



**Anna Carter Florence** is the Peter Marshall Professor of Preaching at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. She is an ordained minister in the

Presbyterian Church (USA) and holds degrees from Yale College and Princeton Theological Seminary (M.Div. and Ph.D.). Before joining the Columbia faculty in 1998, Anna served as an associate pastor for youth and young adults at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis. Her books include *Preaching as Testimony and Inscribing the Word*, as well as two forthcoming books: *'A' is for Alabaster: A Preacher's Alphabet*, and *Come Back When You've Found Something True: New Ways to Read Scripture*, based on her 2012 Lyman Beecher Lectures on Preaching at Yale Divinity School. She is a frequent teacher and lecturer in this country and abroad. Anna and her husband, the Rev. David Carter Florence, have two grown sons. They also have two dogs, two cats, a flock of chickens, and way too much knitting yarn.

The Washington Island Forum is especially tailored to lay leaders and pastors who want to deepen their spirituality and connect with the message of the scriptures in a more profound way.

The Forum is a 40 year tradition and is sponsored by the Wisconsin Council of Churches and *The Christian Century* magazine. Enjoy four and one half days of worship, workshops, discussion, and contemplation in an ecumenical retreat setting on Washington Island, just six miles off the tip of Door County Wisconsin.

The week begins with a welcome and opening picnic Monday afternoon at Trinity Lutheran Church. Tuesday through Thursday enjoy morning prayer and workshop sessions with Anna Carter Florence and optional afternoon discussion groups. Friday begins with a Eucharist, a final workshop and discussion, with departure at noon.

Lodging, meals and recreational opportunities are offered by numerous Island establishments. See the Washington Island Chamber of Commerce website for information on Island lodging, restaurants and services [www.washingtonislandchamber.com](http://www.washingtonislandchamber.com).

More information: [www.wichurches.org/events](http://www.wichurches.org/events)

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## The Washington Island Forum

**June 25—29, 2018**

Presenting:

**Dr. Anna Carter Florence**

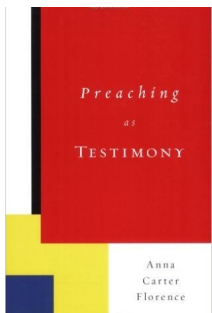
**“Reading the Verbs: Finding the Script in the Scripture”**

Join us and enjoy four and one half days of worship, plenary presentations, small groups, discussions and contemplation in an ecumenical setting on Washington Island at the tip of Door County, Wisconsin.

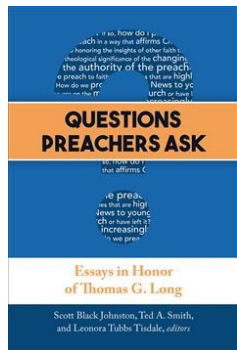
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**Wisconsin Council of Churches  
*The Christian Century Magazine***





By exploring the historical, theological, and practical elements of the tradition of testimony, **Anna Carter Florence** seeks in this book to establish the historical and contemporary validity of women's preaching and to introduce testimony to a new generation of preachers and teachers. She begins with the stories of three women whose preaching was often described as testimony: Anne Marbury Hutchinson, Sarah Osborn, and Jarena Lee. Then, she examines biblical and theological perspectives on testimony. Finally, she explores how testimony plays out in a preacher's life, offering constructive proposals for preaching as well as helpful guidelines, direction, and exercises.



"How do we preach in a way that affirms Christian theology while also honoring the insights of other faith traditions?" "How do we preach about and help create genuine Christian community in a social networking culture?" *Questions Preachers Ask* examines many questions that are on the minds of preachers today, questions that focus on how to preach the gospel in a culture where biblical knowledge cannot be presumed and where the Bible is often viewed as untrustworthy. Well-known preachers, scholars, and authors, including Barbara Brown Taylor, Gail O'Day, Anna Carter Florence, Richard Lischer, and Thomas Lynch, provide the answers.



If you do a quick survey of any bible passage, you'll find that what is true in life is also true in scripture: the verbs dominate. Not adjectives; *verbs*. It's what we *do* and *don't* do that preoccupies human beings. And it's the verbs we cannot imagine for ourselves (*live, liberate, forgive, resurrect*) that the church offers, and that we reach for, week after week. So what happens when we read scripture and let the verbs lead? Through four comprehensive lectures, Anna will put a twist on dramatic theory and invite us to read the biblical "script" by focusing on the verbs that are given and chosen by the characters, based on her upcoming book "*Come Back When You've Found Something True: New Ways to Encounter Scripture*." What new things will we see and hear in both our sacred text and our human drama when we connect the verbs? How can that, in turn, change and renew our reading and speaking about scripture?

**2018 Washington Island Forum: Registration fee (\$299) is due at time of registration. Registration also includes Opening Picnic meal for registrant and daily refreshments. Other meals and lodging are not included and must be arranged separately. Refund available with a cancellation fee of \$25 if registrant cancels by May 1, 2018. After May 1, there is a cancellation fee of \$75.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name for Name Tag \_\_\_\_\_

Church/Denomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_ Special Needs \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn of this event? \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: WCC, 750 Windsor St #301, Sun Prairie WI 53590

Register online at: [www.wichurches.org](http://www.wichurches.org)