



Creativity in Worship

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Workshop Objectives

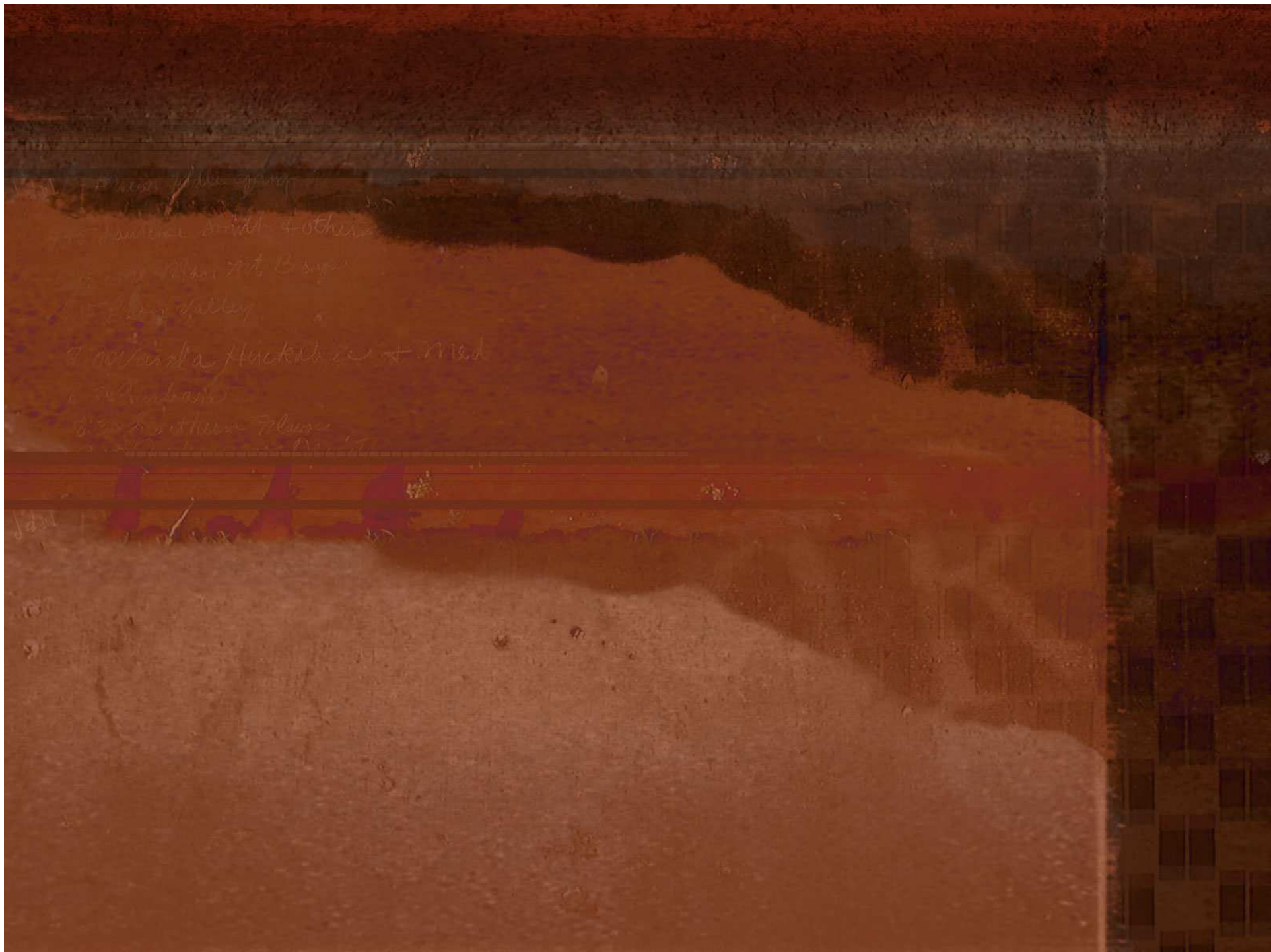
- Understand the need to involve visual and visceral elements in worship (in addition to verbal ones)
- Gain tools to analyze energy in worship
- Participate in some creative exercises that you can take home to your worship committee/planning team

Dr. Marcia McFee

at the 2008 UUA conference on Contemporary Worship

“The three Vs:
the verbal, the
visual and the
visceral.”





Verbal (Auditory)

- What are the verbal elements of a worship service?
- What are ways—other than a sermon—to impart a message using sound?

Visual

- What are different visual elements that can be added to worship?

Visceral

- How can we embody that which we proclaim?
- How do we ask worship participants to move in a service?
- What are different ways that messages can be delivered using movement?

