



## Innovation Labs Proposal

Developed by John Roberto, LifelongFaith Associates

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LifelongFaith Associates is committed to fostering innovation in lifelong faith formation. We are producing books to advance the theory and practice of faith formation. We are sponsoring annual Symposium “think tanks” to explore elements of lifelong faith formation—intergenerational, adult, and family (children and youth are the 2017 focus). We are making available resources online through our websites to assist leaders in developing lifelong faith formation.

Now, we are launching a new project to foster innovation. We’re calling it **Innovation Labs**—an interactive, collaborative learning and design experience to create new projects in faith formation. Our first four labs will focus on:

1. *Adult Faith Formation*
2. *Family Faith Formation*
3. *Intergenerational Faith Formation*
4. *Digitally Enabled and Connected Faith Formation for All Ages*

The goal of an **Innovation Lab** is to design and implement a new initiative that has the potential of being transformative for your faith community. Each lab will have one or two facilitators who will guide the design process, make short presentations, and connect you with the resources. It will be important that each congregation have at least two leaders participating in the Lab.

Each **Innovation Lab** will include these components:

1. A *one-day design workshop* (9am-5pm) for leadership teams from churches, led by one or two facilitators from LifelongFaith Associates.
2. *Online support and networking* using the *Slack* digital platform for communicating with each other, sharing projects, and accessing resources and tools (<https://slack.com>).
3. A *project launch webinar* to prepare leadership teams for implementing their innovation.
4. A *project evaluation webinar* to share the impact of the project.

# Sponsorship

A regional church organization (diocese, synod, presbytery, etc.) can sponsor an Innovation Lab. This involves:

1. Selecting one of the four Innovation Labs to sponsor: Adult, Family, Intergeneration, or Digital
2. Working with LifelongFaith Associates to set the date
3. Finding a central site for the workshop that has good adult meeting space and strong WiFi in the meeting room
4. Managing promotion, registration, and finances

LifelongFaith Associates provides the following services:

1. One or two facilitators for the one-day design workshop
2. Online support and networking of church teams
3. Hosting and facilitating the project launch webinar
4. Hosting and facilitating the project evaluation webinar
5. Provide online resources for church teams as they design their projects

The fee for sponsoring an Innovation Lab is \$2000 (which covers all of the services outlined above). Travel and housing for the one or two facilitators is additional.

Each participant on a church team will need to purchase one book on the theme of the Lab (\$15) and pay for lunch at the workshop.

If a sponsor would like to conduct two Innovation Labs on two topics, scheduled on successive days, the additional cost would be \$1000, plus one additional night of housing for the facilitators. Each Innovation Lab will have all of the services outlined above.

For questions and more information, please contact John Roberto at [jroberto@lifelongfaith.com](mailto:jroberto@lifelongfaith.com) or 203-729-2953.