



10 Books for Native American Ministries Sunday

Books for individuals, small groups and families to read in preparation for this Special Sunday



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Did you know that within the United Methodist denomination there are 157 Native American congregations and over 32,000 Native American individuals? With many languages and cultures, Native Americans honor Jesus and live as Christians in churches led by a rotation of pastors, most of whom are themselves Native American.

On Native American Ministries Sunday, we seek to celebrate and embolden Native American congregations and worshippers. Every year, we set aside this Sunday to give generously to Native American ministries and scholarships. It's one way we recognize the unique value and contributions of this community.

We celebrate in commitment to racial reconciliation, in dedication to creating programs that enrich and educate, and we celebrate because we believe in taking care of our family *multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. Revelation 7:9 (NRSV)*

As you prepare to celebrate Native American Ministries Sunday, take some time with your family, leadership team, or individually, and read through one of the books we've handpicked for you. We've even included a couple of books for your children!

Together, we do more!

Native Roots

How The Indians Enriched America

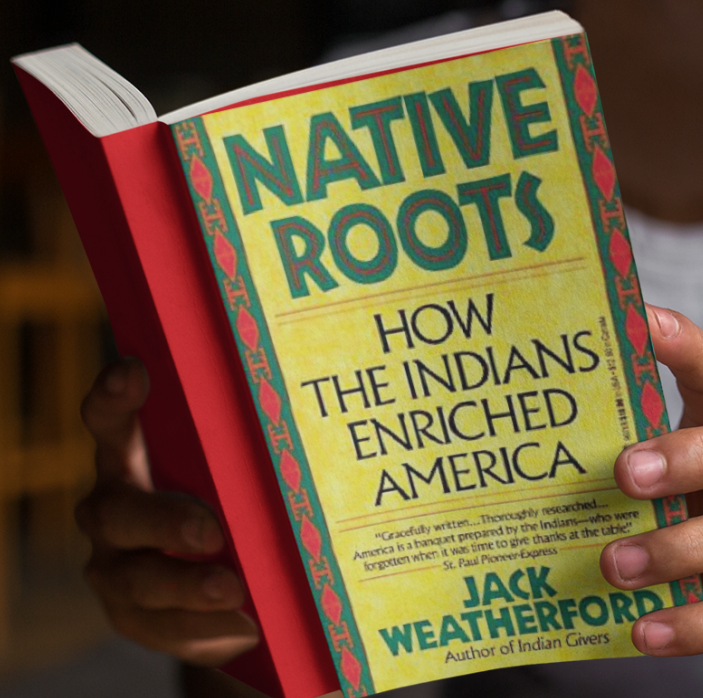
By Jack Weatherford

An anthropologist details the impact of Native Americans on American culture, and how common customs and cultures represented are actually **rooted in Native practices**.

“Our place names, our farming and hunting techniques, our crafts, the very blood that flows in our veins--all derive from American Indians ways...”

Available from Cokesbury.com

[Click here to get your copy.](#)



