

Webinar

Hybrid Faith Formation

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LIFELONG FAITH
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Creating Lifelong Faith Formation for Today's World

Imagine

Imagining a new vision of forming faithful disciples in today's world

Innovate

Designing innovative faith formation for all ages, families, and generations

Inspire

Inspiring people to grow into a faith for a lifetime

Welcome to Lifelong Faith



The resources and services of Lifelong Faith Associates are focused on helping pastors and faith formation leaders to create the future of lifelong faith formation in their churches by **Imagining, Innovating, and Inspiring.**

- Imagine:** imagining a new vision of forming faithful disciples in today's world
- Innovate:** Designing innovative faith formation for all ages, families, and generations
- Inspire:** Inspiring people to grow into a faith for a lifetime

I hope you find the resources helpful to your ministry!
John Roberto



What Are We Learning

- **We are focusing on our people**—their needs, struggles, life issues, and more. We are becoming more person-centered.
- **We are expanding our vision** of where church and faith formation happens. We've moved from a church-building mindset to a multi-space approach where faith forming happens at home, in online spaces, in small groups, in mentoring relationships, in independent learning, in the world.



What Are We Learning

- **We are using new approaches** (and tools, methods, and media)—many of which have been available to us for a decade—that the pandemic has motivated (forced?) us to use as integral to faith formation.
- **We are offering faith formation in synchronous** (real time) and **asynchronous** (on your own time) formats with Online and Hybrid approaches—thereby expanding the opportunities for people to engage in faith forming experiences.



What Are We Learning

- **We are making faith formation mobile**—bringing faith formation to where people live using the new digital tools, methods, and media. We are creating playlists of faith forming content for all ages.
- **We are using traditional tools in new digital ways.**
- **We are using social media platforms for connection and sharing.** We are connecting and communicating with people of all ages, sharing and discussing faith and spirituality, engaging people to share what they are learning and how they are practicing their faith through videos, images, stories, and more.



*How do we create
a church and
faith formation
that is...*

Adaptive
Responsive
Resilient
Flexible
Inclusive

A Time to
Reinvent
Reimagine
Innovate

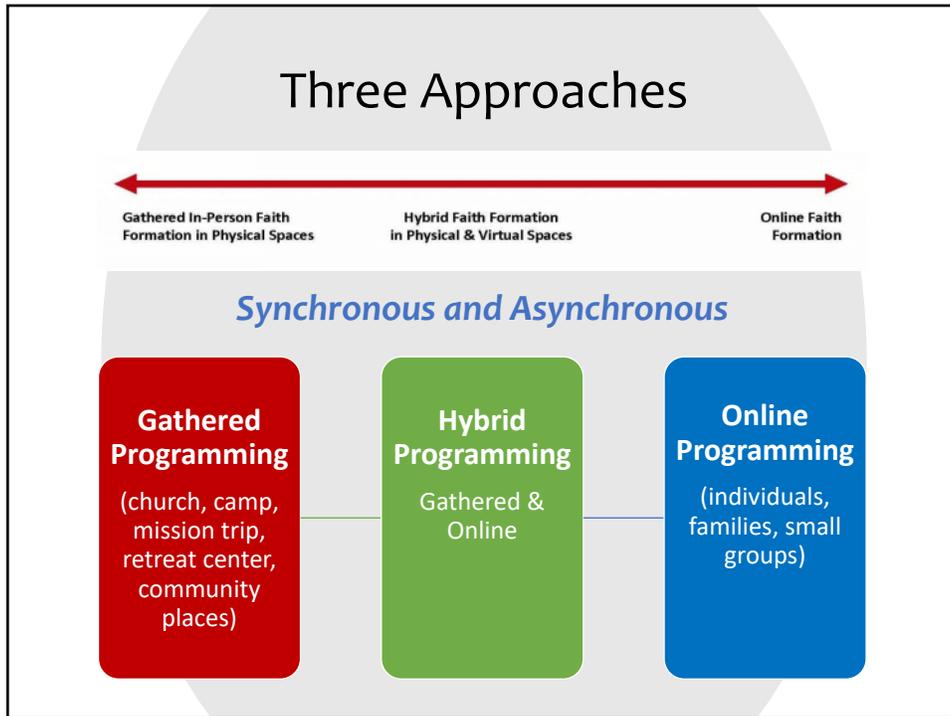


Hybridity

Recognizing online actions as meaning-filled helps Christian communities to consider our current online and in-person reality in terms of its hybridity, rather than in terms of digital dualism (think of online as virtual and in person as real). “Hybridity,” describes “the coming together of online and offline, media and matter, or more dynamically. . . . the interplay between the online and offline dimension.” Most Americans live hybrid lives because our online and offline lives have been integrated. Interactions online shape offline experiences, and offline communication and practices shape people’s online engagement.

