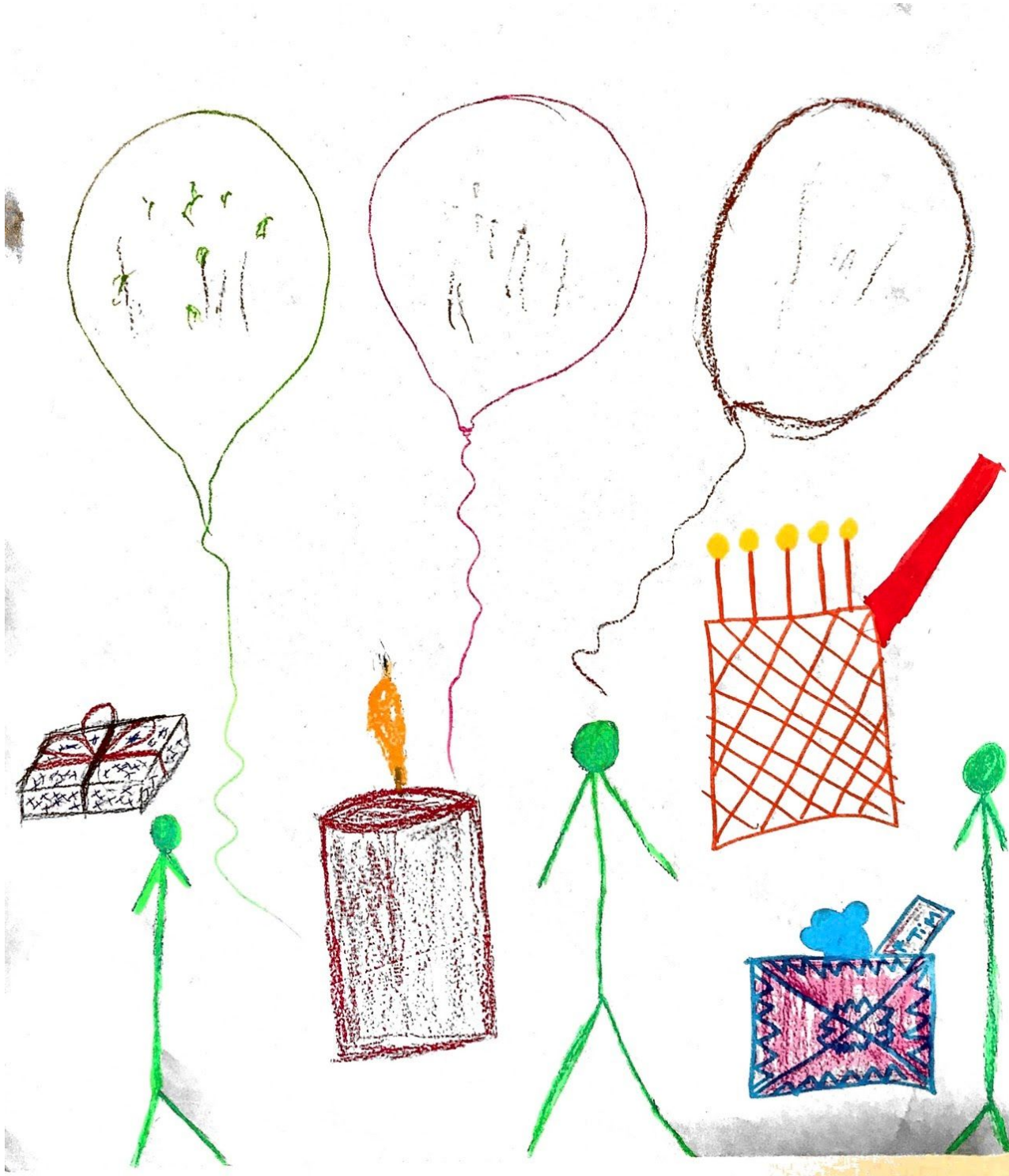


# Past

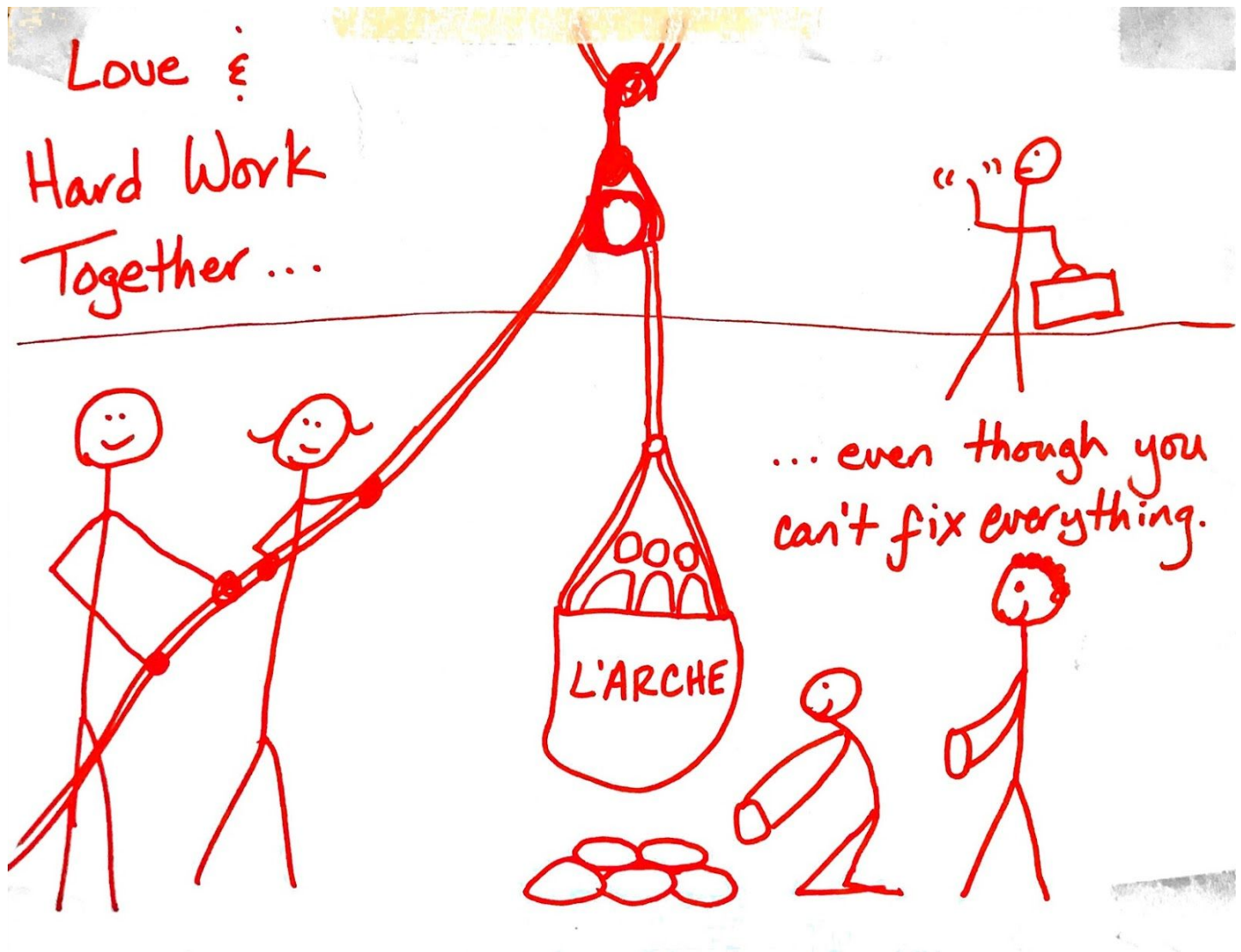
## “Celebration as Revolution/Revelation”

We have good and hard experiences in relationship. This impacts how we see and engage with others. We emphasize times of celebration. Celebration pulls us to see the good, it draws our focus to the ‘best’ in one another. We aren’t always our best selves and that’s ok. L’Arche is a place of freedom and joy that the world doesn’t always encounter, hence... revolution and revelation of the gift in others.



## “Love and Hard Work Together”

Sometimes, people in community ‘go their way and I go mine,’ and that’s ok. We’ve made peace with that. Sometimes it works out. Sometimes it’s not meant to be. We’ve worked hard over the years to create our home... the physical space of it too... with renovating and stuff. This is all hard work and love. And this hard work is from countless people over the years. You can’t fix everything and we can keep working together.





## “Meeting Needs”



Johnny uses his need for creativity to support the needs of others by selling his artwork and donating the proceeds. Sometimes our needs support us in meeting the needs of others. It takes time to learn our needs and the needs of others around us. In this example, it took time for Johnny to build partnerships with local churches and discover that his church now, St. Matt's, could use the money he makes from selling his artwork to support people who are homeless. There's frustration too in not having needs met or not meeting others' needs.



## “Tapestry of Interconnectedness”

Together, from our local communities to around the world, we are creating a beautiful tapestry of interconnectedness... we are bringing people into the fold and being brought into the fold of others... from Musa’s trip to Paris to Hazel’s journey to New Orleans... we meet people along the way and connect one another to each other.



