



*In recognition of the UNESCO declaration of 2022-2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages*

*EPA CoNAM presents*

## Restored Language + Restored Culture = Healing

**Special guest speaker, Halay Turning Heart tells her hopeful story about language restoration. Generations after the loss of language in the boarding schools and the ongoing effects of systemic colonization, Halay generates hope by starting a Yuchi language immersion school and raising children as new speakers.**



Halay Turning Heart has over twenty years of practical experience in the field of Indigenous language revitalization, working with Elders and teaching children. As a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church, she is a former president of the United Methodist Women at Pickett Chapel (historic Yuchi church) and a former board member for the General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR). Sponsored by UMC, she served as a Living Letter to Australia and a youth steward at the World Council of Churches in Brazil and Switzerland.

Halay started a Yuchi language immersion school in 2018 as part of the Yuchi Language Project begun in the 1990's, which serves as a model program for visitors from around the world. Halay is raising her three young children as the first zOyaha (Yuchi) speakers in four generations. From the womb, she has only spoken to them in Yuchi, a language isolate known as one of the world's most ancient languages. Halay is the 2021 NDN Changemaker Fellow representing the Great Plains region, USA. She is published in the field of language revitalization and has a Linguistics Degree from Dartmouth College.



**Join us on Zoom to hear her story - April 3, 2022 at 4 p. m.**

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