Hallmarks for Speaking about the Quaker Way

In preparation for outreach and welcoming visitors, we invite Friends to consider speaking about the Quaker way in a manner that is positive and welcoming, sharing with newcomers what is meaningful and special about the Quaker Way in the lives of Friends today.

How might your conversations with newcomers shift if you adopt the following hallmarks?

**Use Positive Language**: Say what Quakers do believe and do “do,” rather than what Quakers don’t believe and don’t do.

**Use Very Little History**: Newcomers are usually interested first in what the Quaker way has to offer them today. History can be talked about later.

**Avoid Jargon**: Jargon, like monthly meeting and First Day School, can be confusing and can indicate that Quakers are a closed group. If needed—or used—then explain it.

**Don’t Criticize Other Religions or Other Branches of Quakerism**: There is no need to do this. Simply share what the Quaker way means is.

**Use Stories to Share Your Journey**: It isn’t necessary to speak on behalf of all Quakers everywhere, throughout time. Share from your heart!