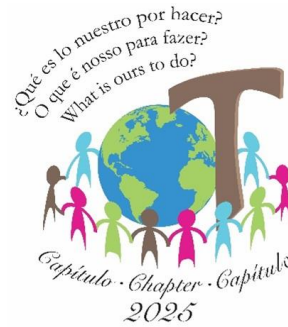


October 28, 2024

Dear Sisters,



The Chapter Planning Committee (CPC) just completed our October 21 - 25 planning meeting and would like to fill you in on the current plans. The main agenda for our planning meeting was to discuss the feedback from the Cluster/Small Group gatherings and plan the next steps, namely, the agenda for the Regional Gatherings. Because most of the feedback from the Clusters/Small Groups had not yet been received (**due November 1**), we primarily focused on Regional Gatherings. We recognize that there will, no doubt, be follow up work to do with whatever you will be submitting from your Cluster/Small Group gatherings.

Prior to the Congregational Gathering that took place in July, the Planning Committee had asked you to identify one “critical issue” you believed was essential for us to address. The responses indicated that Vocations, Completion, and Leadership were the three most important issues. For example, regarding leadership, many responses asked for a new model of leadership; others seemed to indicate that the tasks of leadership needed to be distributed among members, as well as elected leadership. There are many more reasons why the topic of leadership was considered “critical” and we hope to explore these with you. At some point in the ongoing work of Chapter, we will continue to work with the other two critical issues (Vocations and Completion).

As we move towards Chapter, the CPC thought that it was timely to focus our conversations on leadership in advance of “surfacing names” and calling forth sisters to serve. At the Regional Gatherings we want to more fully explore why we see this issue of leadership as “critical,” identify the challenges it presents, and begin to look at how we might address these challenges as we go forward. As a CPC, we believe this will be our primary agenda for the **November 22 – 23 Regional Gatherings**.

Schedule for Regional Gatherings – November 22 – 23

All who will be participating on Zoom are asked to come online ½ hour before the start time listed below (in your particular time zone) to ensure proper connectivity.

Schedule for Regional Gatherings

Jamaica 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

United States 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Bolivia 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Brazil 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

Mozambique 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. to 10:15 p.m.

Attached to this letter is a reflection sheet for your individual preparation for our November Regional Gathering. Please bring this completed form with you to the Regional Gathering.

Coming Soon: Modes of Participation

Next week, we will send materials to help you discern which “Mode of Participation” you would like to choose for participating in Chapter 2025. We request that you follow the directions and complete the form to be **returned by November 18th**. We appreciate your consideration of these requests.

Thank you for your commitment to, and investment in, the ongoing work of our Congregation.

Blessings,

Chapter Planning Committee

Colleen Brady

Margaret Magee

Cindy Matthews

Dolores O’Brien

Lilian Christina Pinheiro

Aldenir Mota Ribeiro

Dayanne Rodrigues Santana

Judith Terrameo

Liliane Araujo Costa

Kathy Maire

Gwen Melhado

Jo Streva

Melissa Scholl

Pat Tyre

Bernadette Schuler

Marinêz Arantes da Silva

Marlene Weidenborner

Consultants: Ted and Beth Lipsmeyer Dunn

Attachment: Reflection and Preparation for FSA Regional Gatherings