



Creative CORNER

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IFA2023

On the road to the Assembly 2023

Over the coming months, try out some of these ideas in your community: It is exciting to encounter and learn from each other. Please do take videos and pics and upload them to the Facebook members page: bit.ly/larche_members Let's share our experience!



We can use an object, words, photos, drawings, as symbols to help us prepare ourselves. We can find symbols in nature and learn more about ourselves through it.

“Nature is really important. Sometimes we forget about how important nature really is to us.”

Mary Hillhouse

“Nature has a lot to teach us.”

Gregory Lannan

Bees pollinating the plants while working hard to make honey for the hive, the **bear** preparing to hibernate, the moon shifting the tides, a bird gathering to build a **nest** for their young. The **Bowerbird** (Australia, Papua New Guinea) will even decorate their bower spaces with colourful objects it has found to draw others into relationship.



Part 1 Choose a space

- Find a space a shelf, a corner, mantle, nook, that can be designated for the Federation Assembly (this space may change over time).

Part 2 Dream

- Give space to dream about what could be there, listen to other ideas, hopes, dreams.
- Draw or show how you think the preparation space could look.

Part 3 Wait

- Allow it to be an empty space. Let the space sit. Let it breathe, let it just be, holding its potential. (5 mins, 1 Day, A Week, Longer? How long to wait depends on those involved.)

Part 4 Choose

- Choose one symbol to add to the space to represent how you are feeling now.

Journey TOGETHER **Part 5**

Since the last newsletter, we had an opportunity to meet with delegates from around the Federation. Expanding the maps we carry by having more names, faces, shared smiles and laughter.

Images like Kouka's artwork from almost 10 years ago (L'Arche's 50th anniversary art exhibition) have the ability to linger in our minds, and can remind us of those people we have met and all those who we are yet to encounter.

"This is a view of humanity that holds diversity in unity." Excerpt from Jacquie Boughner's reflection on Kouka's art.



'Untitled',
Rouamba Kouka Gildas (Kouka) pen on paper, 2013.

This is something we can continue to learn and will surely be present as we gather for the Federation Assembly. Diversity in Unity.

For more of the 50th Art Exhibit art.larche.org



Sharing TOGETHER **Part 6**

A few years ago, as a part of Words of the World, Kouka from the L'Arche community in Burkina Faso shared with us some more of his art. On the website his portrait holds the space for Speaking about ONE'S COUNTRY.

Think, take a picture, draw, and or discuss what is important for you.

How would you show or introduce where you are from? bit.ly/kouka_EN



Kouka: I draw.

Anne: Would you like to tell us a bit about your drawings here? Explain a bit about what you wanted to do?

Kouka: I drew (L'Arche) Aigrefoin... Apartment blocks... Dogs heads... Trosly... There are a lot.

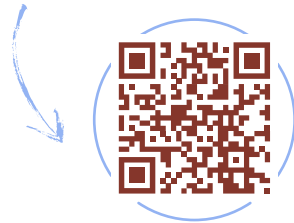
Anne: And these drawings, they are architectural drawings of places that you have visited?

Kouka: Yes. I started... Drew... It's finished.

Going DEEPER Part 7

bit.ly/larche_map_EN

bit.ly/wordsoftheworld_EN



Find a L'Arche community

Search for a community by keyword

- Region
- Africa
 - America
 - Asia
 - Europe

- Argentina
- Australia
- Bangladesh
- Belgium

Communities

- L'Arche Siedziejowice
[Visit website >](#)
- L'Arche Kapiti
[Visit website >](#)



Alone, in a pair or group:

- Choose a colour, shape, sticker, marker, pin that works for you and add the locations of people who are important for you.
- Take time to mark who and where, you can pray for them if that is your way, and or name why you chose them.

On your world map:

- Add something to represent your communities' delegates.
- Pick another L'Arche community who you know or would like to get to know and add them to your map and make a note why you chose them.
- Again, take time to mark who and where, as we all get ready in this time of preparation.

We can Explore our networks.

Want to find/ learn more about another community?

Or

Through **Words of the World**
Click the links above

Reflect and share:

What stood out for you?

What did you notice?

ACCESSIBILITY

Across the Federation, L'Arche communities are working hard to improve accessibility, so that each member can take play their full part in society.

Together we face this challenge, learning what works, and what doesn't. For the Federation Assembly, we would love each member of L'Arche to access the tools and activities that we are making. But we also recognise the daily struggles communities have, in accessing the resources. It is also true that these formats also have limits.

So... be creative!

We warmly encourage you to be daring in finding solutions that work for your community members. So **do please upload your ideas to the IFA website** so that we can all continue to learn from each other. Thanks!