody Seals
 May 22

Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.
 Deuteronomy 4:9