

Ground Rules

- The roundtable centers on discussion and deliberation. It is not a debate.
- One person speaks at a time, and all points of view are acceptable.
- We are active listeners. Make an effort to understand the speaker.
- All ideas will be recorded whenever it is appropriate.
- Personal attacks are not acceptable. Respond to the point of view, not to the person.
- In any democratic process, we do not have to agree with what is being said, but we should respect the right of the person to articulate what he or she believes.
- The church council or leadership group does not have any predetermined opinions or choices about the outcomes of the deliberation.
- The moderator will facilitate the process to reach specific roundtable goals and is not a participant.
- no peer-to-peer discussions while one is talking
- respect of the agreed time schedule and speak time
- voluntary participation