

Silver City UCC

Wendy Spurgeon, Moderator and Innovation Lab Leader

Collaboration

Silver City's small, but mighty congregation hosts an Innovation Laboratory at the Silver City Woman's Club.

The Presbyterian Church, Episcopalian Church and Swedenborgian Church is also invited to send representatives to collaborate in the Design Thinker process experienced as part of the Innovation Lab.

The Swedenborgian's say yes, and send 4 representatives.

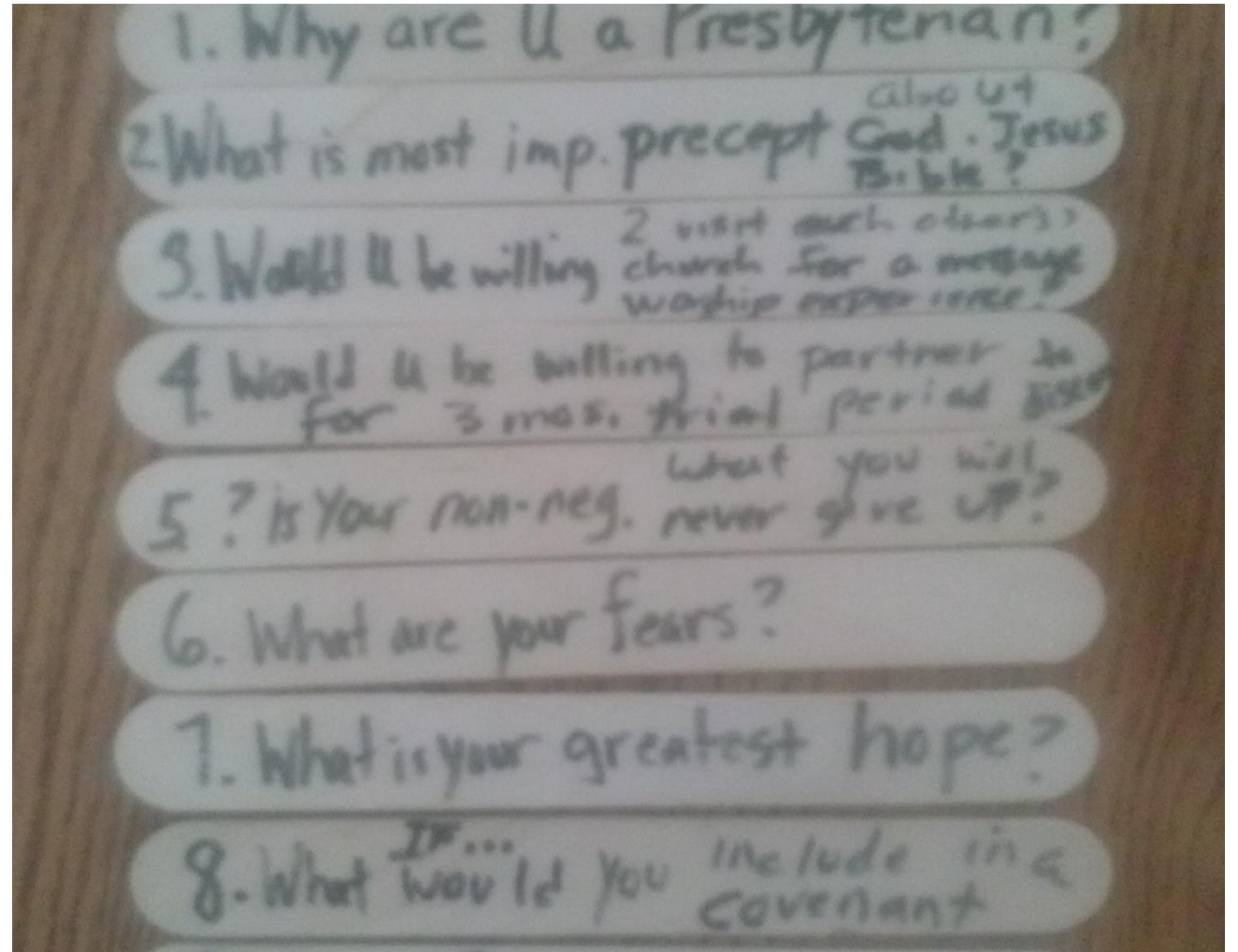
Participants report how refreshing it was to be paired with partners from another denomination.



Talking Sticks

One innovative idea is to schedule a meeting between the Presbyterian's and the UCC to discuss the possibility of sharing resources.

The picture to the right is of the Talking Sticks created by the Swedenborgian pastor for the UCC Treasurer to support him in the upcoming conversation with the Presbyterians.



How to Be the Church in the World series

As a result of the Innovation Laboratory, UCC member Gale Green is inspired to create a 6 week series “How to Be the Church in the World”.

As a volunteer lay leader, Gale leads 6 worship services in February, March and April, in between the weeks that Rev. Tina Squire comes to lead from Sierra Vista.

Her inspired action not only filled the gap for leadership temporarily, but also inspired other members to step up into leading worship service, both individually and in pairs.



Youtube video

As a result of her Innovation Lab experience hosted by the Silver City UCC, Rev. Carla Friedrich from the Swedenborgian Church produces a youtube video.

The picture to the right is a Concept Visualization of Biblical Garden Project in Virtual Reality.

That's Carla in VR!



Coffeehouse Fundraisers

As a result of the Innovation Lab, SCUCC is now committed to presenting monthly or bi-monthly awareness and fund raising events.

To date, our small but mighty church has raised over \$500 to support KISS (Kids in need of Supportive Services) which focuses on the homeless youth in our area.



Community Storytelling

As a result of an inspired idea from the Innovation Laboratory, we are now in discussion with Virus Theatre Company about creating a Playback Theatre ministry.

Playback is a form of improvisational theatre that invites members of the audience to share a story from their lives. The story is then played back on the spot by members of the acting company.

The golden thread emerges as the audience sees how similar our stories are, community connections are strengthened, and the bridge of communication organically forms and builds from these sacred experiences.



Follow up and Accountability

Group coaching has been offered for Innovation Lab participants to support the “bias toward action”.

6 monthly check ins provide an opportunity for follow up and accountability. What has worked? What might we try differently? How can we support each other?

SCUCC is scheduling and inviting local churches for the next Innovation Laboratory in late June or early July 2016, to keep the momentum and innovation going!



God is Still Speaking

At SCUCC, we found that when we created the space for God to speak through the Innovation Laboratory, She spoke volumes through us.

We found it to be a safe and sacred way for us to break out of our limiting patterns and limiting beliefs about what can be possible for our small but mighty 3.0 church.

We are humbled, inspired, challenged, heard, and held.



Thank You!

