

The Siluria Messenger

October 2023

Going forward together . . .



Siluria Baptist Church
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A Visit with the Pastor . . .

Many of us were taught in time-management seminars to alphabetize daily tasks, concentrate on the ABC's and not worry about the DEF's. This is still good advice. Let me share with you my priorities as I understand them.

First is worship. I've often quoted W. O. Carver who said worship is the "first business of the church" since, he insisted, everything flows from worship. I take seriously the task of preparing biblical and challenging messages. I most often do topical messages on Sundays, such as several recent messages on prayer, but normally do expository, or verse-by-verse studies, on Wednesdays. I try to have some certainty by Monday of each week what the message will be and spend the remainder of the week learning and praying and organizing. I also converse with our music minister about appropriate worship music (and appreciate his partnership), and enlist church members to help us read scripture, offer testimonies and lead prayer.

Second is evangelism and church growth. I try to learn how other churches do outreach today so we can do it effectively, too. Our neighborhood blitzes were good tools before the pandemic. Lately we've subscribed to a new service I learned about on a ministry podcast. The company sends welcome postcards from our church to newcomers within a three-mile radius of our property. By the way, research shows that the church's website is no longer the church's "front door," but the livestream service is. People looking for a church will watch us online first.

Third is pastoral care. Our members need to know the church cares for them in times of illness or grief. I remember March 24 and how encouraging it was when deacon chair Greg Sims prayed with me before surgery. And I remember how encouraging it was that so many church members came to pay respects to my mother-in-law last month. Our deacons serve as co-laborers in the task of pastoral care.

Fourth is church administration. We just approved 16 committees and ministry teams, and though I don't meet with all of them, I do meet with most of them. Normally I'll talk with the chair and suggest a date or two we can schedule for meetings. Our deacons have a monthly meeting and the church council a quarterly meeting.

Additionally, I write a weekly column used in "The Shelby County Reporter" and other venues and on our Facebook pages. "The Alabama Baptist" calls from time-to-time requesting I write a story for them. Through them I've met or talked with some really wonderful people.

These are the ABCD's as I see them, but as always, I'm interested in your thoughts.

Devotedly,
Michael J. Brooks

Birthdays	
1	Shane Wheeler
4	Kayla Haller
9	Cody Seals
10	Matthew Jude Sr
13	Faye Corona
16	Cybil Powell
18	Lisa Culberson
18	Steven Bishop
20	Mary Boyd
22	Thea McKay
24	Gage Loveless
25	Janet Miller
26	Susan Moore
27	Lynn Scott
28	Mike Brothers
29	Ronda Massey
31	Tony Page


Students of the Month
 Gage Loveless &
 Gabby Griffin
Homebound of the Month
 Janet Miller & Helen Bunn




Contemporary Service
 October 1 and 15
 Dinner @ 5, Service 5:30
 Youth are invited to stay after for games at the field or youth room

A Day at the Pumpkin Patch!
 Old Baker's Farm in Harpersville
 Anyone in Preschool - High school
 Meet at church 8:30 a.m.
 \$10 per person (under 2 is free)
 Bring your own lunch

Prayer Groups
 sharing time October 21





October 29 3 - 5 p.m.
 Bouncy, Face painting, Games,
 Hayride, & Trunk or Treat!

Church Staff

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Visit our website at siluriabaptist.com

- Dates to Remember**
- 1 Deacons Meeting
 - 1 Contemporary Service
 - 7 Pumpkin Patch
 - 10 Budget Requests Due
 - 15 Contemporary Service
 - 29 Trunk or Treat



For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Romans 12:5