



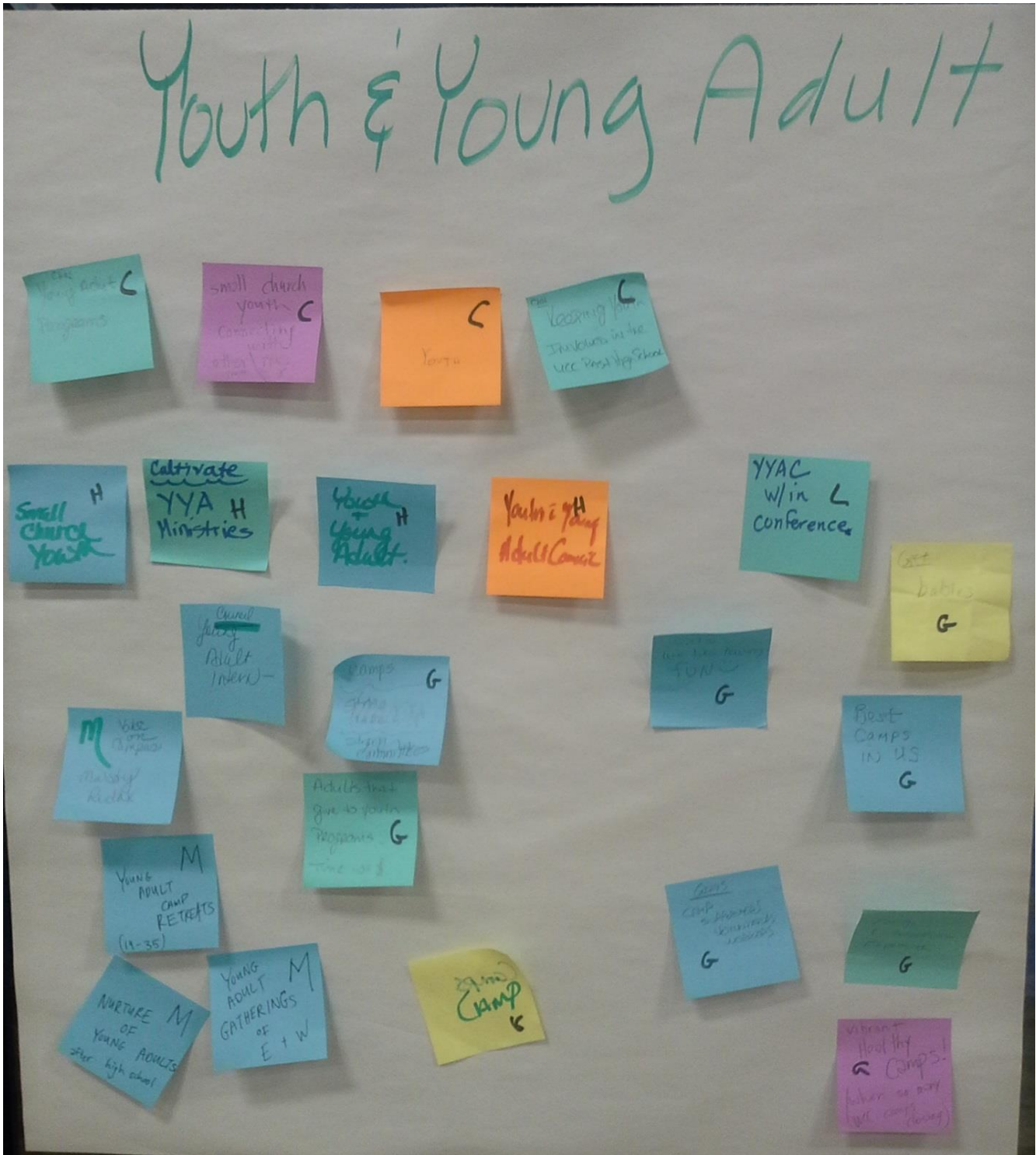
## Leadership Retreat Reports & Commitments

Notes from the final session of the Leadership Retreat. May 19, 2013 at N-Sid-Sen.

