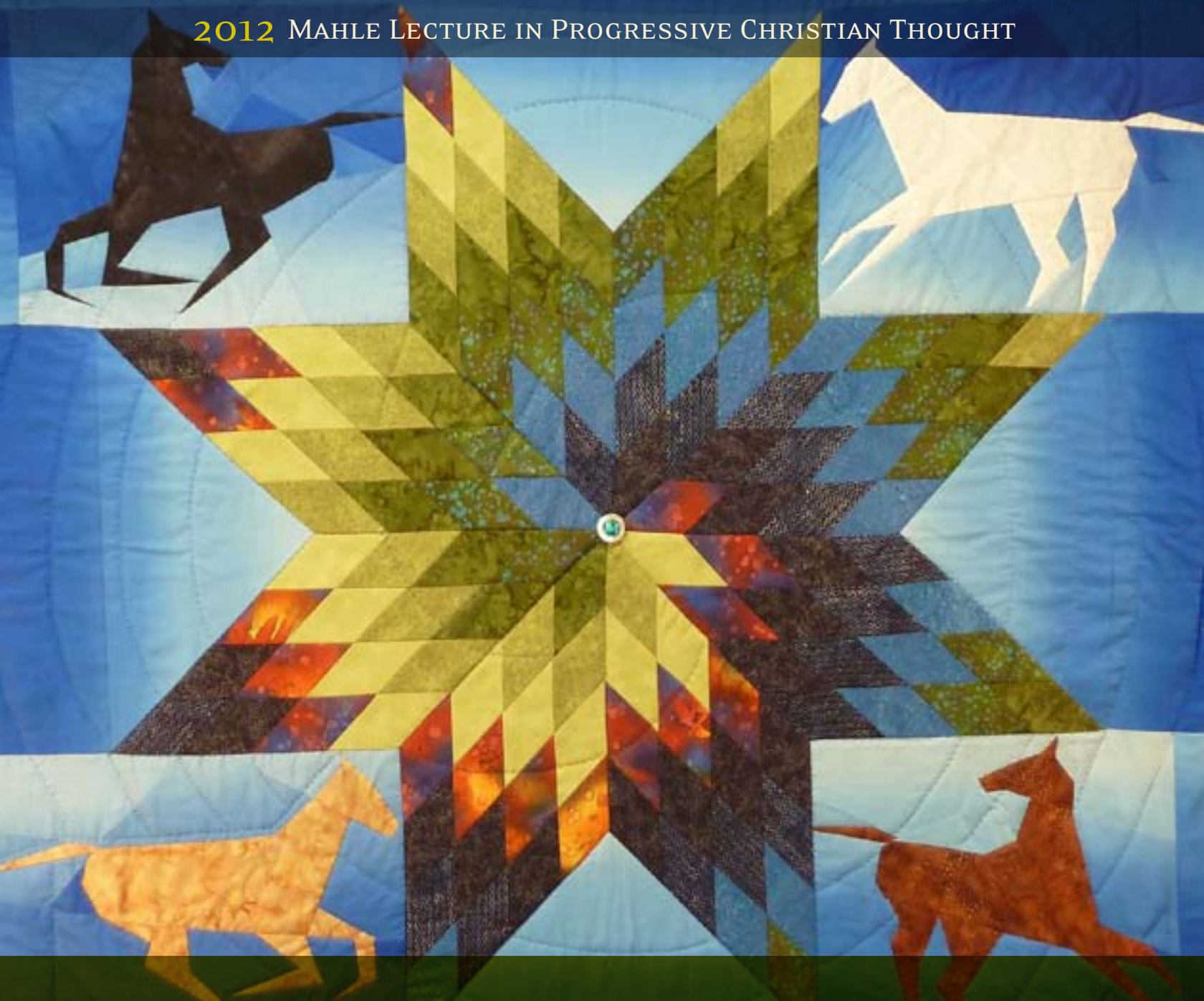


2012 MAHLE LECTURE IN PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN THOUGHT



World Balance vs. Personal Salvation:

An American Indian Postcolonial Perspective

guest lecturer **Dr. George “Tink” Tinker**

Tuesday, April 17, 2012 7:30 p.m.

Sundin Music Hall, Hamline University, 1531 Hewitt Ave., Saint Paul 55104

Free to the public. Parking is available in the Drew Lot, one block east of Sundin along Hewitt Avenue.



"Waci Au (Song for the Horses)" quilt by Gwen Westerman, Sisseton-Wahpeton Dakota

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In his lecture, Dr. George "Tink" Tinker will explore the worldview of American Indian peoples' respect for the whole of creation and for all our relations. Since Indian folk live community-ist cultures, argues Tinker, the spiritual priority is always balance and harmony of the community and its world rather than the individualist salvation of the person. Hence, Indian peoples' focus on everyday living in ways that ensure and enhance balance becomes the necessary core of Indian spiritual traditions. This is in stark contrast to the theologies of personal salvation that seem to thrive in the context of euro-western individualism along with the conflict and competition inherent in both the history of missionary conquest and the resulting colonized world we have inherited. Given the reality of the eco-devastation threatening life today, and the historical trauma experienced by American Indian nations, Tinker will explore how the survival of American Indian cultures and cultural values may make the difference for the survival and sustainability for the earth as we know it.

Dr. Tinker will present a free workshop for clergy and congregations:

"General Conference 2012—Act of Repentance to Indigenous Peoples"
Sunday April 15, 4-6:30 p.m. (light meal included)

Held at Fairmount Ave. UMC, 1523 Fairmount Ave., Saint Paul, 55105
RSVP to the Wesley Center, 651-523-2878 or nvictorinvangerudo1@hamline.edu

Made possible by the Stephen and Kathi Austin Mahle Endowed Fund for Progressive Christian Thought. Sponsored by The Wesley Center for Spirituality, Service, and Social Justice, Hamline University, 651-523-2878, www.hamline.edu/wesleycenter



DR. GEORGE "TINK" TINKER, a member of the Osage Nation (Wazhazhe), is the Clifford Baldrige Professor of American Indian Cultures and Religious Traditions at Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. His numerous works include *American Indian Liberation: A Theology of Sovereignty*; *Spirit and Resistance: Political Theology and American Indian Liberation*; and *Missionary Conquest: The Gospel and Native American Genocide*. Tinker is also the co-author of *A Native American Theology* and co-editor of *Native Voices: American Indian Identity and Resistance*, as well as Fortress Press' *Peoples' Bible*.

For a quarter century, Tinker has volunteered as the director and traditional spiritual leader of Four Winds American Indian Council, which provides Denver's urban Indian population with spiritual and social space to gather. Four Winds survives with minimal resources serving a distinctly poverty-plagued sector of society.

Tinker has also volunteered with the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. He is currently advising the United Methodist Church with their mandated "Act of Repentance" in response to some of the hurtful history of participation in the genocide of Indian peoples. For twenty years, he has worked with the American Indian Movement of Colorado on the Leadership Council, and now on the Elders' Council.