**What is Discernment?**

* The intentional practice by which a community or an individual seeks, recognizes, and intentionally takes part in the activity of God in concrete situations
* Enhancing one’s participation in the work of God for the glory of God and the healing of the world

***Our decisions and our search for guidance take place in the active presence of a God who intimately cares about our life situations and who invites us to participate in the divine activities of healing and transformation.***

**Biblical Discernment**

* Jeremiah 28
* Acts 15
* 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22
* 1 John 4:1-6

**How do we discern?**

* Fidelity to Scripture (Psalm 119:105; Galatians 1:6-9)
* Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 13)
* Peace (Isaiah 26:3)
* Communal harmony (John 17; Acts 4:32-37)
* Enhancement rather than the extinction of life (Genesis 2:15-25; Psalm 24)
* Integrity (John 4:23-24)

***Discernment is for action!***

**Homework: read and/or listen to Romans 16 considering the practice of shaping communities.**