

Living Into Right Relations – December 2022

Hello,

Predictably, the December version of the newsletter is slimmer than most. I hope you are able to celebrate the holidays with loved ones, share your gifts, and relax!, in whatever way you do these things.

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, Christians reflect on the ways that our faith, our sacred stories provide grounding and direction for our lives. This of course also applies to the call to do justice. New Years is also a time of reflection on the past and hope for the future. I don't know what faith traditions you all come from or if religious faith is part of the fabric of your life. No matter where we root ourselves in faith or worldview, it is worth reconnecting from time to time with the question: what underpins our desire for living into right relations?

May you walk in good company,

Nancy (nancydykstra@gmail.com)

1. Land Back

- a. [O:se Kenhionhata:tie](#) - read their Facebook posts
- b. [1492 Land Back Lane](#) Supportive actions -
 - i. **Friday Lunches for 1492 LandBack Lane.** Many thanks to a committed group of cooks and bakers who have been contributing to Friday lunches for 2 years. Cash donations can be made through [Parkminster United Church](#). Please identify your donation as 1492 LandBack Lane. For more info or to lend a hand, contact me at nancydykstra@gmail.com. Thank you!
 - ii. News: [A judge is out to 'find the truth' about land near Six Nations, part of Skyler Williams sentencing hearing](#) CBC. The next court date is Jan 23 in Cayuga.
 - iii. Support their [legal defense fund](#)

2. Supporting Indigenous initiatives

One I missed last month - thanks Janet Main: [Water First](#) - donating at [this page doubles your gift.](#)

3. Learning at home and events

- a. If you're thinking of diving into some deeper learning this winter, [Indigenous Canada](#) - University of Alberta - is a free online course packed with information.
- b. **Dec. 10, 8 a.m.** [Grand River Water Ceremony](#) All Nations Grand River Water Walk, 650 Otterbein Rd. Kitchener.
- c. **Dec 10, 1-3 p.m.** [Indigenous Sharing Circle with Kelly Welsh](#) at KPL (Central). Register [here](#). (Registration may be full....!)
- d. **Dec. 12 7 p.m.** Join SPECTRUM for monthly Anishinaabemowin language circles with Melissa Joseph, a Two-Spirit ally. She will teach the importance of language inclusivity and basic conversational language. Open to Two-Spirit and Indigiqueer people and allies. [Register here](#) through WellBeing Waterloo Region.
- e. **Dec. 14, 12-1** Six Nations Polytechnic: Lunch and Learn: Paint Party - step by step painting, includes lunch. Ohsweken campus: 2160 Fourth Line, Ohsweken. To register for a session contact Heather.Bomberry@snpolytechnic.com or 519-445-0023 ext 6700. Once you have registered, additional info will be sent to you.
- f. **Dec. 14, 6-7:30 p.m.** [Mohawk Institute Virtual tour](#).
- g. * **Dec. 21(?), 12-1** Six Nations Polytechnic: Lunch and Learn: Paint Party - step by step painting, includes lunch. Brantford campus: 411 Elgin St, Brantford. See Dec 14 above for registration info.

*This was not finalized when I sent this the newsletter.
- h. Other events online through [Eventbrite](#).

4. Good Reads, News and Views

- a. **Reads**
 - i. Engage Kitchener. Transcript of [discussion on November 1 about the Queen Victoria Statue in Victoria Park](#)
 - ii. [She Is Wise Magazine | ONWA](#) - [edition focusing on Cindy Blackstock](#)
 - iii. I did a search for books by Indigenous Authors and this list for children and young teens popped up: [Indigenous Books for the Middle Years](#) - from Vancouver Public Library. I thought there might be some fresh titles here..
- b. **News**
 - i. [Indigenous community centre needed in downtown Kitchener | TheRecord.com](#)
- c. **Views**
 - i. [1491: The Untold Story of the Americas before Columbus](#) Vimeo. Pam from W.I.N.D. says it is a "magnificent series".
- d. **Podcasts**
 - i. **New CBC podcast: Land Back** [Episode 1](#)