

Subject: NYYM YAF newsletter February 2016
From: Gabi Savory Bailey- YA Field Secretary <nny.m.yafs@gmail.com>
Date: 2/10/16, 12:10 PM
To: <paul@nny.m.org>

Now you know!

A newsletter for Young Adult
Friends and Families
of New York Yearly Meeting
February 2016

You are getting this newsletter if you are a Young Adult Friend, 18- 35 ish (YAF) associated with New York Yearly Meeting (NYYM), or have a family in NYYM. Feel free to unsubscribe if you do not wish to be a part of this list by clicking the unsubscribe button at the bottom of the email. You can also change your email address there. Know someone who would like to be added? Let me know! On the recent survey, many of you indicated that you would like to know about what is happening in the Yearly Meeting, as well as what opportunities there are for committee work, fellowship and conferences. I also heard from a lot of people that they are looking to know others YAF and Families. You told me that you wanted to hear about what I was doing as well. SO, I will be sending out e-blasts to keep you informed of all the great things that are happening in NYYM. Please let me know if there is something that you would like to know, that I can address. I hope this helps to include more people, especially those not on Facebook, in the wider conversation.



Young Adult Friends gather for a Mini Retreat at 15th St. MM
photo credit: Jillian Smith, Saratoga MM

How can we make the meeting a community in which each person is accepted and nurtured, and strangers are welcome? Seek to know each other in the things which are eternal, bear the burden of each other's failings and pray for one another. As we enter with tender sympathy into the joys and sorrows of each other's lives, ready to give help and to receive it, our meeting can be a channel for God's love and forgiveness.

Advices and Queries #18, The Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

Greetings Friend! **

Full disclosure: I am still very sleep deprived, and I really want to get you this information as soon as possible. SO, this newsletter will be FAR from perfect. There will be many typos, there will be clunky layout, it will be stuck together. It may not look so pretty. But in an effort to keep perfection from being the enemy of the good, I present this to you, warts and all.

Thank you for your patience.

I want to thank you all for your love and support of me and my family these last 15 months. I appreciate your patience as I took an extended leave to care for myself and my kids. I have Postpartum anxiety and Postpartum depression. This is a condition that many mothers live with. It is treatable. It is also very hard. I have felt lifted and held by all your prayers and well wishes. I'm excited to be back to this work, and catching up with Friends about how God is moving for you.

I'm also eager to bring you a PLETHORA of opportunities to be involved, learn, meet Friends, and enjoy fellowship. There are SO MANY great plans afoot!

Looking for ways to actively participate in undoing racism? Feel unsure of how to enter the dialogue on Racism in a meaningful way? The white privilege conference is coming to Philly in April, and NYYM is part of the host committee. There is financial support available. Spots are filling up, and the deadline for financial aid is FEBRUARY 23. BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION. [See article below.](#)

Do you miss Circle of Young Friends retreats? Have you drifted out of touch from your Friends in youth programs? Have you just come to Friends and want to meet people? Are you interested in having fun, worship, fellowship a weekend in NYC, and so much more?? WE ARE THROWING A PARTY IN NYC!! SAVE THE DATE!! June 17-19 . [See article below.](#)

Want to meet YAF from all over North America? This is a great opportunity! **Check out [YAFCON](#) at Pendle Hill June 3-8.** It is VERY affordable, and a great experience.

Looking way to live into your faith more fully? Consider a year of service to Quaker Voluntary Service (QVS). [There's info below.](#)
Application deadline is March 15!!!!

Are you interested in working with the youth of our Yearly Meeting? Your Monthly Meeting? The second Youth Institute is coming up at Powell House March 27-29. There will be opportunities to brainstorm and share First Day School activities, and time to talk about how to best nurture our youth. [see below.](#)

SPRING SESSIONS IS COMING UP on April 1-3! [see info below.](#)

This newsletter features the beautiful photography of Jillian Smith, Saratoga MM. Do you have something you would like to share with YAF and Families in NYYM? I would welcome photographs, artwork, poetry, essays, haiku, meaningful quotes and passages, you name it!

