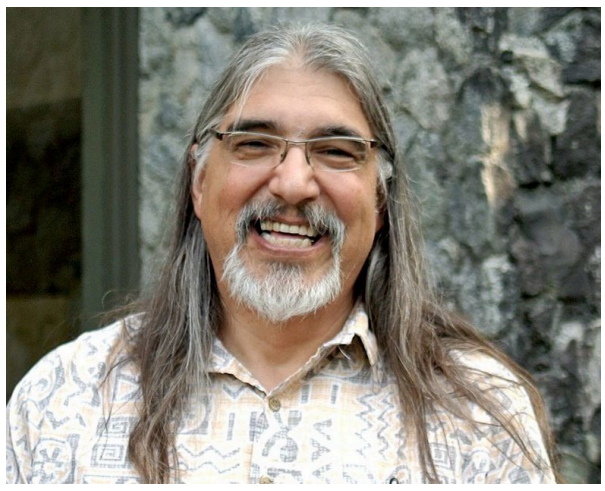
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS

The Chair of Christian Thought, in partnership with the Calgary Public Library, presents

An Afternoon with Rev. Dr. Ray Aldred:

The Chair of Christian Thought Bentall Lecture on Education and Theology: *Why I Stay.*



"I have spoken at a few universities over the years, but I remember a few years back speaking at Concordia University and McGill University, both in Montreal and on the same day. What interested me on both occasions is that students asked me, 'In light of all the negative stuff that happened in residential schools and other traumatic events in Canadian history, why do you stay?'" — Rev. Dr. Ray Aldred

In this lecture, Rev. Dr. Ray Aldred reflects on his response to that question, drawing on his personal journey of holding together his Indigenous identity and Christian faith. He considers why this question was particularly significant for Indigenous Christians from the 1970s into the early 2000s, exploring the challenges of maintaining Christian faith in light of the historical experiences of Indigenous peoples in Canada. He also considers how the questions Indigenous people are asking today may be changing and what the implications of these shifts might be.

Rev. Dr. Ray Aldred is a husband, father, and grandfather. Originally ordained with the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada, he is now ordained with the Anglican Church of Canada. He is Cree from Treaty 8 territory. Born in northern Alberta, he now lives with his wife in Richmond, British Columbia. He is Director of the Indigenous Studies Program at the Vancouver School of Theology, a program dedicated to partnering with Indigenous churches to provide theological education. Previously, he taught theology at Ambrose Seminary in Calgary. He is a former chairperson and board member of Indigenous Pathways and a former Director of the First Nations Alliance Churches of Canada. He is also a prolific speaker and communicator.

The event is free, but you must register to reserve a seat. To register, click here or scan the QR code.

Save the Date: Dr. Brett Potter (Huron University), Chair of Christian Thought Iwaasa Lecture on Urban Theology: *Radiant Creatures: Visions of Beauty and Wonder in Religion, Ecology, and Film*, part of UN World Interfaith Harmony Week, Wednesday, February 3, 2027, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Calgary Central Library. Reception to follow. For further information or if you would like to be added to the Chair of Christian Thought mailing list, please contact Dr Carolyn Muessig, Chair of Christian Thought, University of Calgary [carolyn.muessig@ucalgary.ca].

Saturday, November 28, 2026 | 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
BMO Financial Group Community Room, Level 0
Calgary Central Library
800 – 3 St. S.E., Calgary, AB

RSVP