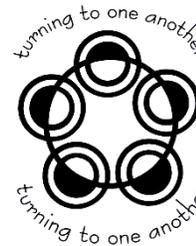


MID-ATLANTIC COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION CIRCLES
MAY 15 – JULY 10, 2016



Guide for Participants

TOPIC: MEMBER ENGAGEMENT PROCESS 2
FOR THE
2017 INSTITUTE CHAPTER

Goal: To prepare for the Institute Chapter:

- By identifying personal and communal transformation that has occurred because of the ways the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas have integrated the *2011 Chapter Declaration* into their lives.
- By identifying complicity that has yet to be acknowledged in our quest for continual integration of the *2011 Chapter Declaration* into our personal and communal lives.

Background

In Fall 2015, the Mid-Atlantic Community participated in the first member engagement process for the 2017 Institute Chapter. Many of us met in our conversation circles or other small groups to address the material which was entitled: *Journey of Oneness*.

This second member engagement process builds on the first process. The entire second member engagement process is attached. For your convenience we have pulled out the segment needed for you to prepare for your conversation circle. The Institute Chapter Planning Team will use our communal responses to shape the third member engagement process for the 2017 Institute Chapter.

How to Prepare for the Conversation Circle

In preparation for this conversation circle please:

1. View the video link: <http://bit.ly/1TjHivH>.
2. Re-read and reflect on the 2011 Institute Chapter Declaration: <http://bit.ly/1VEJ9Bp>.
3. Responding to the following questions:
 - What transformation has occurred in me because of the ways I have integrated the *Chapter Declaration* into my life.
 - In the *Chapter Declaration* we acknowledge our complicity and ask for God's mercy. As we look at this now what complicity might I still need to acknowledge for continual transformation.
4. Bring your written reflections to your conversation circle.
5. Since the composite reflection of the conversation circle goes to the Institute, there is no need for the Mid-Atlantic Community to also obtain it.



Second Member Engagement Process for Chapter 2017 March – July 2016

The Institute Chapter Planning Team greets you and invites you to engage with us as we continue toward our 2017 Institute Chapter through our Journey of Oneness.

We began with our first member engagement process, between September and December 2015, in which you were asked to reflect on the question, “*What would you name as most important for leadership and the chapter planning committee to hold and carry forward?*” We have created the following brief, bilingual video to share with you a summary of the feedback we received.

Video Link: <http://bit.ly/Step1SummaryVideo>

The focus for the second member engagement process emerged from your input on the first process. It is on our *Chapter Declaration*.

Link to *Chapter Declaration*: <http://bit.ly/ChapterDeclaration>

Please reflect ***individually*** on the following two questions.

Touching into our *2011 Chapter Declaration* in preparation for the 2017 Chapter...

1. What transformation has occurred in me because of the ways I have integrated the *Chapter Declaration* into my life?

2. In the *Chapter Declaration* we acknowledged our complicity and asked for God's mercy. As we look at this now what complicity might I still need to acknowledge for continued transformation?

Your responses to your individual reflection will become part of the communal contemplative dialogue process.

Communal Contemplative Dialogue Process

This process has been simply designed so that it can be adapted to accommodate Community gatherings and other venues, to enhance the participation of all members. Each Community will gather for this contemplative dialogue in venues that best serve them.

When you gather as a Community, in the venues determined by your leadership, you will be invited to continue in a contemplative dialogue process. Here you will share your personal reflection and come to a communal response around the following questions:

Communal Response

- 1. What transformation has occurred in *us* because of the ways we have integrated the *Chapter Declaration* into *our* lives?**
- 2. In the *Chapter Declaration* we acknowledged *our* complicity and asked for God's mercy. As we look at this now what complicity might we still need to acknowledge for continued transformation?**

Communal responses are due by July 15, 2016. Here is the link for the online **communal response** form: <http://bit.ly/ChapterResponse2>. Responses will be shared with the Institute Chapter Planning Team, who will use them to shape the third member engagement process.

Looking Ahead

The third and fourth member engagement processes will be designed in a variety of ways so we have more diverse Institute-wide interactions. It is our hope that each of our member engagement processes will build on the one before it and lead us to a question we will discern at our Sixth Institute Chapter in 2017, setting our Institute direction for the next six years as we continue our Journey of Oneness. Please see the timeline on the following page.

Our member engagement processes are preparing us once again to open the door wide and cross yet another threshold of Mercy life in 2017. Welcome!

2017 Chapter Process

September 2015 – January 2016

Member Engagement Process 1

“What would you name as most important for leadership and the chapter planning committee to hold and carry forward?”

January 2016

International meeting in Jamaica with chapter planning committee and sisters from CCASA, Philippines, Guam and Jamaica

March 2016 – July 2016

Member Engagement Process 2

July 2016

Convoking of Chapter 2017

September 2016 – December 2016

Member Engagement Process 3

October 2016 – November 2016

ILT Nomination Process begins

January 2017

Discernment Weekend for ILT Nominees

February 2017 – April 2017

Member Engagement Process 4

February 2017 – April 2017

Engagement with ILT Nominees

March 2017

Consultation with Delegates on Chapter Procedures and Guidelines

June 19–29, 2017

Chapter