



Rome, 7th June 2018

*“Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the world.
All things break. And all things can be mended.
Not with time, as they say, but with intention.
So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally.
The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you.”*
L. R. Knost

Dear Sisters and Mission Partners,

Your Congregational Chapter Planning Committee has completed the first small step of the long and exciting journey through the ICA’s into our 31st Congregational Chapter. We are privileged and graced in this sacred time to glean from you the treasures, hopes, dreams and desires to shape the journey of unfolding transformation towards our Chapter.

We are witnessing a continuing JUSTICE INSPIRED mission with a desire to grow into a radical integration of our Spirituality, Justice, Empowerment, Development, and Advocacy. We then found ourselves with these questions during our days together:

- ✚ How does the core of who we are relate to and integrate an evolving spirituality for mission?
- ✚ What do we need to ‘let go of’ and/or ‘embrace’ for the full engagement and inclusion of partners for mission?
- ✚ Do these longings invite and inspire us to deepen our expression of compassion, reconciliation and zeal?

A key task for us is to identify a theme to guide our endeavors; to awaken our imaginations; and to challenge us to be bold for the sake of the Mission. We invite you to join with us in a connected global consciousness which will allow our Chapter to be Spirit-filled in 2021. (See Attachment) We will listen with the ‘ear of our heart’ to see how God might be speaking to the collective heart of our congregation. Out of this, a theme will emerge.

We are in a reflective posture in our meetings and hold each other in contemplative prayer each week leading to the Chapter.

With deep gratitude for your partnership in our Chapter journey,

Congregational Chapter Planning Committee

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