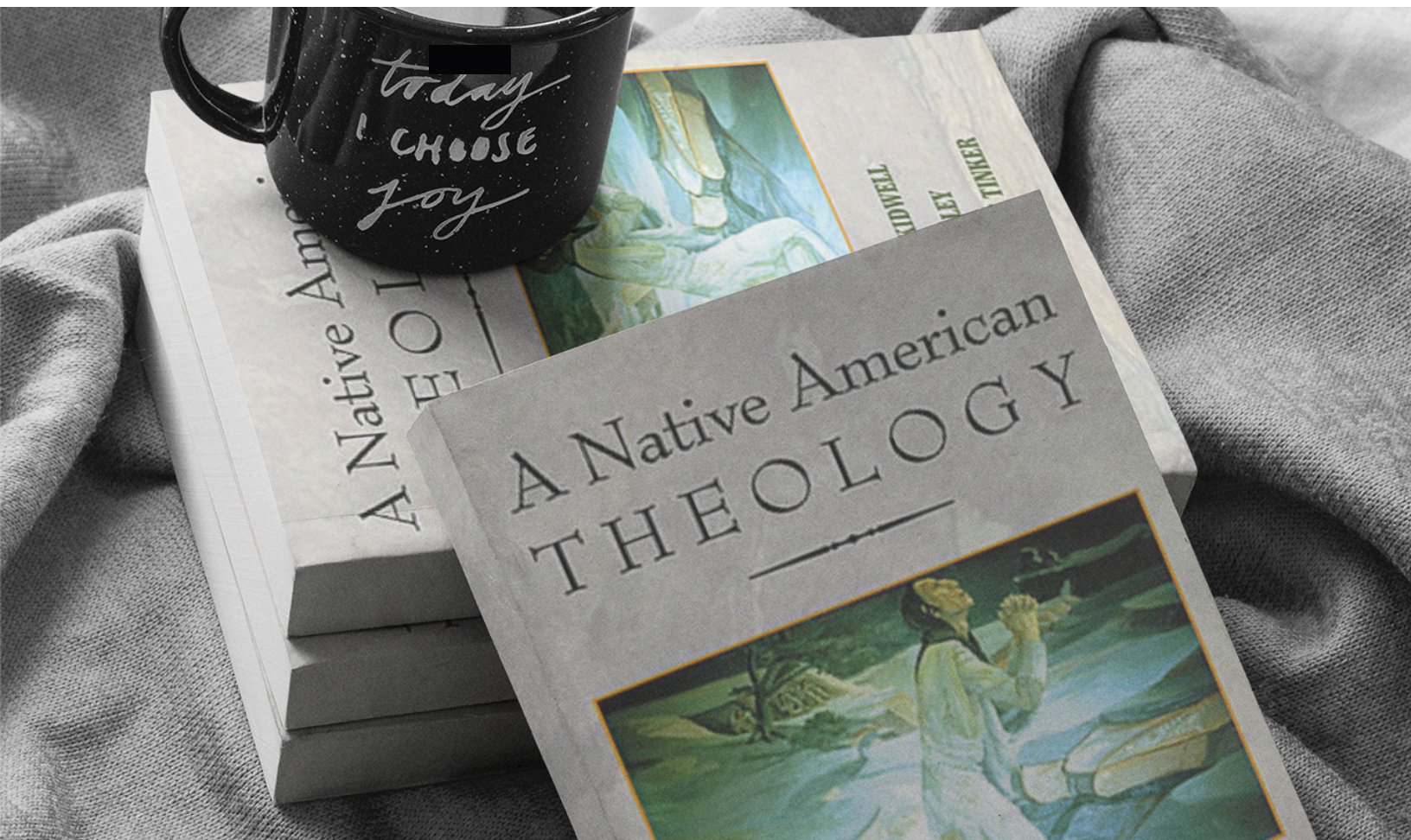
A Native American Theology

By Clara Sue Kidwell, George E. Tinker, Homer Noley

“Addresses issues facing Native Americans today, including racism, poverty, stereotyping, and religious freedom in the context of traditional categories of Christian systematic theology. Also introduces new categories of Native thought.”

Available from Cokesbury.com

[Click here to get your copy.](#)



All the Real Indians Died Off

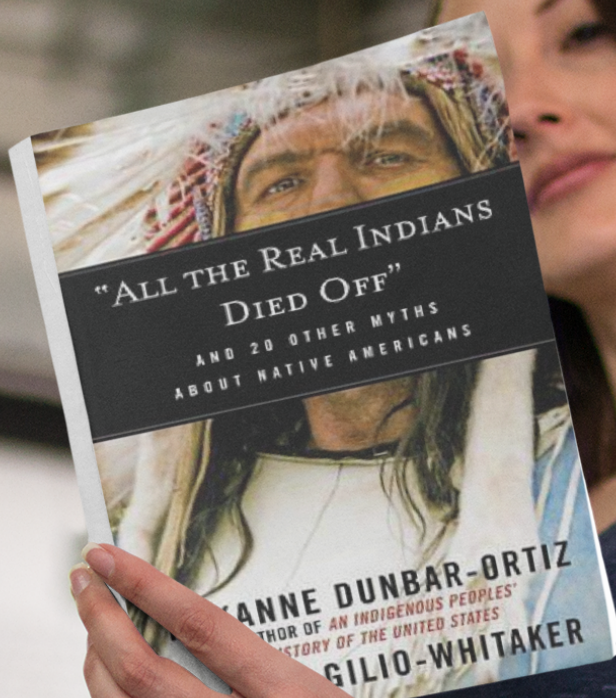
And 20 Other Myths about Native Americans