## “Connected Stories (Opening us to change)”

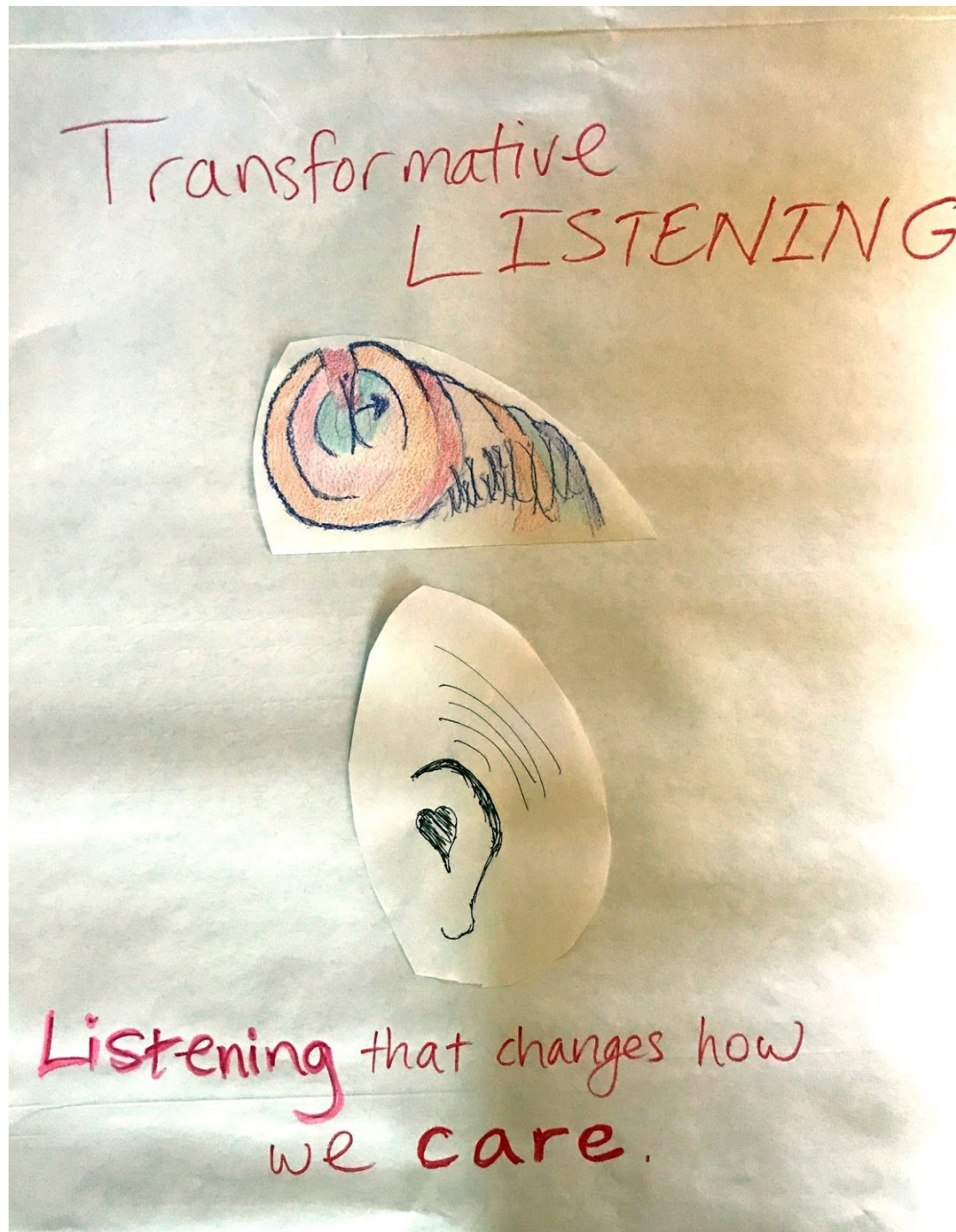
In getting to share our stories, whether ones we’ve personally experienced or collective experiences, we realize how connected we are and we continue growing our connection to one another. These stories we share in our communities then become part of our own story... they become part of ourselves. Like sand, they are molded by time and personality. They invite us to be open to change.





## “Transformative Listening”

The way we listen impacts the way we care. Part of our community’s past (and present and hopefully future) is always having people present and listening. When Bruce (a core family member) moved into L’Arche 6th Street house, his mom (who Bruce is very close with and whom he had lived with all his life) told L’Arche assistants at that time that Bruce “needs to have his toast in the morning!” and it became part of the routine notes because Bruce and Mrs. Weaver named it as important and were listened to. Bruce asks assistants every day how they’re doing and listens deeply to their response. He accompanies them. These are examples of listening that changes the way we care.



# Present

## “Encounter Connection”

It's life giving to create community outside of our own community. Michael created community at McDonald's over years. Now everyone knows him there, including people on the walk there and back from the house. Hazel has become friends with Jack at church over the years... he brings her beer and bracelets from Guatemala because he knows she loves those things. It's also hard to be stared at when we're at these places too... people presuming things. So the invitation for folks is that they may encounter us and encounter connection.