Angela Gorrell, *Always On*





THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY at the slate project

We are an experiment in Christian community, recognizing that people gather **both online and face-to-face** in order to follow Jesus.

1 #BreakingBread
Christian worship rooted in the ancient and the arts, with a home-cooked meal, unique community, and prayers.
Mondays, 6pm(ish)
Cathedral of the Incarnation, 4 E. University Pkwy, Baltimore.

2 #WakeUpWordUp
Recovering the bible as a story worth telling.
Tuesdays, 10am.
Nancy by SNAC, 131 W. North Ave., Baltimore.

3 ENGAGING IMAGES
We create unique image-based content on Wednesday (#WednesdayWisdom) and Thursday (#tbt) that looks to engage with a 21st-century Christianity.

4 ONLINE WORSHIP
#SlateSpeak
A live-chat on Twitter, with a beautiful, progressive, radical bent, welcome to everyone. (Yes, you.)
Thursdays, 9pm ET.
Use the digital bookmark #SlateSpeak on Twitter to follow.

5 AUDIO/VIDEO CONTENT

We release a monthly video/podcast (first Saturdays) that engages with different relevant topics in our world and our church, and provides resources for our partners in ministry to use.

JOIN US.
We're caught up in the real, radical, and raw Jesus movement. And we're trying new things.
slateproject.org

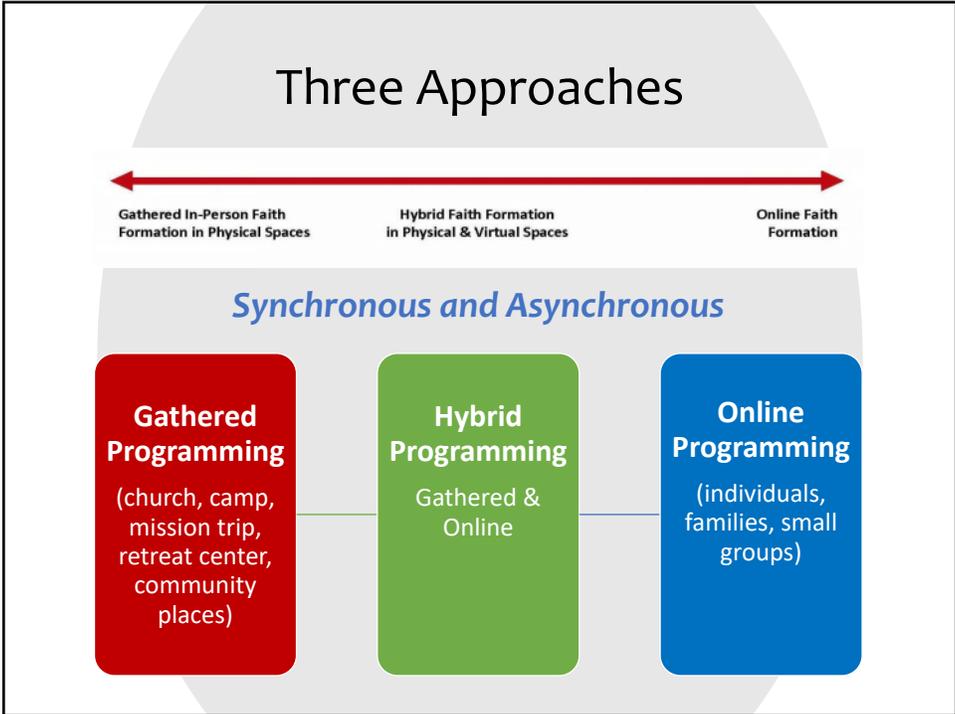
[@TheSlateProject](#)
[The Slate Project](#)
[slateprojectbmore](#)

Watch on [YouTube](#)

Connect with The Slate Project on-line and face-to-face:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Mondays | What: #BreakingBread (Dinner Church) Where: 4 E University Pkwy Bmore, MD 21218 When: 6 PM EST |
| Wednesday | What: #SlateReads (Live Tweet Chat- Book Discussion) Where: Twitter-- use the digital bookmark #SlateReads When: 8 PM EST |
| Thursdays | What: #SlateSpeak (Live Tweet Chat- new topic each week) Where: Twitter-- use the digital bookmark #SlateSpeak When: 9 PM EST |

Check out our **daily digital content** on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).





