



# PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY NAMES ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LEADERSHIP AND MINISTRY



Pittsburgh Theological Seminary has named the Rev. Dr. L. Roger Owens as associate professor of

leadership and ministry. He will begin his service June 25, 2013.

“Roger Owens continues the tradition of strong preaching and leadership modeled by his predecessors in this faculty position, Dr. Richard Ray and Dr. M. Craig Barnes,” said the Rev. Dr. William J. Carl III, president and professor of homiletics at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. “Dr. Owens brings a wealth of experience as a teacher and pastoral leader as well as a seminal thinker in the area of spiritual formation. He will teach homiletics, pastoral arts, pastoral theology, Christian spirituality and many areas associated with the Meneilly professorship at PTS. He and Lisa Thompson are wonderful new additions to our faculty!”

Owens currently serves as preaching pastor at Duke Memorial United Methodist Church in Durham, N.C. In this position, he co-pastors with his wife, the Rev. Ginger Thomas, who is pastor of the congregation. He is a graduate of Duke University (Ph.D. in Theology), Duke Divinity School at Duke University (M.Div. *summa cum laude*), and Anderson University (B.A. *summa cum laude*).

His honors and awards include the Lilly Fellowship for the Formation of a Learned Clergy; John Wesley Fellowship, A Foundation for Theological Education; Preparing Future Faculty Fellow 2004-2005, Duke University; and Finalist, *Word & World* Essay Contest in 2003 and 2004.

Owens' research and writing interests include preaching, practical theology and ministry, and Christian spirituality. His publications include *The Pastoral Vocation: Engaging the Vision of Eugene Peterson*, ed. (forthcoming, 2013), *Abba, Give Me a Word: The Path of Spiritual Direction*, *The Shape of Participation: A Theology of Church Practices*, and *Wendell Berry and Religion: Heaven's Earthly Life*, ed. Additionally he has written numerous journal articles and book chapters.

He has taught as an instructor at Duke Divinity School. Owens has also presented numerous sermons, lectures, and conference papers across the country. Before joining Duke Memorial UMC, Owens was the co-pastor, again with his wife, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Louisburg, N.C.

His service to the wider church includes working on the planning team for the General Board of Discipleship UMC, Center for Spiritual Formation and also the General Board of Discipleship, Companions in Ministry Two; participating in and acting as secretary for the Lilly-funded Colloquium on Excellence in Ministry during which he coordinated the gathering of ministers and scholars twice yearly for three years to discuss issues of excellence in ministry; and serving as secretary to the Core Planning Group of the Lilly Endowment Religion Division.

He and his wife have three children, Simeon, Silas, and Mary Clare.

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 more than 300 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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