



Global Process for Contributing to a Theme for the 2021 Congregational Chapter

We invite you to engage in a contemplative exercise with the goal of imagining, wondering and listening to the Spirit for a possible Chapter theme. We offer the following method for reflection, or you may have other ways to do this.

Between September and October 2018, pick out a time to engage in the following process, which can be done alone, in a group, with a friend, or your local community.

1. Start your reflection by setting a special intention to listen with the 'ear of *your heart*' for a word, an image, or a phrase that could awaken our collective imagination, animate our hearts, or challenge us to be bold for the sake of our mission.
2. Set aside 15 minutes to sit in the quiet, take a walk, draw, dance, or read your favorite poetry or scripture calling to mind your intention. At the end of your reflection time, write down any image, word, phrase, or saying that came to you. If nothing comes to mind, be at peace. Like the reflection below by Joyce Rupp, sometimes the thought will delay, but be patient and trust the process.
3. At the end of the reflection time, notice if any of the images, words, phrases or thoughts capture your attention. Sit with it and ask yourself: ***Could this be a theme for our Chapter?*** Consider sharing it within a group. Will it spark our collective imagination, animate our hearts, or challenge us to be bold – to bring us into a place of transformation?
4. Submit your contribution by **30th October 2018** to:
Ananita Borbon, CCPC Chairperson: anyaborbon@gmail.com



**When the time is ripe,
the image or word will come.**

**When the heart is ready,
the fruit will appear.**

**When the soul is mature,
the harvest will happen.**

**Not to worry about all the unspoken,
the unnamed, the undelivered.**

**Not to hurry the sprouts out of seeds,
the weeds out of garden.**

Let it all grow.

Wait for the ripening.

**Yearn for the yielding if you must,
but be patient.**

Trust the process.

**Talk to the restlessness,
sit with confusion,
dance with paradoxes,
and sip tea with the angel of life.**

**Smile while you wait,
empty basket in hand, all too eager
to snatch the produce
of your spiritual path**

--Joyce Rupp

Dear Heart, Come Home. P. 160
Joyce Rupp, Crossroad Publications