



Marianist Lay Community of North America (MLC-NA)

The Marianist Center

1341 N. Delaware Ave., Suite 301, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19125

(215) 634-4116 • www.mlc-na.org

Being Church in the Modern World

1 December 2016

Dear Friends,

Pope Francis, in his own way, speaks with a sense of urgency about the important role of lay people in the modern church and the need to share responsibility between the laity and the clergy. Sharing responsibility is not new to our Marianist family; the Discipleship of Equals is a core Charism for our mission to bring Christ to the world. As a Marianist, you can take pride knowing that we are already responding to this urgent call, but the MLC-NA can do more.

Thanks to your financial and spiritual support, MLC-NA continues to bring organization and leadership to the Marianist Lay Communities here in the USA, Canada, and Haiti. This year we made progress on a number of initiatives including:

- Continued to build the leadership team with a leadership team retreat in May.
- Produced "A Guide to Life In the Marianist Lay Community of North America."
- Elected two new members to the Leadership Team.
- Communicated regularly with you via our e-Newsletter and Facebook page.
- Increased our support to the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative, the Marianist Lay Formation Initiative, and the International Organization of Marianist Lay Communities (IOMLC).
- And most importantly, we began preparations for the 2017 Assembly.

Your generous financial support is needed as we respond to the sense of urgency in our church and achieve our 2017 Goals. To continue our work and complete projects in a timely manner, we have to have the necessary resources. **We need your support to do the following in the next 2 years:**

- **Purchase an on-line membership directory service** to improve our recordkeeping, create a repository (ex: prayer services), and give you a means to connect to one another.
- **Hire interns and part-time support** to improve our website and social media content, and to assist us with administrative support.
- **Support the 2017 Assembly.**
- **Increase our support** to MSJC and the IOMLC.
- **Develop member webinars and retreats** for formation and to get to know each other.

Last year we raised \$13,660 of our \$30,000 goal. **Our goal for this year is \$30,000.**

MLC-NA encourages each member to contribute the equivalent of at least two hour's wages: one for MLC-NA and one for the IOMLC.

Please prayerfully consider what your circumstances allow and return your tax-deductible contribution in the envelope provided. **Please make checks payable to MLNNA** (until we legally change our name). If you prefer to contribute electronically or make your contribution monthly, please go to **<http://donate.mlanna.org>** and complete the form.

Thank you for your continuing generous financial and spiritual support.

On behalf of the Leadership team, I wish you a blessed Advent and Christmas season!

Mike Wasno
Chair