Detroit – St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center

Present – Vowed: Pat Brennan, Peter Berendt, Jim Griffith

Employees: Sandra Arnould, Faith Offman, Roz Salter

Board: Matt Greenough, Dennis Wagner (Tuesday), Patty Gillis (Wednesday)

Overall the energy was positive and the discussion spirited and candid, participants were fully engaged. Some frustration with the contemplative process and technical difficulties, but not overwhelming nor did it cause dis-engagement

Some key words/phrases from our conversations

* Charism is timeless; critical in today’s world
* How can we make ourselves more available to the crucified as well as our close friends
  + Those experiencing ‘burnout’ with/from the negativity and polarization of the world
* How do we continue to challenge the status quo
* The need to stretch our boundaries
* Those in the margins are always changing – especially as relates to technology – how do we remain present to the changing margins
* Need to stretch our ‘perceptions’
* A word that kept resurfacing for us was “presence”
  + With and between ourselves, vowed and lay
  + With and among our ministries
  + Within and between our various sites
  + With our retreatants, benefactors, partners and collaborators
* Can we change the narrative of the Province – what are our commitments
* Some energy around “Pioneer in a world that no one has lived in yet”
* We need to increase our tolerance of risk
* We need to set aside fear
  + Fear of the unknown
  + Fear of how things/changes will be received
  + Fear and risk of not always doing things the same
* How can we lead into the future
* Leadership may demand embracing a changing vision
* Some words that were present as we ended
  + Hopeful
  + Anxious
  + Cautious
  + What is core, is clear – Charism; how do we live into it