Day 2 -

Divine Wisdom - Guide the Way

Let this be the time

Wisdom be attentive…

Wisdom, open our hearts

Elijah reading from Kings, the woman who feeds Elijah from her flour and oil which then continues to be enough for each day…

Easy to look at our scarcity.. the jar and the bowl will not empty.

In liminal times Operate out of a different place than scarcity.

Collective Wisdom - magic happens in groups.

In the time of silence, something of the transcendence happens…

Something else can emerge..

The choice to request wisdom, it is intentional. We don’t ignore what we know. Hold the data lightly.. we need to hear other voices, challenge our certain ties, develop a tolerance for uncertainty.

The capacity of being in uncertainties, mysteries, and doubts without any irritable reaching after facts and reasons.

WE need to be aware of defensiveness and desperation of energy in three ways;

1. emotionally overwhelmed
2. hyper intellectualization
3. move directly into action without consideration of consequences

When we don’t know what to do, we need to understand if the containers are strong enough to hold new ideas. We have to trust mystery. The new can be assisted and emerging.. Some things need to incubate for a while. We need to stay with suffering.. Sometimes something new emerges.. something larger than us is acting. We begin to imagine preferred outcomes. There may be trouble, when we start the new, it is predictable that there will be a tendency to try to go back toward the familiar. Resist.

Being in the place of the new, it is hard to name how it actually happens. The new requires stepping into the unknown and the discomfort of finding emotional and behavioral responses that are different than where we began. We need to do our own inner work. companion each other in this process. Build relationships that can help the group to go into the new. Friendships help support the new.

Support the emergence of the new:

1. Inquiry and challenging certainty
2. Dialog
3. Consideration of the transcendent

Talk about CCA. What you hope for, describe CCA without using the word, how you would describe what you want for the future.

In flux, we are hoping that we can keep our friendship and hope for the future. I like the encouragement for prayer and contemplation. The joy of praying with others.

Wisdom emerges, something of the divine is at work. Fields of energy.. being surprised by the insight of others, two pronged.. emergence of something..

Emergent aspects of carbon, oxygen, hydrogen = sugar. But separately are not sweet.

Teilhard, the noosphere, and other examples. Jung’s,moving forward protects the light from the wind, the shadow can bring a compensating balance. Have to pay attention to what is in the shadow. It can be destructive if we don’t pay attention. Each of us individually, and in the group. Don’t be so aggressive that you ignore the shadow. Bring it into the room.

How do we get wisdom? Care of the Soul, Dr. Thomas More

The soul likes:

persuasion

subtle analysis

Inner logic

Elegance

Discussion that is never complete

That ends with a desire for further talk or reading

Content with uncertainty and wonder

Probes and questions continue to reflect even after decisions are made.

You are not finished, sometimes we can’t make a decision. Keep talking even when a conclusion is reached. Further conversation. How is it working??

This is hard, because we just want to know. Searching for knowledge… staying loose to the mysterious. Move collectively toward a more soulful way of being. Keep wondering about the mystery of it all.

Example of the Franciscan sisters:

About ⅓ preferred a new model. ⅔ went with the current model. We will walk around in the new ideas.

Group 2

In working toward your CCA future plans do you notice the group moving from problem solving to wisdom? How is this manifesting or not manifesting?

Yes. Let’s see what emerges.

discerning retreat model… biblical and images we did grow more in trust. Task was to listen and allow things

how we were growing in trust,a wonderful deeper

the image of the apostles after the resurrection they didn’t know what was going to happen

The fruit of wisdom

we are all part of the process. Joy emerges

**The large group session:**

What did you notice in your group or came from yourself in the group?

The care of the sisters, find some ways to relate to those who are on their own. Moving from the practical to wisdom.. Sharing.. We have grown closer, we are one community now, not a bunch of separate communities. We are really pioneers, small gentle whispers of wisdom, trying to come to the fore, are we willing to stand in the space to allow it to emerge. Creating a spacious place for wisdom.

As we go forward, the process is as important as the decision we make. We are going forward together.

An edge we looked… a community of sisters who live in different ways, in a realization that all sisters are equal, living in a monastic setting, an apartment, or living in a community of other sisters.. can we go beyond delegates per community.

Vulltum Dei Quere, Pope Francis wanted associations/federations .. for the contemplative sisters to support each other, friendships…

WE actually are doing something new. It is clearer to me now. I can look at it with hope vs. worry. WE formed an association, it was something new. We are now a community. My curiosity is what this is going to mean for diffusing the Carmelite charism. A path of hope.

