as naked on the cross. My direction was vulnerability in letting liturgy go wild. I am sorry that Dan Hochberg doesn’t want to go there but prefers the irate self-protection of the so-called “appropriate,” which is such a good costume to wear when vulnerability threatens. Secondly, I spend most of my life battling the religion of rules with the religion of compassion. I think the “rules people” spend a lot of time beating themselves and others with a stick. I write to make room for compassion in the ocean of rules that people use and abuse to confuse religion with self-righteousness. Finally, next time I write about liturgy, I hope I’ll find a way to get to the “clear meaning of Christianity.” Dan Hochberg thinks he has it; I do not. Instead I like to evoke and invoke in worship, even sometimes to provoke so that people who think they have the “clear” meaning of Christianity will be more creatively confused.

**Tikkun magazine is . . .**

. . . a vehicle for spreading a new consciousness. We call it a spiritual progressive worldview. But what is that?

What Do You Mean by “Spiritual”?

You can be spiritual and still be an atheist or agnostic. To be spiritual, you don’t have to believe in God or accept New Age versions of spirituality. You don’t need to give up science or your critical faculties. We use the word “spiritual” to describe all aspects of reality that cannot be subject to empirical verification or measurement: everything pertaining to ethics, aesthetics, music, art, philosophy, religion, poetry, literature, dance, love, generosity, and joy. We reject the notion that everything worthy of consideration to guide our personal lives and our economic and political arrangements must be measurable.

What’s a Spiritual Progressive?

To be a spiritual progressive is to agree that our public institutions, corporations, government policies, laws, education system, health care system, legal system, and even many aspects of our personal lives should be judged “efficient, rational, or productive” to the extent that they maximize love, caring, generosity, and ethical and environmentally sustainable behavior. We call this our New Bottom Line.

Spiritual progressives seek to build “The Caring Society: Caring for Each Other and Caring for the Earth.” Our well-being depends upon the well-being of everyone else and also on the well-being of the planet itself. So we commit to an ethos of generosity, nonviolence, and radical amazement at the grandeur of all that is, and seek to build a global awareness of the unity of all being.

If you are willing to help promote this New Bottom Line for our society, you are a spiritual progressive. And if you are a spiritual progressive, we invite you to join our Network of Spiritual Progressives at spiritualprogressives.org.