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2	More time and conversation and better direction later
3	We can hold a meeting with the other so cal mission centre's to discuss this.
4	A need for smaller clusters for those who do not have a significant sharing group. To include meals, informal discussions, faith sharing, prayer, fun. Gather all the suggestions for a specific region and have those living there rank them Show all the suggestions for new ideas
5	I haven't had time to interface with others and therefore generate some questions. Sorry.
6	I know we have a group who meets as spiritual directors ... It would be helpful for them to take turns preparing a prayer service that could possibly be a monthly resource. I believe linking between Center facilitators two or three times a year would be supportive. I believe each person needs to consciously choose to be an active member of their Center. Maybe if a person does not choose (for a variety of reasons) to be a part of a center, maybe another manner of staying in a life centered SNJM contact needs to be devised. Thank you.
7	I have no burning questions. There are enough ideas out there. I pray for the grace to be open and ready to contribute what I can to our Sisters and God's people Blessings on our PLT!
8	<p>A few other ideas about how we could approach this: For larger groups, provide a format that is open to all (ie Sisters and Associates across the "Region of the US.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In areas of larger groups of Sisters and Associates, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Plan a regular monthly gathering (e.g 2nd Wednesdays 10 – 12 a.m. for 10 months, excl June and July) -In a central location (e.g. Marylhurst foyer) with equipment and tech support for a hybrid meeting -Inviting all Sisters and Associates (via Oregon News and personal invitations for those unable to access Oregon News or local communication system) -Requesting RSVP's for manner of attending (personal or via internet) 2. Provide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -From Spiritual Group – a possible prayer component for each of 10 months -From other committees and gatherings (e.g. Water Committee, Cohort Groups, Grant Committees, Health and Well being group, Laudato Si Animators Grass roots group, Graced Times, casual groups ...), each assuming responsibility for a topic and providing a plan and facilitation with general group sharing as well as small groups.
9	My concern is to remain sensitive to each member's level of involvement when planning activities. How do we plan for an activity that may exclude some members? For example, participating in a march or volunteering at a food bank- some members are not physically able to attend, so do we not plan for more rigorous activities because we want to be able to only have activities that include everyone? The core value of a Center of Life is belonging how do we balance including everyone and planning active activities?

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10	Local leadership is crucial to gatherings. Having a place to gather can be a challenge. If gathering is important and there is no place, put money in the annual budget and rent space locally.
11	1. Set local Centers of Life group areas,. 2. Have people choose the one they wish to belong in. 3. Let the group unfold it's focus, timing, when and how to meet. 4. Have an overall contact person, persons, for the Centers of Life groups
12	My concern is that we can change the name of how we gather from Mission Center to Community Life circles but we continue to be an aging community and increasingly limited capacity for assuming leadership of a group. I notice we have increasingly expanded staff to assume jobs done previously by sisters. But I didn't hear anything about asking staff to support us in creating,developing, maintaining and sustaining circles of life when we no longer have capacity .
13	My greatest concern is that we be truly realistic ... we are so good with words and writing documents and making plans ... again who has energy to provide leadership. And what are the most important aspects of our SNJM community life we want to retain and give life to while we still have life to give. Thank you.
14	1) After moving to Merrill, I continued to participate with the SC mission center. My question is, will Sisters be able to participate in more than one Center of life? 2) Will associates have the option of choosing which Center of life they would like to participate with?
15	If someone discerned a religious vocation would she be accepted & trained.
16	Since we have lived here, almost 6 months, we are having our first social gathering in the Community Room. Since the time chosen was done without consultation, it will be interesting to see how many attend. If we form CofL, we will need to allow for different times. People seem interested knowing what is happening in the lives of others so it may be a priority to gather and share.
17	Concerns mostly center on health and mobility issues. We will work through challenges as we go using our creativity being as flexible as possible.
18	I am sorry if my response is read as 'not entering' into a new way that leadership wants us to be but am more than happy to be in conversation about why i am saying what I have said. I support all those who want or care to take another take on 'centers'. I am just not much on 'new' projects . Thanks for asking.
