

## Some Thoughts on Nine Years of Preaching

On April, 7, 2013 I officially began preaching here at Lilac Road on a full-time basis. Therefore, this Sunday marks the end of nine years of preaching at this location. Hopefully next Sunday will mean the beginning of my tenth year by who knows what tomorrow may bring.

Over the past nine years Regena and I have gotten to know you and appreciate the members here. Some are no longer with us as I think of Dee Stephenson, Mary Jo and H.T. Crawford, and Steve Schultz. I am glad to have been on the same track running the race as those mentioned. Likewise, I am appreciative of those who are here today.

Nine years have brought changes as our young people have grown. Some graduated from High School, some are about to, some graduated college and some have gotten married. Change is good and necessary in order to have growth. Upcoming this year families are expecting children and grandchildren which is exciting. We have had baptisms, who left us to attend other places, and those new to our group.

In our family we have welcomed a son in-law, Jon, a daughter in-law, Laura, and three grandchildren, Thomas, Theodore, and Luke. Yes, they are the smartest children to ever live and the apple of our eye.

Regena and I have personally lost both our mom's as they are now on the other side of the Jordan River. LaVonne was the best mother in-law I ever had and the only one to threaten to shoot me. This was our little joke as she threatened to do so after leaving Regena with three babies and heading off to Russia.

Preaching here at Lilac Road allowed us to live with my mom the last years of her life. She enjoyed visiting here occasionally and seeing the Berryman's. Regena and I likewise lost our only brothers a few years ago. Your love and concern during those times says a lot about you.

I don't know about Regena but I my body is showing the wear and tear of time. Three surgeries, numerous physical therapy sessions, and current physical limitations are proof that we are all mortal. Regena's fall in September has caused her a lot of problems but she keeps on going forward.

Thank you for your love, support, time, and fellowship. We shall see what lies ahead. – Dennis Tucker