Today is Native American Ministries Sunday in the North Eastern Minnesota Synod. On this day, we honor the unique and beautiful contributions of our Native American brothers and sisters by giving generously to a fund set aside for Together Here ministries and the Deacon called to finding meaningful and authentic ways to lead our synod in this ministry effort.
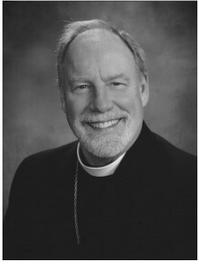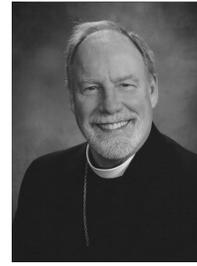

Will you join us today in supporting these efforts? Together, we will make a lasting impact as your offering reaches across our synod. **No matter where we live, we are . . . TOGETHER HERE.**

I ask you, with all earnestness, to grow into the promises we made as a synod to learn to know our Native American sisters and brothers, to listen to their stories, and to build bridges that bring about understanding and healing. I invite you in the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ to support Deacon Candidate Colleen Bernu for the Synod Council approved Call to continue the work throughout our Synod in the Together Here Ministry that she has been working faithfully at: organizing our bridge building team and facilitating workshops to understand why we repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery and, even more importantly, why we are building bridges of love and understanding with our Native American sisters and brothers. In addition to giving new congregational financial support, please join me in giving a personal financial gift to our Northeastern Minnesota Synod earmarked, "Together Here Ministry".

+Bishop Thomas M. Aitken

Colleen Bernu was raised in Our Savior's Lutheran Church—Solon Springs, WI, and is a member of Bethesda Lutheran Church—Carlton, MN. Colleen's desire to connect communities, her heart for the marginalized, and passion to lead others into meeting Christ through diakonia guide her ministry. Colleen is a Mission Developer (ELCA) and approved Deacon candidate (NE MN). She is a descendant of the Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and lives with her spouse, Chuck, and daughter, Johanna, on the Fond Du Lac Indian Reservation.