19	I would like to have discussion at our Mission Center about these topics for a better understanding. I must say that I was not able to attend the last 2 months, so most probably, there were conversations on this topic.
20	You are doing a good job. Thank you.
21	Please do not take our journey away but allow it to evolve. Our lay staff and the staff in places where we are living and receive care are meeting our needs. We just need time on the journey to find our own peace, dignity and path. And to share this in relationships that we already have and will have the opportunity to develop. We do not need someone leading us-but walking beside us. While we often have concerns about persons who "seem left out" a reminder that this may be their own choosing.

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22	It would be nice if we connected with the Windsor MC for special prayer or discussion,etc. I suggested it to Tampa MC, but they seemed happy with their number and gatherings.
23	Do not want or see this as an obligation to do something new just by renaming our gatherings. Honor our aging process and celebrate who we are today, amazing women who have lived a life of kindness and generosity.
24	My question is about initially working in Mission Centres because they are local and are already established. Though I agree with that, it is a little different with the Southern Oregon area. Since COVID we have met primarily via Zoom and haven't met at all this past year. This is due to health issues, to moving to the Portland area, to hesitation to travel the hours we do travel in the darker stormy months. Our group would likely welcome meeting together initially, but could there be a different arrangement for us rather than meeting in person? There will still be few associates who will meet in person or on Zoom because of health issues, personal schedules, or other reasons. I think we would work with the model you recommend, but I think more would be present for a Zoom meeting than in person. Another problem we would have is the three places we used for meetings before, during, and since COVID are no longer available to us because some members have moved out of the area. This is another reason we've met on Zoom since COVID. Our group has consistently worked with the challenges of distance, weather and illness to continue to meet and try to include those who aren't able to be present. It has been harder to do that in recent years as we have all aged, but we would certainly continue to do our best to try.

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25	<p>4) In addition to recognizing "centers of life" as an important administrative/ organizational designation, I think it's critical to clearly articulate our commitment to SNJM community life and being "sister" to each other. Friendships, SNJM and otherwise, are vital to our health and well-being; but informal networks don't inevitably lead to building a vibrant, inclusive religious community that provides an SNJM "home base" for each of our members. Those who entered before and after Vatican II already operate out of somewhat different sets of assumptions based on our shared (or not) lived experiences; for the future, leaving this element to assumptions seems inadequate. Language structures our thinking, so I think it's important to articulate that being each other's primary community within whatever configurations we shape is a shared value. I hope the leadership and employed support staff framework deliberately and clearly empowers us to do what we can for ourselves and each other. On-going employee orientation clarifying how their professional expertise is expected to meet our real needs is important. I presume we will hire to provide administrative support, necessary expertise when requested by sisters, and to be a companion safety-net to support independent, adult behavior and decision-making unless we are temporarily, or permanently, incapacitated. The fact that we value empowering each other and the full development of the human person in each of our community and ministry settings are important values to share. This last part is not directly about "showing up for each other" but it will increasingly affect our ability to do so as the years go on. The specifics of numbers, locations, and (maybe) labels for "centers of life" will continue to evolve and are much less important than why we agree we are doing it and how we strive to inhabit them. As now, weaving the life-giving intersection of vowed and affiliate members will require tact and clarity about the fact that what we share are spirituality and ministry. Numbers - probably no fewer than 5 whenever possible initially, knowing that real personal interaction will continue between those surviving in a locale. Coastal "umbrella" leaders could be helpful to plan for as numbers decrease. Leadership - The four operational functions specified in the current (August 2024) outline could be the basis for shared leadership if that's what a geographic area chooses to do. An SNJM (or two) should be the named lead as the connection to leadership and the one to ensure that all the bases are covered. Another thought on approach - I wonder what would happen if sisters were invited to name 5-10 SNJMs for their own "center of life." It comes out of a far less solidly congregational focus than geography and there are multiple self-selected groups already in place. At the end of the day, people who live in close proximity have a more realistic chance of physically "showing up" for each other on short notice. Thank you.</p>
