



Outreach & Communications Thread Gathering Panel | October 21, 2023

Speaker, Meeting	Topic
Irene Oleksiw, Downingtown irene5951@gmail. com	Framing the program Objectives and schedule Practices of growing churches Why people go to church
Joshua Ponter, Haddonfield jponterhqm@gmail. com	The Newcomer Experience How new attenders first experience meeting, discerned through an "audit" process What a meeting can do to be more welcoming and more intentional about portraying the meeting as a source of services for spiritual growth and connection
Brad Sheeks, Newtown sheeksbrad@gmail. com	Integrating Newcomers into the Meeting What an effective "on ramp" looks like to establish a connection with newcomers How to engage them in activities that help them meet Friends and learn about Quakerism
Sallie Jones, Birmingham salliebjoness@gmail. ccom	Children & Youth Exploration and discovery aspect Attracting and keeping young families Considering families in every meeting decision
Guinevere Janes, Membership Dev Granting Group Clerk grants@pym.org	Membership Development Granting Group Kinds of activities that qualify for a grant, the application process and follow-up by the MDGG and the grantee www.pym.org/grants/membership-development
Irene Oleksiw, Downingtown irene5951@gmail. com	Beyond Meeting for Worship Silent worship is the centerpiece of the faith but not enough to anchor newcomers How to educate newcomers on Quaker beliefs Role of monthly forums or opening exercises, Friendly Bible Study, music
	Website Development Digital Outreach piece posted on PYM site/Resources FGC resources: FCGquakers.org , Programs, Quaker Communications Community of Practice (QCCOP), Develop a Meeting Website; Contact: Rashid Darden, Associate Secretary for Communications and Outreach

For the second part of this Thread Gathering, panelists will take stations at an “outreach fair” in the schoolhouse across the driveway, to give attendees the opportunity for one-on-one conversations. An additional resource here is Agnes Maderich, Barnegat Meeting, who has extensive experience with meeting-sponsored community events and what to expect from the effort.