To come I am alpha and omega.
Mission of Unity
CSSJ Spirituality
The name of the Congregation of the Great Love of God, and their shall be so that their Congregation shall bear the name of the Great Love of God, and their shall be so that their Congregation shall bear the name of the Great Love of God.
To share information regarding our mission and spirituality as a movement in the world
Institutions
- Imbedded patterns of social practice or norms
- Can include diverse areas of activity
- Concretize important social functions
- Known for stability
Exploration of Concept of Movement

Followers of Christ
by
Johannes Metz

(The function of Religious Orders is innovation)
Sisters

agregees

Associate
Discussion: Think of some examples of a movement you have experienced or heard about.

Think of some of the characteristics of that movement.
Movements

- Gatherings of large numbers of people to pursue goals they believe will improve society
- Never static – always in motion
- Unpredictable ~ give rise to new organizations and modes of thinking
- Have complex political overtones and flourish in freedom
- Known for flexibility, neighborhood initiatives and adaptability
Discussion: Go back to the movement you brought to mind. Discuss it in relationship to what has been described.
Patricia Wittberg points out:

religious communities are groups that can be considered as recurring social movements ~ waves of enthusiasm
1. Religious life has been often seen as pillar of status quo

2. But religious communities began as social movements

3. The success of a movement depended upon the ability to mobilize key resources
Religious Communities as Movements
Movements depend on:

- Depth of desire for spiritual activity
- Ideology that attracts members, donations, and political patronage
- Cost and Benefit
- Religiously inclined individuals
Mobilization around a specific mission and spirituality is an essential stage of formation

Ideology that attracts members, donations, and political patronage

Common discourse of meaning
- Expanding mission and spirituality needs to be expanded for new audiences
- Group acknowledging and recommitting to a value once forgotten
- Reinterpreting events in light of the new understanding of ideology
Movements begin or continue to attract new members

- Desire to participate in something larger than self
- Practices to strengthen and reinforce commitment to mission/spirituality
MISSION
Sisters
Confraternities Of Mercy
Associates
Agregees
Joseph workers
in Mission
in Patrons
Leading a life of holiness

And the Total Double Union of God and Neighbor

(Goal for Sister, Agregee, Associate and Neighbor is the same)
What indicators do you see that this may be happening in your congregation?

As you look at your neighborhood, where is this movement needed?
Sisters in the USA 4,465

Associates 2,945

Sisters in World 8,189

Associates in World 5,758
Four ways the Movement might happen

1. Inviting others to go with us in getting involved in something that is already going on

2. Partnering: Getting involved with others and bringing our resources
3. Convening Groups of young adults “sharing of the heart circles” for the purpose of becoming wiser and midwifing the mission

4. Bring women and men together to discern their call in light of the mission
Now that we know this,
how will it influence our lives?

How BIG is our desire that all may be MOVING ALL WAYS

IN THE FLOW
OF UNIONING LOVE