26	<p>Will Centers of Life have a budget to cover costs of in-person meetings? Will there be a specific Liaison person for the Center from the Congregational Leadership / Committees? Will there be periodic gatherings by geographic regions that will bring together in person those from various Centers of Life? Will the Archives at Mary's Woods still be kept there and utilized for future items from Centers in the USA? or at least the Western USA?</p>

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27	<p>The term “Centers of Life,” though inspiring and aspirational, might not help us really accomplish the connectedness we really need. (Because it is sort of a “head trip” kind of word) Often when we gather there is always an agenda that’s on a timer which rarely leaves room for sharings from the heart, which is the real glue that holds us together and gives us life-giving moments that create bonds we need to move forward into the unknown together. The small group sharing is important, but takes time to really get to the deeper heart moments. It seems we run out of time and have to return to the group, just when we are getting to the real stuff we want to share. Our personal stories, insights and wisdom are important ways to feel we have experienced something life giving and encouraging and that we know we have been really heard and seen and truly valued. Being physically present is great, yet limits who can/will attend a gathering. Zoom groups might be an asset here for helping to have resonance in a group. Maybe we might want to see the idea of Circles of Life be more multifaceted and multi-layered. If we let creation be our teacher we see that the Circle of life is one that works because of relationships built on reciprocity and diversity, all work to contribute an experience of vitality and balance, giving and receiving according to innate gifts, strengths and vulnerabilities.</p>
28	<p>1. a member of administration/leadership for the newly formed province could oversee the development of life centers. 2. this person might have a team for support and creativity. also the leader or team member might be requested for facilitation, conflict resolution or whatever might be needed or even helping a sister mid year who needs to transition to a prayer only mode. or the group needs help due to grief of loss of members etc. 3.the overseer might hold a zoom meeting once a year to report to the new province about centers of life etc 4.one last thing....many sisters at maryswoods like to attend mass on tues and thurs. could all congregational meetings be changed to Monday, wed, fri or sat. the sisters are complaining and have been upset for the past few years and cannot understand why administration cannot honor their love of eucharist.</p>
29	<p>So much seems to depend on the energy and initiative of the Sisters, Theoretically, you and the PCM committee are doing good work. The structural components are well thought out. Finding ways to keep energy for prayer, community and mission alive could be our next step in preparation. Thank you.</p>
30	<p>Because I live in Cusco, Perú. How can we form like a Andina/USON or USON/Andina or Andina-Perú/USON</p>
31	<p>Pray for enlightenment for all of us</p>
32	<p>In Seattle we need a place to meet physically which might mean more costs for a place to pay (like Murano). I hope we can be more global in our outlook and see ourselves as one across the congregation. It will take being intentional. Thanks!</p>
33	<p>After receiving the input from all of our geographical regions, I would hope that our present provincial administration would offer some suggestions or a proposed plan for how this can happen</p>

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34	Some questions: (1) Will there be someone like a coordinator who would keep the communities meeting — according to the community’s particular needs/abilities/ desires? Or a team who would convoke the community? What will be the authority structure? How will the center relate to SNJM health team? (2) Can this center of life be composed of Sisters, Associates, partners, long-time SNJM friends? (3). What is the minimum number? (4). Can a person change centers & what is the process for doing so? (4). Can a center be formed according to language? (5). What about Sistets who live at a distance? Can zoom participation be acceptable?
35	Consider a congregational retreat/3-day discernment - designated days when all snjms and affiliates join in quiet preparation, seeking God's illumination of our change model. We would use technology resources, no travel, much personal prayer.
36	I expect to move to Marylhurst or possibly Portland area in the next couple of years. I am not concerned and I don’t have enough understanding of the concept to have ideas.
37	How to keep it simple and inviting? Logistics will play a role. Availability of meeting places options? Centers would be smaller depending on location of Sisters. Age factors, fewer drivers? And do the Sisters want these Centers?
38	My concern is that something artificial rather than organic may be put in place. There are already various pockets of life in place. There are definitely issues to be dealt with, but I don't see how a new structure would address them and it might even enhance them.
39	Question: How many people do we think will be in each Center? One concern is that we are having trouble finding coordinators for some of our mission centres. As we age I imagine we may have to have non-members coordinate the Centers of Life.
