

(The following Covenant should be downloaded by participating teams, filled out, signed, scanned and returned to the Rosebud Episcopal Mission at MereLaurenS@gmail.com one month prior to coming to the Rosebud.)

Rosebud Episcopal Mission – Mission Team Covenant

The Rosebud Episcopal Mission and _____ enter into this Covenant in order to develop a collaborative relationship between the Sicangu Lakota Oyate of the Rosebud Indian Reservation and the people of _____.

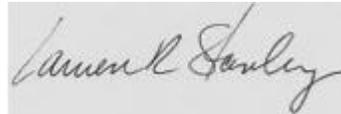
As Covenant signers, we, the undersigned agree to hold honest and open conversations so as to learn about each other.

As members of the Rosebud Episcopal Mission, we covenant to:

- Respect the work and relationships of the Mission Team;
- Strive to share the vision of the Rosebud Episcopal Mission with the Mission Team;
- Strive to share the history, language and traditions of the Sicangu Lakota;
- Provide appropriate Safeguarding Our Children training;
- Care for the Mission Team spiritually, physically and emotionally;
- Focus on building relationships with the members of the Mission Team.

As members of the _____ Mission Team, we covenant to:

- Respect the culture of the Sicangu Lakota;
- Strive to learn the history, language and traditions of the Sicangu Lakota;
- Strive to remember that “different is different – not better, not worse, simply different”;
- Participate in the Rosebud Episcopal Mission’s Safeguarding Our Children training;
- Remember that the work being done is not the core issue of the mission trip;
- Focus on building relationships with the people of the Rosebud Reservation.



(Mission Team Representative)___

The Rev. Dr. Lauren R. Stanley
Priest-in-Charge
Rosebud Episcopal Mission (West)

Non-Use of Alcohol and Drugs On The Rosebud Indian Reservation

The Rosebud Episcopal Mission, a mission of the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota, strictly prohibits the use of alcohol and illegal drugs while on the Rosebud Indian Reservation.

Anyone who uses either alcohol or illegal drugs will be immediately asked to leave the Reservation, at the cost of the violator. Any payments that have been made to the Rosebud Episcopal Mission will not be returned if this policy is violated.

Every mission team that comes to the Rosebud in partnership with the Rosebud Episcopal Mission must download this form, sign it, scan it back in and return it via email to MereLaurenS@gmail.com one month prior to the team's arrival on the Rosebud.

Covenant on Alcohol and Drugs

We, the undersigned, pledge not to use alcohol or illegal drugs while serving on the Rosebud Indian Reservation as mission partners with the Rosebud Episcopal Mission.

We understand that if any member of our team engages in the use of either prohibited substance, that team member will be required to leave the Rosebud Indian Reservation at his or her own cost, and that that team member will not receive a refund from the Rosebud Indian Reservation.

Signature of Mission Team Leader

Date

on behalf of the Mission Team from:

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Books We Recommend You Read & Movies We Recommend You See Before You Come to the Rosebud

Books: Part of our vision for hosting mission teams on the Rosebud Indian Reservation is to teach the Lakota culture and traditions to our guests. In order to prepare you for your time here, we strongly recommend that you read the following books before coming to the Rosebud. Frequently, groups assign one person to read a book and then do a presentation to the rest of your group. All books are available on Amazon.

- ***Neither Wolf Nor Dog***, by Kent Nerburn. In this 1996 Minnesota Book Award winner, Kent Nerburn draws the reader deep into the world of an Indian elder known only as Dan. It's a world of Indian towns, white roadside cafes, and abandoned roads that swirl with the memories of the Ghost Dance and Sitting Bull. Readers meet vivid characters like Jumbo, a 400-pound mechanic, and Annie, an 80-year-old Lakota woman living in a log cabin. Threading through the book is the story of two men struggling to find a common voice. *Neither Wolf nor Dog* takes readers to the heart of the Native American experience. As the story unfolds, Dan speaks eloquently on the difference between land and property, the power of silence, and the selling of sacred ceremonies. This edition features a new introduction by the author. "This is a sobering, humbling, cleansing, loving book, one that every American should read." — Yoga Journal (There are two other books in this series: *The Wolf at Twilight*, and *The Girl Who Sang To The Buffalo*. They are well worth reading.)