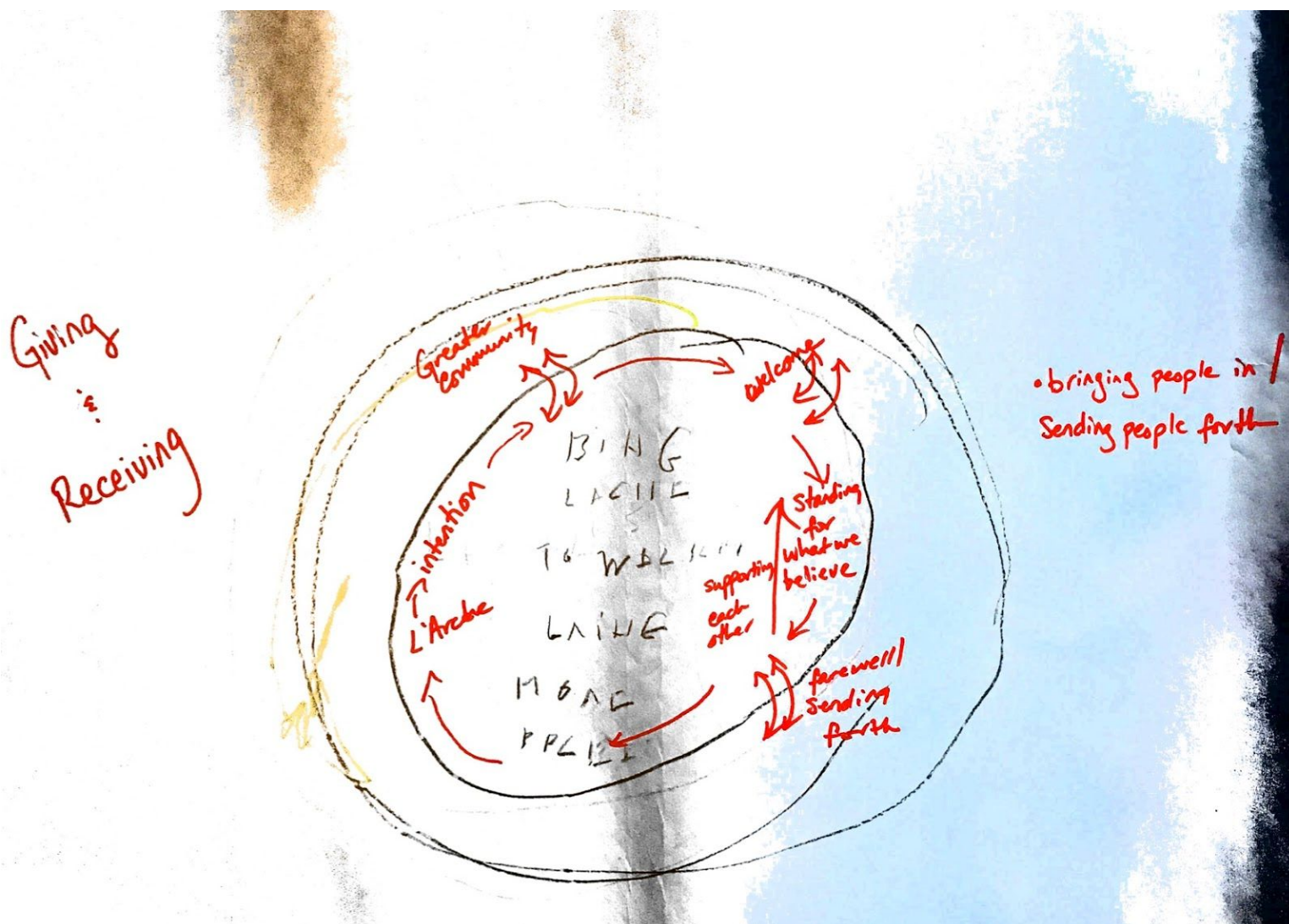




## “Giving & Receiving”

We shop together. We come to dinner together and celebrate. We bring people in and send people forth. Some people go together and some people stay the same way. Building relationships with people outside community is important. Going to my McDonalds makes me feel like myself and being in my own room. We take turns cooking and going to the grocery store. We can take what L'Arche instills in us with us everywhere.

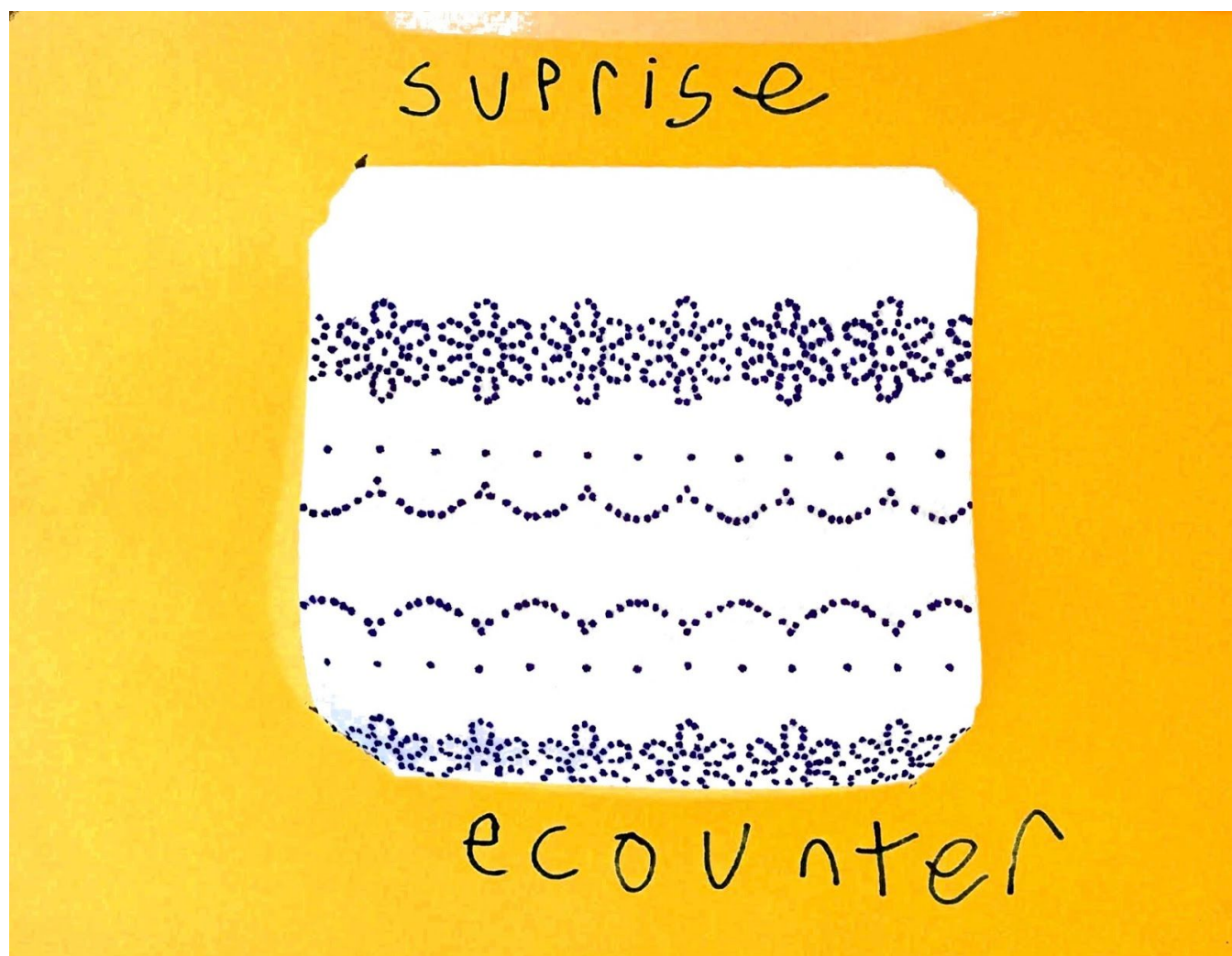
On my 1st day in L'Arche, I was on a tour of the home and the person giving the tour showed me where Mike's (a core member) room was and said, “this room belongs to Mike and he hires strong women.” I got to accompany Mike as his one-on-one named accompanier for 2 years. This was a blessing and a calling forth of what we see in each other. I can identify as a strong woman now.





