



DAY 1 – NOVEMBER 11, THU: *Gathering of Grail Sisters*

- 1:30 pm EST** **Zoom Opens** Opening of Assembly for gathering, talking and sharing
- 2:00** **Opening: Welcome and Acknowledgements by elmira and Rachel**
Overview of the Theme: The Importance of “Touching Common Ground”
- 2:15** **Making Zoom work at the GA ~ Members of the GA Tech Team**
- 2:25** **Opening Ritual** (Facilitator: Fran Frazier)
Ritual Team: Judith Brown Leigh, Sharon Thomson, Fran Frazier
- Drumming Circle - AKWAABAA
 - Lighting of New Candles - Fran
 - Opening Prayer - Judith
 - Opening Dance – Elder Aziza West of the Imani Dancers
 - Honoring of Our Grail Ancestors - Sharon
 - Getting Rid of What May Get In the Way of Us Touching Common Ground - Fran
 - A Grail Song: *Touching Common Ground*
 - Gifts We Bring to the Circle of Grail Sisters - Fran
 - Closing Song: *We Are Family*
- 3:25** **Virtual Group Agreements -10 minutes** (Facilitator: Tina Kalala)
- Listen carefully and with respect. Its ok to disagree
 - Each person gets a chance to talk
 - Seek first to understand rather than to be understood
 - Be open and honest
 - Ask for clarity
 - Speak for yourself, not as the representative of any group. Remember others are speaking for themselves, too
 - If something someone says hurts or bothers you, say so, and say why
 - Be aware of your body language
 - Stay focused.
 - Keep your screen and phone on mute when you aren't speaking
 - Enjoy the Process! Remember, we are all growing
 - Other Group Agreements? (from the GA attendees)
- 3:35** **Sharing Hopes & Expectation – 15 minutes**
- Our Hopes and Expectations for a Successful GA/ Solicitations from GA Attendees (Facilitator: Cynthia Bernardez)
- 4:10 pm** **BREAK**

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- 4:15 pm** **VIDEO: The Third Opinion: Why Jews Value Dissent** by Rabbi Angela Buchdahl
(Introduction by: Deborah Sullivan)
- 4:45** **PANEL DISCUSSION:** *What does Democracy look like for women today? How do we support each other?*
- Reflections on the Video Presentation and its Value to the future work of the Grail (Moderator: Carol Skyrn)
 - **Panelists:** Judith Brown Leigh, Mary Farrell, Nancy Richardson
- 5:30** **BREAK**
- 5:40** **CEREMONY of Induction of NEW Grail Members (Facilitator: Carol Siemering)**
Explorer and Mentor:
- Veronica Guajan Sanchez / Carol Siemering
Elena Rojas Martinez / Mary Kay Louchart
Mary Fordham / Sharon Joslyn
Doreen O’Sullivan / Mpanda Kalala
Lynn Boyle / Viana Muller
Rachel Hershberger / Terri Carter
- 6:40** **Reflections of the Day** (elmira & Rachel)
- 6:50 pm** **Closing Prayer** (Mpanda Kalala)

DAY 2 – NOVEMBER 12, FRI: *A Day of Learning*

- 11:30 am EST** **Zoom Opens** for informal gathering and sharing
Today's Facilitators: Judith De Four Howard and Mary Fordham
- 12:00 pm** **Welcome and Review of Group Agreements**
- Review of Day 1 and Overview of the Intent of Day 2
(Facilitator: Judith DeFour Howard, Grail Council Member)
- 12:10** **SOUL MOMENT and lighting of our candles** (Facilitator: Sharon Thomson)
- Opening Activity:** Large Group Activity that brings us together
- 12:40** Share one of your best memories as a Grail member (in alphabetical order by first name). No more than 1.5 minutes per person for 60 minutes.
Lynne Boyle, New Grail Member
- 1:45** **Introduction and Presentation of Speaker** – Fran Frazier
Keynote Speaker: Martha McCoy, President of the Paul J Aicher Foundation
“The Challenges and Hopes of Becoming An Anti-Racist Organization”
- 2:15** **Reactions to Presentation : *What are lessons for the Grail?***
- Carol Barton, Mary Kay Louchart, Mpanda Kalala
- Q and A Session** (Facilitator: Fran Frazier)
- 2:45** **BREAK**
- 3:15** **Introduction of Grail Issues and Concerns (Part One)**
- **Climate & Environmental Justice** – Cheron (Cherie) Holman
 - **Catalyst Fund** – Ann Heidkamp
- 15 minutes overview of each issue identified by the GA Planning Committee to be discussed/presented
- 3:45** **World Café - A Round of Breakout Discussions (on presentations above):**
- **1st Round:** Attendees can engage in both conversations, each is 30 minutes
 - **Reflection:** *What Am I Learning That I Didn't Know? What else do I need to know?*
 - Each topic will be facilitated by member of that specific committee
- 4:45** **Summarizing:** *What are the major issues from our discussion so far? How will we work together on these issues and concerns?* (Facilitator: Rosa Maria Ruiz)
- Review of the day** including the sharing of major points of view from the Speaker and the identification of issues and concerns from the World Café Activity.
- 5:45** (Facilitators: Judith DeFour Howard and Mary Fordham)
- 5:55** **Closing Prayer** (Terry Marshall)

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6:00 pm **BREAK**

6:30 – 7:15 pm **Sister Circles – Optional Activity – During Dinner break**

Sister Circle: What Personal Changes Do I Need to Make to Support the Grail
Becoming an Anti-Racist Organization (Facilitator: Nancy Richardson)

