



## Franciscan Sisters of Allegany

October 2015

CPC 6

### Chapter 2016 Planning

#### Chapter Planning Committee Members

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#### Contemplative Dialogue Circles (CDC)

During July and August, Sisters, Associates and Partners in Ministry engaged in Contemplative Dialogue Circles to raise themes for potential Chapter 2016 agenda.

"Be the Fire" resonated throughout the CDC responses. Many reflected the Chapter 2012 Initiatives with emphasis on continuing our individual and Congregational actions so that "our hearts are burning within us."

We thank all who participated in the CDCs for their thoughtful and creative work. The CPC received responses from 44 circles consisting of 227 participants. Of these, 189 were Sisters and 38 were Associates and Partners in Ministry. Some participated in more than one Circle. Each Circle submitted 2 or 3 major themes. These were compiled by the CPC.

The CDC Theme Compilation is attached for your study and can be found [here](#).

Reading through the original response forms, one is struck with the beauty and richness of their content as well as the abundance of the ideas presented. The Compilation is necessarily abbreviated for ease of study.

Between now and the Assemblies, the CPC encourages you to read and pray with this Compilation.

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#### Upcoming Meetings

December 4-5, 2015

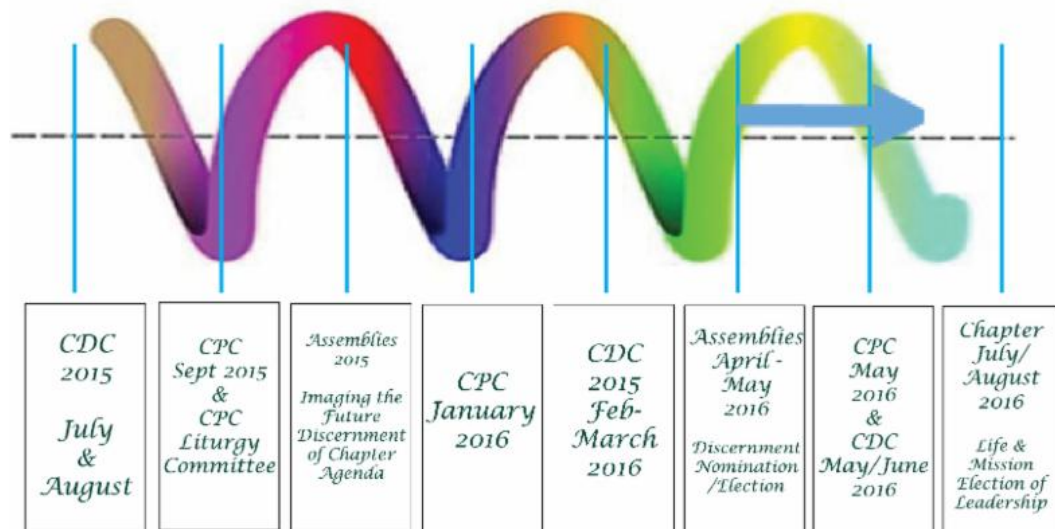
January 12-13, 2016

February 19-20, 2016

March 11-12, 2016

May 13-14, 2016

The CPC thought a visual image of our work - Sisters and Associates, Partners in Ministry and CPC - would help us all to understand that dynamic energy of creating a Chapter experience.



#### Committee Reports

##### LITURGY COMMITTEE

The Liturgy Committee, with Rene Simonelic OSF, a Joliet Franciscan and our Chapter Liturgist, held their first meeting at St. Elizabeth's, Tampa. Much was accomplished, and excitement permeated their meeting. From what they shared, sacred space for prayer and worship will be experienced at our Chapter.

##### HOSPITALITY/SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Plans for an Intercultural Evening of entertainment during Chapter are underway and the Hospitality Committee needs your help. Each country is asked to provide a 15--20 minute entertainment for the evening's program. The program will be coordinated by:

Lucy Cardet - Bolivia;

Aldenir Mota Ribeiro - Brazil;

Gwen Melhado - Jamaica;

Please contact these coordinators to participate and develop your country's entertainment.

Additionally, the Social Committee is hoping to form a Rhythm Band so that The Sound of Music will reverberate through the Motherhouse! Everyone is invited to join the band, so, dust off your spoons, tissue boxes, combs, harmonicas, kazoos and any other musical instrument you have and bring them with you - just join in - no previous experience required!

"Laudato Si" and The Joy of the Gospel are recent writings of Pope Francis. These documents reflect our Franciscan vision and values and they have become a part of our conversations since we established the Contemplative Dialogue Circles. We are encouraging you to continue to contemplate these documents while you engage other Sisters, Associates, and Partners in Ministry as we move toward our Chapter of 2016.

In addition, Pope Francis is declaring a Holy Year of Mercy. This will begin on December 8, 2015 and conclude on November 20, 2016. Let us work in solidarity with Pope Francis as he expressed his "burning desire that during the Jubilee Year people reflect on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy" (NCR, Joshua J. McElwee, April 11, 2015).

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