### Areas of Focus

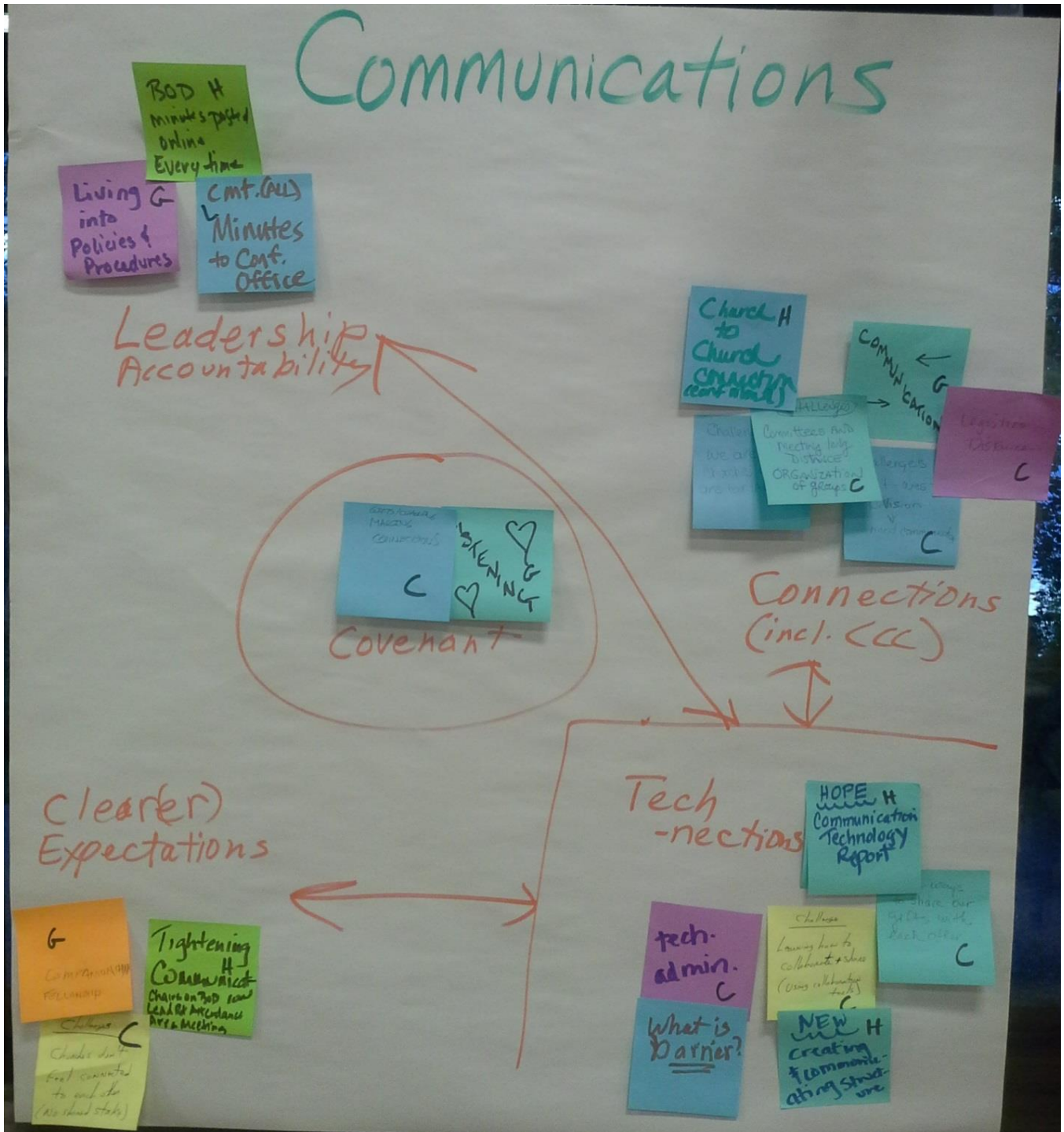
#### **Youth & Young Adults – Mark, Lauren, Todd & Jane**

- Challenges & Strengths
- Strengths – camp, energy, people involved
- Gap between high school & 21 – not enough folks willing to work on this (camps)
  - Overall gap w/ young adults
    - Help with younger programs but nothing for them
  - Gather East or West
  - Things to draw them in
- Council Event
  - Educate people about what's lacking & what's there
    - Bring everyone up to speed
  - Education ourselves - Understand gap in HS to 21 age
    - We need to understand this better ourselves
      - Interns who are engaged – ask them what kept them involved
      - Ask them to summarize what they are hearing
  - Talking about 3 social justice interns next year – could we have a 4<sup>th</sup> Social Justice intern looking at addressing gap period in our conference? Could this be on the Eastside?
- YYA Task force is working with David Domke for a webinar at the end of May – that might be a great



