

Path for Strengthening Active Lay Ministry (PSALM)

Learning Community Covenant

In order to cultivate a rich and healthy learning community, I commit to the following practices:

- I will listen intently to the thoughts, feelings and opinions of others. I will listen for the “words beneath the words”.
- I will author my own story, speaking from my experience.
- I will suspend judgement and turn to wonder when listening to another. It is not my job to debate, to persuade or to “win” an argument.
- I will be open to learning new ideas about God, about myself and about others. I expect to change and grow as a result of my participation in this learning community.
- I will honor the confidentiality of the stories shared. If I want a story kept confidential, I will request this and the community will honor my request.
- I am in charge of my own well-being. If a conversation is too intense or disturbing for me, given my own story, I will take care of myself, even if it means taking a break from the conversation.
- I will be mindful and respectful of time, arriving on time and prepared for the work at hand. I will be aware of how often and how much time I spend speaking, allowing opportunities for silence and for others to speak.
- If I have a conflict with a member of the community, I will seek 1:1 discussion and reconciliation; if I want a third party present, I will ask for this.
- I will believe that we can emerge from this time of learning refreshed and renewed in faith, hope and love.

Signature

Date