

## Weaving Direction and Action: Moving Forward Together: Community Assembly Update

By Suzanne Reedy and Rita Quigley

*\*Excerpted from the full update which is available on Forum.*

The September 7, 2019 Community Assembly, was themed *Weaving Direction and Action: Moving Forward Together*. The Assembly welcomed Sisters, Consociates, Friends of St. Joseph, St. Joseph Workers and Partners in Mission. Members of the Carondelet Novitiate Community from Los Angeles, Japan, and Albany also joined us. There were over 150 people in attendance to discuss and celebrate!

The Assembly acknowledged the hard work of the Provincial and Congregational Chapters. Participants committed to doing the personal work of asking how we think these directions and commitments are woven together and into our own call.

It is hard to capture with words on a flat page the energy and excitement, the movement and thrust of the morning. In response to the five powerful challenges of the Congregational Chapter we gave voice to our desire to be beacons of hope and committed ourselves to action. We were spurred on by the personal statements from community members who gave shape to their commitments.

To animate our Province Chapter theme of warp and woof, we covered each table with woven ribbons of teal and gold, working as teams to create a weaving to represent our actions. The statements of our action areas had been distilled from all the meetings, small and large group discussions, personal reflections and prayers before, during and after the Provincial Chapter. Following the caution to try for an economy of words, we were able to gift each of the participants with a bookmark containing the Commitments from the Congregational Chapter on one side and the Directions to Action from the Provincial Chapter on the other.



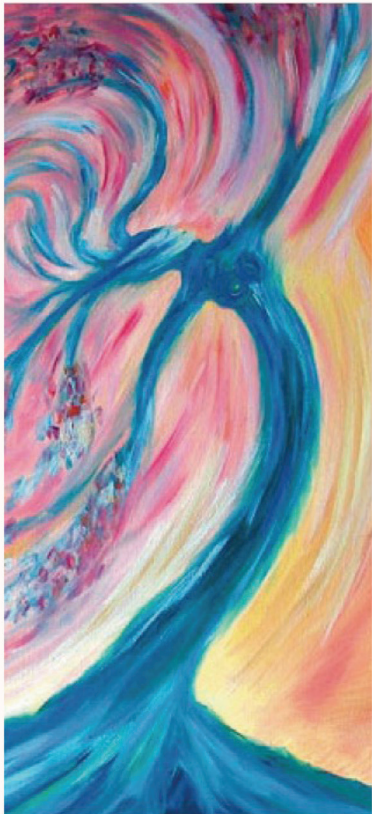
# Community Musings

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More energy sparked as each member wove their way around the room placing their Action Areas onto posters proclaiming the Congregational Commitments. The effect was a new weaving of stronger threads of bold responses. We will be using future assemblies to further unpack these calls to action.

The morning ended with the Assembly commissioning each other to **Go deeper. Journey farther. Respond boldly. DARE TO BE PROPHETIC.**

*\*Check the November Together for more Community Assembly highlights.*



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