

Summer Soul-stice 2021

Moving to Higher Ground: Practices for Healing

Every one shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree, and there shall be none to make him afraid.
Micah 4:4

This year's Summer Soul-stice will again engage speakers from across the country along with a few more local favorites exploring the "after-time" of our year of COVID with its lock-downs of separation and paralyzing political polarity. How do we move forward? How do we open to our new normal? In other words, how do we begin to actively and intentionally heal, individually and in community? All three sessions will be moderated by Paula Fried, PhD in psychology, actively practicing in Salina, and a community leader.

There are two options for participation in this year's program: online and in-person. Sessions are scheduled to go online at 12 noon June 16, 30 and July 14 on the First Presbyterian Church website (www.fpcsalina.org) on either Facebook or YouTube. Each session can be accessed any time after it has gone live. You can also join us in-person at First Presbyterian Church, 308 S. 8th, at 12 noon, as we watch the sessions together followed by a discussion.

Session One- June 16: The Need for Healing

Fr. Frank Coady: a Catholic priest currently serving at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Manhattan, KS. He also works for the Dioceses of Salina and Dodge City as Director of Liturgy, Deacons and Pastoral Ministry Formation and is a frequent Summer Soul-stice contributor.

Daniel Yudkin: PhD in social psychology and currently a Postdoctoral Fellow studying moral psychology. He is currently working with *More in Common* whose mission is to understand the forces driving us apart, to find common ground and help to bring people together to tackle our shared challenges. He is a contributor to the research reports *Hidden Tribes: A Study of America's Polarized Landscape*, and *The Perception Gap: How False Impressions are Pulling Americans Apart* which have been featured in over 1,000 news articles.

Brian Ellison: Executive Director of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians working with congregations about the inclusion of LGBTQIA people, fostering and navigating difficult conversations, and organizing and advocating for transformation. Brian is a former pastor of Parkville Presbyterian Church, Parkville, MO.

Session Two – June 30: Moving to Higher Ground - Artistic Practice as a Response for Healing

Kevin Iega Jeff: choreographer, director, and cultural community builder. He is the co-founder of Deeply Rooted Productions in Chicago and is currently its Creative Director. He has choreographed over 50 works as well as trained a new generation of dancers and choreographers. Deeply Rooted Dance Company has done many residencies in Salina.

Shin-hee Chin: fiber/mixed-media artist and Professor in the Visual Art Department at Tabor College. Her work has been exhibited nationally, including the Salina Art Center, and internationally and is influenced by feminist traditions, Christian spirituality, and Eastern philosophy. She has created a coherent narrative addressing complex issues of the female body, cultural identity, cultural hybridity, and a sense of belonging.

Saralyn Reece Hardy: the first Marilyn Stokstad Director of the Spencer Museum of Art at the University of Kansas since 2005. She is noted for her curatorial prowess and interdisciplinary skill as well as her leadership in Spencer's Phase I renovation project that transformed the museum galleries, storage facilities and teaching and research spaces. She is remembered for her years of pace-setting work as the director of the Salina Art Center and as a former member of the First Presbyterian church of Salina.

Session Three – July 14 : Moving to Higher Ground - Communal Practice as a Response for Healing

William Doherty PhD: author and professor, director of the Marriage and Family Therapy Center and director of the Minnesota Couples on the Brink Project at the University of Minnesota; co-founder of Braver Angels, an organization whose goal is to depolarize America by bringing together Red and Blue Americans and helping them find common ground. Doherty believes that "surely in our increasingly and dangerously fractured nation, we all need to be touched by something "better" within us and within the institutions that we build together."

Maureen Morrison Psy.D: a clinical psychologist, practicing in Wichita, KS in a solo private practice serving adults, couples and families for over 35 years. She has given numerous professional presentations to community groups and professional associations and is a previous Summer Soul-stice contributor.

Isaiah Oliver: President and CEO of the Community Foundation of Flint, MI, supporting a unique philanthropic perspective that focuses on relationships and inclusion. The Foundation's strategic priorities are improving literacy rates, increasing access to healthy food, strengthening resident-led neighborhood improvements, and providing critical resources to the children affected by the Flint Water Crisis. He is a Civil Society Fellow at The Aspen Institute and an advocate for social and racial justice.