

Active Hope: An Overview

In response to concerns about our current national situation, the Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting has scheduled a two-hour program to help individuals maintain their courage and grounding in spirit.

On Saturday, September 30, 10:00 am to noon, Sharon Monday will provide an overview of the practice of active hope at the Urbana-Champaign Friends Meetinghouse, 1904 E. Main St., Urbana. The program is based on themes from the book, Active Hope, by Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone. Active hope is a process we can apply to any situation, even in times when we feel hopeless. In the words of Joanna Macy, “Our focus is on how we strengthen and support our intention to act, so that we can best play our part, whatever that may be, in the healing of our world.”

Hot tea and cold water will be provided. Participants may bring their own drinks if they like.

Sharon Monday is a certified workshop trainer. She teaches peer development and process at the University of Illinois.

The public is welcome to join Friends for this program! If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Charlotte Green (charlottteg588@gmail.com).

Here’s another opportunity to learn more about Active Hope:

Sharon Monday will also lead a retreat, *Healing Earth’s Healers*, on Friday, November 3 (7:00 – 9:00 pm) and Saturday, November 4 (9:00 am – 5:00 pm) at the meetinghouse. The retreat, sponsored by Faith in Place, will provide a more intensive experience with group exercises, time for reflection, dialogue, music, and more.

Because of the nature of the work, participants are asked to commit to attending both days. To register, please go to www.faithinplace.org. Click on **Events**, then go to **November’s calendar**, and click on **Friday, November 3 and Saturday, November 4**.

An example of Active Hope: From Standing Rock to Standing with the Sapara

Maria Dorsey, Sharon Monday’s daughter, will share stories of Standing Rock and the Sapara people in the Amazon at First Mennonite Church, 902 W. Springfield, Urbana, on Thursday, November 2 at 7:00 pm. The event is a fundraiser for Gloria Ushigua, an activist working on behalf of the Sapara Women’s Association to stop plans for exploration and exploitation of their tribal territory by an oil company. There will be prints for sale of Maria’s paintings. She is splitting the proceeds from paintings ordered that night with Gloria Ushigua. (View at Maria Dorsey Art).

For more information about this event: www.eventbrite.com/e/from-standing-rock-to-standing-with-the-sapara-tickets-36987508634

