

your three
congregations

past, present, future

Congregation Present

Congregation Past

Congregation
Future





Congregation Past

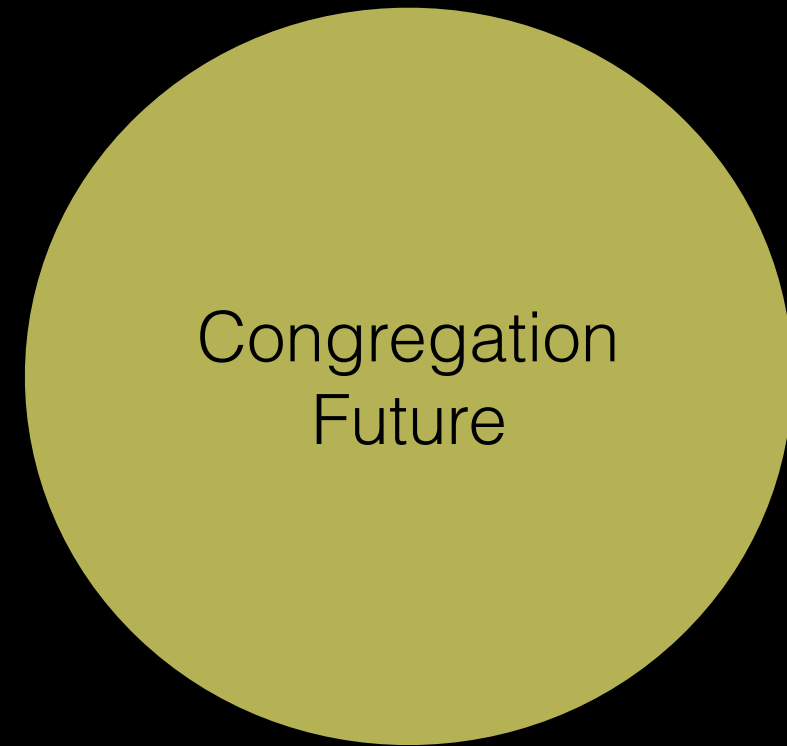
congregation past ...

Founders
Theologians
Mentors
Donors
Graveyards
Parents



congregation present ...

Multiple Belonging
Factions
Donors
Complainers
Supportive
Bringers, Inviters, Includes



congregation future ...

