

**Heading:** Committee on Native American Ministries (CoNAM)

**Purpose:** To promote and support Native American Ministries in the Baltimore-Washington Conference and throughout the connection.

**Body of Report:**

- **Goals:** To build awareness of and advocacy for issues affecting Native Americans.
- **Impact:** For the purpose of greater advocacy, education and awareness, we have explored issues that currently affect Native American communities throughout the connection such as:
  - Education
  - Federal services to Native American People associated with political changes
  - Environmental Protection and Climate Change (i.e. Water)
  - Federal Recognition of Tribal Status
  - Native Lands and Sacred Places
  - Tribal Sovereignty and Jurisdiction
  - Mascots, Hate and Native Representation
  - [Indian Day and UM Boarding Schools](#) Healing - calling for a reading of this report with a commitment to actions as stated.

We have supported policy statements issued by the Native American International Caucus (NAIC) and GCORR resources for Native American Ministries Sunday such as:

- [11 Facts About Native People in Society and the Church](#) (By Bishop David Wilson)
- [Video: Ongoing Acts of Repentance with Indigenous People](#) (By Rev. Chebon Kernell)
- [Land Acknowledgement vs. Welcome by the Original People](#) (By Ragghi Rain, Chairperson, Native American International Caucus, 2023)
- [Video & Discussion Guide: Doctrine of Discovery](#) (By Christy L. Oxendine based on Dismantling Racism webinar segment by Dr. Lisa Dellinger who is Chickasaw and Mexican)
- [Remembering Forgotten Historical Figures](#) (Wilma Mankiller, Charles Curtis, and Zitkala-Ša)
- [Book Study: \*The Land is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery\* Book Study](#)
- [Native American Ministries Pastor and Leader Kit](#), <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/umc-resources/umcgiving/special-sundays/native-american-ministries-pastor-and-leader-kit>.

**This Year:** We will continue to advocate for policies that support Native Americans and their communities. We will continue to gain support of CoNAM at the local church level by providing educational and advocacy opportunities. We will support [Native American Course of Study](#) via scholarships and provide \$10,000 for indigenous youth grades two through eight to attend Indigenous Youth Camp Arrowhead, <https://www.camparrowhead.net/indigenous-youth-camp.html>.

Respectfully submitted: Richard Church, CoNAM Chair; Stacey Cole Wilson, Staff