

REGISTRATION FORM

Faithful Disagreement ~ Wrestling with Scripture in the Midst of Church Conflict

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 6, 2012

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Church: _____

Presbytery: _____

Please check the item that applies:

The following options include only Monday evening dinner. Breakfast comes with the room.

___ *I will attend both the pre-event & the two day event spending Monday night in a double room—\$115*

___ *I will attend both the pre-event & the two day event spending Monday night in a single room—\$165*

___ *I will attend both the pre-event & the two day event spending Sunday & Monday nights in a double room—\$165*

___ *I will attend both the pre-event & the two day event spending Sunday & Monday nights in a single room—\$260*

___ *I will attend both the pre-event & the two day event but will be commuting and do not need hotel accommodations--\$75*

The following options do not include a dinner meal. Breakfast comes with the room.

___ *I will only attend the pre-event spending Sunday night in a double room--\$75*

___ *I will only attend the pre-event spending Sunday night in a single room--\$125*

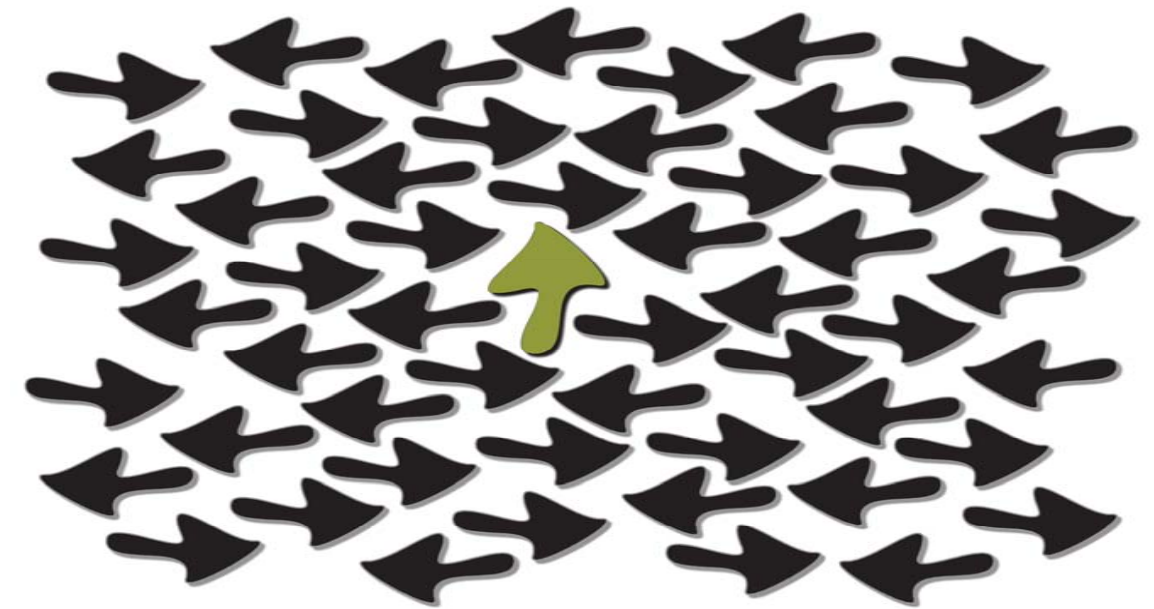
___ *I will only attend the pre-event but will be commuting and do not need hotel accommodations-- \$25*

Amount Enclosed: _____ Roommate: _____

Please indicate any special lodging or dietary needs:

We ask that participants for the two day event:

- Be involved in the life and ministry of their church.
- Be willing to share what they learned with their local congregation and other churches in their area through workshops and other activities.
- Be able to attend the entire event from Monday, March 12 at 2:00 pm through 12:00 pm Tuesday, March 13.



Faithful Disagreement

Wrestling with Scripture in the Midst of Church Conflict

With Frances Taylor Gench

MARCH 12-13, 2012

John Knox Presbyterian Church

35 Shannon Drive

Greenville, SC 29615

864-244-0453

www.johnknoxpres.org

Registration Deadline:

February 6, 2012

A Leader of Leaders Event

Sponsored by the South Carolina 5

The SC5 includes the Presbyteries of Charleston Atlantic, Foothills, New Harmony, Providence, and Trinity. LEADER OF LEADERS is an annual event for leaders involved in educational ministry. In an attempt to keep this an intimate event, ten individuals from each presbytery will be able to experience these in-depth sessions focusing on being church in the 21st century.



