



PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

PROMISE GROUP UPDATES

March 2020

PROMISE: We promise to live radical hospitality in all relationships, especially with people made poor, through our commitment to contemplation, service, advocacy, dialogue, communication, and education.

Radical Hospitality

- Five local teams have used the *Learning About Our Racism* module that was prepared by our Promise Group – the module focuses on racism, biases and prejudice; three other teams will be meeting in March in their local areas. A follow-up session of the module focuses on how to overcome biases and prejudices and help in changing attitudes that effect personal and systemic racism.
- Next step: to make the module and/or other resources available to all sisters and associates
- A subcommittee of five of our members, three of whom attended the Crossroads ROAR anti-racism workshop in January with members of the Justice Promoters group, will explore the possibility of engaging a presenter or process for the larger community in 2021.
- The next Radical Hospitality Promise Group meeting will be in May 2020.

PROMISE: We promise to practice non-violence of mind and heart, speech and action as we address injustice directly and systematically.

We met on March 1, 2020 for a one hour Zoom meeting. Our discussion revolved around the upcoming workshop. Sisters and associates have received the Courageous Conversations workshop flyer and registrations are being received by Jean Lange. The focus of our meeting was to make an inclusive list for our next mailing to the greater Dubuque and surrounding area. A cover letter explaining the intent of the workshop, along with a workshop flyer has been sent to the Dubuque and Dyersville parishes (Attn. Social Justice Contact). We have requested the Dubuque Archdiocesan Office to send an electronic notification of the same letter and flyer to the Dubuque and Dyersville Deaneries. The following have also received the letter and flyer: Presentation Lantern Center, Multicultural Center, Our Lady of the Mississippi, New Melleray Monastery, the seminaries and the local colleges and universities. Letters/flyers are also available for individuals to send or post. A notification about the workshop will appear in the Witness and the Telegraph Herald. Our group is in the process of compiling a reading list for background information on the topics that will be presented during the workshop.

PROMISE: We promise to form partnerships and utilize resources for the purpose of mission.

Our Promise Group planned for a face-to-face meeting for March 21 at Mount Loretto. Facilitator, Laura Reicks, RSM, was to assist us as we created Guiding Principles and developed benchmarks for measuring and implementing these Guiding Principles. We also hoped to develop a communication plan for engaging the PBVM community. Because of the outbreak of the coronavirus, we cancelled our face-to-face meeting and are making plans to address our agenda in the future.

PROMISE: We promise to implement governance practices that foster dialogue and communication in decision-making.

We came to consensus on having a face-to-face meeting in May to consider presenting information at Community Days about Chapter Preparation. We decided to read articles on the future of religious life from the most recent LCWR Occasional Papers. From conversations with sisters from other congregations, it is clear that there is no common approach to the make-up Chapter Preparation committees. Our next meeting is March 24.