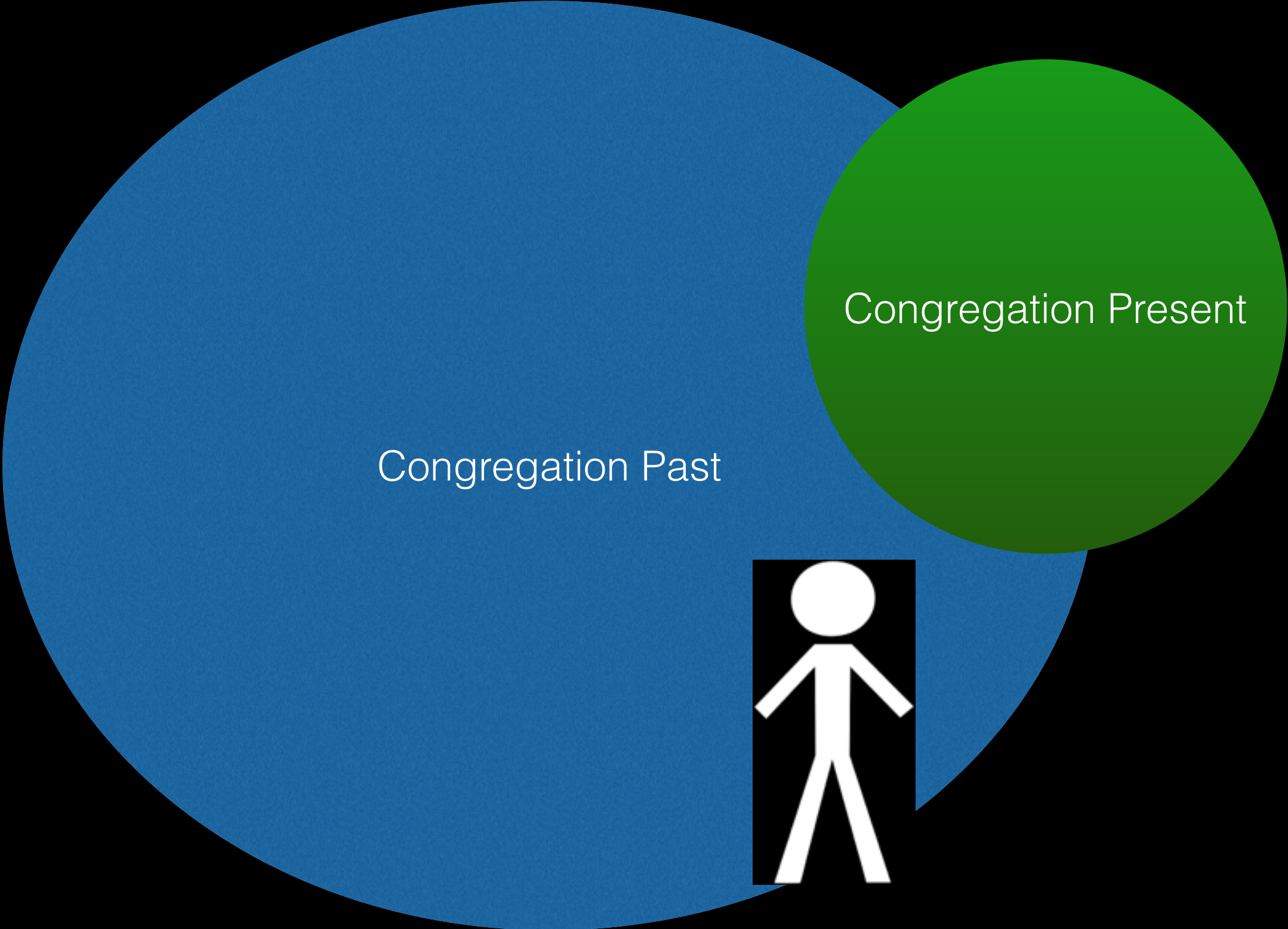
Children
Youth
Potential New Members
Potential Beneficiaries
Their Circles of Influence

