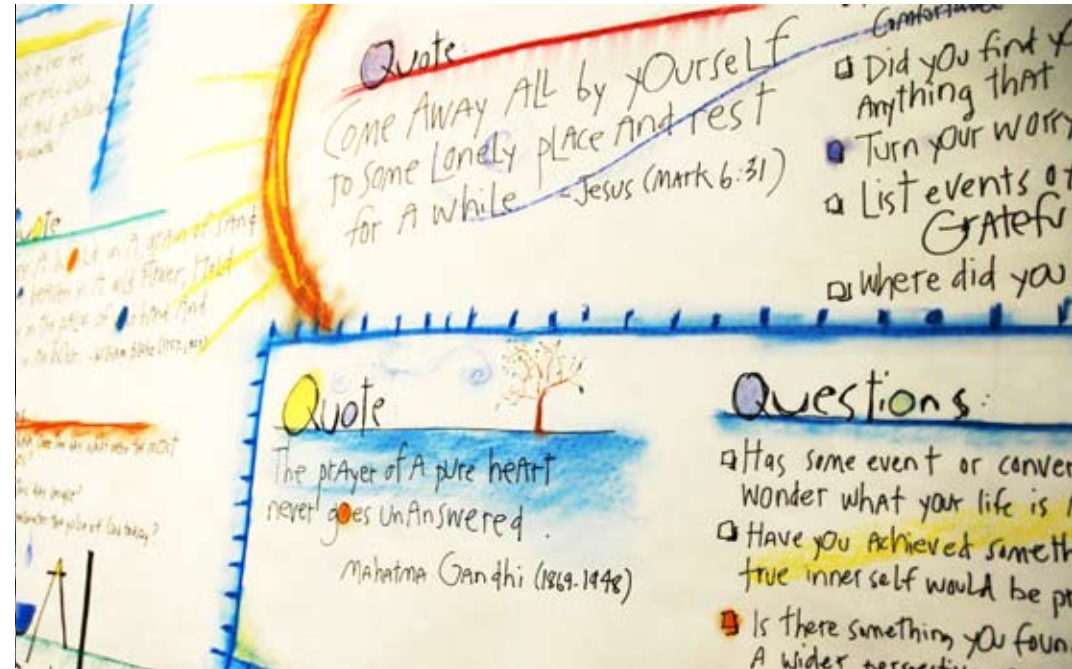


GOD BREATHED INTO CLAY.
LIFE WAS CREATED FROM THE PLACE WHERE BREATH AND EARTH MET
AND FROM THAT PLACE BIRTHS OUR CREATIVE VOICE.





The image arts
always have been
and always will be
the non-verbal
language
of the spirit,
the silent educator
of the soul,
the image educates
where reason
never reaches.

- Dorothea Blom

Nourishing The Creative Spirit provides workshops and retreats focusing on creating pathways to God through scripture and art. The claiming and reclaiming who we are as persons created in God's image, growing in the likeness of Christ to serve a hurting world, comes as we intentionally open ourselves to the movement of the Holy Spirit. We trust that creativity, divinely embedded in the human spirit, is always within reach. By pushing back the boundaries of the familiar and being guided into areas of the unknown, we experience that which we did not know was in us - surprised by God!



**IDENTIFYING
YOUR CONGREGATION'S
SACRED SYMBOLS**

FOR CLERGY AND
CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

Instructors: Peg Carlson-Hoffman +
Chuck Hoffman

Look at your congregation. Who are you as a community within the larger Body of Christ? In the corporate world, answering this question is referred to as "branding." In Middle English the word *symbole* was used to mean creed, or "I believe." The roots of our English word, *symbol*, means mark or token, something identifying or representing something else. In this workshop, we will go through a process to give words to your congregation's vision or purpose. Then we will transform the words into images and symbols that can then be used in altar cloths, banners, bulletin covers, letterheads, and other works of art. (if you already have the words, for instance a written vision statement that people understand and embrace, then we'll work with you on the images.)

