



February 2017

You've heard the refrain before:
"Religious life is changing. Large numbers were just an anomaly. It's going to be different. The future is very uncertain. Religious life as we know it is dying."

Well, we think it's time to sing a different tune. We believe that the future of religious life is ours, to live, shape and co-create. We believe there is a role and purpose for us, women religious of the early 21st century.

So consider:

- 🎵 Do you want to be the author your own life story?
- 🎵 Do you want to be an agent of transformation?
- 🎵 Do you believe that you can make a difference?
- 🎵 Are you tired of just getting by from one day to the next?
- 🎵 Have you stopped dreaming or hoping for something more?
- 🎵 Does your charism belong in our world's future?

Now's your chance to create the community to which you want to belong! We invite you to help write the new story of religious life for women – the story of the life for the post-contemporary generations. Come sing along with us!

Composing a New Song: Remaking Religious Life in Today's Desert

This is not a course. We don't have answers to teach. But we do have a desire to find a way forward. Together, with you, we can write the new language of hope and intentionality. It will be a major work, an enduring work that will carry us through the desert of uncertainty and shifting values. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of making a difference!

Presented by: Marcia Allen, CSJ, D.Min.
Dian Hall, CSJ, MA
Janet Lander, CSJ, MA
Catherine Michaud, CSJ, PhD
Sherryl White, CSJ, PhD



A special program offered by
MANNA HOUSE OF PRAYER
A ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph
of Concordia, Kansas

Composing a New Song: Remaking Religious Life in Today's Desert

We understand busy lives, so we shaped the schedule to be user-friendly. The combination of onsite and online formats is designed to meet your time demands. We will offer the program the first time this fall, and then repeat it in the spring of 2018.

All **ONSITE** gatherings will be at Manna House of Prayer in Concordia, Kan.

FALL 2017 PROGRAM

ONSITE:	Sept 7-11, 2017	"Listening to the Unspeakable: Unfolding the Story"
ONLINE:	Weekly online facilitated conversations:	In October — "Living in the Desert" In November — "Naming the One Thing Necessary for Life"
ONSITE:	Nov. 30-Dec. 4, 2017	"Responding to the Call: The New Song!"
COST:	\$2,000. This includes, registration, room and board, programming, and weekly online discussions	

(We will repeat the program in the spring. **ONSITE:** Feb. 1-5, 2018, and May 3-7, 2018.)

Some of you might be looking for an actual on-site sabbatical experience. You can have that and participate in this program! If so, you would begin on Sept. 7 and complete your experience on Dec. 5; or, begin Feb. 1 and end on May 7, 2018. Cost for the three-month experience at Manna House is \$3,500.

For more information, contact Marcia Allen at mallen@csjkansas.org or 785-275-1506.

FACILITATORS AND FELLOW SEEKERS ON THE JOURNEY:



MARCIA ALLEN, CSJ, D.MIN. Marcia, a Sister of St. Joseph of Concordia, has degrees in French, History, Administration and Spirituality. She is past president of her community and of LCWR. She has served as facilitator and consultant for religious communities and other groups since 1980. Currently she is a staff member of Manna House of

Prayer in Concordia. She gives retreats and conferences and writes for various periodicals. She contributed to *Power of Sisterhood: Women Religious Tell the Story of the Apostolic Visitation*. She co-authored the manual for and is an instructor for her congregation's orientation of new members.



DIAN HALL, CSJ, MA. Dian has bachelor's degrees in Communications and Art Education, and master's degrees in Education and Pastoral Studies with a concentration in spiritual direction. Dian is a talented musician, composing her own music; a liturgist with experience as Director of Music at St. Meinrad School of Theology.

She has extensive experience as a radio news director and in layout and advertising design. Currently she is working with challenged teens at a public high school in Cartersville, Ga. Dian is fluent in Spanish, and serves as a member of the Vocations Team for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia.



JANET LANDER, CSJ, MA. Janet is a Sister of St. Joseph of Concordia. She graduated from Boston College in pastoral ministry with an emphasis on Scripture and the practice of spirituality. She spent several years in pastoral ministry in Brazil and is fluent in Portuguese. Currently she is

a member of the Leadership Council for her community. She is also an adjunct staff member of Manna House of Prayer in Concordia. She gives retreats and is a spiritual director. Janet is also an artist and an expert bobbin lace maker.



CATHERINE MICHAUD, CSJ, PH.D. Cathie is a Sister of St. Joseph of Concordia. She is a theologian specializing in the pneumatology and ecclesiology in Vatican II. She taught at St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minn., where she was director of the Masters Program in Theology, including the graduate certificate programs in spiritual

direction and pastoral ministry. Currently, she is engaged in the St. Paul-Minneapolis Archdiocese as a spiritual director, lecturer, and retreat leader for clergy, laity, and religious communities. She holds conferences in spirituality and the emergent Catholic culture since Vatican Council II.



SHERRYL WHITE, CSJ, PH.D. Sherryl, a Sister of St. Joseph of Baden, Pa., is a social psychologist ministering internationally as a facilitator and consultant to apostolic and contemplative congregations of religious. She has developed a practice and theory driven process called "Contemplative Inquiry" that draws upon the strengths of communal dialogue, broadening a group's capacity to engage the complex questions of these changing times. Sherryl is also

the editor of the National Religious Retirement Office's publication, "Engaging Aging." She is a recipient of the Louisville Institute's Study Grant for Pastoral Leaders; served with a select group of scholars and pastoral leaders on the Lilly Foundation's national consultation "Christian Faith and Life and Religious Institutions;" and has been published in America magazine and the website of the Religion Division of Lilly Endowment Inc.