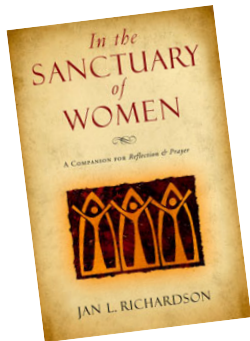


# Weekend of Connection

## with Rev. Jan Richardson and Garrison Doles

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**Arvada United Methodist Church**, 6750 Carr Street, Arvada, CO  
March 16-18, 2012



*Come be inspired by Rev. Jan Richardson and Garrison Doles*

- Friday talk – *Mysteries of Making: The Practice of Art and Faith*
- Saturday workshop – *Reclaiming the Art of Blessing*
- Sunday worship – 8:00 am and 10:00 am services

This is a special opportunity to interact with these nationally known spiritual artists. Come to any or all of the events and enjoy!

**Jan Richardson** is an artist, writer, and ordained minister in the United Methodist Church. She travels widely as a retreat leader and conference speaker. Winner of the *2011 National Indie Excellence Award* in the Religion Nonfiction category, Jan is the Visiting Artist at First United Methodist Church of Winter Park Florida. Visit her website at [janrichardson.com](http://janrichardson.com).

**Garrison Doles** is an award-winning singer/songwriter whose performance engage audiences around the country with his fresh approach to scripture that draws listeners deeper into the heart of God. Visit his website at [songchapel.com](http://songchapel.com).

### **Mysteries of Making: The Practice of Art and Faith**

7-9 pm, Friday, March 16

Creativity is God's first language. It is our native tongue, a way to converse and commune with God and with the world that God has made. Across the centuries, people of faith have responded to the Creator with the work of their hands in a variety of forms. In this evening, we will explore the mysteries of making and ponder how the Spirit seeks to create in and through us.

Reception with book and CD signing following the talk.

Location: AUMC Sanctuary

Fee: \$20 at the door. Note – no registration is required for this event.

## Reclaiming the Art of Blessing

9am – 4pm, Saturday, March 17

“A blessing is a reminder that God has not designed us to live by our own devices: we are bound together with one another and with all of creation, and we are called to work for the well-being of those whom we share this life with—and those who will follow. Offering a blessing is an act of profound hope. In blessing one another, we recognize and ally ourselves with the presence of God who is ever working to bring about the healing of the world.” –Jan Richardson

The act of blessing is an ancient practice that weaves through the history, stories, sacred texts, and daily life of the people of God. Across the ages, blessings have taken a variety of forms, including prayer, the spoken word, poetry, gesture, song, and visual art. Blessings are always a sign of the presence of the God who works for the wholeness of creation and calls us to participate in that work.

During this event, we will explore this ancient practice that we are called to offer in our own time. Drawing inspiration from such rich sources as the scriptures, medieval mystics, Celtic Christian traditions of blessing, and our own stories, we will reflect on where blessings have been present in our own lives and histories, and how God might be inviting us to offer blessings that contribute to the healing of the world, in ways that only we can offer. As we reclaim the art of blessing, our tools for the day will include writing, artwork, times for personal reflection, conversation, and worship.

Lunch is included, with vegetarian and gluten free options.

Location: AUMC Fellowship Center

Fee: \$80 for registrations before Feb. 15 or when 2 or more register together;

\$100 for single registrations after Feb. 15

**Registration closes March 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

For questions or more information send email to [connection@arvadaumc.org](mailto:connection@arvadaumc.org) or call the church office at 303-421-5135.

**To register complete the form below, detach, and mail along with your check.**

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### Registration for Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, Reclaiming the Art of Blessing

Number of persons attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address or phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

(This information will be used only in the event we need to contact you regarding this registration.)

I am enclosing a check for:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$80.00 for a single registration prior to February 15

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00 for a single registration after February 15

\_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ at \$80.00 per person for two or more people

Lunch preference: \_\_\_No special needs \_\_\_Vegetarian \_\_\_Gluten free

Make your check payable to: AUMC

Use 'Weekend of Connection' in the check memo/note. Mail or bring the form and check to:

AUMC, 6750 Carr Street, Arvada, CO 80004