Designing Worship Elements

- 2 primarily verbal elements (that are not a sermon or reading)
- 2 primarily visual elements
- 2 primarily visceral elements
- At least one element that combines two or more of these areas (through “layering”)

Multiple Intelligences

- Dr. Howard Gardner – 1983
- 8 different areas of intelligence
- Linguistic
- Logical-mathematical
- Spatial
- Bodily-Kinesthetic
- Musical
- Interpersonal
- Intrapersonal
- Naturalist

Group Reflections

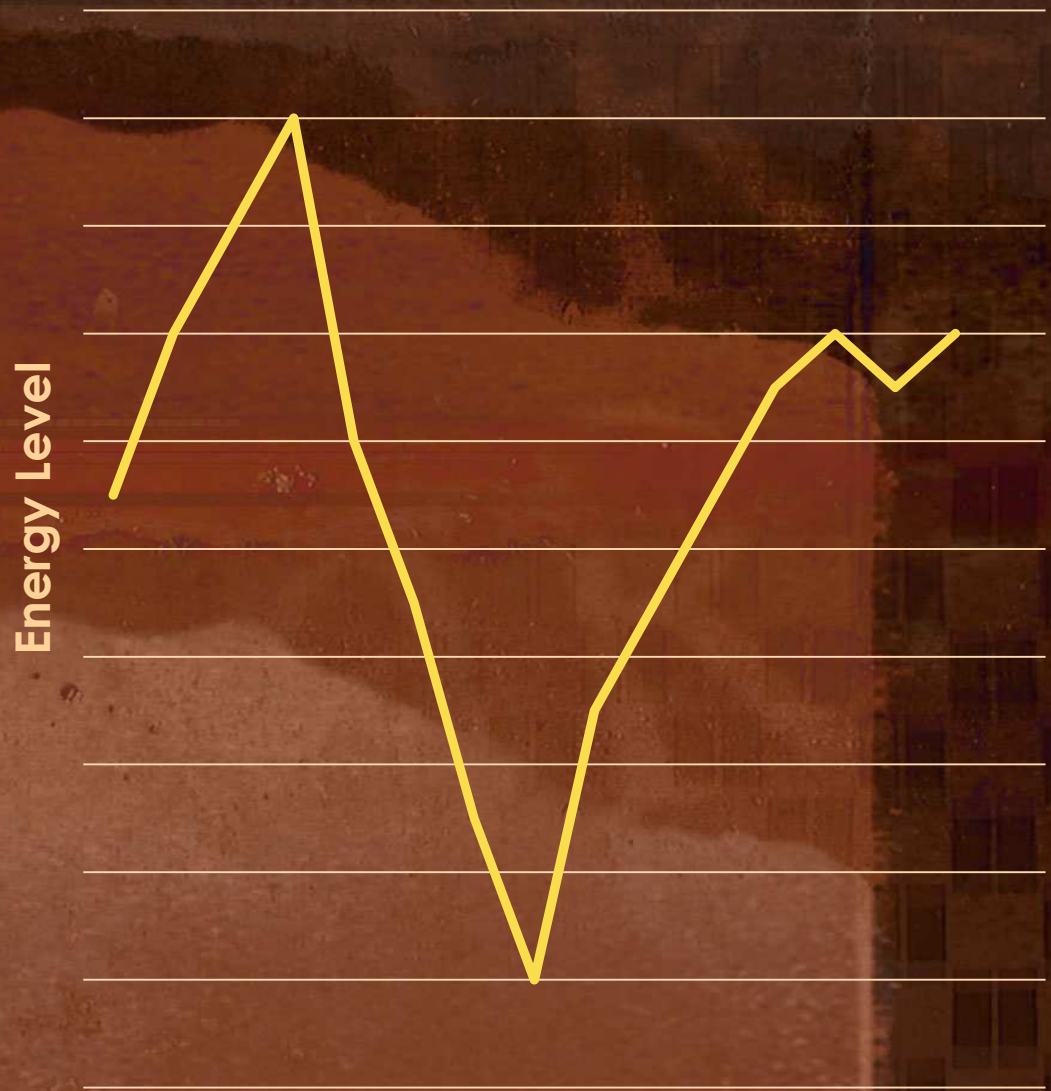
- Name a time in your life when the principle your group was assigned was relevant to your decision-making

Interpersonal and Intrapersonal Intelligence in Worship

- How do we engage these intelligences in worship?
- In designing *interpersonal* elements, how do we make them welcoming to newcomers?

Energy in Worship

- What would an “energy graph” of a typical worship service in your congregation look like?
- How do you transition between high and low energy elements?



Increasing and Decreasing Energy

- Design one element to increase the amount of energy in the room
- Design one element to decrease the amount of energy in the room

Worship Workshop

- How is worship planned in your congregation?
- How might you involve more voices?
- Marcia McFee's book *The Worship Workshop* offers one way to do this.