Congregation Present

Congregation Past



Congregation



Congregation Past

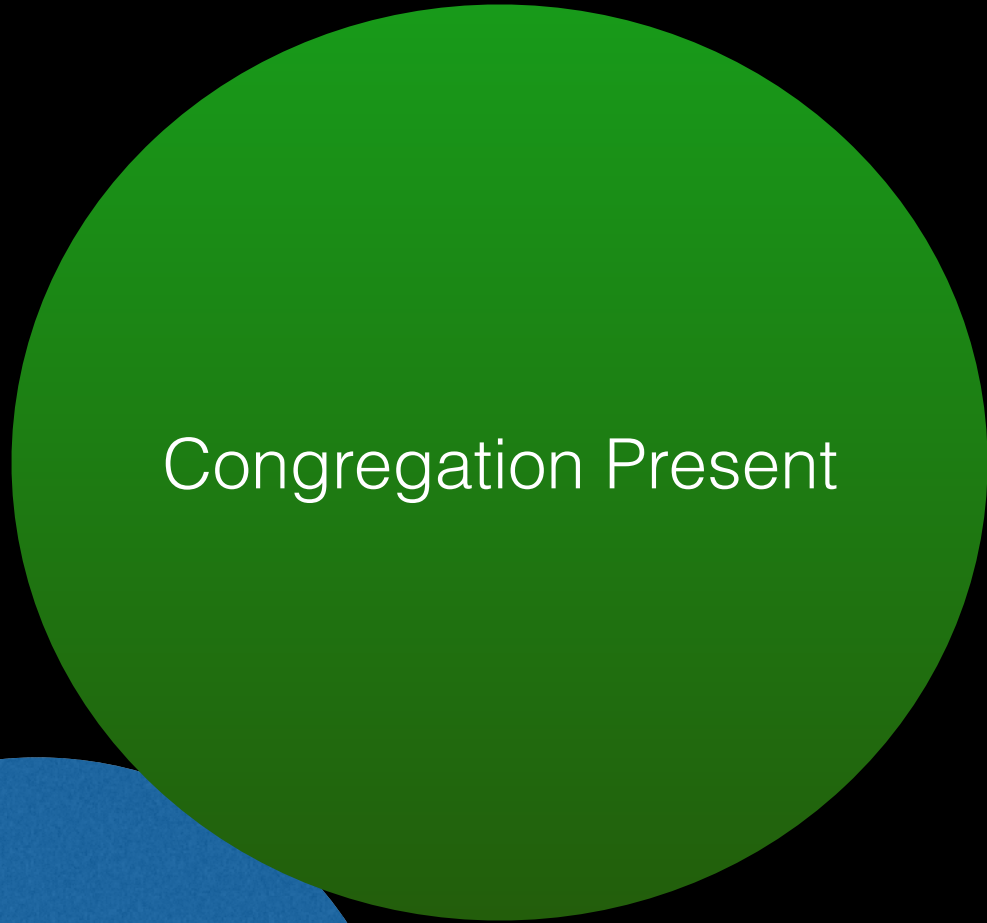
Congregation Present



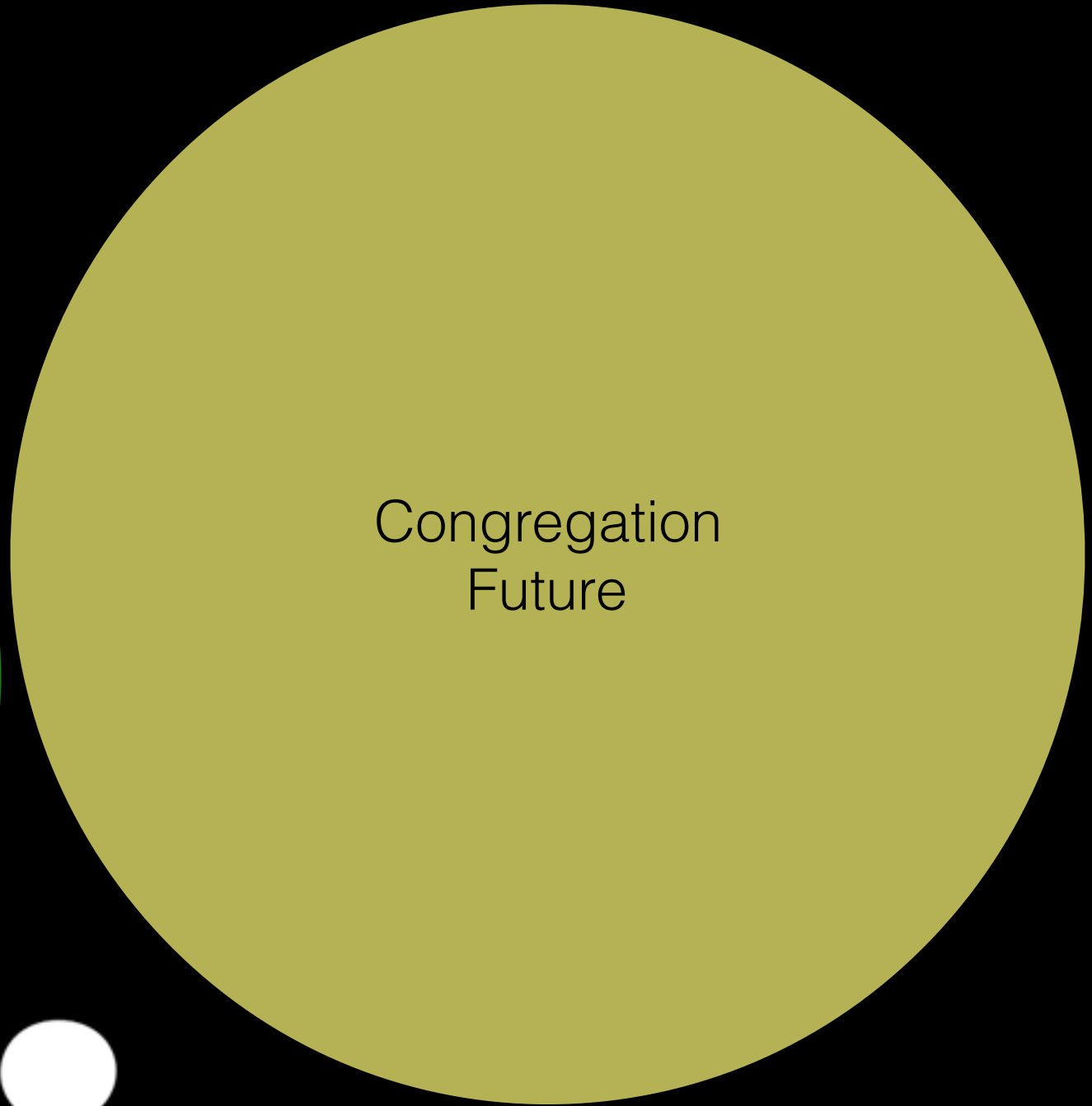
Congregation



Congregation Past



Congregation Present



Congregation
Future



Congregation Present

Congregation Past

Congregation
Future -
What issues, needs, challenges, will
this group face?





THE GREAT SPIRITUAL MIGRATION

Religion is at its best when it leads us forward, when it guides us in our spiritual growth as individuals and in our cultural evolution as a species. Unfortunately, religion often becomes more of a cage than a guide, a buffer to constructive change rather than a catalyst of it.

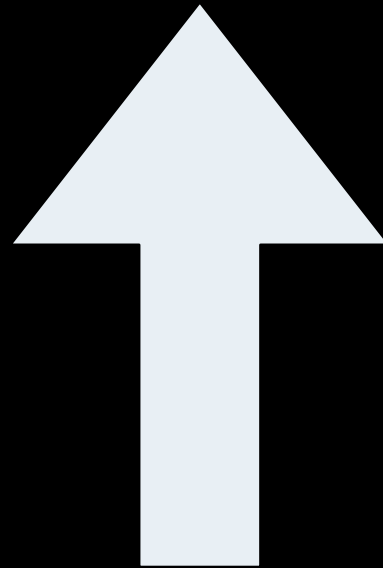
In times of rapid and ambiguous change, a regressive turn in religion may be understandable, but it is even more tragic. When a culture needs wise spiritual guidance the most, all it gets from religious leaders is a big dose of nostalgia.

Today, millions of us—Catholics, Evangelicals, mainline Protestants, and Orthodox Christians—share something that we seldom verbalize: we're worried that the “brand” of Christianity has been so compromised that many of us are barely able to use the label anymore