40	I know we’ve lived in community with 20-30+ people in the past but I don’t think that works when Sisters are older and more fragile in many ways.
41	I am somewhat concerned about our property assets - who is going to oversee them? I don't mean a property manager but I mean an investment committee or an oversight group that includes Sisters.
42	Since I know I need to live in community, perhaps finding out who else would want to live in a community might help.
43	Concerns: This feels mammoth. But the planning and continued dreams and creative suggestions continue to emerge. Grateful for leadership, CLT, PLT, committees, etc.
44	What kinds of local leadership will these centers have - coordinator, team, revolving leadership, terms??? What is the role of affiliates in these centers?
45	Believe that we are getting more remote from leadership and this could add to the distance without careful planning.
46	In person gatherings are deeper indeed but zoom might be our best choice for those who live at a distance. In Nor CA our demographics are challenging. Maybe we can gather a few time a year in person. Our annual Associate Retreat in Santa Cruz is a good opportunity to connect but it's only once/year.
47	I will very much miss the Women of Windsor.
48	The zoom meeting are really helpful

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49	The question that comes to mind for me is how to provide for those who are healthy, perhaps younger, active, are promoters of justice, and who live outside Mary's Woods. Also, the 4 items listed under operational functions are very important for a culture of oneness in the congregation at MWs and regionally.
50	The power of goodness
51	I hope we are able to help each other across regions in this way: sharing talents, skills, experience, knowledge across regions as needed. 2. Who and how among us will have a call to "global view service" to our centres of life? To keep us mentally, spiritually, and actually connected to the diverse Centers of Life within our whole Congregation?.
52	There was significant concern about the distance to meeting/gathering locations. For some, it was impossible to in-person participation. For some the 4 hour commute was okay once a year. Otherwise, Zoom seems to be the only way to practically gather.
53	Questions above. How we will celebrate jubilees. First round of questions. Love of questions to be in a gp
54	We have long distances among us and members who cannot travel easily. I think we will gather virtually most often or only twice a year which is what we do now. I am not sure how we will identify a group and on what basis. What are the goals of the group, a particular group. It seems to me that the goals will differ from group to group. When will we talk about them or do we establish some among us and then decide on the group. I think we need to talk to each other in all the mission centers on the east coast
55	I hope we will take advantage of the time at the end of our lives when we are preparing to cross over the big threshold. Is there more we can do to accompany one another and others as we prepare for this time in our lives. I want to spend more time BEING and in contemplation as I enter the last part of my life on earth and as a Holy Names Sister.
56	I was surprised to see so few Associates; were they invited? It felt like that dimension wasn't integrated in - perhaps deliberately.
57	My biggest concern is about what kind of relationship there will be between "Sisters on the ground " and leadership. I think it's important that we feel known and seen. There is already some distance in my experience and I'm afraid there will be more.
58	"Why doesn't everyone attend at least one meeting in six months???" Personalities can present problems!
59	I am actively involved in Jesuit Volunteers Northwest and our local JV EnCorps group. It is where I find spiritual, ministry and well-focused support. An examination of this organization other wide-based service organizations have put the pieces together could be beneficial.
60	With the devoted care of our Health Care Team, spiritual offerings, social gatherings here at Merrill Gardens, I would say meet every two three months.
61	I would assume that the Mission Center organization would be a beginning, however I do have a "lived experience" of a Mission Center. I have been a member of Marylhurst Mission Center since 2021 and we have only had 2 gatherings during that time. I suppose Covid, etc. had a detrimental effect on our gathering. It just seems to me that Centers of Life could grow out of the Mission Center experience.

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62	We desire to continue to do our best to support each other as we become a Center of Life. The occasional zoom has been helpful and enjoyable.
63	Maybe a survey that helps shape groups according to what members desire: in person regularly, prayer together, life sharing, a shared interest, Zoom only, monthly, less often, etc.
64	How is this communicated to Associates/Affiliates? Is there a process for doing so. Would this be part of the formation process for Associates/Affiliates?
