

who are we? and what is the state of the situation?

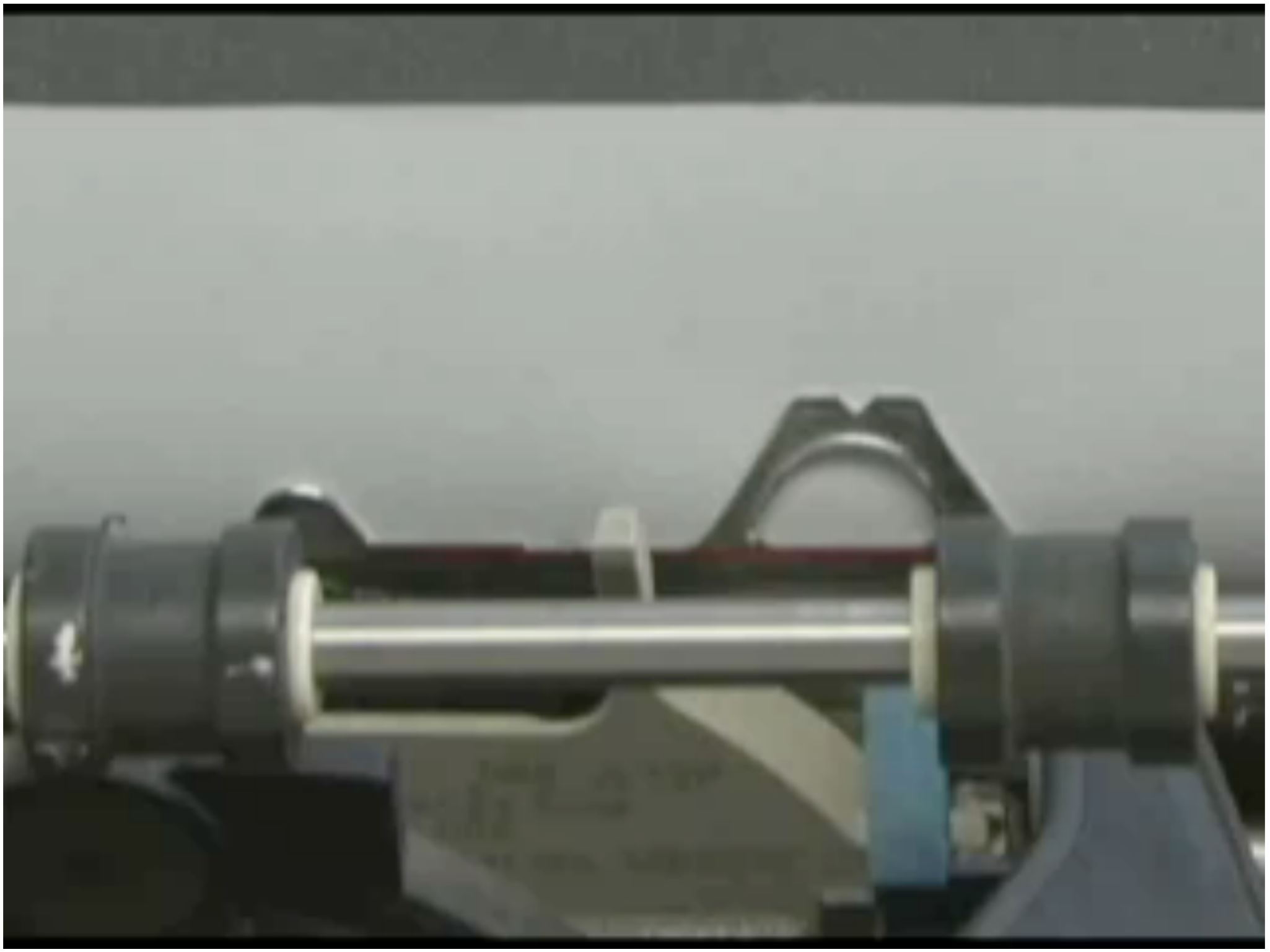
nacmp / may 2011

“when I came to you, brothers and sisters, proclaiming the mystery of God, I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom... for I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.”

1 cor 2:1-6

“but we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.”

