

**February 2014**

**Area Meetings Continue!**

*enhancing human-Earth relationship.*

I am pleased to report that our Area Meetings are proceeding with energy, and that those who have participated have relished the experience of entering into conversation on what is probably the most important issue of our time, “What is Earth Asking of the Order?” Additionally, the gathering together of sisters from various congregations has been enriching. Suggestions to gather like this more often than every three years keep arising.

➤ *In the light of these statements it is proposed that the Great Work of our time is to:*

*Reinvent the human at the species level, within the community of life systems, in a time-developmental context, with critical reflection, by means of story and shared dream experience.*

In preparing for our meetings, we were encouraged to view a [Ted Talk](#) that explained – in very simple terms (and in 15 minutes) – the significance of Climate Change. If you haven’t already viewed this, I encourage you to do so by going to this [link](#). It is powerful and sobering.

It is my hope that our conversations may lead us to engage in this Great Work and not lose hope. Indeed, Earth is asking us to **be** Hope. Below are a few of the responses from those who attended the gatherings:

In reflecting on it, I am reminded of the following words of Thomas Berry, from

“My hope is that we will be able to unite all or most Dominicans in some action for our earth.”

**The Great Work:**

“Living simply and lightly on earth. Practical ideas for personal action.”

- *In the twentieth century, the glory of the human has become the desolation of the Earth.*
- *The desolation of the Earth is becoming the destiny of the human.*
- *All human institutions, programs and activities must now be judged primarily by the extent to which they inhibit, ignore or foster a mutually*

“Disseminate copies to be used in our own places of ministry. Too good a presentation to keep to ourselves!!”



“Some creative actions emerged from our work together. I hope that elected leaders may enable this to take shape in a concerted effort at the DSC.”

## From Our Mission Statement

The fruits of our conversations at our Area Meetings demonstrates our “living into” of our Mission Statement:

*The rich diversity of our membership enables us to broaden our individual perspectives and bring our experiences to bear on the needs of our world. We engage in rigorous study leading to collaborative action.*

*We are a sign of unity in our fractured world with a strong, collective voice that speaks effectively for justice.*



### *Congratulations*

to the new Leadership Team of the [Dominican Sisters of San Rafael](#):  
Sisters Maureen McInerney,  
Carla Kovack, Susan Allbritton,  
Abby Newton, and Mary Kieffer!



**DSC Elected Leaders  
Please save the dates  
October 2-6, 2014**

**We will receive a  
Warm, Texas Welcome  
In San Antonio**



## Coming Up

February 6	Convocation Planning meeting*
February 9	DSC Area Meeting, Ossining
February 10	DSC Executive Committee*
February 10	DSC Finance Committee*
February 11	Leaders Planning Committee*
February 12-13	Convocation Planning meeting
March 1	DSC Area Meeting, Seattle/Tacoma

\*meetings are via conference call

As one of the sisters mentioned in her comments, what we are learning and experiencing in our Area Meetings is “too good . . . to keep to ourselves.” We invite you to think of ways that you may share what you have learned. Or if you would like to host a small gathering in your area, please let us know so that we may be of assistance to you.

We look forward to the live-streamed event that will be offered on April 5<sup>th</sup> from Adrian, MI, and hope that sisters who are not able to attend a gathering in their area may be able to participate through that experience. And if you do, invite others to join you!