

Update from the Dominican Sisters Futuring Leadership Team



August 17, 2022

Dear Sisters and Associates of the DSC,

As we move into the Visioning Process with the Cohort the team discussed our own desired outcomes at this point in the process. We want the generational groups to be heard and have a chance to come together as a subgroup, and the cultural/language groups may want to meet separately too for a short time, then all share together across groups. We want to continue to work out of a narrative of abundance; we have enough for the future and those who choose to participate in the futuring process will be sufficient as well.

Working together will promote a felt sense of community and help us to get to know one another better. We are considering an option of generational social time on breakout sessions at the next whole cohort gathering and then have cross-generational breakout social time to create a variety of experiences. Other possibilities include a Ted Dunn talk zoom with breakout sessions, a zoom that is on contemplative dialogue about current realities. The possibilities are many and we want something for everyone: some fun activities and some conversation places- all to help us to co-create a future together.

During the discussion, there was agreement that a major goal would be to move the cohort further along to visioning a desired future together. We anticipate deep sharing and creating together scenarios of future options that express our shared values. We want to respect both the urgency of acting on this work and the time and space needed to be inclusive and contemplatively discerning. We agreed an in-person meeting would be needed with preparatory zoom meetings leading up to it. We are keeping the emotional and financial contexts in mind as we consider alternative locations and dates.

We will invite members from the cohort and beyond to be a part of the in-person meeting and we talked about wanting to let congregations know ahead of time what the plan is for the year. At Cohort Visioning Zoom 1 held on May 15 and 16 we participated in icebreakers and a process to begin to surface ideas about envisioning the future.

Peace,

Sisters Pat Magee (Hope), Lorraine Reaume (Adrian), Kathleen Tait (Springfield), Mai-dung Nguyen (Peace), Donna Moses (Mission San Jose), and Carol Dempsey (Caldwell)