## “Surprise Encounters”

People can be surprised with their encounters with us, we are surprised by others opening to new relationship, drawing us out of our isolation.



## “Come Be Change(d)”

You can come to L'Arche to “Be Change.” You will also, “Be Changed.” In welcoming others, we change.

come . be  
Change(d)

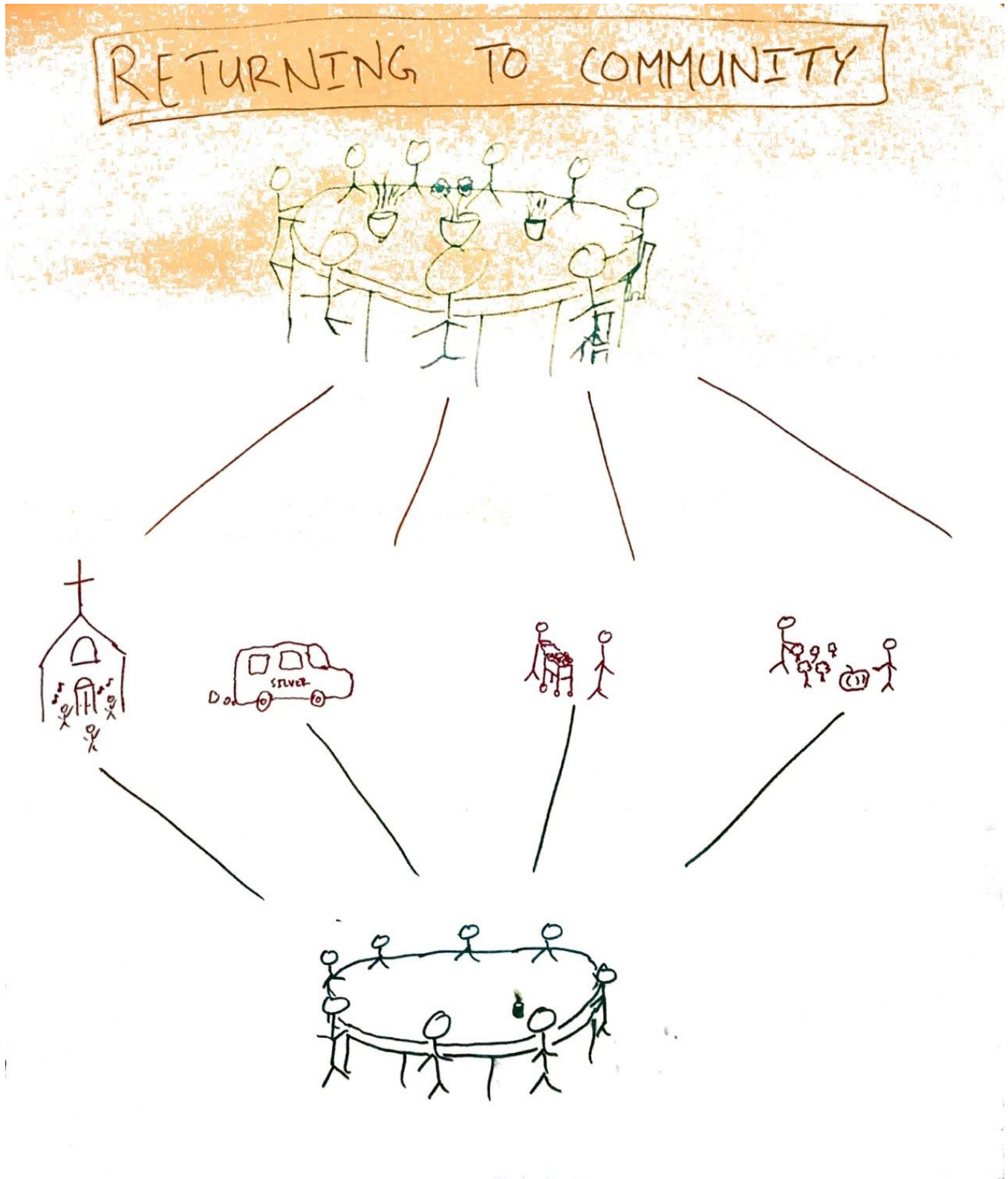


when  
on in welcoming  
others, we  
Change



## “Returning to Community”

Starting the day together, going out to do the things we love (and don't love), encountering others, coming back to the table to share, laugh, and welcome.



# Letting Go

Getting into community, like getting into a pool, can come with some hesitation (or you might be the dive head-first type). It can be scary either way. Once we let ourselves go and entrust ourselves to this community... this water... we find that we are held by relationship and the intangible space and spirit of community.