Sister Circle: Mission of the Grail: Finding the Holy in Me and My Walk in the Grail
(Facilitator: Sharon Thomson and Judith Brown Leigh)

Sister Circle: The History and Songs of the Grail (Facilitator: Mary Kay Louchart)

Other Possible Sister Circles:

DAY 3 – NOVEMBER 13, SAT: *A Day of Learning and Healing*

- 11:30 am EST** **Zoom Opens** Opening of Assembly for gathering, talking and sharing.
Today’s Facilitators: Laura Kaplan and Veronica Guajan Sanchez
- 12:00** **Welcome & Review of Group Agreements, Day Two review & Intent of Day 3**
Laura Kaplan, Grail Council Member
- 12:10** **SOUL MOMENT and lighting of our candles** (Facilitator: Mpanda Kalala)
- 12:40** **Opening Activity:** Large Group Activity that brings us together
Share one of your best memories as a Grail member (in alphabetical order by first name). No more than 3 minutes per person for 60 minutes.
Veronica Guajan Sanchez, New Grail Member
- 1:40** **Presentations on Grail Issues and Concerns (Part Two)**
- **Revisioning the Grail** – Elizabeth (Beth) Murphy
 - **Anti-Racism** – Carol Barton and Mpanda Kalala
 - **Sustainability** – Mary Lu Lageman
- 2:25** **World Café - A Round of Breakout Discussions (on presentations above):**
Breakout Groups 3 Conversations, each conversation is 30 minutes. Each topic will be facilitated by a member of that specific committee
Reflection: *What Am I Learning That I Didn’t Know? What else do I need to know?*
- 3:55** **BREAK**
- 4:05** **Stories from the field: Grail member activities on Social Justice and Community Assistance**
- Theresa Dardar, Pointe au Chien Indian Tribe, Pointe-aux-chenes, Louisiana
 - Veronica Goei, Grail Family Services Center, San Jose, California
 - Carol Skyrn, Poor Peoples Campaign, NYC
 - Montse Frego, Aqua Caliente, Mexico
- Reflection:** *What Am I Learning That I Didn’t Know? What else do I need to know?*
- 5:35** **Summarizing:** *What are the major issues from our discussions so far? How will work together on these issues and concerns?* (Facilitators: Sharon Wood & Tina Kalala)
- 6:35 pm** **BREAK**

- 6:40 pm** **Sharing from Grail Administrative Groups:**
- Membership - Carol Siemering
 - National Office - Terry Puckett
 - Finance – Carol Skyrms
 - Health and Welfare/Elder Care - Martha Heidkamp/Maureen Tate
 - Cemetery Committee - Terry Marshall
 - Archive Committee - Terry Marshall
- 7:25** **Review of the Day:** (Facilitators: Rachel Hershberger and Cynthia Bernardez)
Discussions and focus of the report outs from the learnings
- 7:35** **Closing Prayer** (Mary Gene Devlin)
- 7:40 – 8:10** **DINNER BREAK**
- 8:10** **Sister Circles – Optional Activity**
- 8:15 pm** **Sister Circle:** *What Personal Changes Do I Need to Make to Support the Grail in Becoming an Anti-Racist Organization?*
(Facilitator: Carol Skyrms)
- Sister Circle:** *Mission of the Grail: Finding the Holy in Me & My Walk in the Grail*
(Facilitators: Sharon Thomson and Judith Brown-Leigh)
- Sister Circle:** *Sharing Grail Stories of the Past with New Grail Members and New Members of Council: An Intergenerational Conversation*
(Facilitators: Sharon Joslyn, Sally Timmel, Trina Paulus, Elmira Nazombe)

DAY 4 – NOVEMBER 14, SUN: *Celebrating Our Common Ground*

- 11:30 am EST** **Zoom Opens** for informal gathering and sharing
Today's Facilitators: Terry Marshall and Nicky Westrick
- 12:00 pm** **Welcome , acknowledgements, review of group agreement, review of Days 2 & 3, intent of Day 4** (Facilitator: Terry Marshall)
- 12:10** **SOUL MOMENT and lighting of our candles** (Judith Brown Leigh)
- 12:40** Opening Activity: Large Group Activity that brings us together
Share one of your best memories as a Grail member(in alphabetical order by first name). No more than 3 minutes per person for 60 minutes.
Doreen O'Sullivan, New Grail Member
- 1:40** **Breakout Group Activity:** Prioritization and Discussion on Issues and Concerns to offer Recommendations and Next Steps for Consideration
- 2:40** **BREAK**
- 2:50** Prioritization and Discussion on Issues and Concerns to offer Recommendations and Next Steps for Consideration
Breakout groups to return for report out
(Facilitators: Thanh Nguyen and Deborah Sullivan, Grail Council Members)
- 3:50** *Review of prioritized issues; What else needs to be talked about?* (Facilitators: Thanh Nguyen and Deborah Sullivan, Grail Council Members)
- 4:35** **Closing Remarks** from elmira & Rachel
- 4:55 pm** **Closing Ritual**
- Healing Ceremony
(Facilitators: Mpanda Kalala and elmira Nazombe)
 - Commitment ritual to the Grail
 - They will know I am a Grail woman by my...
(Facilitators: Judith Brown Leigh, Sharon Thomson, & Fran Frazier)
 - Touching Common Ground Video