

## *Update from the Dominican Sisters Futuring Leadership Team*



June 17, 2022

Dear Sisters and Associates of the DSC,

At visioning sessions held May 15-16 the Cohort drew upon prophetic writings for inspiration and reviewed where the journey has taken us in the past year. A few main areas of interest emerged: community building within the wider Dominican family; ministry and service especially preaching, healing in the institutional Church, and care for creation; relationships and collaboration within the cohort and beyond; and values and spirituality for lifegiving communities.

Several thought-provoking questions also emerged: how can we find out about the individual needs of the members that we could address as a cohort to support one another and our congregations in practical ways; how can we break down the discrepancy between our own needs for support and the needs of the times; how can we free our sisters to go to other places when our own congregations continue to have needs that take precedence; what is our preferred future; what is our unimagined future; how are we going to move forward; how can we equip the younger/newer part of the cohort to live into their identity as Dominicans; how can we better honor generational diversity.

We also noticed the growing number of Dominicans ministering in the United States who are first- or second-generation in the United States or living and working here on visas. As we considered our diverse cultural backgrounds and our current geographical locations, we felt a growing sense of how important it is to be together in person to build a sense of mutuality and community.

The team is taking these questions and suggestions to heart and working on a budget and plan for team building, leadership training, cohort zooms for further visioning, and an in-person cohort event in the summer of 2023. To increase the online presence of the cohort the team is in conversation with the DSC executive committee to link a free shared Google site with DomLife and DSC websites to improve access to information and streamline our communications.

Peace,

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