

# LIPPMAN ELDER WISDOM ACADEMY

ancient practice - new understanding

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**LaDonna BlueEye**

**Coffee Circle**

**Michael Anthony  
Howard**

**Burt Medicine Bull**

**LaDonna BlueEye**

**April 26, 6:00pm**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89484762639?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89484762639?pwd=TjJlNmMxWNGlyell2V1prWVV6KzRXUT09)**

**pwd=TjJlNmMxWNGlyell2V1prWVV6KzRXUT09**

**Meeting ID: 894 8476 2639**

**Passcode: Xm7Qnx**

Come connect for a conversation with LaDonna BlueEye.



Dr. LaDonna BlueEye is an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. She received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Central Oklahoma. BlueEye received a Master of Public Health from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Academic honors from the University of Oklahoma include the State of Oklahoma Excellence in Public Health Award, Outstanding Graduate Award, and Outstanding Student Leadership Award. BlueEye earned her Doctor of Philosophy from the School of Public Health at Indiana University in Bloomington and completed post-graduate research at Columbia University School of Social Work. Dr. BlueEye's research interests include qualitative methodology in health behavior, health disparities, and culturally-appropriate health interventions. She has presented her work and findings on the local, state, national and international levels, and collaborates with both non-Native and Native American communities throughout the United States.



**Coffee Circle**

**Crown Point Ecology Center  
3220 Ira Rd. Bath, OH 44333**

**Wednesday, May 19@ 4:00**

**We will be planting  
some of Linwood's seeds**



## Michael Anthony Howard

**"I will pour out my spirit upon all people. Your old will dream dreams, your young will see visions." – Joel 2:28**

An image from our last session with Burt Medicine Bull stands out to me. When the tribe journeys together, the elders always take the lead. They serve as torch bearers of communal wisdom, passing on what they have learned through rituals and stories. The speed, strength, and skill of the warrior is like a flower, here today and gone tomorrow. The wisdom of an elder, on the other hand, is faithful like a rock.

I serve as the Minister of Faith in Action for the Living Water Association, a regional association comprised of 147 United Church of Christ congregations across Northeast Ohio. My role is to support and resource our congregations and partnering organizations for prophetic witness and community engagement. Place is a central concept in my work. I am especially interested in how the spiritual life of a community relates to the dreams they have for the places they inhabit.

If place is the arena for the unfolding of the dream of God, then the dreams of community elders carry a special kind of wisdom. Like fine wine, their wisdom has been earned from years of experience watching some dreams take shape and others wither. The humanist geographer Yi-Fu Tuan uses the phrase "fields of care" to describe the bond that forms between people and place. Those bonds seem invariably strongest among a community's elders. All across the world I have encountered small pockets of dedicated people who tirelessly work to bring healing and wholeness to their community. Their efforts weave together a community's fabric of care. Because of the wisdom of their dreams, elders are essential strands in that fabric.

In the three years I have been in the Akron area, I have encountered countless elders. Many are worn from years of dedicated care, yet they are eager to partner with younger leaders in the hopes that they will carry their legacy of care into the future. As Burt Medicine Bull spoke, I found myself praying that the wisdom of the dreams of the North Cheyenne would continue to pass faithfully as one generation passes to the next. My prayer for our Elder Wisdom Academy is that we will discover how faithfully to pass on the wisdom of the dreams of our elders, and that those of us who receive them can faithfully continue weaving our community's fabric of care for generations to come.

**"I would like to point out the importance of chasing your own dreams. You must live with whoever you become, and those around you have to live with that. It's important to be who you want to be, and not what others want you to be."**

**Nils Van der Poel**



**Watch Burt's March presentation**  
**<https://thenucleus3.org/events-resources/>**