2 cor 4:7-15



Is Social Media a Fad?
Or the biggest shift since the Industrial Revolution?

our epistemologies are shifting

relationality is at the heart of the shift

all we need to know — Jesus Christ, and him
crucified

John Roberto and the Faith 2020 project

Driving Forces

8 Key Driving Forces



1. Declining number of Christians and growing number of people with no religious affiliation.
2. Increasing number of people becoming more “spiritual” and less “religious”
3. Declining participation in Christian churches
4. Increasing diversity and pluralism in U.S. society

Driving Forces

8 Key Driving Forces



5. Increasing influence of individualism on Christian identity and community life
6. Changing patterns of marriage and family life
7. Declining family religious socialization
8. Increasing use of digital age & web technologies

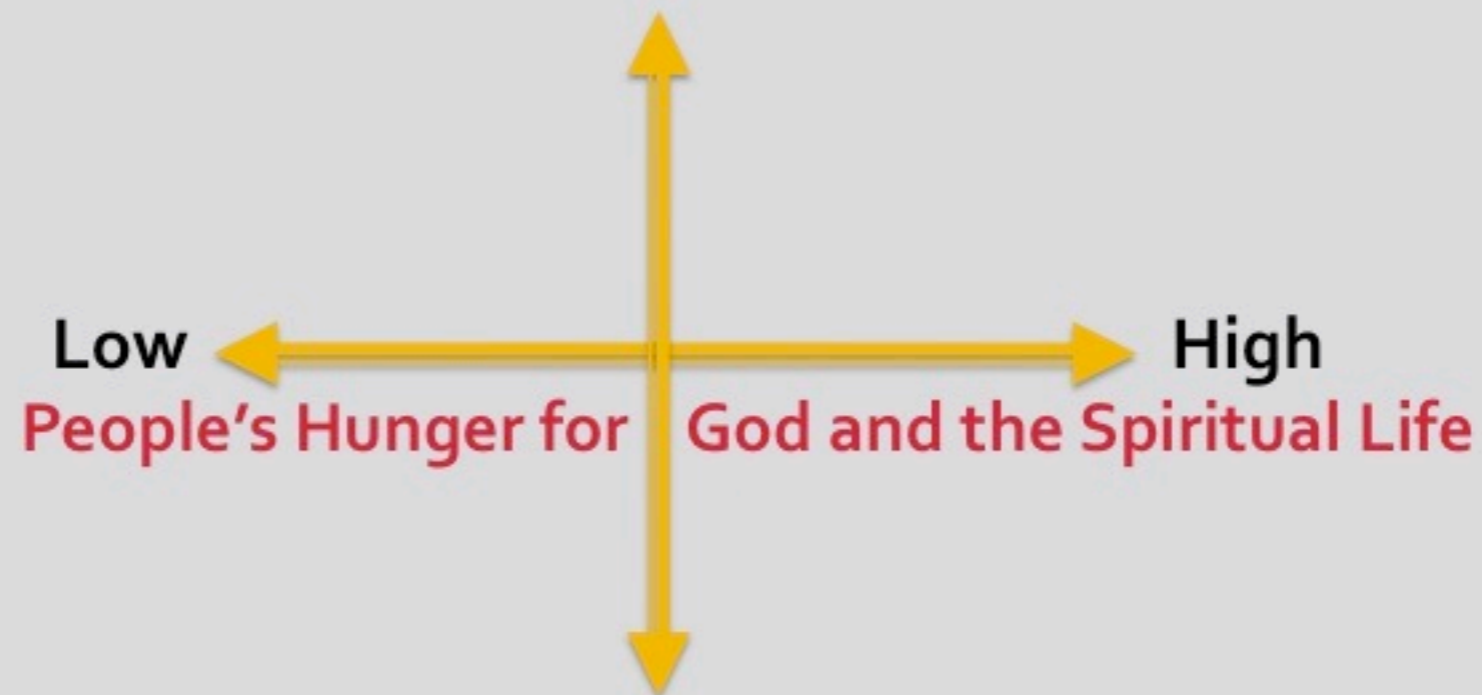
Faith Formation 2020 Matrix

Dominant Cultural Attitude toward Organized Religion

Receptive

Low ← People's Hunger for God and the Spiritual Life → High

Resistant



4 Scenarios for the Future



Scenario 4
Uncommitted
&
Participating

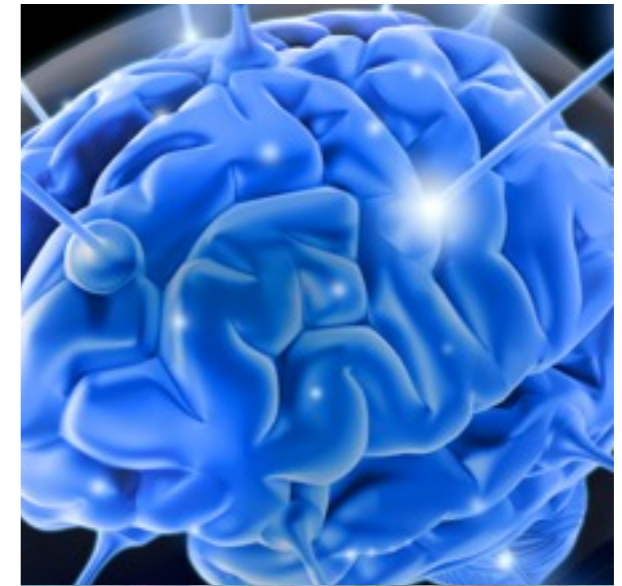
Scenario 1
Vibrant Faith
& Active
Engagement

Scenario 3
Unaffiliated &
Uninterested

Scenario 2
Spiritual but
Not Religious

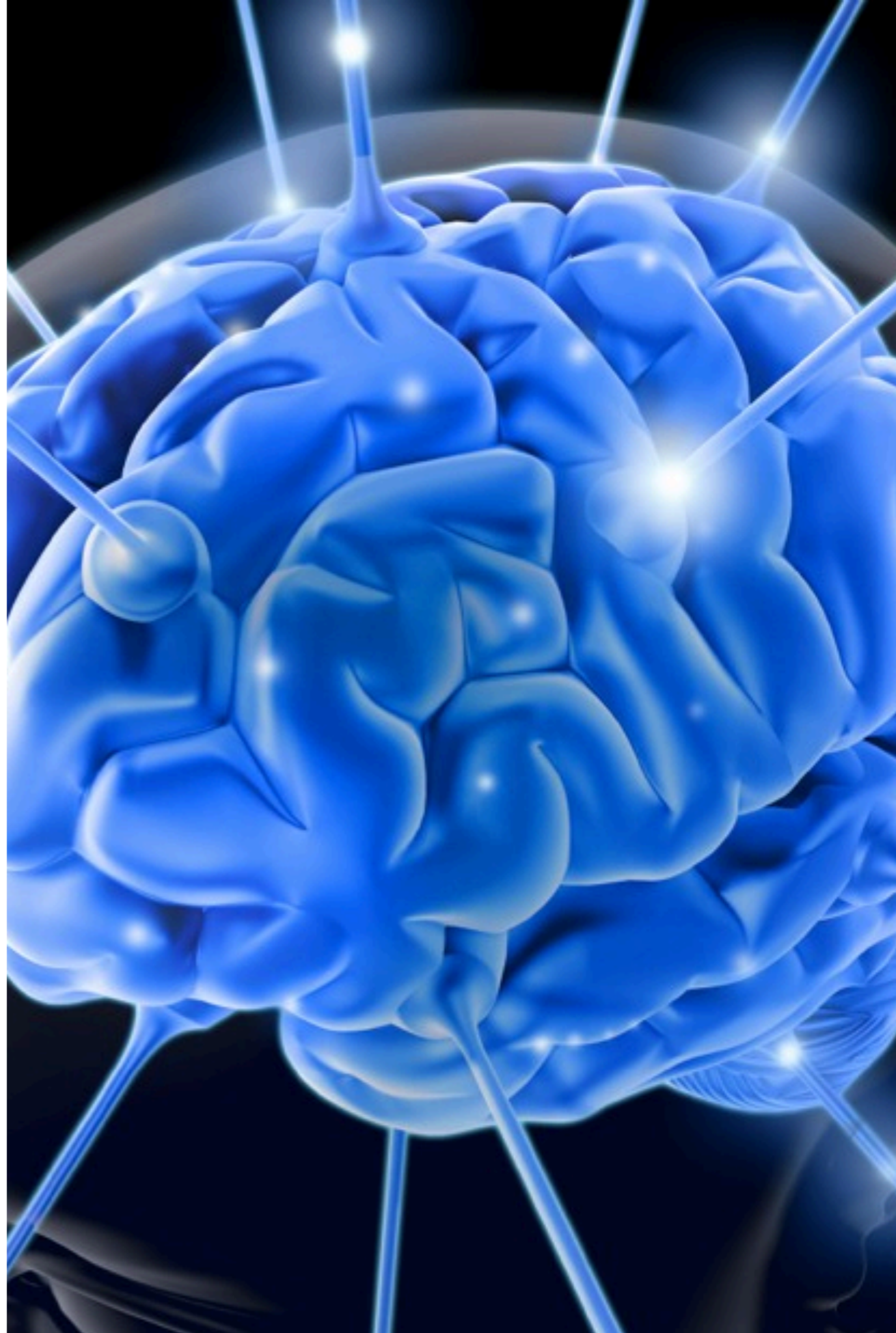
issue is not about content but about practices

