

## PTS HIRES ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HOMILETICS AND WORSHIP



Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Board of Directors has named the Rev. Dr. Angela Dienhart Hancock as

assistant professor of homiletics and worship. She will begin March 1, 2012. Hancock has taught at Princeton Theological Seminary, The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, and Lutheran Seminary at Gettysburg. She is an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and has served as pastor to churches in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

Search committee chair the Rev. Dr. M. Craig Barnes, Robert Meneilly Professor of Leadership and Ministry and Pastor of Shadyside Presbyterian Church said, "Dr. Hancock comes to us with extensive training and obvious skills in both homiletics and theology. Thus, she knows not only how to communicate, but also how to proclaim something worth hearing. She also has a breadth of experience in worship leadership in a variety of contexts and traditions. Dr. Hancock is eager to equip our students to serve as preachers and worship leaders."

Board member the Rev. Michelle Wahila '05 said, "The Board warmly welcomes the Rev. Dr. Hancock, who brings a high level of scholarship, enthusiasm for proclaiming God's Word, collegiality, and a passion for teaching that will richly bless the Pittsburgh Seminary community."

Hancock earned a bachelor's degree in music from Indiana University, Bloomington and an M.Div. and Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary, where she won prizes in preaching and church music. Her dissertation, to be published by Eerdmans, is a contextual interpretation of Swiss theologian Karl Barth's "emergency" venture into the field of practical theology at the University of Bonn in the early 1930s, based on unpublished archival material. As such, it is an interdisciplinary study involving the fields of history and rhetoric in addition to systematic and practical theology. Hancock's next project extends her work on Karl Barth and rhetoric to the North American context, tentatively titled, "Preaching in Tongues: Postliberalism and the Rhetoric of the North American Pulpit." Her scholarly interests include systematic theology, homiletics, liturgical theology, rhetoric, performance theory, history, and philosophical hermeneutics.

Hancock continues to preach, teach, and lead worship in a variety of ecclesiastical settings. Her professional affiliations include The Academy of Homiletics, the Karl Barth Society of North America, and Society of Biblical Literature. Hancock is married to PC (USA) pastor Trent Hancock, and is mother of two.

Seminary President the Rev. Dr. William J. Carl III said, "Angela Hancock connected immediately with both students and faculty as a person of deep faith, considerable academic and parish experience, and substantial knowledge of how to model and teach both preaching and worship. She will be a wonderful addition to an already stellar faculty at Pittsburgh Seminary."

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary is a graduate professional institution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A). Founded in 1794, the Seminary is located in Pittsburgh, Pa. and approximately 310 students are enrolled yearly in the degree programs. The Seminary prepares leaders who proclaim with great joy God's message of good news in both word and deed. PTS is rooted in the Reformed history of faithfulness to Scripture and commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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