****A word about this newsletter. I know that there is a lot of information. I invite you to skim, or to look at the list of articles and choose what is relevant to you. I am not a graphic designer, and soon I will have someone help me with layout, and editing, but until then, use what is helpful to you, and refer back when you need it. Spread it around. Send it to your clerks, print it and post it at your meetings. Use it however it is helpful!****

Peace and Blessings,

Gabi Savory Bailey

Young Adult Field Secretary, NYYM—nyym.yafs@gmail.com

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- [What is YACC?](#)
- [Where has Gabi been? Where is she going?](#)
- [White Privilege Conference. April 14-17 in Philly. Register now to get a spot and apply for financial support.](#)
- [Upcoming conferences at Powell House](#)
- [Upcoming Pendle Hill Conferences-- YAFCON 2016](#)
- [Upcoming NYYM Retreats and FIRST EVER QUAKER PARTY!](#)
- [VOLUNTEER, JOB and INTERN opportunities](#)
- [UPCOMING NYYM EVENTS : Meeting for Discernment, Youth worker events, Spring sessions, Summer Sessions...Come check it out!](#)

What is YACC?

The Young Adults Concern Committee (YACC) is a committee of NY Yearly Meeting. It is the committee that specifically carries at concern for Young adults (18-35 ish) YACC also plans the Young Adult Friends (YAF) activities for Summer Sessions each year, supports the mini retreats, represents YAF to different committees, and works closely with the Young Adult Field Secretary. This committee is one way that Young Adults can find voice in the Yearly Meeting. YACC is also interested in the spiritual nurture and care of YAF. YACC meets regularly throughout the year on the internet, and also in person at Summer Sessions, and one other annual meeting.

The current clerk is Glenn Josey of 15th St. MM. If you have any questions, ideas or concerns please contact a member of YACC. You can also contact me to put you in touch with YACC. Are you interested in getting involved with YACC? Contact me at nvym.yafs@gmail.com, or Glenn at gjosey95@gmail.com.



photo credit: Jillian Smith, Saratoga MM

Where has Gabi been? Where is she going?

My travel schedule is in flux at this time.

Would you like me to come to your Meeting, or Region? Would you like someone to support the work that is already being done there? I am eager to travel to do a program, support an existing program, or simply sit and listen. Contact me at nvym.yafs@gmail.com

**NYYM part of host team for the White Privilege Conference in Philly April 14-17,
REGISTER NOW for a spot and financial support.
(conference is filling up fast, and financial aid deadline is February 23!!)**

What is the White Privilege Conference? The White Privilege Conference (WPC) "examines challenging concepts of privilege and oppression and offers solutions and team building strategies to work toward a more equitable world."

WPC is a conference designed to examine issues of privilege beyond skin color. WPC is open to everyone and invites diverse perspectives to provide a comprehensive look at issues of privilege including: race, gender, sexuality, class, disability, etc.—the ways we all experience some form of privilege, and how we're all affected by that privilege.

WPC is committed to a philosophy of "understanding, respecting and connecting."

Who attends the WPC?

The conference is unique in its ability to bring together high school and college students, teachers, university faculty and higher education professionals, nonprofit staff, activists, social workers and counselors, healthcare workers, and members of the spiritual community and corporate arena. Annually, more than 1,500 attend from more than 35 states, Australia, Bermuda, Canada, and

Germany.

FGC's invitation

Friends General Conference is one of the Conference sponsors. In March 2015, FGC invited New York Yearly Meeting to join the 2016 White Privilege Conference host team. . At Spring Sessions 2015, the gathered body of the Yearly Meeting **approved** becoming a co-host of the Conference.

A White Privilege Conference Task Group was formed in the summer of 2015 under the Witness Coordinating Committee "to publicize, support, and encourage our participation in the Conference."

Our goal is to send 100 Friends to the Conference.

For the past four years, FGC has provided a registration discount, a Quaker hospitality room for fellowship and worship, and home hospitality for Friends attending the Conference. We look forward to joining Friends from near and far.

[want to see a information sheet? Click here.](#)

[looking for more information or financial support? See the NYYM website here.](#)

Upcoming Powell House weekends

www.powellhouse.org

February 19-21 Creativity & Spirituality 2016

If art leads you to a deeper spiritual journey or your spiritual journey leads you to be more creative, or if you just want to explore the relationship between creativity and spirituality, this retreat is for you.

Through all forms of creativity we find opportunities for deepening our spiritual journey. In a creative community we will delve into the interrelationship between creativity and spirituality through a variety of art forms: **quilting, weaving, sculpting with clay, painting with watercolors, knitting, crochet, upholstery, music, and photography.** Each area will be lead by a specialist, and the time will be rich with worship and creating. Last year we added **baking** - yum! We're doing it again this year. The weekend culminates with a whole group sharing of our creative process and our creations.

This weekend has become one of our most popular, so we're in both houses. Register early to reserve your space!

Register by February 4th: \$230/adults; \$115/ages 13-22; \$57.50/infants-12, \$165/commuters.

February 26-28--Getting Older 11th & 12th Grade & Young Adults

We all do it. In different ways. At different speeds. There are new responsibilities and new opportunities. Successes and failures along the way. There's no single recipe for getting it right but there may be some basic ingredients and skills that help. We'll spend the weekend cooking mostly healthy, sometimes decadent, food together and sharing recipes for moving into adulthood and creating a full and good life there. Fee: \$125

March 18-20--Parents at Play

Ever feel that living with kids is like a game where the rules change every turn? A game where you are not sure if the point is to just have fun or to win? What if you "win" and find out it is not fun anymore? How does your family determine their rules and their goals?

Join other parents in exploring how to keep sanity, playfulness, and openness in the family as your kids grow. As parents, we have a set of questions and a set of answers. Wouldn't it be nice if your answers were actually to your questions? Or were even marginally applicable to your own children?

You can look forward to small group discussions, listening deeply and being listened to, with a mix of activities and games to get our bodies, minds, and spirits in a good place. Plus snacks, of course. (Your children may not want your answers, but they WILL want your snacks.)

Parents of any age and with any age kids are invited, even those parents who have not yet hatched their first kid. At the same time, there will be a 6th-8th grade youth conference called "Hubbard and the Cukes." So drop your middle school age kid next door at the Anna Curtis Youth Center with Chris DeRoller and then join the "Parents at Play" in Pitt Hall.

Julie Glynn is the parent of three young women now in high school and college. She was once a kid herself and, as a youth, she found joy and fellowship at Powell House. She helps with First Day School at Brooklyn Monthly Meeting.

Mike Clark has been the Powell House youth program co-director for 15 years. Previously, he worked as a Family Support Worker in rural Florida. He has helped raise two children, now young adults, who have successfully disproved several of his parenting theories.

Register by March 4th: \$230/adults; \$115/ages 13-22; \$57.50/infants-12; \$165/commuters.

April 22-24--Youth Institute

Youth Institute 2016: Living Into Community Together

Youth Institute 2015: Living Into Community Together

Hosted by Chris DeRoller and Mike Clark, under the care of the Youth Committee of NYYM

Join us for an action-packed, joyous gathering filled with helpful stuff for anyone interested in creating multigenerational faith communities.

The Institute will offer a forum for participants to:

- Share what is working in monthly meetings and regions.
- Explore ways through the difficulties encountered.
- Discuss frameworks for thinking about programming for youth.

There will be hands on training in various aspects of youth work per the interest of participants through a choice of mini-workshops, which might include:

- Exploring mental health and well-being issues
- Games in spiritual work
- Quaker business practice for young Friends
- Quaker teens and current events
- Good kids/bad kids: when expectations and behaviors clash
- Sexuality
- Using art to explore spirituality
- Youth and spirituality
- Worshipping with youth

The Institutes are open to anyone interested in making their meeting a multigenerational faith community. Plenary sessions will be designed to include Friends of all ages.

