

2014.03.16 Draft of Shared Values

1. Unity in Essentials, Diversity in non-essentials, Charity in all things
2. Transparency and Healthy Communication
3. UCC – Centered in the people, congregational polity, non-creedal, leadership is decentralized
4. Our Theology is Progressive; and that means:
 - God is Still Speaking
 - We are engaged in the “Emerging/Converging” conversation
 - Is a theology that invites questions
 - Experiential and Experimental
 - Includes diverse and wide ranging spiritual practices; including practices from other faith walks and traditions
 - The Pastor is coach and teacher and empowers others to use their gifts to achieve our mission
 - You can discover your faith here
 - Worship and Relationships are heartfelt
 - Worship and Ministry are Interactive
 - Everybody is welcome at the table
 - We do not: Judge, Exclude, Consider scripture to be inerrant or the absolute truth, Tell you what to believe
 - As congregationalists we are not: Hierarchical, “Evangelical” with an uppercase E, focused on Doctrine
5. Open and Affirming
6. Jesus Followers – we Love God, love neighbor as yourself
7. Action, Mission and Justice Oriented (Local AND Non Local (Pine Ridge))
 - Environmental, economic, racial, gender, sexual, educational justice matter
8. Committed to Community, Connection and Collaboration
 - Sharing the load
 - It takes a village
 - Seeking and Building Partnerships across the City and the World
9. Micah 8: Seek Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly with God
10. Multicultural, Multiracial
11. Worship needs to be about:
 - Sacred – Experience God/The Holy
 - Considers the mystical, mystery and beauty of God
 - Include Threshold moments that move us from our lives to experience of the Holy
 - Forgiveness-Reconciliation
 - Beloved-ness
 - Everybody included, everybody involved
 - Moves us from head to heart (18”)
 - Music opens the soul to God, includes multiple genres and is easy to sing
 - Reflects our context - neighbors
 - Joyful
 - Includes Story and Witness
 - Includes Confession
 - Includes Communion
 - Is Challenging and Intelligent