

Grand Rapids Dominicans SWOT synthesis of the Reflection Circles

Guiding principles or Identity statements - We are Dominican women called to....

- ❖ A need for prayer, presence, speaking up, function as preacher/ing "going forth" trusting we have what is needed, "we are told we will lack for nothing!"
- ❖ The Dominican fuel is the prophetic voice that directs one to speak up as preachers of truth and to hold the belief that "we will lack for nothing;" but "take care not to get ahead of grace."
- ❖ Through prayer and contemplation we become aware of God's spirit which inspires us and this grace allows us to respond in the direction toward the hopes, dreams and challenges that we encounter. "The future will evolve from Mystery"

Strengths

- ✓ As Sisters in ministries we have been able to "encounter; a description of mentoring as "encuentro" those in need and those underserved.
- ✓ We Dominicans are called to be a "different perspective of church"; we are called to become more conscious of our experiences and encounters with others and God's creation. It enables us to give voice to the disadvantaged.
- ✓ We seek to be present to the mission, but/and not to be the work force of the church as was a focus in some areas in the past.

Weaknesses – Internal challenges

Opportunities (i.e. concrete ideas for situations/needs to address in the world outside the congregation)

Threats

Challenges

- We as Sisters need to challenge ourselves to work with the intentional diversity of the two cohorts of Sisters that exist: opportunities to bring together those in conference (LCWR) and the council of sisters (CMSWR).