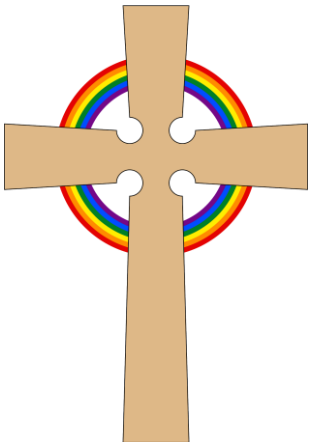


Our group of Christians and skeptics believes:

- ✓ **Kindness is Everything**
 - ✓ **Love is Love**
 - ✓ **Science is Real**
 - ✓ **No Human is Illegal**
- ✓ **Women's Rights are Human Rights**
- ✓ **Black Lives Matter**





Common Call Campus Ministry

Progressive Christians Changing the World

What Is Progressive Christianity?

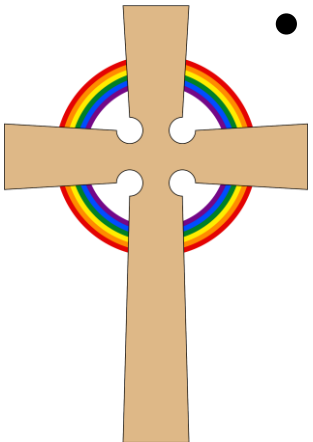
An Overview, Spring 2023

Sponsored by Common Call Campus Ministry

Presentation by Jonathan Kimball

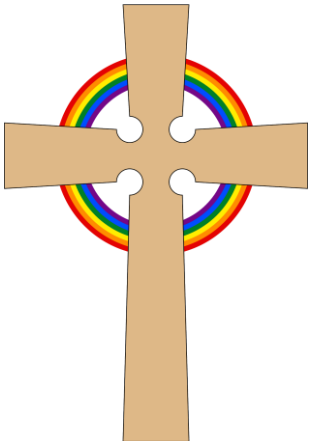
Who Are We? Who Am I?

- Common Call is sponsored by First Presbyterian Church and Christ Episcopal Church
 - Meetings Thursdays, 5:30 pm, Christ Episcopal
- Jonathan Kimball – Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering; Elder at First Presbyterian Church
 - No real authority, just a little more knowledge and ability to speak about these issues



Why Are We Here?

- NOT to argue or convince
 - There are lots of videos, blogs, books you can read with arguments on both sides
 - You are free to believe what you want
- To INFORM
 - The dominant public narrative is about a certain form of Christianity
 - This is a different perspective that we think people should know about



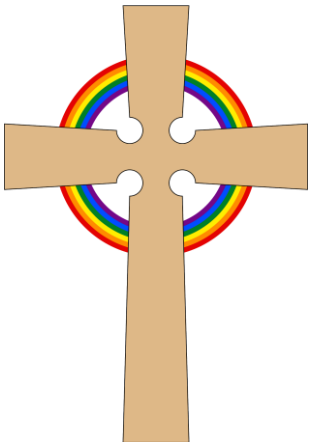
Basic Principles

- Progressive Christianity overlaps with but is distinct from progressive politics
- There is no orthodoxy—there is no list of things you *must* believe; rather, a set of things most progressive Christians *do* believe
 - Each of us can only speak for ourselves
- More about a way of approaching spirituality than a set of conclusions—a humble acceptance that some questions cannot be readily answered

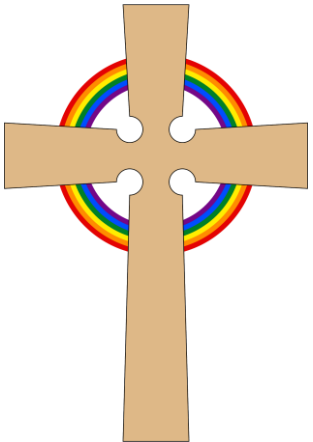
We are Christians who...

- Believe that following the **path and teachings of Jesus** can lead to an awareness and experience of the Sacred and the Oneness and Unity of all life;
- Affirm that the teachings of Jesus provide but one of many ways to experience the Sacredness and Oneness of life, and that we can draw from **diverse sources of wisdom** in our spiritual journey;

- Seek **community that is inclusive of ALL people**, including but not limited to:
 - Conventional Christians and questioning skeptics,
 - Believers and agnostics,
 - Those of all genders and gender identities,
 - Those of all sexual orientations,
 - Those of all classes and abilities,
 - Those of all racial and ethnic backgrounds,
 - Those of all national origins;
- Know that the **way we behave** towards one another is the fullest expression of **what we believe**;

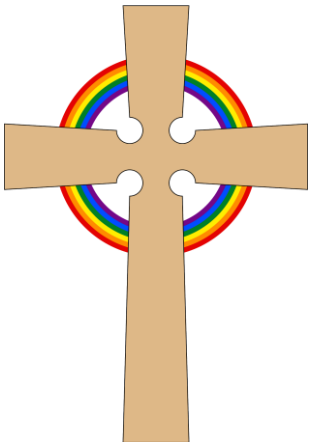


- Find grace in the search for understanding and believe there is **more value in questioning** than in absolutes;
- **Strive for peace and justice** among all people;
- Strive to **protect and restore** the integrity of our **Earth**;
- Commit to a path of **life-long learning, compassion, and selfless love.**



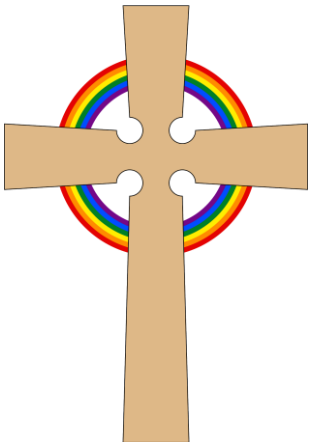
Another perspective: An approach that...

- proclaims Jesus of Nazareth as Christ, Savior, and Lord;
- emphasizes the Way and teachings of Jesus, not merely His person;
- emphasizes God's immanence not merely God's transcendence;
- leans toward panentheism rather than supernatural theism;

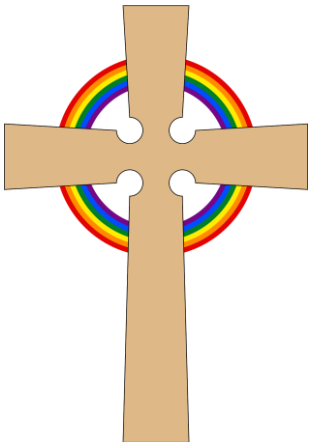


- emphasizes salvation **here and now** instead of primarily in heaven later;
- emphasizes robust, abundant, eternal life over being “saved from hell”;
- emphasizes the social/communal aspects of salvation instead of merely the personal;
- stresses social justice as integral to Christian discipleship;

- takes the Bible seriously but not necessarily literally, embracing a more interpretive, metaphorical understanding;



- emphasizes orthopraxy instead of orthodoxy (right actions over right beliefs);
- embraces reason as well as paradox and mystery — instead of blind allegiance to rigid doctrines and dogmas;
- does not consider homosexuality to be sinful;
- does not claim that Christianity is the only valid or viable way to connect to God (is non-exclusive).



Want to Learn More?

- Meet Thursdays, 5:30 pm, Christ Episcopal Church (next to Castleman Hall/Leach Theatre)
 - Dinner & Discussion
- Join our Discord
- Visit our website, commoncall.org
 - Send us email, commoncall@gmail.com

