

Featured Speaker



Thomas G. Long is the Bandy Professor of Preaching at Candler School of Theology at Emory University and the Coordinator of the Initiative in Religious Practices and Practical Theology. A Presbyterian minister,

Dr. Long has served churches in Georgia and New Jersey. He has taught preaching for over thirty-five years -- at Erskine Theological Seminary, Columbia Theological Seminary, Princeton Theological Seminary, and, since 2000, at Candler. Dr. Long has served as the president of the Academy of Homiletics and as senior homiletics editor of the *New Interpreter's Bible*. He has been editor of *Theology Today* and is currently an associate editor of *Journal for Preachers*. He is the author of textbooks on preaching and worship, collections of sermons, and biblical commentaries on Matthew and Hebrews. He delivered the 2006 Lyman Beecher Lectures in Preaching at Yale Divinity School, and these have been published as *Preaching from Memory to Hope*. His most recent books are *Accompany Them with Singing: The Christian Funeral and What Shall We Say? Evil, Suffering, and the Crisis of Faith*.

In October 2000, the Jane Faner Sweers Faith Foundation Series was established for the purpose of providing a dynamic Christian witness to the people of the First Presbyterian Church of Flint and the surrounding community. Both through Christian speakers and representatives of the arts, the Faith Foundation Series strives to make persons more aware of the incarnate love of Jesus Christ and the blessings of the walk of faith. In months and years to come this series will be a catalyst for bringing a continuing message of hope to this community and inspiration to the people of God.



746 S. Saginaw St.
Flint, MI 48502
810.234.8673
www.fpcf.org

Ashes to Fire The Transformation of our Souls Day Retreat

Preparation for the Lenten Journey Lead by

Rev. Dr. Tom Long
Outstanding Preacher, Teacher, and Writer

*Presented by
The Jane Faner Sweers Faith Foundation Series*

February 18, 2012
8:30 - 3:00pm

First Presbyterian Church
746 S. Saginaw St.
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Description ...

Lent/Easter/Pentecost: Ashes to Fire is an opportunity for the transformation of our souls. As Jesus' life, death, and resurrection are retold, Jesus' story becomes our story. May our hearts be open to the touch of God through Jesus Christ, our Lord. How can this season be different from previous Easter cycles? This day retreat on Transfiguration Weekend is designed to open new avenues of transformation.

Session One: "The Churches at the Four Corners"

We will spend some time sitting in the pews of the Church of St. Mark, the Church of St. Matthew, the Church of St. Luke, and the Church of St. John. How do each of these congregations understand the gospel and the nature of the Christian life? What resources for the Lenten journey can each of the churches provide?

Session Two: "Out of the Depths: Praying with the Psalms in Lent"

We will explore the psalms as sources of strength and faith in the "winter seasons" of our life.

Session Three: "Something Old, Something New: Faithful and Vital Worship in a Windstorm of Change"

In a time when worship styles and changes are swirling around in the church, we will examine some ancient traditions that are worth holding onto and some places where the Spirit is doing a new thing among us.

Please join us...

Ashes to Fire The Transformation of Our Souls

Speaker: Dr. Tom Long

Cost: \$12.00

Please contact the church office at 810.234.8673 to sign-up by February 13, 2012.

Event catered by
Cameo Event Planners

Gathering Menu: Fresh Fruit, Scones, Juice, Tea and Coffee

Lunch Menu: Vegetable Barley Soup, Chicken California, Fresh Vegetables, and Chocolate Tart

Schedule ...

8:30am Registration, Gathering, and Fresh Fruit, Scones and Juice

9:00am Welcome and Morning Prayer

9:15am "The Churches at the Four Corners"

10:00am Break

10:15am Small Group Discussion

11:00am "Out of the Depths: Praying with the Psalms in Lent"

12pm Lunch (Chicken California) and Fellowship

1:00pm "Something Old, Something New: Faithful and Vital Worship in a Windstorm of Change."

1:45pm Break

2:00pm Small Group Discussion

2:45pm Closing Worship

3:00pm Departure