

## Who Was Here Before Us?

Mary Weahkee, an archaeologist for the State of New Mexico, will join us at the Dismantling Racism this Friday. Mary's tribal affiliation is Comanche and Santa Clara. She worked on each of the three archaeology projects related to recent building projects along Grant Street: Santa Fe Convention Center, First Presbyterian Church, and Santa Fe County Administration Building. She will address the questions: What can archaeology tell us about the indigenous and Spanish people who were in the Grant Street neighborhood in the past? How do NM state archaeologists work with indigenous peoples on their projects (in this case the Tesuque Pueblo)?

This guest speaker will begin a 3-week series from our Asking for Grace action circle that is investigating the people on our land before us. Ultimately, we want to determine what actions we might take as a congregation to recognize the harms that were done.

### **Goal**

To learn more about the people who lived on the land where we now have our sanctuary.

### **Class Assignments**

- **Learning about life in Ogapogee: Archaeological report details findings from downtown dig.** By Tom Sharpe. Local News, *Santa Fe New Mexican*, Apr 23, 2011. At least 1,500 people lived in what is now downtown Santa Fe from A.D. 1200 to 1425. This article describes the archaeological study of these people.  
[https://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local\\_news/learning-about-life-in-ogapogee-archaeological-report-details-findings-from-downtown-dig/article\\_21f49a2e-c11f-54b3-b622-7e7717dda6c4.html](https://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/learning-about-life-in-ogapogee-archaeological-report-details-findings-from-downtown-dig/article_21f49a2e-c11f-54b3-b622-7e7717dda6c4.html)
- **Biography of Mary Weahkee.** Read Mary's biography at the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies. <http://www.nmarchaeology.org/about-us/staff/assistant-archaeologists/mary-weahkee.html>?
- **New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies.** Learn more about the activities of the Office. <http://www.nmarchaeology.org/>