



Documents & Government Structures Task Force Report September 2004

Subcommittee Tasks:

- To examine documents and the government structures of each Cluster Congregation
- To highlight the differences and the similarities in Congregational documents and structures
- To identify the implications of the learnings for any reconfiguration
- To articulate a statement of Dominican life and mission to be reviewed at 2004 Inter-Congregational Gatherings

Background:

We have been collecting, reviewing, and analyzing the documents of the participating congregations. We have formulated a list of words and phrases from the Vision/Mission statements as "building blocks" toward the development of a statement of Dominican Life and Mission.

Present Status:

We are continuing to develop a chart of the Vision/Mission statements of the participating congregations and a matrix of the constitutions of the participating congregations as a working document.

Future Plans:

- To formulate a statement of Dominican Life and Mission for our use in this discernment process (using information generated at the September 2004 meetings)
- To begin an analysis of the policies, procedures and by-laws of the congregations
- To analyze all the congregational documents for similarities and differences
- To present possible learnings and list issues the documents present (e.g., leadership styles, governmental structures, prayer styles, theological emphasis, community living issues, etc.)
- To collect data on the "lived experience" of the congregational members

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