



Pastor and Educator Retreat

Montreat Conference Center

October 22-24, 2018

Dr. Frances Taylor Gench will engage attendees in exploring the following topic during our Pastor and Educator Retreat:

When the Bible Raises Your Blood Pressure: Faithful Wrestling with Challenging Texts

Dr. Frances Taylor Gench says, “The Bible is full of embarrassing, offensive, problematic texts that present serious interpretive challenges for contemporary Christian faith and practice.” She asks, “Should they be repudiated? Discarded? Silenced? Or are there perhaps more effective and faithful ways of handling them?” She explains, “This retreat will tackle the importance of engaging difficult texts directly with the expectation that we may encounter the living God in our conversation with them. It will provide the opportunity to wrestle with such texts, to consider interpretive strategies for engaging them with integrity, and to reflect on the authority of Scripture.” Click the “REGISTER NOW” button below and submit your registration, today!

Dr. Gench is the Herbert Worth and Annie H. Jackson Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. Prior to joining the Union faculty in 1999, she taught for 13 years at Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary (Pennsylvania).

Dr. Gench is a graduate of Davidson College and Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, which is now Union Presbyterian Seminary, where she earned both a M.Div. and a Ph.D. She was a member of the PC (USA) General Assembly’s Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church. She resides in Washington, D.C. and is a parish associate at The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, where her husband, Roger J. Gench, is the pastor.

Dr. Gench is the author of the several publications, including the following: *Encountering God in Tyrannical Texts: Reflections on Paul, Women, and the Authority of Scripture* (WJKP, 2015); *Faithful Disagreement: Wrestling with Scripture in the Midst of Church Conflict* (WJKP, 2009); *Encounters with Jesus: Studies in the Gospel of John* (WJKP, 2007); *Back to the Well: Women’s Encounters with Jesus in the Gospels* (WJKP, 2004); *Hebrews and James* (WJKP, 1996); and, two Horizons Bible Studies for Presbyterian Women.

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