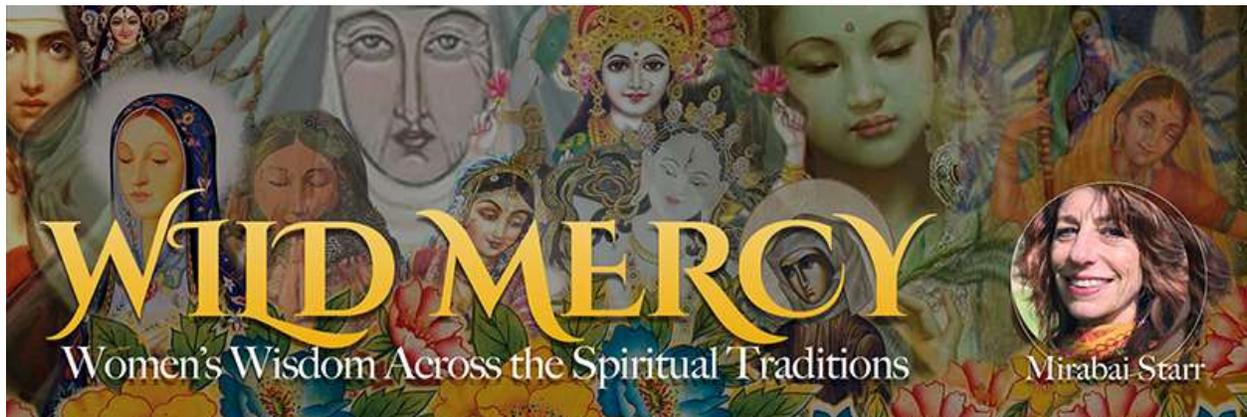


**You are invited!**

**Two events featuring author Mirabai Starr –**

**a conversation at USM Center for Compassion Portland on March 13 5-7 pm & a daylong retreat at St. Joseph's College in Standish on March 14 10a.m. -4 p.m.**



**Mirabai Starr** writes creative non-fiction and speaks internationally on contemplative practice and inter-spiritual dialog. She has received critical acclaim for her revolutionary new translations of the mystics, John of the Cross, Teresa of Avila and Julian of Norwich. She is the award-winning author of *God of Love: A Guide to the Heart of Judaism, Christianity and Islam*, and *Caravan of No Despair: A Memoir of Loss and Transformation*. **Her latest book is *Wild Mercy: Living the Fierce & Tender Wisdom of the Women Mystics*.**

**Come to a conversation ~**

Join author Mirabai Starr and **Dr. Vaishali Mamgain**, Director of the **BCB Center for Compassion** at USM as they discuss the embodied contemplative practices that connect (or reconnect) us with sacred feminine wisdom and deepen our relationships with ourselves and each other.

Following this intimate conversation, Mirabai will be signing copies of her book, **Wild Mercy**, which will be available for purchase at the event.

This event is free and open to the public, but we ask that attendees please register using this link

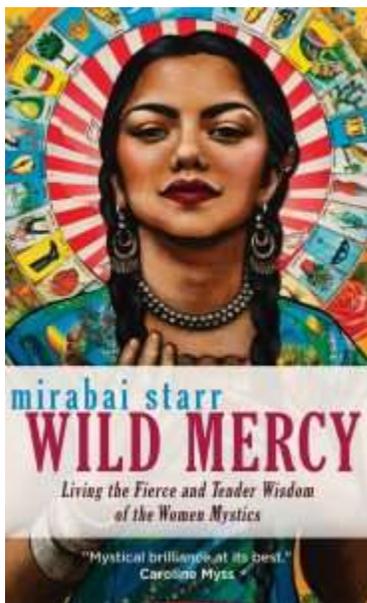
**<https://usm.maine.edu/bertha-crosley-ball-center-compassion/mirabai-starr-conversation-and-book-signing>**

*Come to a daylong retreat – March 14, 2020 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.*

Learn more and register at <https://unitygreaterportland.org/mirabai-starr/>

*A Fierce & Tender Wisdom: Reclaiming the Feminine Across the Spiritual Spectrum*

As traditionally male-dominated structures topple across the landscape of the human community, the feminine is rising, carrying cups of mercy and spreading flames of truth-telling. Long-buried wisdom teachings and previously ignored women mystics are revealing themselves to be urgently relevant as we pass through a global dark night of the soul and into a radically renewed humanity. With its emphasis on relationship and inclusivity, its tolerance for ambiguity and its intimacy with mystery, the feminine reclaims the body as holy ground and blesses the web of interbeing that sustains us all. The feminine speaks in poetry and song, she worships the earth as cherished relative, she embraces ultimate reality as lover. In this talk, “mystical feminist” Mirabai Starr shares the fruits of many years of investigating, excavating and lifting up female voices in all the world’s religions.



In *Wild Mercy*, Mirabai Starr inspires you to awaken your own inner mystic as you immerse yourself in the guidance of sages such as Teresa of Ávila, Mary Magdalene, Hildegard of Bingen, the ecstatic poet Mirabai, and the Sufi saint Rabia Basri; join with the archetypal energies of figures like Kuan Yin, Tara, Kali, Sophia, and the Shekinah; and find the light to guide your own journey of spiritual awakening and service in the world.

“Women across cultural boundaries are rising with our echoing yes in response to the collective call to step up and repair the broken world,” writes Mirabai Starr. “We are rooting ourselves in our resounding no in the face of injustice to our fellow human beings and our Mother Earth.”

**Six communities have come together to bring Mirabai Starr to Maine:**

\*Unity Center for Spiritual Growth    \* Saint Joseph's College of Maine    \*University of Southern  
Maine/The Bertha Crosley Ball Center for Compassion    \*Pax Christi Maine  
\*Chaplaincy Institute of Maine    \*Abbey of Hope