Letting Go



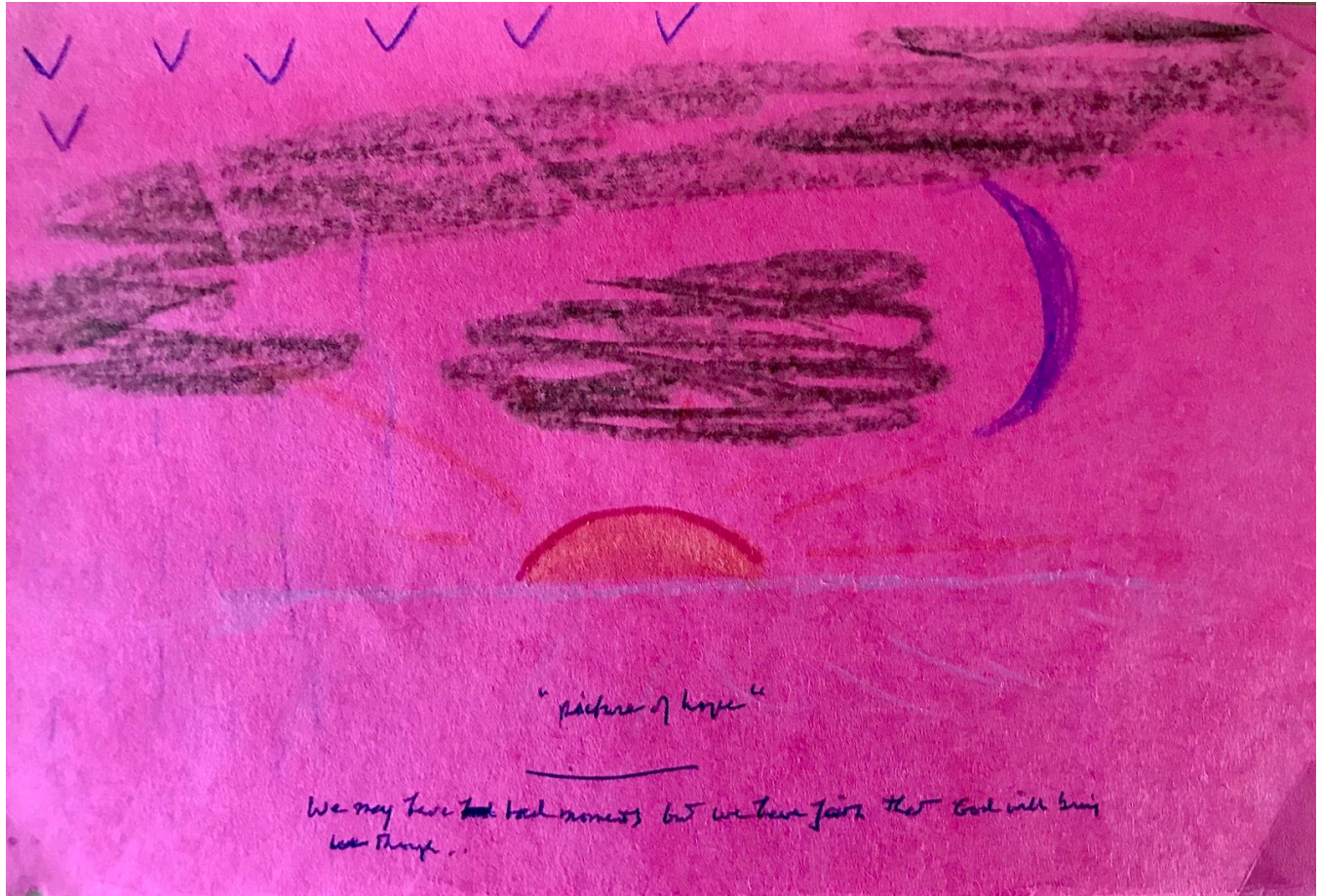
Getting into community, there can be hesitation—it's scary sometimes. But once you get in, the relationships and intangible space of community, like water, holds you.



