COORDINATING COUNCIL

**PROCESS FOR COMMUNITY CIRCLES**

**Time Frame: 90 minutes**

- CC rep will facilitate this process.
- Context Setting
  - Remember that the work thus far is based on our feedback from our community circle in the Fall of 2022 where we talked about the values of governance, the CC's conversations and suggestions in November 2022 and our personal discernment prior to this meeting.
  - The Governance committee realizes that there are details to be refined such as numbers for CC in Model A & B, number for Consultors Circle in Model C, number of days for assemblies etc.
- A reading about discernment from Journey of the Soul, Doris Klein CSA that is included in this packet.

  *Discernment is an invitation to be attentive to the voices of our deep inner knowing. It demands time to quiet the outer noises and listen to our heart and our body which, when we walk in integrity, will tell the truth, even a truth we may not want to hear. To listen within, we must breathe into the sacred connection we have with the Holy One, asking to be still and attentive. The process demands a discipline as we repeatedly quiet the thoughts, judgements, and fears that bubble so quickly in our minds. Gently but firmly, as if guiding a young child, we must hush the hounding of our head and descend into the cave of our heart.*
- Reading about the purpose of governance

  Article 64 IHM Constitutions
  *Our governmental structures exist to enable us as a community in mission. The structures and processes of governance promote personal and communal growth, support ministry, and facilitate congregational interaction.*
- Refrain Everything Before Us is said or sung after each person shares – Everything Before Us
  - *Everything before us brought us to this moment, standing on the threshold of a brand-new day.*
- Each member will share how they ranked the models and a couple salient points from their reflection.

- The CC rep will record the individual's rankings and a couple salient points so that it is visible to the group. Then they can begin to see where consensus may be being built. Enclosed is the Tally Individual Preference document to assist you in this task.

- After everyone has shared, pause and take some time to reflect and ask yourself as you listened to each one share have your preferences changed? Have you had a change of heart? And if so, why?

- The CC Rep will need to move the circle to consensus. Are you beginning to hear a group consensus about the ranking of list of preferences?

- Besides your circle's ranking of the 3 models the Governance committee would like to know the elements that encourage you to participate in any of the proposed models and substantive questions and concerns.

- Closing prayer

  Before us in the planned shape of this day
  we look for unexpected surgings of new life.
  Around us in the people whom we know and love
  we look for unopened gifts of promise.
  Within us in the familiar sanctuary of our own soul
  we look for shinings of the everlasting light.
  Before us, around us, within us
  we look for your life-giving mystery, O God,
  before us, around us and within us.

  Sounds of the Eternal, John Philip Newell

*** Please use the enclosed response form to note your circle's consensus and feedback. This form is to be emailed or mailed to Bee Butcher bbutcher@ ihmsisters.org by April 3rd.*