Our religions often stand for the very opposite of what our founders stood for.

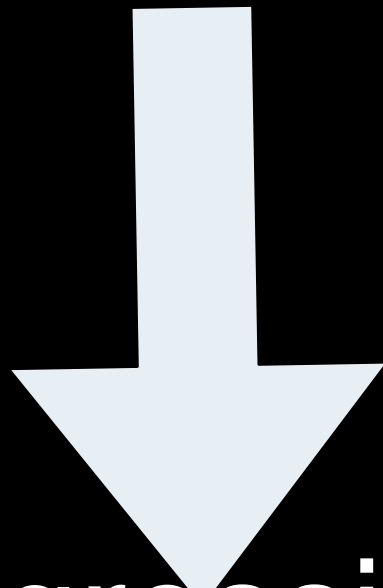
Visionary/Prophetic Religion

leading forward



Cautious/Conservative Religion

holding firm



Nostalgic/Regressive Religion

taking back

A spiritual migration

from system of beliefs to way of life/
way of love



Christianity is currently
defined for many by
adherence to a list or system
of beliefs.

What is the one greatest
commandment?

“You shall have the correct
beliefs system!”

(not)

What is the one greatest
commandment?

Love ...

and the second is equally
important ...

Jesus

Paul

John

James

what curriculum?

Love 101:

neighbor

stranger

outsider/outcast

enemy

Love 201:

self

not selfish

not self-hating

Love 301:

the earth

all creation

for neighbors & self

for God's sake

Love 401:

God

A theological migration:

from violent Supreme Being
to nonviolent Holy Spirit/Spirit of
Christ



A missional migration:

from organized religion (for self-protection)

to religion organizing for the common good

(institutions and movements in romance,
forming & deploying spiritual activists)



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