

Rev. Susan Beaver

Ordained Minister

Nominated by Plains Presbytery (All Native Circle Conference)

Question: “What priorities would you name for your time as Moderator and how do you envision offering leadership in these areas?”

Statement About Priorities and Leadership

The Do-Over. By this I mean a second chance for a relationship between those who were on the land and those who were in the ships. First peoples had prophecies about the visitors coming and were given teachings like the Great Peace. It's time we got to know each other and revived our work on agreements like the Two Row Wampum belt, respecting each other's ways and being held together in friendship. Let us spend time together and share again.

Parrots on Pipes. One of my best experiences was on the Intercultural Ministries Task Group. We shared stories about growing up with diverse histories shaped by colonization, oppression, and racialization but we also shared our hope and hunger for justice. I would facilitate conversation and relationship between peoples who've resisted centuries of being erased and dismissed. What if our central figure was the Samaritan woman? If the gifts of diversity rebuilt and reshaped the church, what then could we offer the world?

The Zombie Apocalypse. In a world where the living dead are chewing away at justice and Spirit, the church has a story to tell about life. As our church embodies new structural and social-political realities we need to live into this resurrection. This will take time so perhaps we are Joseph and Nicodemus caring for Christ's crucified body, getting it to where it needs to be in order for the resurrection to happen. So we pray, and we work hard, and we tell our story.