

REV. DR. FRANK ANTHONY THOMAS

FRANK A. THOMAS, PHD, currently serves as the Director of the PhD Program in African American Preaching and Sacred Rhetoric and the Nettie Sweeney and Hugh Th. Miller Professor of Homiletics at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana. A revised and updated version of *They Like to Never Quit Praisin' God: The Role of Celebration In Preaching* was released in August 2013. To complement this classic preaching book, Thomas published, in 2014, *Preaching as Celebration Digital Lecture Series and Workbook*. For many years, Thomas has also taught preaching to Doctoral and Masters level students at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois, Memphis Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tennessee, and United Theological Seminary of Dayton, Ohio. He is the CEO of Hope For Life International, Inc., which formerly published *The African American Pulpit*. Thomas also serves as a member of the International Board of *Societas Homiletica*, an international society of teachers of preaching.



Thomas is the author of *Surviving a Dangerous Sermon*, *How to Preach a Dangerous Sermon* and *Introduction to the Practice of African American Preaching*, released by Abingdon Press respectively, April 2020, February, 2018, and November 2016. He also co-edited *Preaching With Sacred Fire: An Anthology of African American Sermons 1750 to the Present* with Martha Simmons, published by W. W. Norton & Company in 2010. This critically acclaimed book offers a rare view of the unheralded role of the African American preacher in American history. Thomas is also the author of several other books on subjects from matters of prayer to spiritual maturity.

Thomas served with distinction as the senior pastor for two remarkable congregations: New Faith Baptist Church of Matteson, Illinois, and Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church of Memphis, Tennessee, for eighteen years and thirteen years, respectively.

Thomas holds a PhD 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.

Thomas and his wife, the Rev. Dr. Joyce Scott Thomas, each earned their Certified Professional Coaching Certificate (CPC) from the Institute for Professional Excellence in Coaching (iPEC). Based in their coaching experience, Thomas published with Hope For Life International Press, *The Choice: Living Your Passion Inside Out*, in October 2013. Thomas explains and explores the spiritual and coaching process to live your passion from the inside out.

Thomas and his wife have two adult children, Anthony William and Rachel Dickerson (Milton) and one granddaughter, August Elise Dickerson.