

EDITORIAL:

Welcome to the Fall 2015 issue of the *Midwestern Journal of Theology*. In this, the second of our Issues examining the theme of Preachers and Preaching, we are again seeking to reflect on the great gift of God to the Church, that of Preaching. I hope that all those who give so sacrificially of their time and talents to bring this Journal to fruition, are aware of my very sincere thanks for all they do.

This Issue begins with *Midwestern's* own and very new, Owen Strachan's, as he shares with us his Article, 'The Pastor as Prophet: Christic Exposition in the Age of Audio'. Strachan challenges and encourages Pastors to remember that they have been called as Prophets, God's mouthpieces delivering God's words on the battlefield of the world. We are then honored to have a most helpful Article from Scott Gibson, who is the Haddon W. Robinson professor of Preaching at Gordon-Conwell. His paper explores the landscape of preaching today and investigates the challenges that preachers face on a number of levels—moral challenges, consumer-driven challenges, the challenge of the cult of personality, and the challenges of seminary education in the training of preachers.

Our third piece comes from the pen of Gregory Wills, Dean at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and is an excellent analysis of Charles Spurgeon's Ecclesiology. Our penultimate Article, a scholarly yet very practical examination of the persecution of the Anabaptists in the 16th Century and the lessons we can draw from it for today, is from *Midwestern's* Provost, Jason Duesing. The final offering in this Issue, is an historical biography of John Williams, a Welsh Baptist preacher, whom God used mightily in the New York of the 19th Century, not only in his role as a preacher, but also as a pioneer in the support of Baptist foreign missions.

We again, conclude this Issue with several relevant and thought provoking book reviews.