

## EXECUTIVE EDITORIAL:

Since 2003, the *Midwestern Journal of Theology* has served to provide high quality scholarship for the purpose of equipping and informing church leaders of current trends in theological studies as well as insightful reviews of significant books. The secret to a quality and relevant journal always lies in who is selected to undertake the thankless role of managing editor. *Midwestern Seminary's* journal has achieved its current status thanks to the labors of its previous top-notch managing editors, and that is why I am pleased to announce the responsibility now falls to Dr. Michael D. McMullen.

Dr. McMullen has served at *Midwestern Seminary* since 1998, and his own scholarship and publications are marked by his skill as an editor. His vision for the future of the journal is one I think readers will treasure, especially as he brings his gifts to bear in tailoring every aspect of the journal to compliment the broader vision of *Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary & College* as existing for the Church. Please join me in welcoming Dr. McMullen to this new role, and thank you for reading the *Midwestern Journal of Theology*.

Dr. Jason K. Allen

## EDITORIAL:

Welcome to the Fall 2014 issue of the *Midwestern Journal of Theology*, with the theme of Challenge in 21st Century Life and Ministry. As the newly appointed Journal Editor, I would like to begin with a brief word of thanks. The Journal here at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary is very much a collaborative effort, and much work goes on behind the scenes to bring each issue to production, this present volume being no exception. My sincere thanks then, go to each and every person who has given so sacrificially of their time and talents on this present issue.

We begin this issue, with two Presentations that were given at the recent inaugural, 'For the Church' Conference, held here at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. The first by Midwestern's own President, Dr. Jason K. Allen, is a vitally necessary challenge to assess one's readiness to Preach, drawn from 2 Timothy 2:4. We then also have Midwestern's newly appointed Jared C. Wilson's challenge using 1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5, on being ready to Shepherd. The Editor then includes what is believed to be, a previously unpublished Letter from the Baptist missionary, Ann H. Judson, together with a brief sketch of her life, trials and labors, reminding us of the challenges we are all called to face. There then follows Dr. Radu Gheorgita's plea to the Church, to 'taste and see' the fruit that the discipline of the memorization of Scripture will bring forth in one's life and ministry today. We conclude this issue, with Dr. Tom Johnston's call to assess our devotional lives, in the light of very challenging words from Martin Luther and William Tyndale.

The volume concludes as always, with several relevant and thought provoking scholarly book reviews.