

A FAMILY FRIENDLY TAINO FALL EQUINOX CELEBRATION

Saturday, September 21, 2019 3:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church of Pittsburgh
5401 Centre Ave, Pittsburgh Pa 15232



GATHER TOGETHER: An opportunity for indigenous and non-indigenous persons to embrace life together and experience authentically a Taino celebration of the Fall Equinox. You may want to bring a chair or blanket for the outdoor ceremony.

CEREMONY: Participate in the story of the life/harvest time death of Yoka Hu as he is offered by Mother Earth to energize all life as in his death he releases solar energy. Yoka Hu means “Soul of the Yuca plant”—One generation dies to contribute to the success of the next adventure of Life and Energy. There will be opportunities for drumming, singing, and dancing including the opportunity to participate in a Healing dance and the ceremonial Snake Dance.

Behike Dee-Dee Michell-Schreiner and Elder Miguel Sague who are leaders in the Taino **Caney Indigenous Spiritual Circle** will lead the ceremonies supported by dancers of the Seneca tribe.

POTLUCK: Feast on a Potluck Meal focused on the Native American “Three Sisters” (beans, squash, corn) including Tamales and Cassava. **You are encouraged to bring dishes for the potluck—please use the three sisters” theme—beans, squash, corn.**

ACTIVITIES

- Join in the session to experience the “13 moons on the turtle’s back”
- Learn about the ballgame Batu and possibly play a variation
- Meet a few local Native American vendors,
- View and learn about a collection of Lakota tribe artifacts.
- Become aware of the **Council on Three Rivers American Indian Center (COTRAIC)**

Sponsored by the Committee on Native American Ministries of the W.Pa. United Methodist Conference (coordinator: RoBear Bob Wilson: a49always@gmail.com)

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