65	It seems that larger geographical areas believe they are fine. What a challenge it would be to reach beyond those one knows.eg An Oregonian in one of my groups struggles to think that she needs to care for another SNJM!!! It might be to invite each to better identify how she can BE today. I think age, health, energy all need to be taken into consideration. Keep all simple. We, easterners, have needed to do this with little staff assistance too. Thanks. Keep conversation going.
66	If we break into smaller groups how do we get leaders to organize the groups?
67	Concerns - Now and into the future... - Might SNJM's on the local level have input into the hiring (based on our actual needs and realities), along with our input into ongoing evaluation of our local SNJM-hired employees? - Might our USON Region hire an Advocacy person (SNJM) or Team to guide, as requested and/or needed by SNJMs in a geographical or wider area...conflict resolution process, as well as positive planning in a way which ensures that all willing voices are heard? Advocacy person (s) would report to the PLT and/or to appropriate Manager or other. Thank you! Keep the dialogue going!
68	Connections is great tool for belonging . Leadership in Centers will evolve as we communicate with and trust each other
69	More sharing with both groups..I.e. ideas and discussions on them.
70	I think its always a challenge to think globally as we act locally
71	I was sorry that practical issues were not discussed. In our MC we text each other (as a group) each day. This connection is important. A short sentence telling the others what are the plans for the day. This is important especially if one is traveling. In my two groups people were kind but somewhat depressed. Not sure what that is about..strange how someone can be in the SNJM community for decades and feel lonely. One sister expressed her appreciation for having the zoom small groups. Perhaps the PLT could bring us together just to connect..not always reporting (although I know this is important) .the women in my first small group were from different MCcenters..this was helpful.
72	My concern is that given the statistics another layer of participation is not practical. It is time to do less and be more centered, delighting in our contributions both past and present.
73	I feel very fortunate to be in our situation. I think others will face a more challenging situation. Thank you for all you do.
74	Someone in my small group suggested that it might be good to allow Centers of Life to emerge from already established groups (e.g., book clubs, Graced Times gatherings, affinity groups, etc.).

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75	<p>The main concern is having people willing and able to take on leadership roles. For me, I am not interested in participating in a separate associate group, but for the others, this works wonderfully. I see a disconnect between sisters and associates, especially when it comes to congregational and province zoom gatherings. In the past associates here have not been encouraged to join and some have expressed to me that they don't feel invited even though they get the zoom links. Some have wondered why this has become the reality to be separate and wish it would be different, more inclusive. When we gather as a local Spokane Mission Centre, many associates regularly attend and enjoy it tremendously. Perhaps addressing this issue directly as a group and ask how they would like to connect with a single entity would be helpful.</p>
76	<p>We just need to get down to specifics.</p>
77	<p>I hope that associates/ affiliates will continue to be included in the process since many are capable and committed people who have much to offer by joining forces with us.</p>
78	<p>How to include Sisters & Associates who are inactive due to health issues, who don't have tech and can't meet in person. Do they receive Connections by mail? We need to ask them how they want to connect for prayer & support. Maybe a carefully planned prayer & support phone ministry?</p>
79	<p>In my local geographical area (East Bay), I am concerned that many or most will prefer to stay as is and just change the name to "Center of Life." Ideas----perhaps to have more PLT led Zooms to provide more info about purpose/responsibilities of Centers of Life----for example, health issues? living issues that arise as we get older? need of lay staff as part of a Center of Life? These are some questions/concerns I have. Hopefully, some questions/concerns that are expressed in this question #3, will assist our PLT in offering more Province-wide Zooms to help all of us to work through what will be most helpful in clarifying and forming our Centers of Life. Seemingly, Centers of Life purpose is broader than Mission Centers. Thank you for having this opportunity to hear more from all of us regarding Centers of Life.</p>
80	<p>We would like clarity about how we determine how much financial support we need from the congregation for our daily living now, and in the future, and who decides it.</p> <p>We would like clarity about who has authority to decide about healthcare questions for any individual or group. Who has the authority and/or the responsibility to attend to a person's well-being and to decide what an individual needs? Who decides when a person needs proactive assistance?</p> <p>We would like some education about how to approach each other when we observe changes in a person's behavior and how to receive it when someone approaches us.</p>
81	<p>What is the role of affiliates in these centers?</p>