# Future

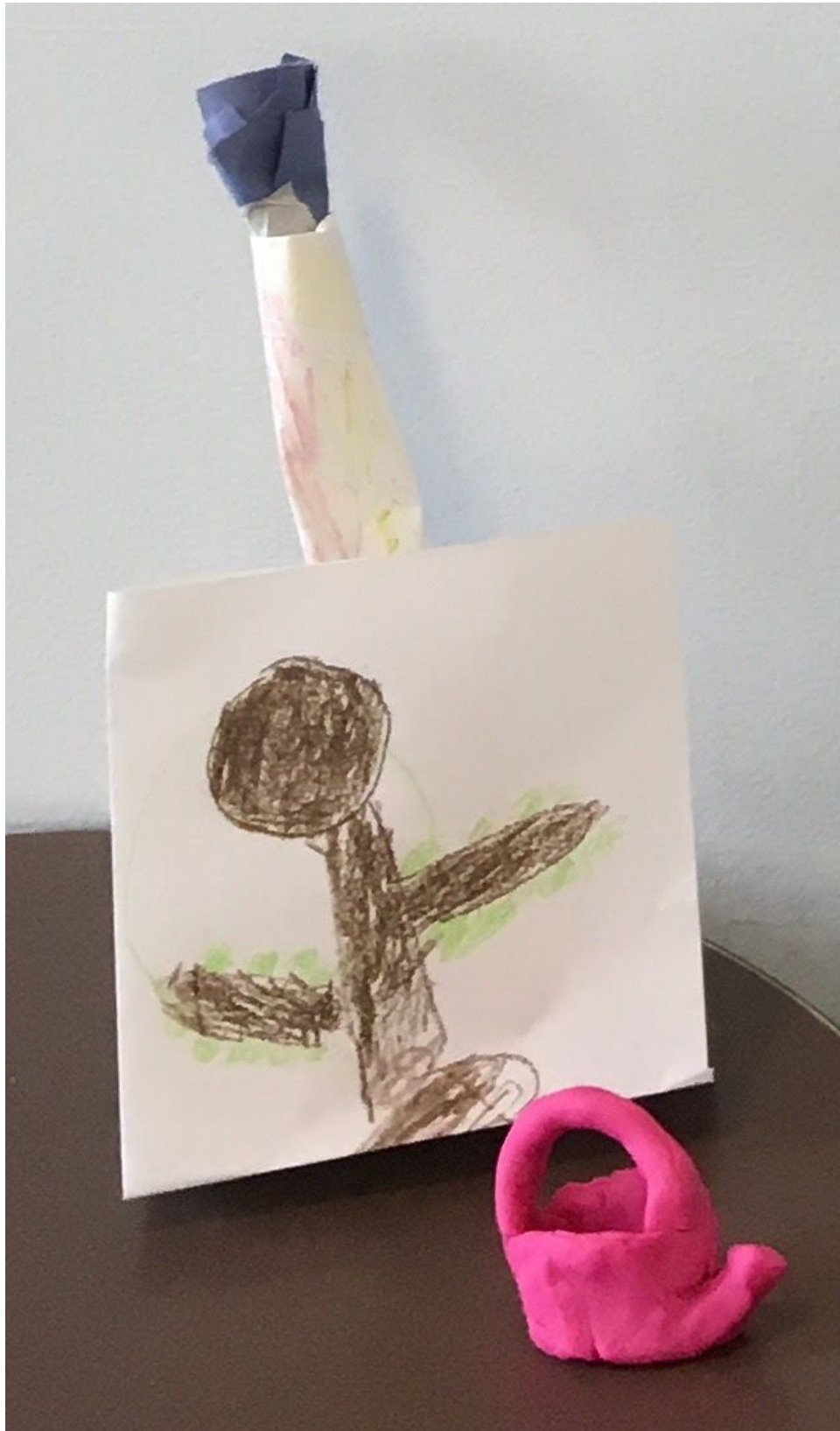
## “Find A Way”

We may have bad moments but we have faith that God will bring us through. We can accept new ideas and talents, things we don't yet have answers to, and space to make mistakes.



## “Being Known and Growth”

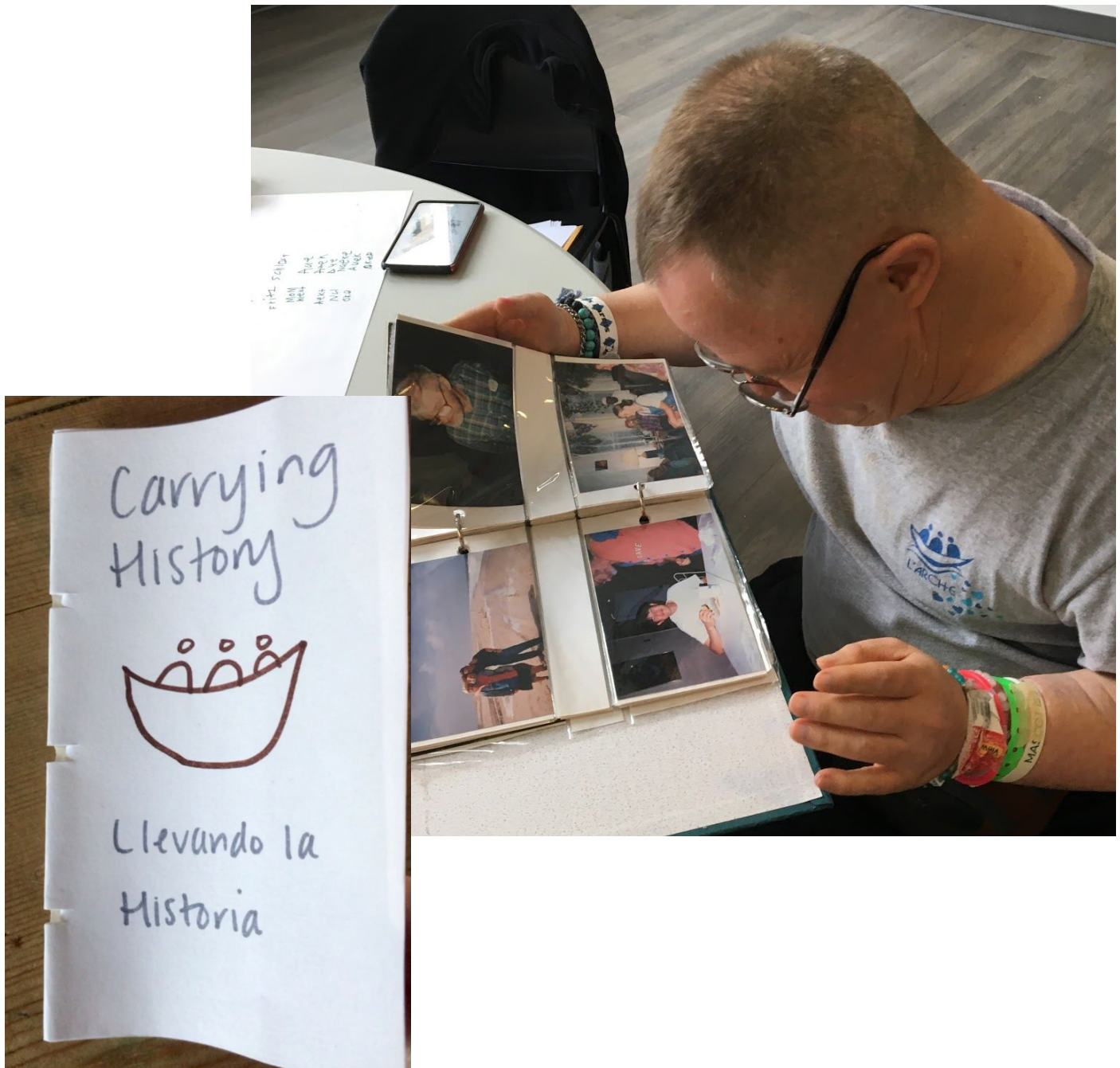
Feeling known brings us energy for the future and leads to growth, personal and communal. Bringing more people in, going deeper in relationships, and starting more communities. Together, we're good creators.





