

Council Covenant

- Assume positive intent: offer, recognize, and receive mercy, grace, and forgiveness
- Direct communication and avoiding triangles
- Bring concerns that can impact group dynamics to the whole group for conversation
- Encourage one another, even and especially in the face of real challenges
- Begin with – and pause for – prayer. We ground our work in God. Anyone can call a ‘time out’ for prayer!
- Keep in mind what we are leading, and who we are doing so with and for
- Offer clarity to our congregation, while engaging in discernment
- Engage in careful listening and “asking” (not “telling”) questions
- Take your seat: be fully present and engage in the meeting, recognizing the value of your contributions
- Practice timekeeping – and, trust in the process and that things will unfold in God’s good time
- Confidentiality: stop & think, who needs to know what and when, when in doubt ask, distinguish between the business of the council and the work of the council
- Check our assumptions, and be explicit about assumptions when we can