Gospel of Luke *Yale Bible Study*

1. The Birth of the Anointed One
2. Jesus Begins to Heal
3. Jesus Begins to Teach
4. Jesus Begins to Form a Community
5. Jesus Teaches “On the Road”
6. Lost and Found
7. In Jerusalem
8. The Passion & Resurrection

Bible Study: Gospel of Luke

Programming Options

- ✓ Gathered
 - ✓ Large group
 - ✓ Small group
- ✓ Online
 - ✓ Independent learning
 - ✓ Small group learning by online (Zoom)
- ✓ Hybrid
 - ✓ Complete the online session on your own + meet in small group

JANUARY 6, 2020
EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

**taking+
faith
home**

God's light shines through Jesus.

EPIPHANY BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Epiphany celebration.

Monday **Matthew 2:1-12** **The wise men worship Jesus**
 Isaiah 60:1-6 **The glory of God shines on the people**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR EPIPHANY

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. **Isaiah 60:1 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Epiphany:
Dear God, in Jesus you show your glory to the nations. Come, Holy Spirit, bless all the nations of the world with peace, joy, and love. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Lord God, as the star shone over Bethlehem to reveal the presence of your Son, may this meal remind us that this food is a gift of your love. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May the light of Christ bring you peace and joy.

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JANUARY 6, 2020
HYMN FOR EPIPHANY
Rise, Shine, You People!

**taking+
faith
home**

EPIPHANY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Why do some people fear other people they don't know?
- How does the light of Christ help us to conquer our fears?
- A star led the wise men to Jesus. What leads you to Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 2:1-12.
People of another religion and another part of the ancient world used astrology to guide them to Jesus, and it worked. God wants the world to be blessed by the light of Christ that shines from Bethlehem to Jerusalem and on to the ends of the earth. It is God's powerful light that has entered the darkness of fear. Not only is King Herod frightened by the message that a king has been born to the Jews, so are all the people of Jerusalem (v. 3). That is, even the people faithful to God's reign are fearful. A new day that brings astonishing news is feared by all. We easily fear change, even if it has come to benefit us. The moment something new happens to us, we lose a sense of control. It is no longer about us. In this instance, the change is about God's rule, God's ways, and God's love that shines brightly into a darkened world. Thanks be to God for the light that breaks into the dark corners of our world and of our lives. It is the only light and only hope that really matters. Is change easy or difficult for you? How do you ask God for help?
Pray: Dear Jesus, bless us to see in you the one who takes our fears and worries and turns them into joy and gladness. Amen.

SERVICE

Epiphany, also known as Three Kings Day, is a time when an age-old Christian tradition of blessing homes takes place around the world. It is a custom to inscribe 20+CM-B-20 with chalk on the door. C, M, and B between the year 2020 are the initials of the Magi but also stand for a Latin phrase meaning bless this house. The + symbolizes the cross. Our homes are places where daily spiritual practices take place (i.e., reading scripture, praying, or blessing others). Visit a person today who is homebound and pray with them. Conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The wise men followed a star to find Jesus. We still need something to guide us to Jesus. Take a moment to stand with your legs spread slightly and your arms stretched out. Just as a star has five points, imagine your head, hands, and feet being the points of a star. When you think about the awesome role you have as a star, leading others to Jesus, imagine how you can do that. Talk about, draw a picture, or make a list of ways you can lead others to Jesus through your actions and words.

In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org



Children
& Family
Playlist

February 10, 2019: Call of the Disciples - Luke 5:1-11



The Gospel Reading Luke 5:1-11: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/021019.htm

Take a few moments as a parent to reflect on the Gospel of Jesus calling the disciples: www.americانبible.org/resources/lectio-divina

For background on Luke's Gospel, watch the video of Luke 3 - 9. Focus on Luke 5 which is around 2 minutes into the video: [Gospel of Luke Video](#)

Read the Gospel together: [Luke 5:1-11](#)

Do a coloring page together of Jesus calling the disciples.

