

JOIN PPC'S OPEN & AFFIRMING TEAM  
TO DISCUSS THE FILM:

# *"For the BIBLE*

# *Tells Me So"*

## For The **BIBLE** Tells Me So



"A tremendously moving  
exploration of family, religion,  
love and acceptance."

### WHEN?

Sunday November 21st at  
11:45 am, following  
worship service

### WHERE?

Join in-person in the PPC  
sanctuary or via zoom  
using the worship service  
link

### HOW CAN I WATCH THE FILM?

By entering this youtube link  
into your web browser:

[bit.ly/3BSxupX](https://bit.ly/3BSxupX)

### WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

Thoughts, reactions or  
questions about the film.  
Respect and an open mind!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING  
**COALITION**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



## Highlights from our past events:

*10/17 Conversation: With PPC & local church youth, and special guests Mandi Rice and Katherine Ballas*

### What is the younger generation looking for in a church home?

- Meaningful parts of worship: sharing joys & concerns, sharing music, passing of peace, communion.
- Active engagement with important justice issues like: Black Lives Matter movement, local outreach, opportunities like Laredo service trip, refugee assistance and support.
- An unequivocally open & affirming congregation, where you can be your whole self and speak freely about gender identity and sexuality, and where those things don't define people but are just accepted as part of folks' lives and experiences.
- Community where you can offer and receive support, feel and be authentic with those around you.
- People, including youth, from any faith tradition welcomed and invited to be part of conversations and church life.
- Caring for and connecting with your neighbor and with God, emphasized as much as practicing a particular type of faith.

Click [here](#) to check out a recording of the event!

## Highlights from our past events:

### *9/26 Panel Discussion: Open & Affirming, what difference does it make?*

#### From our panelists, representatives of four local Open and Affirming churches:

- Congregations need to avoid complacency and keep asking themselves the question: "What is God calling us to do next?"
- Being Open and Affirming is a justice issue; we do it because it's the right thing to do.
- A church needs a strong theological identity. People want to know where a church stands when they are church-shopping. Being ONA shows you are boldly tackling the big issues.
- We take the Bible seriously, but not literally.
- Plymouth Church (Belmont) is thriving since we became ONA in 2016: giving is up, youth numbers are up, our endowment has grown, and we have easily attracted young student ministers.
- Kids, especially teenagers, feel safer to be themselves since we became ONA.
- We now hold events exploring other justice issues like anti-racism.
- We started a coalition of churches and temples in our area called "Welcoming Communities of Faith", to raise awareness and advocate together, and to help LGBTQ+ people find a spiritual home.

Click [here](#) to check out a recording of the event!