



Commission of Regions

Sister Maria Brizuela, OSF

Franciscan Sister of the Sacred Heart, Frankfort, IL

The second Zoom meeting of the Federations “Moving Forward” series was held on February 18, 2021. There were 105 participants. Before the meeting officially started the online meeting room was filled with excitement as participants recognized a familiar name and a familiar face. There was quick catching up to do while waiting for the others to join. It was really fun to hear from friends we haven’t seen for a long time. It felt like a “Federation Family Reunion”.

Sister Kathleen Warren, OSF hosted us again on behalf of the ECCOR. She used a prayer from *Fratelli Tutti* which she read alternately with our guests as our opening and closing prayer.

Kelly McCracken, the President of Franciscan Media, and Debi Haug, the Executive Director of Mission for the Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities, couldn’t hide their excitement about being invited to join the “Executive Leaders of Franciscan Organizations” (ELFO). Getting to know each other as people, and hearing of the Good News of each national organizations’ Franciscan vision and mission, has been a great step toward unpacking ways they can be of support to one another. Read more about their sharing on our website. Click [here](#) to follow the ‘AFC 2021’ tab on the homepage. All roads lead there!!

Our Federation’s use of Zoom gatherings has proven to be much more than we anticipated. From my observation, it created a sense of renewal as old friends got to see each other virtually; it created a sense of excitement for being part of something new and unfolding; and last, but definitely not the least, it is where we are learning about our sisters and brothers and the work they do in Franciscan-driven and -inspired ministries.

So friends in the Franciscan Family, mark the date for the next Zoom: **March 18, 2021**. Our featured guests are ***Darlene Pryds – Commission of the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition (CFIT) and Sister Maria Orlandini, OSF – Franciscan Action Network (FAN)***.

We will get to hear the wonderful work they do at CFIT and FAN...and who knows, you might see a friend you haven’t seen for a long time.