**CREATING SACRED SPACES
FOR WORSHIP AND PRAYER**

FOR CLERGY,
CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS,
WORSHIP ARTS COMMITTEE AND
PRAYER MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Instructors: Peg Carlson-Hoffman +
Chuck Hoffman

This workshop explores the process of creating sacred spaces for worship and/or prayer. Embracing the sacred ensures that symbols, sacrament, sacramental art, and space lead people to encounter God. People long for the holy - that which is set aside. How do we maintain the integrity, yet transform symbols of the tradition so that they speak to new generations and new Christians?



**SEEKING THE HOLY:
A CONTEMPLATIVE RETREAT,
USING HOLY TEXTS, IMAGES
& SYMBOLS**

FOR CHURCH STAFF, SMALL GROUP
OR INDIVIDUALS

Instructors: Peg Carlson-Hoffman +
Chuck Hoffman

Reading scriptures can elicit vivid imagery that engages us where words cannot go. Using several traditional formats for hearing and praying scripture, this retreat invites us to rest and silently reflect on the words and images invoked. What is God communicating through these images and symbols? What is their meaning for you today in your circumstance?

**EXPLORING THE LANDSCAPE
OF CREATIVE FAITH**

FOR CHURCH STAFF, SMALL GROUP
OR INDIVIDUALS

Instructors: Peg Carlson-Hoffman +
Chuck Hoffman

Life's journey doesn't come with clear directions. Engaging in creative acts can help us know who we are and where God is calling us to go. Drawing on personal experiences of connecting to the God's call through visual art and then living this out in the world, the facilitators will invite you to reflect on your own path in a rhythm of reflection, conversation, simple creative exercises and artful worship.



MOVING BEYOND WORDS

FOR CHURCH STAFF, SMALL GROUP
OR INDIVIDUALS

Instructors: Peg Carlson-Hoffman +
Chuck Hoffman

God calls us to be in community. Too often we rely only on words, which have limits. Using prayer and art we explore a deeper understanding of ourselves and of our place in community. Journey step-by-step beyond words into image. Using symbols, image, pattern, texture, line and color, we will work to develop personal, prayerful compositions created from a place where there are no words.

CLAIMING THE ARTIST WITHIN

FOR CHURCH STAFF, SMALL GROUP
OR INDIVIDUALS

Instructors: Peg Carlson-Hoffman +
Chuck Hoffman

Using our God-given creativity connects us more fully with God. This workshop explores and uncovers our creativity that has been buried by our hectic pace of living. Julia Cameron's book, *The Artist's Way* provides the backbone of this journey and many hands-on-experiences help us connect to our creative center and to experience the joy of a community-engaged setting. This is a 10 week workshop meeting once a week.