By Dina Gilio-Whitaker and Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

Detailing how myths about Native Americans have evolved, the authors deconstruct these long-accepted untruths, such as:

- Columbus Discovered America
- Indians Were Savage and Warlike
- Europeans Brought Civilization to Backward Indians
- Most Indians Are on Government Welfare
- Indian Casinos Make Them All Rich
- Indians Are Naturally Predisposed to Alcohol

Available from Cokesbury.com
[Click here to get your copy.](#)



The Lakota Way

Stories and Lessons for Living, Native American Wisdom on Ethics and Character

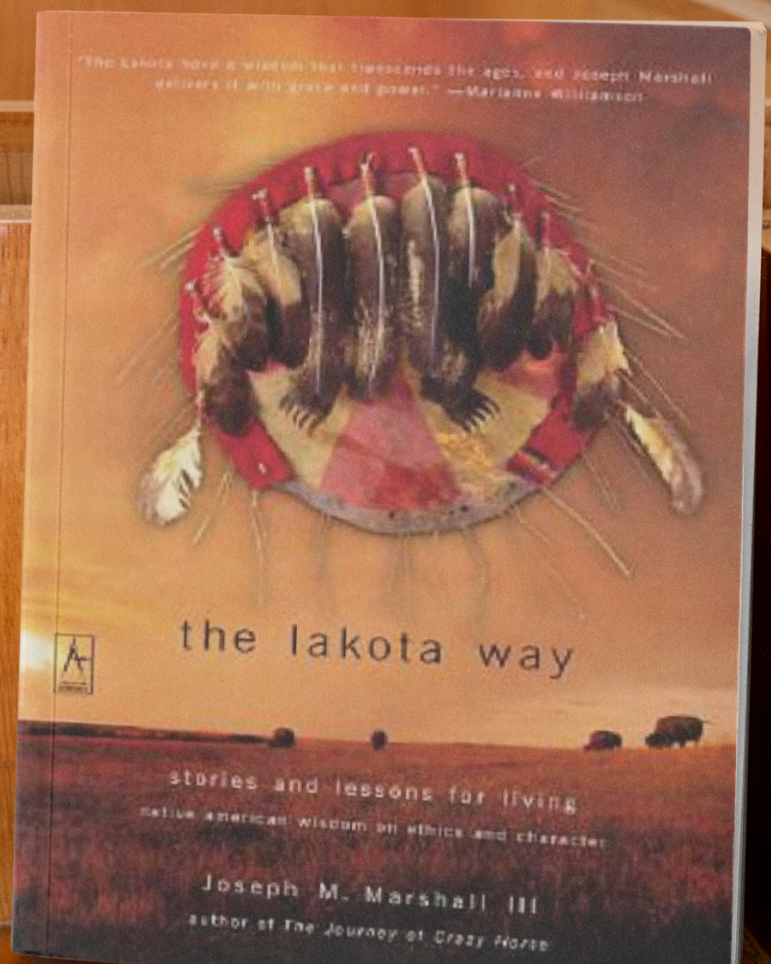
By Joseph M. Marshall, III

A “thoughtful, illuminating account of how the spiritual beliefs of the Lakota people can help us all **lead more meaningful, ethical lives.**”

The **core qualities** that are crucial to the Lakota way of life include bravery, fortitude, generosity, wisdom, respect, honor, perseverance, love, humility, sacrifice, truth, and compassion.

Available from Cokesbury.com

[Click here to get your copy.](#)



Native Americans, the Mainline Church, and the Quest for Interracial Justice

By David Phillips Hansen

“The Native American drive for self-governance is the most **important civil rights struggle of our time**...Hansen lays out the church’s role in helping America heal its bleeding wounds of systemic oppression.

