

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN'S RETREAT 2020

# THE CREATOR IN YOU

*a weekend at the beach for  
friendship, quiet, play,  
exploration and growth.*

**MARCH 13-15**

Villa Maria del Mar, Santa Cruz

Led by artist and pastor,  
Beth Merrill Neel, our 2020  
retreat will deepen and nurture  
our faith through connection to  
our mysterious creative God who  
invites us to co-create a more  
loving world.

**REGISTER BY 2.24.2020**

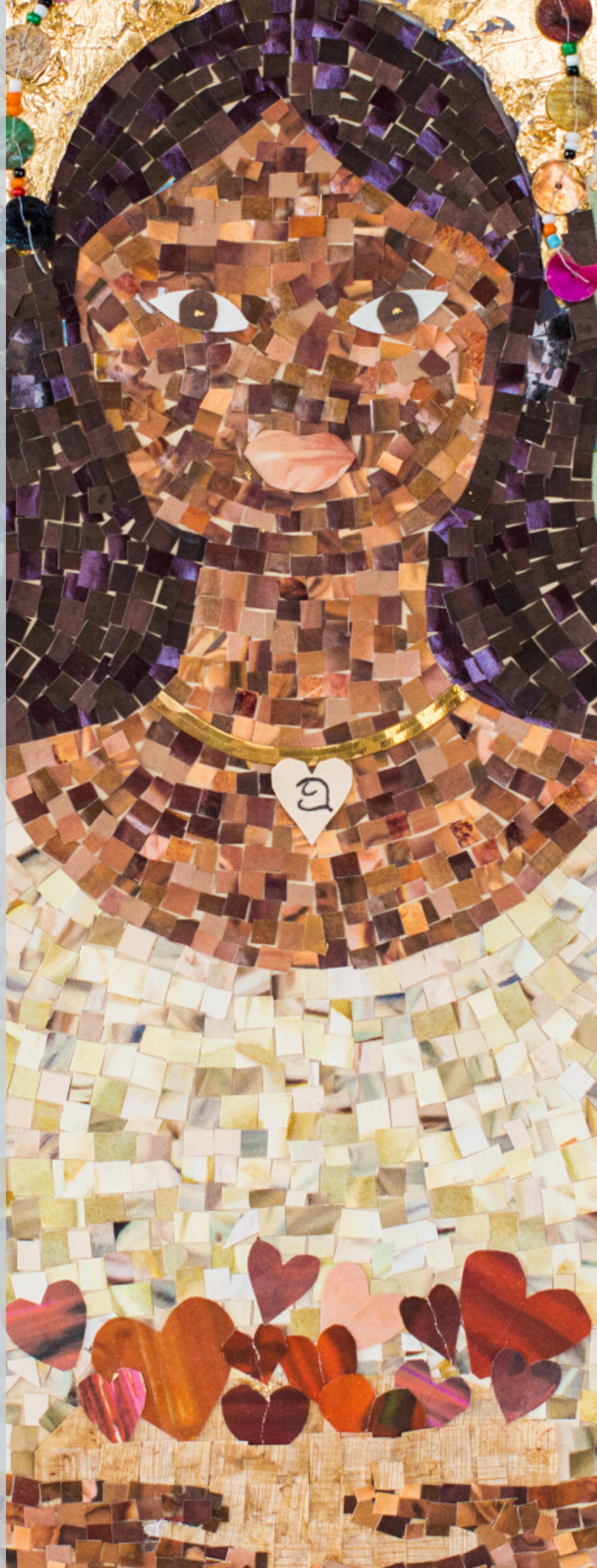
\$335/double room

\$435/single room

\$100/commuter

Scholarships Available  
(Contact Cathy Paniagua  
or Jenny Warner)

[valleypreschurch.org/retreats](http://valleypreschurch.org/retreats)





## "Seeking the sacred through creativity, playfulness, and nature"

The women of VPC and friends gather for this year's retreat: **The Creator in You**

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Led by artist and ordained Presbyterian minister, Beth Merrill Neel, this year's retreat invites us to deepen and nurture our faith through connection to our mysterious creative God, who sees all of our giftedness and encourages us to co-create with the Holy. We will explore our innovative selves – how each of us both creates and blocks healthy creativity. We will look at our human connections – how what we do with others can enliven creative expression.

### Beth Merrill Neel



Beth serves as co-pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Portland, Oregon. Ordained to ministry in 1993, Beth knows her way around, whether it's a committee meeting, potluck, or an energetic Bible study. When not at church, she enjoys reading books that might not have anything to do with faith, walking in rain or sun, combing the dog (or trying), and enjoying opportunities for hilarity with family. She blogs at [www.holdfasttowhatisgood.com](http://www.holdfasttowhatisgood.com).

In 2016 she began making collage and says, "I write, I think, I sing and dance while I make dinner. I meditate by cutting paper into quarter-inch squares and gluing them down to make a picture. I believe life is a gift, but now and then it feels burdensome, so I cook some more or cut up some paper or text a friend."

### We hope you will join us!

Space is limited.

Register online by 2.24.2020,  
[valleypreschurch.org/retreats](http://valleypreschurch.org/retreats)  
or after church on Sunday.

Questions?

Email Ann Hadden-Cornelius  
[annhcorneilius@gmail.com](mailto:annhcorneilius@gmail.com)  
or call (650-326-2739)



*Shiphrah, Matron Saint of Foster Moms*  
collage by Beth Merrill Neel



Valley Presbyterian Church  
PORTOLA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA