

How To Be a Good Dialogue Participant

Actively Listen

Seek to understand the meaning and intent behind what is being said. Receiving a message does not mean agreeing with a message.

Ask Curious Questions

Reach out to people to learn about their perspective. Be authentically curious and ask questions to understand, not to dismiss or rebut.

Challenge Your Strongly Held Beliefs

Question your assumptions and open your mind to other points of view. To expand our understanding, we need to be adaptable and willing to learn.

Disagree With Respect

Disagreement does not have to result in a winner and loser. If we allow ourselves to listen and learn something from the conversation, and avoid hostility or demonization, then everyone wins.

Widen The Circle of Empathy

We are most empathetic with people we already know or who look like and feel like us. When we notice and pay attention to other people, we are more likely to feel concern for them and be moved by their experience. By deepening our relationships and expanding our understanding, we widen the circle of empathy, and naturally expand inclusion and belonging.

For more information about how to be a good CHQ Dialogue participant, visit chq.org/dialogue.

Weekly Schedule

CHQ Dialogues are hosted at Denominational Houses and other locations each week during the season. **You do not need to be affiliated with the faith community hosting the dialogue or any faith tradition to attend. All are welcome.** Dialogues last approximately 75 minutes and are included with all gate passes. Registration is not required.

All are welcome to join us in this opportunity to listen and learn from each other. Your voice matters.

Tuesdays

12:30 p.m. • Presbyterian House

Wednesdays

12:30 p.m. • Presbyterian House

3:30 p.m. • Catholic House

6:30 p.m. • Lutheran House

Thursdays

12:30 p.m. • Everett Jewish Life Center

3:30 p.m. • Methodist House

3:30 p.m. • Baptist House

4 p.m. • African American Heritage House*

6:30 p.m. • Disciples of Christ House

Fridays

12:30 p.m. • Lutheran House

3:30 p.m. • Episcopal House

3:30 p.m. • UU House

3:30 p.m. • Alumni Hall

**This dialogue is devoted to the AAHH lecture on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.*

All other dialogues are based on the theme and lectures from the week.



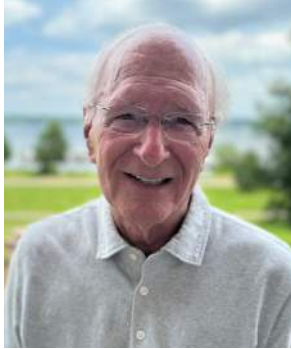
chq.org/dialogue

CHQ Dialogues are supported by the:

- Department of Religion
- Department of Community Relations
- IDEA Office



Leadership



Roger Doebke



Lynn Stahl



Robin Harbage



Hal Simmons



Cathy Digel



Amit Taneja and
Melissa Spas

Leadership responsibilities are shared by members of the community with years of experience in facilitating dialogues. They work during the summer season and as needed the rest of the year to help ensure you have opportunities for great dialogues.



CHQ Dialogue participants discuss the theme and lectures from the week in small group, facilitated gatherings.

What is CHQ Dialogues?

CHQ Dialogues is a program that provides an opportunity to participate in small-group, facilitated conversations **based on the theme and lectures from the week**. It is a way for Chautauquans to listen and learn from each other. The program is based on the ideal that people of different backgrounds and opinions can communicate in open, kind and compassionate ways to bridge differences with understanding and build community.

Why should I spend my time in a CHQ Dialogue?

Because facilitated conversations with other Chautauquans can enrich your experience. Lectures we hear at Chautauqua can be transformative. We never know when a speaker is going to connect the dots in a way that resonates with us so strongly that we start to think differently, act differently or choose to go down a different path in life. Through dialogue we can process what we are learning, deepen our understanding and broaden our perspective.

What is the purpose of CHQ Dialogues?

Since it was first offered in 2012, CHQ Dialogues sought to foster community, compassion and understanding by providing opportunities for conversations that matter. The program is built on two foundational values: the way we articulate our ideas is as important as the ideas themselves, and listening to the perspective of others is as important as expressing our own opinion. To date, close to 10,000 visitors have participated in a CHQ Dialogue. Our vision is that Chautauquans will experience dialogue as an important tool for bridging differences and model dialogue skills in their home communities, workplaces and organizations they participate in.

What can I expect?

You will engage with others in small groups of six to 15 participants to discuss what you have heard from the stages of Chautauqua during the week. A facilitator will help your group stay focused on the subject matter, maintain respectful dialogue, and ensure that each participant has an equal chance to express themselves. All dialogues follow the same format, but each discussion will be unique based on what resonated with participants in that group.

Who are the facilitators?

Volunteers who become facilitators come from all walks of life and from across the nation. They come to Chautauqua for one week or more to join with other facilitators as a team. Facilitators participate in off-season online training and real-time training sessions during the season. Each week the facilitators meet to evaluate the effectiveness of their facilitation and to improve their facilitation skills by learning from each other's experiences.

If you are interested in becoming a facilitator, please email Robin Harbage at robin.harbage@gmail.com.