**TRF #3 / July 30, 2016**

**As we contemplate this Chapter Agenda, what is emerging or birthing within us?**

Can we commit to care for creation over financial constraints, e.g., hybrid cars? Need to use our influence in the public arena for change (e.g., recycling efforts). Growth in awareness for what we can do.

Education on the impact of choices we make, personal and communal. The desire to recognize our own personal responsibility to care for the earth and to be aware of cost to people and environment. Recognize that the true value of preserving the earth is not always of monetary value.

Remain in partnerships and create new ones to address the earth’s devastation and the effects that this has on creation. Part of our Franciscan Spirituality recognizes God’s creation calls us to honor and care for our sister earth. Reaffirm our stand against bottled water and privatization of water. Confirm the work that has been done. There needs to be an ecological conversion as Margaret Jarod challenged us. We should each ask ourselves and each other what part of my life will I give up to follow Christ as an ecological person of the world.

To change our attitude and to teach, educate, educate, educate. Importance of education for children and adults. Gloval opportunities are closing/running out; need to continue local actions and focus on larger global actions. Being ecological Christians / inclusive of all faiths; to see and live spirituality of connectedness. Seeing all things whole, our violence toward creation and other humans and all creations. Simplicity of life; care for our personal, communal, local and global environment. Involvement and networking with larger organizations and groups.

Increased awareness of need for balance. “Mother Earth” includes all of creation, especially people! Find real ways to reduce use of water because water is the staff of life. Increased awareness of the urgency for sustainable living as ecological Christians. What do I need to give up to be this? Each little action does matter.

Renewed commitment to the care of the earth continued and greater awareness, taking the time at our meetings and our assemblies. Setting aside time in our discussions to pass on new information concerning care of the environment, giving reminders and asking that in our Congregational communications that there be constant reminders and new information given. Here we are in touch with the youth; work with them in seeing that this is related to social justice.

Feeling of unrest despite all the progress. Unrest due to continued destruction and displacement of persons. Suggestions: Discover ways to partner with strong power, international and politically influce groups such as Green Peace. Insert Mother Earth in broader context of actions for Justice and Peace. The need for active personal responsibility leading to conversion of heart and continued education and consciousness raising.

Recommend involvement with FAN Franciscan Action Network: advocacy, protests, make us aware of issues like ecological. Suggest viewing a DVD produced on 1st anniversary of Ladauto Si; excellent. Reference: Global Catholic Climate Movement (6/13-17/16). All a growth in our awareness four mutual relationship and mother earth. Purchase from local farmers (which also helps multi-culturally farmers; ex., Vietnamese, Hispanic, etc. Sharing at Congregational Assemblies creative ways that people are caring for the earth.

Individually make a substantial choice to become an ecological Christian. Congregational commitment to one area of conservation. Keep before us that humans are the root of this earth crisis .

Use Laudato Si in our parishes for discussion groups and to come to an action plan. Recognize educating young people and children changes their attitudes and influences their families and neighborhoods. We need to work with and support non-governmental organization to pressure governments (all countries) support with finances and action. We need to move beyond information to ddeper sensitivity to how our choices and comfort affect others especially the poor. Have buildings checked by energy expert to be more efficient with conserving energy, heat, etc.

Hope-Respect. Local-Global. Raise awareness. Love inspires us. Respond to appeals to support organiztions working for change. Education: each other, children, ourselves. Urgency, action, legislative.

Be aware we are creatures in the midst of creation. Be brother to all creation. Cultivate an attitude of gratitude and praise for creation that benefits us all. We are encouraged to more education especially with children and adolescents. Continue doing small acts. Seperating of garbage, recycling. Saving the rain water, saving water from the air conditioners. Our Franciscan attitude to be a sister of sharing and like Francis.

The need to address how to travel in more ecologically friendly ways-to use jet flight and cars run on gasoline less often in form of ZOOM meetings and travel by rail (train and trolley) and carpooling.

Need to continue to be patient and not to be discouraged. We are not alone and we must work with others. Need to learn from others and to educate. We must model right behavior.

A general commission is in the constitution and must be formed and work on this issue. We aere doing the small things we must focus on the larger things. Have experts at assemblies to give us the science/data and information so we can use it and understand. Invite key community people (mayor, others) to an assembly presentation on this issue and network with other congregations by experts.