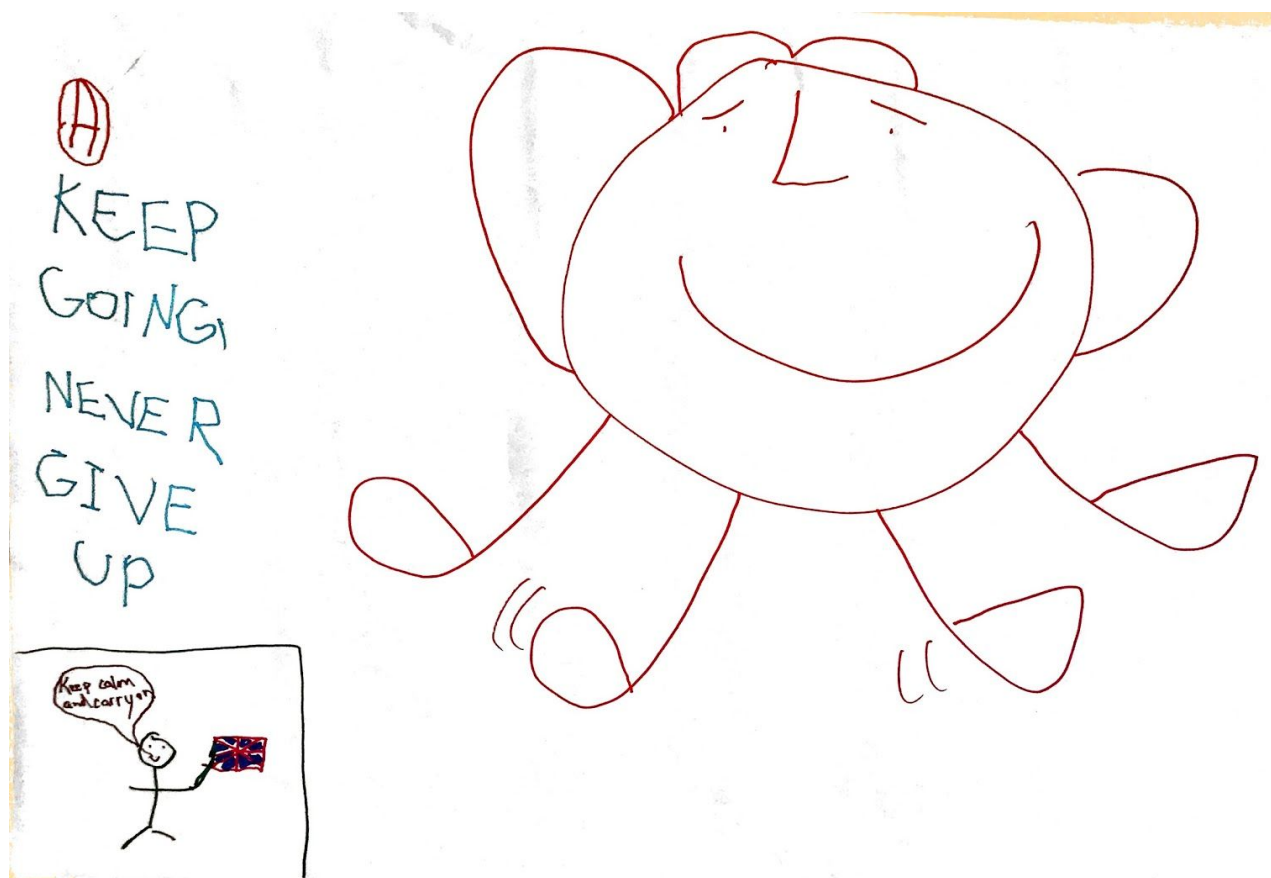
## “LLevando la Historia, Carrying History”

There are so many new things all the time... new core members, new projects, new gatherings, new welcomes, new farewells, new assistants, new roles, new sickness, new deaths... sharing our stories is important. Remembering our history and bringing it into our future, is important.



# "Keep Going Never Give Up"

Keep calm and carry on. Do the work. You won't be the only one.





## “Making Space for People”

*Screenshot from video of our orchestra, including trumpet, cello, drums, and conductors*



We are waking up to our need for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The charter process is modeling that. We as a community are trying to be aware of power and privilege at work; and recognizing our own authority and influence. This makes us more open to healing. We cannot cling to one vision... we must hold our vision lightly so we can respond to surprises. Like an orchestra that makes space for each instrument while creating one masterpiece, we are asked to call out each of our gifts in turn, while playing together.

## “Playing Together”

We value playing together because truly playing requires everyone being fully engaged... everyone losing themselves in the intensity of the moment. Everyone must do their part if play is to happen. Best of all, play is fun, and it reminds us of what rest and freedom taste like.



*Screenshot from video acting out bowling with Bruce as “the Bowler”*