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# NELSON W. TROUT LECTURES

**April 27–28, 2017**  
**Trinity Lutheran Seminary**  
**Columbus, Ohio**

## ***Preaching and Moral Imagination***

**Frank A. Thomas**

*The Nettie Sweeney and Hugh Th. Miller  
Professor of Homiletics at Christian  
Theological Seminary*

*Director of the Academy of Preaching  
and Celebration*



Trinity Lutheran Seminary  
2199 East Main Street  
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**Frank A. Thomas** is the Nettie Sweeney and Hugh Th. Miller Professor of Homiletics and Director of the Academy of Preaching and Celebration at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana. He is author of the popular *They Like to Never Quit Praisin' God: The Role of Celebration in Preaching*, considered by many to be a standard for homiletics.



Thomas has been a professor of homiletics to graduate students at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois, and at Memphis Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tennessee. He is the CEO of Hope for Life International Inc., which formerly published *The African American Pulpit*. Recognized for his preaching and preaching method, Thomas was inducted into the prestigious Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College. He also serves as a member of the International Board of *Societas Homiletica*. Thomas holds a Ph.D. in Communications (Rhetoric) from the University of Memphis, a Doctor of Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary, Doctor of Ministry degrees from Chicago Theological Seminary and United Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity from Chicago Theological Seminary, and a Master of Arts in African-Caribbean Studies from Northeastern Illinois University.

His other works include *American Dream 2.0: A Christian Way Out of the Great Recession* (Abingdon Press, 2012) and *Preaching With Sacred Fire: An Anthology of African American Sermons, 1750 to the Present*, co-edited by Martha Simmons.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Trinity Lutheran Seminary  
Gloria Dei Worship Center

### THURSDAY, APRIL 27

- 3:00 p.m. Opening Worship
- 3:30 Lecture
- 5:00 Book signing  
Dinner on your own
- 7:30 Evening Worship

### FRIDAY, APRIL 28

- 9:00 a.m. Pancake Breakfast (Fundraiser)
- 10:30 Lecture

*These endowed lectures are free and open to the public.*

### About the Nelson W. Trout lectures:

*Rejoicing in the rich history and important influence of African American Christianity throughout the world, the Nelson W. Trout lectures in preaching remind us of the need to bring God's message to life.*

*Established in 1991, the Trout lectures honor former Trinity Professor, the Rev. Dr. Nelson W. Trout (1920-1996), who was the first African American Lutheran bishop in the United States. His vibrant preaching and commitment to social ministry inspired hundreds of seminary students and touched thousands of lives.*