



All are invited for a journey through history on

**Sunday October 11 @ 6:00 PM** at Alleluia

### ***Who Was Here? Indigenous History Along the Crow River***

What do we know about the people who lived along the Crow River before towns such as St. Michael, Rockford, Otsego, and Hanover appeared on the map?

Join local historian and educator Perry Buffie for a journey into the Indigenous history of the land beneath our feet. Using maps, treaties, early newspapers, historical records, and the stories attached to familiar places, Perry will explore the Dakota, Ojibwe, and often-overlooked Ho-Chunk connections to this region—and how federal policies, treaties, forced removals, and settlement transformed central Minnesota during the nineteenth century.

Along the way, we will discover that the history of the places we think we know can be considerably more complicated—and much more interesting—than the stories we have traditionally been told.

A light supper will be provided.

The program is offered in recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day, Monday, October 12.

**Perry Buffie** is a local historian and educator whose work focuses on Minnesota history, Indigenous history, and the stories embedded in the places where we live. A lifelong resident of Rockford, Minnesota, he holds a master's degree in European History and has studied American Indian history, culture, language, and education at the University of Minnesota and Minneapolis College.

Perry also works with Rockford Area Schools' American Indian Parent Advisory Committee and RAISE (Rockford Area Indigenous Student Education), helping develop educational and cultural programming for students, families, and the wider community.

His historical research is particularly interested in what happens when we look beyond familiar narratives and ask a deceptively simple question: **Who was living here, and what was happening on this land, before the communities we know today appeared on the map?**