

April 2017 – Reframing Eve

April 21-23, 2017

The Garden Eden has a terrible litter problem! It is knee deep in our prejudices and preconceptions. The retreat will provide an opportunity for women to engage in interpretive litter control by reconsidering the Genesis portrait of the most maligned woman in all of scripture. We will engage in close study of Eve's story, consider influential misreadings of it as well as new insights provided by feminist rereadings, and reflect on ways in which it has impacted, and continues to impact, our imaginations, beliefs, attitudes, behavior, art and popular culture.

Our keynote speaker:

Frances Taylor Gench is the Herbert Worth and Annie H. Jackson Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. Prior to joining the faculty in 1999, she taught for 13 years at Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary (Pennsylvania). Frances is a graduate of Davidson College and Union Theological Seminary in Virginia (now Union Presbyterian Seminary; M.Div., Ph.D.). She is the author of *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* (Westminster Bible Companion; WJKP, 1996), and two Horizons Bible Studies for Presbyterian Women. 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.

