

PREACHING

How can they hear without someone preaching to them? How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news! Romans 10:14-15

Dear Friends,

One of the most challenging and yet rewarding aspects of ministry is preaching. For over 30 years it has become a way of life for me...living with a text, starting every Monday and concluding in the pulpit every Sunday. During that time, have I preached old sermons, yes, but not without rewriting them to apply to the current context and bringing them up to date. In other words, I have the original exegesis already done, but still need to live with the text that week and let the spirit guide me as I put it all together. After all these years, I believe that I may not be a good preacher but I am not a BORING preacher. Because preaching is a way of life for me, I don't like to be away, and often will preach when I am on vacation (in the summer of 2021 I was able to preach three times at New Wappetaw during my sabbatical at Palmetto Presbyterian, as well as preaching at Yeamans Park in Hanahan).

If our passports arrive in time, Rosemary and I will be heading for Spain next Sunday and then taking a cruise. Jim Miller will preach on May 23 and Donnie Woods will preach on May 30. Both preachers are excellent and will give you a chance to hear a different "voice." I look forward to being back in the pulpit on May 7. I would like to hear any suggestions you have for our worship service or any texts you would like to hear preached.

My goal this year is to continually reach out to folks inviting them to worship and encouraging them to join our church family. Please make Jim and Donnie feel welcome and know that you all will be in my prayers while we are away.

It's a joy to be your pastor!

Blessings,
Mike