 [Download File](#)

The Call of the Disciples



Children's Storybook



Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun: Having the Courage to be Who You Are
by **Maris Dismondy** (Written for ages 4-11)

Likely after a long night of work, the fishermen were washing their nets and preparing to return to their homes when Jesus comes along and asks Simon to take him out in his boat. Jesus tells Simon to put his net back out into the water, and Simon hesitates for he'd already tried to catch fish all night long and caught nothing. But Simon does as Jesus says, trusting that Jesus has good reason behind his request. Then, as Simon

9

Adult Thematic Playlist

September - A Month of Gratitude

The spiritual practice of gratitude has been called a state of mind and a way of life. But we prefer to think of it as a **practice**—an enduring structure that helps us construct and make sense out of our lives. The value of this practice comes from our activities. Its spirit reveals a system of relationships taking us to the future and to every other part of the present.

To learn the grammar of gratitude, practice saying "thank you" for happy and challenging experiences, for people, animals, things, art, memories, dreams. Count your blessings, and praise God. Utter blessings, and express your appreciation to everything and everyone you encounter. By blessing, we are blessed.

Frederic and Mary Ann Branson (SpiritualityandPractice.com)

Learn



Want to be Happy? Be Grateful

The one thing all humans have in common is that each of us wants to be happy. says Brother David Steindl-Oster, a monk and award-winning author. And happiness, he suggests, is born from gratitude. Are you happy because you're always doing, rushing where you're going, and always all being grateful. Go to 1:00 to learn more and read the transcript.

For a podcast of Br. David's interview with Krista Tippett about Gratefulness, go to: <https://www.kristatippett.com/podcast>

Go to 1:00 to learn more and read the transcript.



Gratitude: Living Life as Gift

Dr. Curtis Alexander of the Society of St. John the Evangelist describes the gift of gratitude and how to practice gratitude. Go to the [SJSJ website](https://www.societyofstjohn.org) to learn more.



Pray



Gratitude Prayer for the Month

Gracious God, in the depths of my day, I sometimes forget to stop to thank You for all that is good in my life. My thoughts are busy and my heart is filled with gratitude for the gift of being, for the ability to love and be loved, for the opportunity to use the marvelous capacities of intellect, for sleep and water, for a mind that thinks and a body that feels. I thank you, too, for those things in my life that are not what I would hope there to be. Things that seem challenging, unfair, or difficult when my heart first overreacted and angry and proud of itself from my many years, and I realize that you are at work in my most difficult and that in the midst of turbulence, I am growing and learning. In the name of my Lord, I thank you most of all for your unconditional and eternal love. Amen.

Psalms on Gratitude

Read and reflect on the Psalm each week, just click on the title for the Psalm(s).

Week 1: Psalm 68 and Psalm 100

Week 2: Psalm 103

Week 3: Psalm 108

Week 4: Psalm 107

Read, Listen, & Watch



Articles

Read "You Won't Think We'll Change Your Life" by Edie Sheehy to learn how gratitude begins weekly which begins God's grace.

Book



This moving book tells gratitude for the blessing of life and the everyday wonder and beauty of nature. It is inspired by the great film *Gratitude: A Visual Meditation* by award-winning filmmaker Louise Louchardy recently featured on Oprah's Super Soul Sunday. The book and film give us of today's most uplifting poems—the Internet phenomenon "A Good Day," written by renowned spiritual leader Brother David Steindl-Oster—with stunning images by Sheehy. This inspirational anthology includes not just the book but a DVD with two short films by Sheehy including *Gratitude* and *Brother David's Seven A Good Day* videos. The last page has a link to the "A Good Day" audio files, which you can use to create your own video or slide show on what you are grateful for.

• Purchase at Amazon.com

Live



Basic, Daily Gratefulness Practice

"I wish they would engage in 'basic daily gratefulness practice' to be able to be grateful to the world around us, just because a practice is simple does not mean it has simple results. Even though you might choose to try this practice in a small formal way at the same time each day, it can be done anytime, anywhere, and as often as you need. Go to [spiritualityandpractice.com](https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com) for the experience this practice.

Gratitude through the Day

Gratitude, like any other spiritual practice, is something we do, not something we feel. And if something we need to practice. To practice gratitude, we don't need a special occasion on which to do, nor a special time to begin, nor a special time to end, nor a special group to begin, nor a special group or mentor to receive. There is no in any way bad or inappropriate. It may well help. It is simply not enough.

What is enough is here and now. The Psalmist reminds us, "This is the day that the LORD has made for us rejoice and be glad in it" (Ps. 118: 24). Gratitude comes when we live and instead of mind. Because it makes us really available to the most presence of Christ, who is at work within us and around us—now. We hope you'll try out these four simple reminders and see how they change your day.