SCHEDULE:

Monday

9:00 AM Check-in for Pre-event
9:30-12:30 Pre-event—Struggling With Scripture: Engaging Biblical Authority
12:30 Lunch on your own
1:30 Check-in for Faithful Disagreement event
2:00 Welcome and Worship
2:30-4:00 Session 1—Arguing About Scripture
4:00-4:15 Break & Bookstore
4:15-5:45 Session 2 - An Analytical Exercise
5:45-6:15 Evening Prayer
6:15 Supper (at the church)

Tuesday

9:30 AM Morning Prayer
9:40-10:30 Session 3—Farewell Conversations
10:30-10:45 Break & Bookstore
10:45-12:00 Session 4 - Living with Disagreements
12:00 Sending Forth

The Presbyterian Bookstore will be on site Monday and Tuesday.

NO CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE

HOW TO REGISTER:

The cost for the event includes meals, materials, (including the book *Faithful Disagreement* by Frances Taylor Gench), and lodging at the **Hyatt Place Greenville/Haywood** (40 West Orchard Park Drive, Greenville, SC, 864-232-3000. See back page for specific cost information.

If you want to be one of the ten participants from your presbytery, please return the registration form with the registration fee as soon as possible to your presbytery representative listed below. Checks should be made payable to your presbytery. The deadline for registration is **Monday, February 6**. If you have questions or need information about possible scholarships, please contact your presbytery representative. Remember space is limited!

Charleston Atlantic Presbytery: Pie Mikell pmikell@capresbytery.org
(843) 766-4219 or (800) 230-9293; 2421 Ashley River Road, Charleston, SC 29414

Foothills Presbytery: Mary Morrison mamorrison@foothillspresbytery.org
(800)882-0671 or (864)288-5774; 2242 Woodruff Road, Simpsonville, SC 29681

New Harmony Presbytery: Julie Cox Julie@newharmony.org
(843)662-8411; PO Box 4025, Florence, SC 29502

Providence Presbytery: Kathryn McGregor kmcgregor@providencepres.org
(803)328-6269 or (800)922-1609; 515 Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill, SC 29730

Trinity Presbytery: Nora Hope nhope@trinity-presbytery.org
(803)794-1225 or (800)321-4124; 554 DaVega Drive, Lexington, SC 29073

FRANCES TAYLOR GENCH

Pre-Event

Monday, 9:30—12:30

STRUGGLING WITH SCRIPTURE~Engaging Biblical Authority

The Bible is full of embarrassing, offensive, problematic texts that present serious interpretive challenges for contemporary Christian faith and practice. Should they be repudiated? Discarded? Silenced? Or are there perhaps more effective and faithful ways of handling them? This seminar will tackle the importance of preaching and teaching difficult texts – of engaging them 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.

Two Day Event

Monday, 2:00 pm - Tuesday, 12:00 pm

FAITHFUL DISAGREEMENT~Wrestling with Scripture in the Midst of Church Conflict

Church conflicts are always “family feuds,” for believers—like it or not—are bound to each other by baptism as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. And family feuds beget a peculiar pain and intensity... The Bible can help us live more faithfully with our disagreements and more fully into the peace, unity, and purity that is God’s gift to us in Jesus Christ.

~Frances Taylor Gench

Conflict is all too common in the church today. However, we need to remember that conflict over scriptural interpretation has been with the church since its earliest days. Being in conversation with the Bible and fellow Christians with whom we disagree is necessary in times of church conflict. To truly help us live faithfully we must *read* the Bible and not simply talk *about* the Bible.

Living faithfully also calls us to be in conversation with others in the church with whom we disagree. To speak the truth *in love* and to listen to one another *with respect*, to really try to hear and understand another point of view can form and bless a genuine community of faith.

We will reflect on those early experiences of church conflict and present substantive studies of relevant biblical texts to draw upon lessons from each about how it informs current conflicts in the church. Together we will experience being a community of faith with the hope and expectation that the Holy Spirit aids us in the ministry of reconciliation through Jesus Christ.



Frances Taylor Gench is the Herbert Worth and Annie H. Jackson Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia.

Prior to teaching at Union, she served on the faculty of Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg from 1986-1999. She is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and served on the General Assembly’s Theological Task Force on the Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church.

She is the author of *Back to the Well: Women’s Encounters with Jesus in the Gospels*; *Encounters with Jesus: Studies in the Gospel of John*; and *Hebrews and James*, and most recently *Faithful Disagreement: Wrestling with Scripture in the Midst of Church Conflict*.