



Mike's Monday Message

Advent Hope

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12

Dear Friends,

We are in the first week of Advent and Sunday the DuPres lit the candle of Hope. What is Hope? "To hope is to look forward with desire and reasonable confidence. To hope is to want something to happen."

I have some hopes for New Wappetaw and I pray that my hopes for our ministry in 2023 match your hopes.

Proverbs says where there is no vision, the people perish, so I like to have a plan. Here are just a few things I hope we can do (with session approval) in the new year:

- Get our beautiful buildings and grounds in tip-top condition. Already, changes are taking place.
- Involve the congregation more in leading worship, and making the bulletins easier to read.
- This is a generous congregation and we are quick to support so many ministries with financial gifts. I hope we can do more hands-on missions, where we interact with those we are helping.
- Communication – I hope we can make better use of social media and more reaching out to the congregation through Mike's Monday Message, newsletters and personal visits.
- Christian Education – Elder training, confirmation, Sunday School, mid-week Bible studies, youth groups. (There are many opportunities to study and grow in our faith).
- I hope we can update our membership list and have a pictorial directory that can be installed on member's phones (Instant Church Directory).
- Growth – My calling as a pastor is to grow the church. I hope to soon see our sanctuary full.
- Finally, I hope to be your pastor and friend so we can travel together on this journey we call faith.

May you experience the hope, peace, joy and love of this Advent and Christmas Season.

Blessings,
Mike