authority, authenticity, agency
are shifting rapidly
amidst media cultures



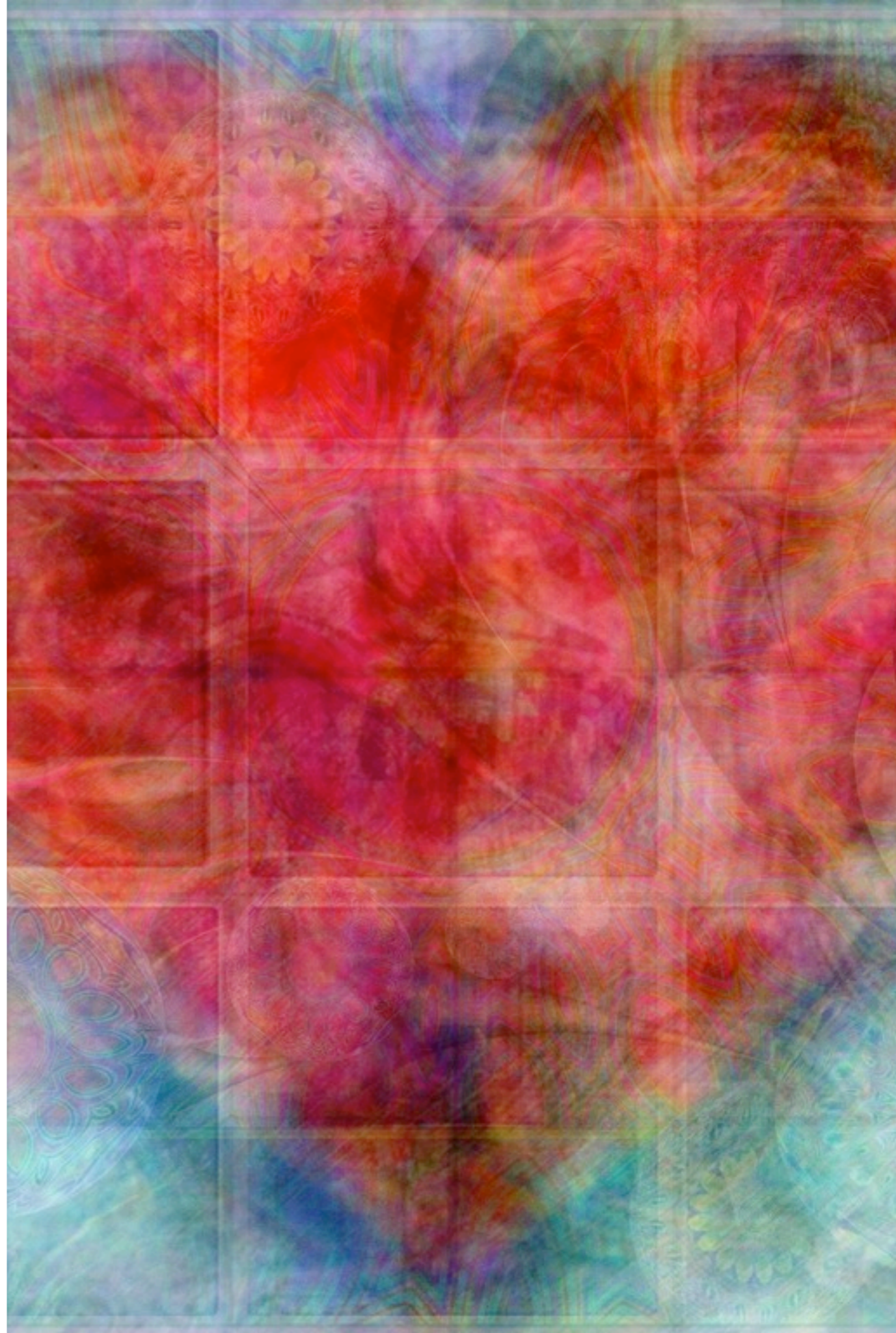
authority

- shifting away from experts
- shifting through relationships
- vertical through magisterium
- horizontal through *sensus fidelium*
- intersection is Jesus Christ on the cross



authenticity

- contributes to building authority
- developed experientially
- developed relationally
- “were not our hearts burning within us?”



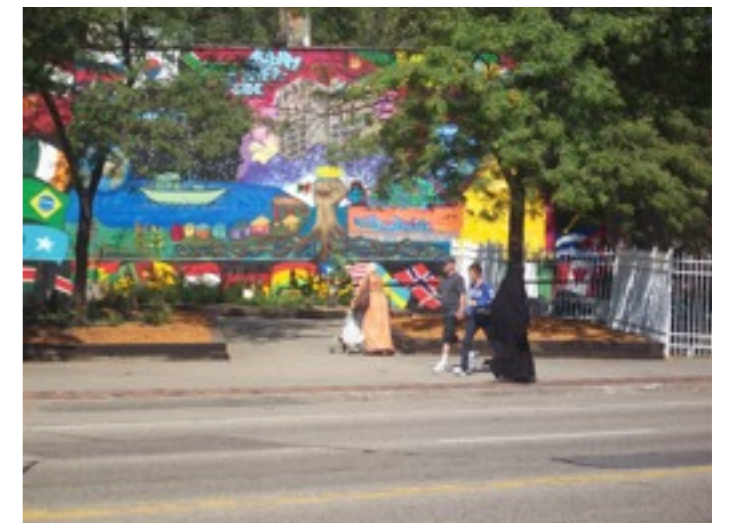
agency

- how do I make a difference?
- what can I do with these resources?
- our culture tends to think in terms of individual agency
- our church understands primary agent is God
- how to make sense of this apparent conflict?





practices of agency, “practicing our faith”



missio dei



in a world of content, we long for practices and interpretation

Roberto argues we need to become curators

curation of experience



tradition-ing, not traditionalism

so what can we do? who are we?

a process of appreciative inquiry

In all the ways that you've experienced curating (or creating, if you have had that experience) media as a form of faith formation, think about a positive experience that highlights your engagement with this form of faith formation. What can you say about ways in which this process has been generative for you? What makes that generativity possible? What had to happen to make it work? What was the context? Who was involved?

What is the best example you can think of, of faith formation occurring through curation or creation of media?

What can you tell each other about the example? What made the engagement with the curation/creation process work so well? What had to happen to make it work? Who was involved? What about the context made it possible? Why do you think it was generative?

Of all the things you've just identified in relation to those stories, what would you say is the single most important thing, the single most important factor in the generativity of engagement with media and catechesis, that you can identify? What do you think really made it work?

Share three wishes you have for how NACMP could best support, or perhaps develop, curators of faith formation.

Now, on the post-it note paper we provided, list the most important element you identified, and have your partner do the same on their post-it note. Then take another post-it note and write the three wishes you identified. Take these post-it notes and place them on the wall space we've outlined for them.

Once you've posted your notes, walk around in silence and read what your colleagues have shared.

concluding observations, Q&A

more information:

www2.luthersem.edu/mhess