

## *Workshop/ Event Descriptions*

### **Together Here Workshop Series**

This workshop series has been organized by the Northeastern Minnesota Synod's Together Here team with the goal of providing space where people throughout our synod can get to know the stories of those living in our communities. The series creates opportunities to learn and discuss experiences and shared histories in order for us to see each other with the hearts of neighbors rather than through the eyes of strangers.

### **The Blanket Exercise**

The Blanket Exercise is an interactive experience that raises awareness of the nation-to-nation relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in the United States. The experience is designed to increase knowledge about the laws, policies, and programs used during nation building that have impacted Indigenous people's rights and self-governance by literally walking participants through our shared history with a different perspective. During their experience, participants are provided the opportunity to form a common memory and begin conversation about how we can build intercultural bridges together.

### **The Doctrine of Discovery**

*The Doctrine of Discovery* documentary is "a story of historical truth, spirituality, and resistance, told on behalf of the original nations and peoples of (America). This doctrine of ancient Christendom (for which the documentary was named), supported by papal edicts, continues to serve as the conceptual foundation of the political and legal system of the United States..." Join us as we watch this 60 minute documentary and engage in guided reflection and dialogue to explore how the Doctrine of Discovery impacts Americans today.

### **The Soul of an Indian**

*Ohiyesa: The Soul of an Indian* is "a deeply personal family film that follows Kate Beane, an urban, Dakota scholar, and her family as they trace the remarkable life of their celebrated relative, Ohiyesa (Charles Eastman), an important author, activist, lecturer and one of the first Native American doctors. Along the way, Beane uncovers uncanny parallels between their lives, through they were born more than 100 years apart" (Vision Maker Media). This documentary provides history of American Indian people through the perspective of Charles Eastman's life. Join us to watch this 60 minute documentary and engage in guided reflection and dialogue following it.

### **Lutheran History with American Indian and Alaska Native Peoples**

*Native Nations: Standing Together for Civil Rights* is a one-hour documentary produced for and funded by the ELCA that explores the role of the Lutheran church in the American Indian civil rights movement of the 1970s and 1980s. Participants will explore the Lutheran history up to the 1970s, then watch this documentary and engage in guided reflection and dialogue following it.

## **Boarding Schools**

The documentary *Unspoken: America's Native American Boarding Schools* "takes a moving and insightful look into the history, operation, and legacy of the federal Indian Boarding School system..." Join us to watch this 60 minute documentary and engage in guided reflection and dialogue following it.

## **Getting to Know Our Neighbors**

Join us to learn about the tribal nations in your region and explore ways to get to know members of these communities.

## **The Traditional Stories and Sites of the Region**

Join us to learn the traditional stories and about the traditional sites of your region from members of tribal nations in your area.

## **Mr. Kevin Kot**

Mr. Kevin Kot is a citizen of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. He is ordained through the congregational tradition along with his wife, Carol. Together, they lead the ministries of Oshki giizhigimatoogan, New Day Lodge. Oshki giizhigimatoogan is a contextual Christian ministry that embraces Native American cultural expression and worldview. As part of their work, they strive to build inter-cultural bridges and increase opportunities for Indigenous and non-indigenous Christians to enter into healthy conversations about their shared Christian faith.

## **Dr. Marsha Lue**

Dr. Marsha S. Lue received her Bachelor's (self-designed, Indian Cultural Studies) and Master's (Counseling) degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Superior, in 2002 and 2004, respectively. Her Doctorate in Education (Instructional Leadership) was received in 2012 from Argosy University-Twin Cities. Dr. Lue's dissertation focused on underrepresented McNair Scholars. She has been working in higher education since 2005, when she began with the McNair Scholars Program, a federally funded TRiO Program. She currently works at Lake Superior College with the TRIO Student Support Services Program as an Advisor/Coach. Dr. Lue's research interests have been related to various social justice issues, focused primarily on underrepresented college students. Other research interests include current military and Veterans in terms of educational access and retention.

Dr. Lue will guide participants through a discussion on implicit bias, exploring what it is, how it impacts our abilities to form meaningful relationship, and its potential impacts on society.

**Dr. Joseph Bauerkemper**

Dr. Joseph Bauerkemper's scholarship, outreach, and teaching emphasize politics, literature, governance, and law. Before joining the UMD faculty, he earned his PhD in American Studies from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, enjoyed one year at the University of Illinois as a Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow in American Indian Studies, and enjoyed two years at UCLA with concurrent appointments as an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the program for the study of Cultures in Transnational Perspective and as a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of English. Joseph grew up in Austin, Texas and lives in Duluth with his wife Kristen, daughter Eliza, and son Thomas.

Dr. Bauerkemper will lead participants in an exploration of treaties, treaty rights and how treaties impact us all.

**Dr. Melissa Walls**

Melissa L. Walls (Ph.D., Bois Forte and Couchiching First Nations Anishinabe) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biobehavioral Health and Population Sciences at the University of Minnesota Medical School, Duluth campus. Dr. Walls is a social scientist committed to collaborative research and has over a decade of experience working with tribal communities in the United States and Canada. Her involvement in community-based participatory research (CBPR) projects to date includes mental health epidemiology; culturally-relevant, family-based substance use prevention and mental health promotion programming and evaluation; and examining the impact of stress and mental health on diabetes. Dr. Walls's collaborative work has received funding from the National Institutes of Health and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Dr. Walls will help participants better understand intergenerational trauma and how it continues to affect members of communities far beyond the initial traumatic event.