**Our CIRCLE OF DIALOGUE GUIDELINES\***

1. **“Try On.”** Be open-minded to others’ ideas and feelings.
2. **It’s OK to Disagree.**  While we have many similarities, it’s OK to acknowledge our different perspectives. We assume we can disagree and still stay connected with one another.
3. **Learn to respond to others with honest, open questions** instead of counsel, corrections, or attack.
4. **Speak your truth in ways that respect other people’s truth.** Our views of reality may differ. Speak from your center to the center of the circle. Use “I” statements (I think, I feel, I believe), trusting others to do their own sifting.
5. **Practice “both/and” Thinking.** This invites us to see that more than one reality or perspective can be true at the same time, rather than “either/or”, right or wrong, good or bad. Focus on what is right, rather than who is right.
6. **Observe deep confidentiality.** Nothing said in this circle of trust will ever be repeated to other people.

\*Drawn from *Circles of Dialogue* Facilitator’s Guide, by Deborah Walker (SC State Museum June-Sept. 2016) and Circle of Trust “Touchstones” (copr. 2012 Center for Courage & Renewal, www.CourageRenewal.org)