**Communications – George, Andi, Arlene, Michelle Nick Becky Carolyn Howard Tim Tom  
Chris Judi, Terry**

- Tech-nections
- Clear Expectations
- Leadership accountability
- Cross Cascades Communications
- Tech-nections interacts with all the other things – but also acts on its own.
- We need to develop both technology and non-technology separately but talk to each other.
- Need clear organization if we were to bring this to Council
  - Perhaps 1<sup>st</sup> non-technology
  - Then go back and look at how technology plays into these elements
- In the middle – covenant – that connects/informs all of it.
  - Listening
  - Making connections



**Church Growth & Renewal – Wendy, Tara, Maureen, Judith, Lin, Dave Debbie**

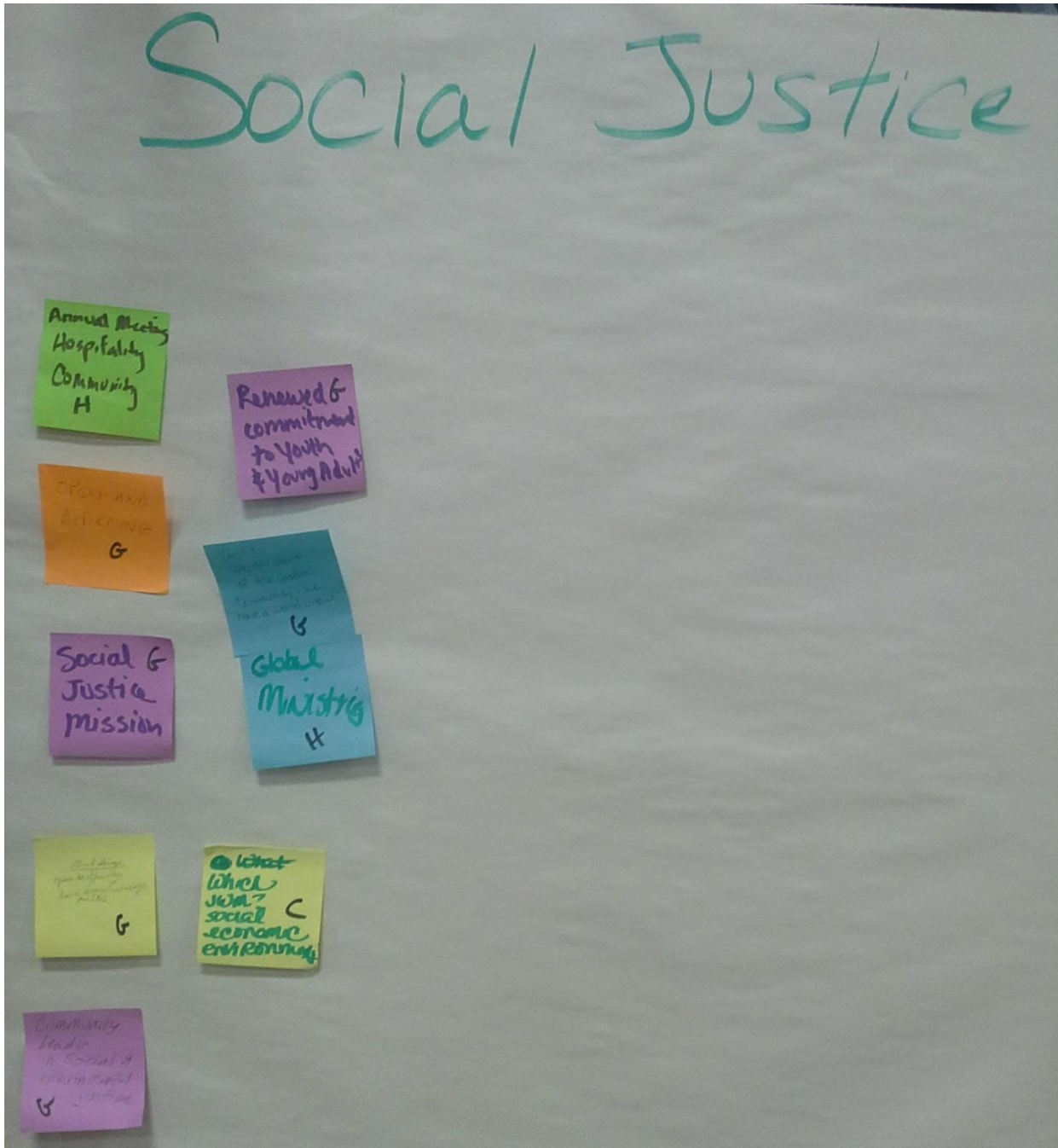
- 1 big idea that covers a lot (and would be a Council Meeting topic) – How to create connection and talked about Heartland – folks who have lost connection with UCC (churches died) but still see themselves as UCC
  - Social Justice Event of some kind – 1 day – you invite people in – get them involved in an activity around social justice
    - Festival of Sharing (ecumenical event – in Missouri)
      - Ways to help social service agencies – churches would pick an area to help. Artwork, auction, come together
      - Agencies would show up, churches involved – brought everyone together –
      - In conjunction with Annual meeting?
    - Encompasses a lot of the things that work on church growth
- Connecting with Youth (finding youth), Campus Ministries, Babies, Family Ministries – YYA is working on this but it's vital to this topic as well.
- Resourcing of church ideas that we farmed out to committees
  - Pastor support – committee on Ministry will take this
  - Resourcing churches – Stewardship, Church Development Committee, Committee On Ministry – making calls





