

*Question One: What changes have we seen over the years? What things have remained the same? What now challenges us?*

*(Founding Members)-We met twice a month in a ROMAN CATHOLIC Church. We had Roman Catholic priest who ministered "to us". We had potluck socials, retreat and Spiritual Direction. We were active and belonged to a "REGIONAL" part of Dignity USA. We felt our SUNDAY obligations were being met. There were NUNS and PRIEST worshipping with us and also had active roles in leadership. It was more of a "PARISH" that was created just for us. Many attendees were still not OUT. It was very well attended and we knew that a "Roman Catholic Priest" would always be the presider. We were very traditional in our CATHOLICISM.*

*Some of us still attended our local parishes with our extended families.*

*(Present Community)- We meet in an Episcopal Church. We have "ordained" priest from CITIMINSTRIES as well as Retired "Roman Catholic Priest". We are much more progressive in accepting Priest who are called to minister" with us " and not "to us". We are involved in many charitable groups and have allies from other faiths attending our "Eucharistic Celebrations". We are a community now. The group is one third the size of the original group. We have people from all walks of life. We have more transgendered Christians attending our services than other faith communities in Pittsburgh. We are VIABLE and is needed in Pittsburgh. Our community is our "MAIN SPIRITUAL MEETING PLACE". We also meet on Thursday for a community game night.*

*Question Two: Are we still relevant in the wider church/social community? What are the opportunities for moving ahead?*

*(Founding Members)--No comment.*

*(Present Community)--We are definitely needed for the "FAITH LIFE" of our members. We engage all wherever they are in their spiritual journey. We help members who don't have family support. We have been extremely supportive of the transgendered community. We are truly a community --a family. We are there when members are sick and need help , prayers and other needs.*

*Question Three: How is the "engine" running, in terms of inspiring passion, involvement and change, all in service to our mission?*

*(Founding Members)--There are occasional times we "SPOT VISIT". We are happy that Dignity was there for us. We will do all we can financially to help sustain Dignity Pittsburgh 's existence.*

*We offer our prayers and thank GOD for the present leadership that they are still able to be involved.*

*(Present Community) We always wonder and question if our progressiveness scare some newcomers. We always wonder why people might not come back after their first visit. We have to believe that the Spirit is in charge and we have to let Her orchestrate. We love the "FLUIDITY" on letting the Sprit guide us. Our community meeting are not "parliament". We do get business accomplished.*

*Question Four: What clues might the Spirit be giving us?*

*(Founding Members)--No comment.*

*(Present Community)--We are needed. We are the place where all are welcome. We have new people come and we have been there for many when others were not there. The freedom to be ourselves is engaging. We belong to a community. "There are others concerned for my well being, There is a place for me to have an active role in ministry."*

*+++++ END*

*This time I (Patrick), had to speak to the older members (at their homes) and the new members separately. We will not have our annual picnic until July 28, 2018. The two groups still have different interest and are at a different place in their spiritual journey. (Some still are traditional in their acceptance of "WHAT" a presider have to be.)*

*I am overjoyed that my life intertwined with both groups. The unique experience has help me as a person become "SENSITIVE" in accepting people in "THE NOW". I have become so saturated in diversity that I'm convinced the "SPIRIT" has HER hand in everything I do. Thanks for allowing me to be a "ADVOCATE" in the Jubilee Celebration.*