- I am: Pray Your Gratitude
- I am: Sing Your Gratitude
- I am: Praise Your Gratitude
- I am: Serve Your Life

Go to [spiritualityandpractice.com](https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com) through the Day within.

Hybrid #2 From In-Person to Online

In-Person & Online with Video Meetings

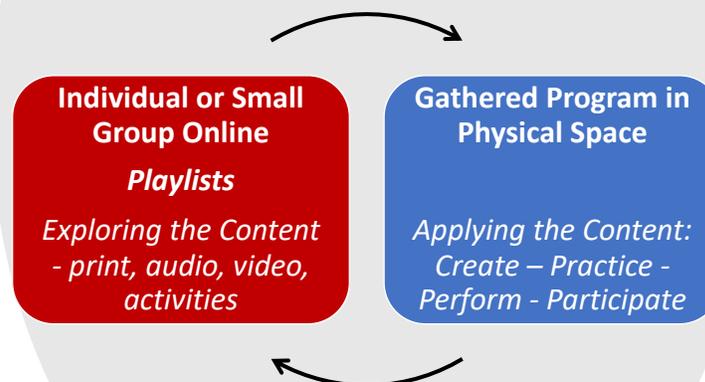
- Week #1: Meet in-person for the program.
- Week #2: Engage in online faith forming experiences using a playlist on the theme.
- Week #3: Continue with the playlist learning on the theme.
- Week #4: Conduct a video meeting (Zoom) for small groups or age groups or families to discuss and apply the online learning.

Hybrid #3 From In-Person to Online

In-Person & Live Streamed or Video & Online

- Week #1: Meet in-person for the program.
- Week #2: Engage in online faith forming experiences using a playlist on the theme.
- Week #3: Conduct a livestream presentation or demonstration or prerecorded video (using Zoom, Facebook Live, or YouTube Live) on the theme of the month's program.
- Week #4: Continue with the playlist learning on the theme.

Hybrid #4 Both Online & In-Person “Flipped Classroom” Model



GOD ON TAP

HOME ABOUT BLOG LOCATIONS CONNECT BREWING FOR THE GREATER GOOD

GOD ON TAP BLOG

We post news and updates about God on Tap and discussion topics for upcoming gatherings. Feel free to leave a comment and sign up to receive new posts by email!

DISCUSSING CREATIVITY AT GOD ON TAP TOMORROW NIGHT!

Join us for God on Tap tomorrow night, July 26th at 7:30pm at Forest & Main Brewing Company in Amblar. Our topic: creativity.



When the universe seems to be sending you signals, its best to pay attention.

Lately, I've been hearing a lot about creativity—how it works, what fuels it, what inspires it, and what prevents it.

From a podcast reminding its listeners of the importance of boredom for creativity, to reading authors like Stephen King and Anne Lamott describe their writing process, to Elizabeth Gilbert's TED talk about your elusive creative genius, to a conversation just this past week with my friend like Jim East, East about how he creates great cocktails like his *Thirsty Sounds of Love* video. He describes his

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GOD ON TAP

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CHEERS

Hybrid “Flipped”

Adolescent Confirmation Program

- **On Your Own:** Engage young people with a monthly learning playlist—watching videos, reading short articles, praying, writing reflections in a journal—on the theme.
- **In a Small Group:** Have young people participate in one small group experience (online) to discuss the content in the playlist and what they are learning.
- **In a Large Group:** Involve young people in a monthly meeting with all groups for community sharing, interactive activities, short presentations, and ideas for living faith.



Our Confirmation preparation program has two components: Once a month in-person classes and an online study. The online study is a place for students to develop their faith weekly by completing multi-media lessons which include videos, reading, Saint reflections, multiple-choice questions and online small group discussions. Each small group has their own online space to discuss faith topics, ask questions, and pray for one another.

- Class Sessions - Once a month (7 in total/year)
- Online Sessions - 3 per month
- “Insight” Youth Group Meetings - Attend 3 per year
- Service Projects - 2 per year
- Retreat - Year 1 and 2

Hybrid #5 Online & In-Person

Online Faith Formation + In-Person Small Group Gatherings

- Week #1: Online learning session using a playlist on a faith formation website.
- Week #2: Small group gatherings (10 or fewer) to discuss and apply the learning
- Week #3: Online learning session
- Week #4: Small group gatherings to discuss and apply the learning

Creation Playlist

Creation

This playlist is from the first chapter of Genesis and contains one of the stories of Creation (the second is in Genesis 2:4-25). For children, the important part of the creation story is learning that God created the world and everything in it and called it good! If you want to learn more about the book of Genesis visit the [Bible Project](#).



