

## **MARY MAGDALENE READS-“We Survived the End of the World”**

The Mary Magdalene Reads begins on Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM. All are welcomed!! The selection is “We Survived the End of the World: Lessons from the Native America on Apocalypse and Hope” by Steven Charleston.

We will be meeting on the following dates and discussing the chapters listed.

January 20<sup>th</sup> Chapters 1, 2 and 3

February 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapters 4, 5, and 6

February 17<sup>th</sup> Chapters 7 and Epilogue

We meet on Zoom or in person at Mary Magdalene Church, 1008 Main St., East Rochester, NY. If the weather is bad, it will only be on Zoom. An email will go out that day to let all know.

Click **HERE** for questions that may help your reading of the first 3 chapters. If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Martelli at [jemmartelli@gmail.com](mailto:jemmartelli@gmail.com). The Zoom link is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81774241794?pwd=LnnFbQBJFxcqbbzW9XCiIPQaNnZRSZ2.1>

### **QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT:**

**Apocalypse: The Mystery and Miracle of Survival “Apocalypse is both event and vision.” p. 18**

1. How does Charleston define and use “apocalypse” in this book?
2. What do you see as apocalypses that we are facing? Do you have your own personal apocalypse that you are facing?
3. How does apocalypse relate to revelation? What roles do prophets serve in relation to apocalypse?

**Ganiodaiio: A Plain Pathway before Me “Then suddenly Ganiodaiio opened his eyes and began to speak. What he had to say changed Haudenosaunee history.” p. 25**

4. What were the four evil words that Ganiodaiio said upset the Creator and were destroying the nation? What practice did he counsel in order for his people to pursue personal accountability?
5. How did the Good Way help preserve Haudenosaunee culture? How did Ganiodaiio encourage his people to resist assimilation?
6. How does Charleston explore the influences of Christianity and white settlers in Ganiodaiio’s visions?

7. How did Ganiodaiio's visions and work push for individual accountability? How did this influence Haudenosaunee's communal culture and their survival against apocalypse as a whole?

8. How might we apply this message to "[turn our] cultural vision upside down" (p. 42) in response to the apocalypses we face today? How might we move from a culture of rugged individualism to one of community?

**Tenskwatawa: The House of the Stranger "Native people should hold all things in common and share whatever they had with one another. Generosity was to be a cornerstone of the new faith as it restored ancient values and traditions." p. 62**

9. What similarities or differences do you see between Ganiodaiio's visions and Tenskwatawa?

10. Why do you think Tenskwatawa's visions and teachings were so readily accepted by the Shawnee?

11. How did Tenskwatawa's unifying spiritual vision aid his brother Tecumseh? How did the creation of Prophetstown aid in resisting white settlers' campaign to divide and conquer Native nations?

12. "Tenskwatawa demonstrated the resilience of his apocalyptic vision by showing his followers a very spiritual lesson: the city on the hill can be on any hill you choose" (p. 76). To resist our impulse toward individual survival, Charleston encourages us to build our own Prophetstown. What might that look like in your community? Can you think of any examples of a Prophetstown where you live?