

THE HEALING CIRCLE Aho Mitakuye Oyasin.

In the summer of 2021, NACOS students, faculty and alumni gathered for a Healing Circle at Dayspring in Illinois. After an era of isolation and restricted communion, we came together for a healing time of talking circles, ceremonies, time in nature, art, and worship.

The healing circle was so powerful and beneficial, that the topic emerged: how do we continue this healing and learning together in the NACOS community? In fact, everyone who has been a part of our school knows the unique sense family that we share with one another, and how these relationships strengthen and support us beyond the “classroom” as we are sent to a variety of ministry settings.

The Continuing Education program for alumni is part of the answer to this need to continue the connection. In Sept of 2022 this will be held at the same location and week as our courses, so that students and alumni can participate together in some powerful experiences:

September 2022 ALUMNI Opportunities:

Sun Sept 18-Mon Sept 19

“Healing With Dignity- Symposium on Native American Spiritual/Pastoral Care”

MorningSky Leadership Initiative is holding this two day research symposium, to gather our collective experience and voices on the topics of Decolonizing Pastoral Care and Forming a Theology of Native American Pastoral Care. Made possible by a grant from the Association of Clinical Pastoral Educators, participation is by invitation. Contact Carol at lakotaeastin@gmail.com for more information.

Tues Sept 20-Wed Sept 21 2 Day Sessions

Alumni Continuing Education Event with Two Parts

1. Non-Violent Communication Intensive Course
2. Journeying Through Past and Present Trauma

Tues Sept 21 EVENING SESSION INTERACTIVE NATIVE HISTORY EXERCISE

A two hour Blanket Exercise will immerse the group in remembering the history of Native America and the role of the Christian Church in colonization. An informative and emotional experience, this exercise sets the stage for healing and decolonization work. Alumni and current students will participate together.

The Healing Circle is open to all current and former students, current and former Faculty members and also those who have been called to Native American Ministry.