**October Report to Chapter – Five-year Work Plan Group**

Dear Brothers and Sisters

In July, a work group of 14 members, both vowed and oblate and in multiple stages of formation, was formed to prepare a 5-year plan that would be aligned with our charism (our vision and mission) and designed to prepare the CSL for the future. The group met over the past two months, identified four core areas or topics to focus upon, and developed a set of preliminary objectives for each core area. All members of the CSL were asked to rate the objectives to determine how important or critical each proposed objective is for each brother and sister. The work group is pleased to report that the overall response was very good and we thank you for your participation.

The work group has been sub-divided into four groups with each sub-group focusing on one core area. The preliminary objectives and their relative priorities will serve as the starting point for the sub-groups to develop an action plan to implement the objectives. It is critical that the members of the CSL participate in the design and development process. Many brothers and sisters will be contacted over the next six months by the sub-groups for your thoughts, ideas, and concerns. However, all members are welcomed and encouraged to offer ideas/suggestions at any time by email to Abbot David or Sr. Julian. During the Easter season next year, the full work group will finalize a proposed five-year plan. Next, the proposal will be presented to council for review and then to Chapter in late May or early June for final approval.

After Chapter approval, monitoring and oversight by the Council of the implementation of the plan will ensure it remains a viable expression of our community as we continue to live by the Way of Christ and the Rule of St. Benedict.

If you have other questions about the planning effort, please feel free to write to either of us as well

Respectfully submitted by Abbot David on behalf of the 5-year plan work group

Abbot David, Sr. Julian, Sr. Martha, Br. James Rafael, Br. John David, Sr. Toni, Br. Raymond, Sr. Mary Magdalene, Sr. Anna Grace, Br. Steven Joseph, Br.  Chrysostom, Sr. Margaret Mary, Br. Gregory, Sr. Petra