PAINTING AS PRAYER

FOR CHURCH STAFF, SMALL GROUP
OR INDIVIDUALS

Instructors: Peg Carlson-Hoffman +
Chuck Hoffman

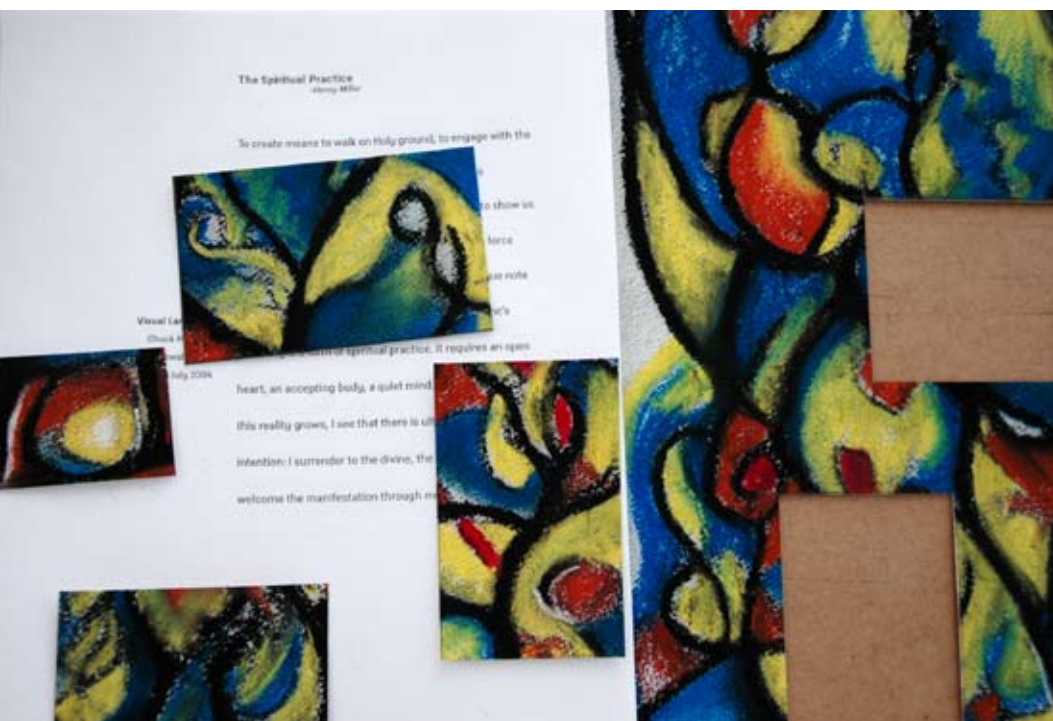
Meditation has its roots in the early scriptures. In meditation, we set aside time to focus on God, Jesus, and Holy Spirit. The Psalmist wrote, "I meditate on your word day and night." Contemplation is the art of noticing God's presence in all of life. Out of contemplation comes action. Painting as Prayer helps us become self-aware and gives us the opportunity to place who we are before God.

**EXPLORING THE LANDSCAPE
OF ART & RECONCILIATION**

FOR CHURCH STAFF, SMALL GROUP
OR INDIVIDUALS

Instructors: Peg Carlson-Hoffman +
Chuck Hoffman

Engaging with creative acts can help us know who we are and where God is calling us to go. Drawing on personal experiences of connecting to God's call through visual art and then living this out in the world, the facilitators will invite you to reflect on their call to art and reconciliation. They will share their experiences working on the peace line in Belfast, Northern Ireland where art, diversity of faith and reconciliation meet on Holy ground.



PEG CARLSON-HOFFMAN Peg's passion for art and faith includes designing worship spaces and experiential environments for others to engage the Holy. By creating cloths and banners for worship, she presents ancient symbols of the Christian church so that they come alive to a new generation of worshippers. Founder of the Genesis Art Studio, she serves on the Board of Directors and as a faculty member for the Grünewald Guild, an art and faith retreat center in Washington State. Currently a Design Studio Manager for Hallmark Cards, Peg teaches workshops on Calligraphy, Design and Creativity. Peg has exhibited widely.

CHUCK HOFFMAN Chuck's passion for the spiritual in art finds inspiration in the transcending connection of art, prayer and faith regardless of a person's cultural background or religious tradition. Recent time spent living on the peace line in Belfast, Northern Ireland confirmed for Chuck the healing power of art in forgiveness and reconciliation. Chuck, a painter, designer and workshop facilitator, since receiving his BFA from Miami University. Chuck worked as an Associate Creative Director for Walt Disney Company. Currently he works towards a master's degree in art and reconciliation and as an artist. Founder of the Genesis Art Studio, he serves on the Board of Directors and faculty member for the Grünewald Guild, a member of CIVA International and Director of Visual Arts at Imago Dei.



CONTACT INFORMATION Workshops and Retreats can be set up for a weekend (Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday morning) or two consecutive weekends (2 Saturdays). We are happy to work with you and the sponsoring group-local church or groups of churches. Our fees are adjustable; however, travel expenses and materials fees when appropriate are expected. If you are interested in discussing a workshop or retreat, please contact us at **chuck@genesisartstudio.com** or call **321.297.4081**.

For more information about our art and reconciliation work and a portfolio of our liturgical art + design visit our web site: **genesisartstudio.com**

Note: Being artistic is not a pre-requisite for any of these offerings. All we ask is a willingness to be open to the Holy Spirit.