Using faith as a weapon against the darkness of injustice, this book will change the way you view how we must **solve the pressing problems** of racism, poverty, environmental degradation, and violence, and it will remind you that **faith can be the leaven of justice**.”

Available from Cokesbury.com
[Click here to get your copy.](#)



First Person, First Peoples

Native American College Graduates Tell Their Life Stories

By Andrew Garrod and Colleen Larimore

Native American college graduates tell their life stories in this collective memoir, sharing their struggles and adjustments to college life, “making things fit, finding that elusive balance between tribal values and the demands of campus life.”

Contributors include a tribal court judge and a professional baseball player, the first Navajo woman surgeon, and the former executive director of a Native American preparatory school.

Available from Cokesbury.com

[Click here to get your copy.](#)



The Land Looks After Us

A History of Native American Religion

By Joel W. Martin

What kind of religions have Native Americans practiced?

“Native Americans practice some of America’s **most spiritually profound, historically resilient, and ethically demanding religions**. Joel Martin draws his narrative from folk stories, rituals, and even landscapes to trace the development of Native American religion from ancient burial mounds, through interactions with European conquerors and missionaries, and on to the modern-day rebirth of ancient rites and beliefs.”

Available from Cokesbury.com
[Click here to get your copy.](#)



The Scalpel and the Silver Bear

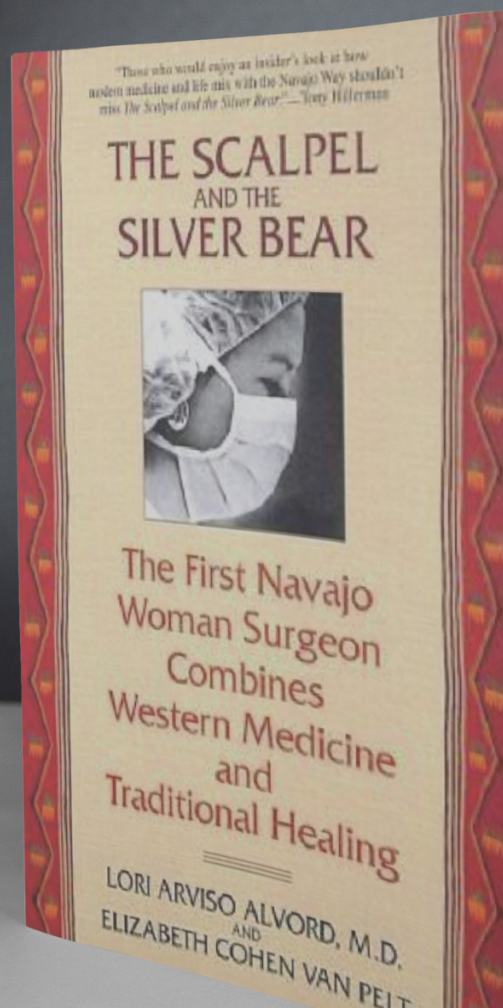
The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing

By Lori Arviso Alvord, M.D.

“This remarkable book describes surgeon Lori Arviso Alvord’s struggles to bring modern medicine to the Navajo reservation in Gallup, New Mexico and to bring the **values of her people to a medical care system in danger of losing its heart.**”

Available from Cokesbury.com

[Click here to get your copy.](#)



Children of Native America Today

By Arlene Hirshfelder, Yvonne Wakim Dennis

This child-friendly photo compilation “invites readers to explore Native nations, **focusing on the children who live, learn, and play in tribal communities** throughout the United States. These children celebrate a proud heritage, a rich culture, and a close-knit society.”

Available from Cokesbury.com
[Click here to get your copy.](#)



History Pockets, Native Americans

By Karen Lowther, Evan-Moor Educational Publishers, Lowther

These History Pockets provides the resources necessary to introduce children to **North American tribes and their ways of life, including food, shelter and family life.** Eight tribes are represented.

Available from Cokesbury.com
[Click here to get your copy.](#)



For more information and resources on Native American Ministries Sunday,
visit www.umcsgiving.org/NAMS



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®