

## Holy Manners\*

- Keep God at the center of everything we do
- Speak for ourselves
- Speak for a purpose
- Separate people from problems
- Allow for full and equitable participation
- Listen carefully without interruption
- Welcome the conflict of ideas
- Take a future orientation
- Demonstrate appreciation
- Honour the decisions of the body
- Commit to holding one another to account when we do not keep our holy manners
- Keep the discussion at the table
- Watch our body language
- Check in about good use of time
- Provide a process for allowing the quiet people to speak, with an invitation to speak
- Sincerely say what we really feel

\* The phrase “holy manners” comes from *Behavioural Covenants in Congregations* by Gil Rendle. United Church Moderator Marion Pardy made extensive use of the term during her time as moderator. There are a number of versions of “holy manners”.