- ***Moon of the Popping Trees***, by Rex Alan Smith. This book is more academic than *Neither Wolf Nor Dog*. The last significant clash of arms in the American Indian Wars took place on December 29, 1890, on the banks of Wounded Knee Creek in South Dakota. Of the 350 Teton Sioux Indians there, two-thirds were women and children. When the smoke cleared, 84 men and 62 women and children lay dead, their bodies scattered along a stretch of more than a mile where they had been trying to flee. Of some 500 soldiers and scouts, about 30 were dead—some, probably, from their own crossfire. Wounded Knee has excited contradictory accounts and heated emotions. To answer whether it was a battle or a massacre, Rex Alan Smith goes further into the historical records and cultural traditions of the combatants than anyone has gone before. His work results in what Alvin Josephy Jr., editor of *American Heritage*, calls "the most definitive and unbiased" account of all, *Moon of Popping Trees*.

- ***Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee***, by Dee Brown. This is Dee Brown's classic, eloquent, meticulously documented account of the systematic destruction of the American Indian during the second half of the nineteenth century. A national bestseller in hardcover for more than a year after its initial publication, it has sold over four million copies in multiple editions and has been translated into seventeen languages. Using council records, autobiographies, and firsthand descriptions, Brown allows great chiefs and warriors of the Dakota, Ute, Sioux, Cheyenne, and other tribes to tell us in their own words of the series of battles, massacres, and broken treaties that finally left them and their people demoralized and decimated. A unique and disturbing narrative told with force and clarity, *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* changed forever our vision of how the West was won, and lost. It tells a story that should not be forgotten, and so must be retold from time to time.

- ***Lincoln's Bishop: A President, A Priest, and the Fate of 300 Dakota Sioux Warriors***, by Gustav Niebuhr. In the tradition of Doris Kearns Goodwin's *Team of Rivals* comes Gustav Niebuhr's compelling history of Abraham Lincoln's decision in 1862 to spare the lives of 265 condemned Sioux men, and the Episcopal bishop who was his moral compass, helping guide the president's conscience. More than a century ago, during the formative years of the American nation, Protestant churches carried powerful moral authority, giving voice to values such as mercy and compassion, while boldly standing against injustice and immorality. Gustav Niebuhr travels back to this defining period, to explore Abraham Lincoln's decision to spare the lives of 265 Sioux men sentenced to die by a military tribunal in Minnesota for warfare against white settlers—while allowing the hanging of 38 others, the largest single execution on American soil. Popular opinion favored death or expulsion. Only one state leader championed the cause of the Native Americans, Episcopal bishop, Henry Benjamin Whipple. Though he'd never met an Indian until he was 37 years old, Whipple befriended them before the massacre and understood their plight at the hands of corrupt government officials and businessmen. After their trial, he pleaded

with Lincoln to extend mercy and implement true justice. Bringing to life this little known event and this extraordinary man, Niebuhr pays tribute to the once amazing moral force of mainline Protestant churches and the practitioners who guarded America's conscience. *Lincoln's Bishop* is illustrated with 16 pages of black-and-white photos.

Movies: *We also recommend that you view these movies so that you can learn more about our culture. Both can be found online and are free.*

- ***Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee:*** This film adaption can be viewed online (or downloaded) for free at <https://vimeo.com/112639971>. (This movie can take some time to buffer, so please be patient.)

- ***Dakota 38:*** In the spring of 2005, Jim Miller, a Native spiritual leader and Vietnam veteran, found himself in a dream riding on horseback across the great plains of South Dakota. Just before he awoke, he arrived at a riverbank in Minnesota and saw 38 of his Dakota ancestors hanged. At the time, Jim knew nothing of the largest mass execution in United States history, ordered by Abraham Lincoln on December 26, 1862. "When you have dreams, you know when they come from the creator... As any recovered alcoholic, I made believe that I didn't get it. I tried to put it out of my mind, yet it's one of those dreams that bothers you night and day." Now, four years later, embracing the message of the dream, Jim and a group of riders retrace the 330-mile route of his dream on horseback from Lower Brule, South Dakota, to Mankato, Minnesota, to arrive at the hanging site on the anniversary of the execution. "We can't blame the wasichus anymore. We're doing it to ourselves. We're selling drugs. We're killing our own people. That's what this ride is about, is healing." This is the story of their journey - the blizzards they endure, the Native and Non-Native communities that house and feed them along the way, and the dark history they are beginning to wipe away. From the film's creators: "This film was created in line with Native healing practices. In honoring this ceremony, we are screening and distributing "Dakota 38" as a gift rather than for sale. This film was inspired by one individual's dream and is not promoting any organization or affiliated with any political or religious groups. It was simply created to encourage healing and reconciliation."