All of us are acutely aware of the diminishment that sisters are going through. I have lost my sight. I am seeing differently. I think it is an evolution that is broader and more universal.

A community of sisters, I feel like in the presence of you, as one unity, if though I am online. I see through that those who are living in different situations are radiating..

I see not physically, but see deeply. Seeing from a deeper place.

In order to include everyone, we have to remind ourselves, what we are about is seen as wonderful or not wonderful, it is not intended to be the final word, we have a lot of work to do into the future whatever we decide, it exists to promote unity and friendships, and to serve us, it is spiritual and practical in what it is done. We have to do things differently. Whatever we do there will be evolution.. in terms of how we will be… It doesn’t diminish our hope.

Sisters within the community with physical difficulties they are contributing to the growth of the community and the association, just appreciating what each sister can contribute at each stage of life

Margaret Weatley’s Turning to one another

Our choice to be together, our relationships, what can divide us. Paying attention and turning to one another, and paying attention to each other. Even in the harshest circumstances, there is a quality of being together, there is joy in being together. When we are dealing with a tragedy, or when we are working together as a team in a crisis, there are times when they fully understand the capacity of joy. The power of community, to give primacy to relationships, we are afraid of the deep emotional relationships that we have, so that we can support each other.

Our artists see the future. Gary Snyder, the poet, stay together, learn the flowers, go light. The Aspen grows by extending roots. Lessons from the Aspen tree, we are all connected, we really are one tree, we are the boat. Recognize my interdependence, it gives me strength. I need to become aware of my commitment, of changing anxiety into courage…

The aspen tree.

Awareness - you have a place, those who are dispersed. We were the first association. How are we going to live this new identity?

Creativity. It is not the last word.

It is developing.. friendships.

What are the edges? All of us are equal. How do we continue? How do we respect the way we are evolving? CCA is evolving.

Are there growing edges to be considered. What would assist you?

a freer interpretation of autonomy…

We are one monastery one community, Living into,,,

Let yourself sit in whatever Care has contributed.

Gazelles, noticing… Cooperation gets things done.. You are pioneers in offering a different energy field. Stepping into wisdom, strong bonds, everybody feels as part of something.. Moses, on the edge of the promised land, he never gets there.

What if the source of creativity is always there knocking patiently not the doors of our perception waiting for us to unbolt the locks.

Question be held, whisper can be welcomed…

containers that don’t fit us anymore. We are allowed to believe into something to exist. Move forward walking in the dark.. We test possibilities, success lies in ruling out things, and including things… Sometimes the mistakes we make the work great. If we tried something that didn’t work, we can learn something, we are smarter now.

Mistakes help us to become more porous, softer. Exploring breaks new frontiers, pioneering effort. The question itself says “It’s time!” It is time to make something greater. Each step gets us closer.. failure is necessary

We must keep learning how to be keepers of the things that matter.

Peeling the onion:

Our future together is important because:

We need to try new ways to support each other and live the Carmelite charism.

and that is important to me because

We need to keep connected and be true to our deepest calling

that is important to be because

The charism of Carmel can enrich the lives of people

that is important to me because

it is a fruit of the Gospel message of love and peace

that is important to me because

I am a follower of Jesus, committed to share his message that all are welcome into the kingdom

that is important to me because,

LIfe does end her, we join the Lord when we are called into heavenly banquet

that is important to me because,

This is the meaning of my life, to have life to the fullest.

All of this in the context of our faith..

The sower and the seed.. rocking ground and good soil. Is there a different meaning? The disciples task is to sow, and not discouraged if the seeds do not grow. Be generous in sowing.. the first planting on the path is a total failure.. 2nd planting.. don’t judge too soon, be generous, it falls on rocky ground, barren women do give birth, barrenness could give something.. don’t give up, third time, thorns, and whistles, a little happens… fourth time, just keep sowing.. success can happen, 3-1 odds against growing. Fruitfulness comes, don’t worry about the harvest, that is God’s work. It is our work to sow generously… Take the long view about growth.

Rachel Ramen… only child in a Russian immigrant family. Made gifts for each other, a pair of 24 karat gold earrings.. try them on, and close the door. I am too ugly to wear them, I know that someday they will fit you perfectly. Belief that change would happen.. We need to do continuous planting.