

Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference



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The mission of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference is to reach native persons with the Good News of Jesus Christ through the United Methodist witness. Since 1844, OIMC has provided its communities with the rich history, traditions, and culture of Oklahoma's native populations while inviting indigenous peoples into a relationship with Jesus Christ. Today, 87 OIMC churches and fellowships serve 46 tribes in Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas.

Geographical/Visitor/History Links

- <u>"The Trail of Tears: A Story of Cherokee Removal"</u>
- Washita Battlefield
- Chief Standing Bear
- Oklahoma Historical Society

OIMC Ministries

- Cultural preservation and sovereignty
- Children & Youth education
- Food security
- Health and safety

Suggested readings and viewings

Discussion groups are great ways to prepare for a mission or to have deeper reflection of your service once you return home. You can meet online, through social media, or, if possible, face-to-face. Here are some suggested articles and books related to OIMC ministries.

Who Is My Neighbor?

"Who Is My Neighbor?" is a 26-minute documentary produced in conjunction with the Acts of Repentance toward Healing Relationships with Indigenous Peoples conducted at General Conference in 2012 and at Oklahoma Annual Conference in 2016. DVDs and study guides are available. <u>Find resources here.</u>

OIMC Video Stories

OIMC has a wonderful collection of videos produced by writer Ginny Underwood. See them all here: <u>http://www.umc-oimc.org/video-resources/</u>

News Articles

The Native America Comprehensive Plan has a list of news articles: http://www.nacp-umc.org/

Books

- <u>Toxic Charity</u>
- On This Spirit Walk
- Killers of the Flower Moon
- <u>Coming Full Circle</u>
- Indian Tribes of Oklahoma
- God is Red: A Native View on Religion
- For This Land: Writings on Religion in America
- The First White Frost
- Capture These Indians For The Lord
- <u>Native and Christian: Indigenous Voices on Religious Identity in the United</u> <u>States and Canada</u>

Local Involvement

When at home, keep the team unity going through activities that relate to the work at OIMC.

- Worship with a Native American congregation in your area (if possible).
- Educate yourself about the MMIW movement (Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women). Learn more at the website https://www.csvanw.org/mmiw/.
- Research which indigenous tribes were native to your area. Is there still a tribal presence? If not, find out what happened to them (forced removal, perhaps) and if the tribe still exists.
- Is there a Native American population in your area? Are there agencies that work specifically with them? If so, find out what volunteer opportunities exist.
- Promote <u>Native American Ministries Sunday</u> in your local church.

Chat with OIMC

Contact the OIMC office to find out how you can Skype, Zoom, or FaceTime with a member of the Conference.

Donations

Make financial donations to the OIMC following links on their website: <u>http://www.umc-oimc.org/give-online/</u>. Donations can be made either through The Advance or PayPal.

Global Ministries missionary <u>Rev. Donna Pewo</u> works with Cheyenne-Arapaho children and youth in western Oklahoma. You can contribute to her support through <u>The Advance</u>. Consider starting a covenant relationship with her, too!

Thank you for following God's call to service with our neighbors.