Bible Story

- Read Genesis 1:1-2:3 in your Bible or the Creation story in your favorite StoryBible.
- Wonder about the story together:
 - I wonder what it would have been like to create the world from the beginning.
 - I wonder what you would have created differently.
 - I wonder what your favorite part of creation is.
 - I wonder how you take time to rest.



Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for creation! Thank you for the light and dark, for the sun and moons, for the water and sky, for the big and small animals, and for all the people. Help us to take care of creation. Help us to remember to rest. (Insert family celebrations and requests here if desired.) Amen.

<https://michiganumc.org/faith-family-playlists>

Activities

1. Play charades or "Pictionary" as a family taking turns acting out or drawing different parts of creation.
2. Take a walk with your family (in your neighborhood, at a park, or local school) and pick up trash. Be careful of sharp or dangerous items.
3. Make a list of ways that your family can help care for creation. Choose 1 or 2 to do this week.
4. Use materials from around your house to re-tell the story of Creation. You might use Legos, paper and crayons, play-doh or clay, action figures, etc. Take pictures of each "day".
5. Write a poem or a story about creation.
6. Create a "Word Cloud" - write down all the words you can think of that relate to Creation. Then write your words in a variety of sizes that look like a picture. Or use a "word cloud" generator like www.wordart.com.
7. Go on a creation scavenger hunt.

Books

[When God Made the World](#) by Matthew Paul Turner



[Let There Be Light](#) by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Nancy Tilman



Music Videos



Hybrid #6 Online & In-Person

Live Stream + Online

- Schedule a monthly live stream of the class or program presentation to individuals or families. Consider using your existing schedule of classes/programs and leaders.
- Create online learning experiences for the other weeks of the month using a playlist of content/activities on a faith formation website.
- Add an interactive feature by using a Facebook Group (or online learning platform) to engage people in discussion, sharing learning, presenting projects, etc.

Example Justice & Service Month-long Plan

1. Select a justice issue, social need, etc. as a focus.
2. Research the issue/need: curate learning resources and action projects (direct aid, advocacy, etc.).
3. Kick-off the month with a live stream presentation.
4. Engage adults in online learning experiences on the issue/need (video, activities, etc.). Add a small group option.
5. Engage in one or more action projects for all adults or in small groups (physical or online setting).
6. Bring everyone together (online) to share their experience.

Hybrid #7 Online & Group Interaction

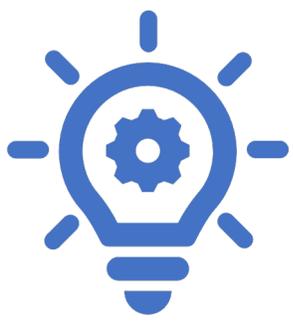
Live Stream & Online & Zoom

- Week #1: Live Stream of the class, program, or presentation.
- Week #2: Online learning experiences using a playlist for the content/activities on a website.
- Week #3: Zoom meetings by age group (or grades) or family clusters.
- Week #4: Online learning experiences using a playlist for the activities/content.

Add an interactive feature by using a Facebook Group (or online learning platform) to engage people in discussion, sharing learning, presenting projects, etc.

Hybrid #8 Online & Small Groups

- Week #1: Online learning session using a playlist on a faith formation website.
- Week #2: Small group gatherings on Zoom or in a Facebook Group to discuss and apply the learning.
- Week #3: Online learning session.
- Week #4: Small group gatherings on Zoom or in a Facebook Group to discuss and apply the learning.



Where do you want to innovate?

- Stop doing something
- Redesign something
- Sustain something
- Initiate something new

For Whom?

- * Age Group
- * Families
- * All Generations
- * Target Audience

With What?

- * New Approach or Program
- * New Methods & Media
- * New Technology
- * New Space or Location



Potential for Hybrid Design
Reinvention & Creation

1. Sunday worship
2. Church year seasons
3. Marriage preparation
4. Baptism preparation for new parents
5. Families with young children
6. Sunday school with an at-home family component
7. First Communion preparation for parents and the family
8. Confirmation preparation
9. All adult faith formation
10. Outreach initiatives
11. Online initiatives