## Social Justice

- No one participated in a conversation around Social Justice. It was decided by the group that, while we want to continue our work, people are feeling good about the work completed and in progress in the Social Justice area and it does not need to be a priority in the coming year.





## Commitments

**Jeni:** I commit to getting these notes to you in the next week so you can take these back to your committees and discuss.

**Wendy:** I will commit to helping to plan the first council meeting

**Tara:** I will take these back to both YYA & COM. I will also tell Eastside COM (Marj) about these. And Make sure the Domke event gets communicated on the Yahoo & Facebook group.

**Maureen:** I will commit to working with Judith to make the event happen. I also commit to having a conversation with the adult spiritual formation task force about reviving something like the adult fellowship camp.

**Judith:** I am willing, should people decide to move forward to take a leadership role on the Social Justice Event.

**Dave:** I will take materials from the weekend back to our congregation and the committee I'm on and bring the excitement to the people who weren't here.

**Debbie:** I commit to making sure MRC gets this information

**Terry:** I will get the information and the report back to the Stewardship Committee so they can start to understand

**Judi:** I will make notes to myself to consolidate thoughts to share at the next committee on Ministry I can make a brief report and also keep them next to me and keep them in sight.

**Con:** I commit to give more physical and spiritual support to my pastor and my church.

Lin I'll bring this information back to JWM and – also weave the justice piece in.

**Andi:** I will stick this in my office and move it around periodically to keep it in my thinking and bring to annual meeting planning

**Arlene:** Communicate better with the conference & make it more attention grabbing. Post things that people send me on the website.

**Michelle:** Provide financial information needed so people can do their work.

**Nick:** Talk to CDC and specifically Bob Evens (new church start)

**Becky:** Reach out to individual CDC and encourage them to attend the next council meeting



**Carolyn:** I can bring back this information to MRC with Debbie and when we get going on something, I will help out

**Howard:** I'll commit to supporting COM and talking about what we did. Also report back to my church.

**Tim:** I want to try to not feel so overwhelmed when I hear all of this – In our local church, I'm very good at knowing the people who need different forms of communication – so try to figure out how to do this on the conference level. This way I can help identify people who need information in different ways more accessible to them.

**Tom:** I've learned a lot this weekend to take back to my trustees committee – the biggest piece is being reminded to reach out and include those on the fringes of the committee and make them feel connected is likely to result in better

**Chris** I will help Tim feel less overwhelmed

**Mike:** I will commit to reworking some of the stuff I do in communications, but also, particularly work to develop a strategy about some of the decision pieces that have already been made or discussed in some way. Discussion around council vs. board piece helped me see the need for more communication.

**George:** I will take this back to Suquamish & Peninsula UCC (Ed Evans) I'll try to find someone at Suquamish that wants to take on some of the technology aspects of this.

**Jane:** I'm going to take back and try to share with my impatient skepticism what was accomplished that was meaningful and felt amazing.

**Mark:** I commit to finding 3-4 folks who will commit to leading a Young Adult Retreat. Also commit to being available to anyone struggling with Ultra camp registration programs.

**Todd:** I commit to try to find some way to fill the gap.

**Nick:** Tim – you made an open and affirming statement about communications. I commit to being a resource to helping people learn how to communicate with those who are not naturally technical

I will get pictures to Jeni & make them readable. I will commit to reviewing communications report in light of communications group. I commit to sharing with my church council the process of these leadership retreat conversations.