ALSO April 22-24 at Powell House--Playing in the Light 2016

Playing in the Light: Godly Play/Faith & Play Training for Quakers

This powerful way of being with children can transform your First Day School or Friends school classroom, and nurture your own spiritual life. Learn and practice skills to help children explore the existential limits of their lives through wonder, play, and core stories from the Bible and Quaker faith and practice. These stories are scripted and tested to work well with multi-age groups of children, as well as in multi-generational settings. A certified trainer will model stories, and you will have an opportunity to practice them with your peers. Discussions and teaching modules include:

- exploring the spirituality of children
- considering the "unspoken" lessons of the teaching space and classroom structure
- supporting the circle of children and working with multi-age groups and diverse needs
- weaving Godly Play/Faith & Play stories into a First Day School program with other religious education and spiritual nurture resources available to Friends

Workshop facilitator **Melinda Wenner Bradley**, a member of West Chester Friends Meeting (Philadelphia Yearly Meeting), is the clerk of the Faith & Play Working Group and an accredited Godly Play trainer who works with Quaker meetings and Friends schools around the country.

This workshop is limited to 10 Friends.

Upcoming Pendle Hill weekends and conferences

For a complete list of upcoming weekends click here: www.pendlehill.org

June 3-8 2016 **YAFCON: Young Adult Friends Conference**

Young Adult Friends and seekers (ages 18-35) are invited to Pendle Hill's annual intensive six-day conference – Continuing Revolution – designed to strengthen a networked generation of awakened and effective spiritually grounded change agents. This year, we will be focusing on the Integrity testimony. Check out the things we're reading, listening to, and watching to start engaging with this topic in advance on

our [Facebook page](#). The program includes inspirational speakers, workshops and trainings, worship and worship-sharing, fellowship, community-building activities, opportunities for movement, and discernment opportunities.

Volunteer, Job and Intern Opportunities !

The annual Continuing Revolution conference is designed for all young adult Friends who feel a movement in our generation to create the world we believe is possible and to live into Right Relationship with the Divine, one another and the earth.

Quaker Voluntary Service (QVS)

The annual conference is open and welcoming to young adult Quakers of all backgrounds, experiences and Friends' theologies. While we recognize that this gathering is firmly rooted in the unprogrammed Friends' tradition, we also believe the thematic content to be urgently relevant to all branches of Quakerism and hope all interested young adults will feel that their voices belong at this table.

[Please click here to learn more and get facebook, registration and program details.](#)

Quaker Voluntary Service is an 11-month experiment, living at the intersection of transformational spirituality and activism. Young adults work full-time in professional positions at community based organizations addressing a wide range of issues, while living in a cooperative house and worshipping with, and being mentored by, local Quakers. They receive housing, transportation, food, health insurance, and a small stipend, while engaging in regular self-led workshops and retreats that allow for continuing education in



becoming a short-term resident at the Quaker Intentional Valley is offering an opportunity for people interested in (STIR). STIRs will create self-designed and self-directed a period of one to six months. These projects could focus on

ials
) or the structure of community (for example, governance, QIVC is seeking STIRs who resonate with the intentions of our community, and who are willing to dedicate themselves to helping us fulfill those intentions. STIRs strive with the rest of the community to live a spiritually focused life, contribute to our village setting, explore alternative economic systems, live in unity and harmony with the earth, and live joyfully and in service to others. QIVC welcomes participants who are diverse in race, age, ethnicity, gender, sexual preference, physical ability, and economic situations.

QIVC asks STIRs to make a monthly monetary contribution on a sliding scale, up to \$350/month, to be determined in conjunction with the community. I am in the process of scheduling YAF Mini retreats for any region of NYYM. Please contact me at

nnyy.yafs@gmail.com if you would like a retreat in your region or monthly meeting. To find out more about QIVC, visit our website at www.qivc.org. You can also email us at info@qivc.org or call (518) 392-0289 and ask for Noah Palmer.

NYYM Young Adult Concerns Committee is throwing a party, and YOU ARE INVITED!!

Save the Date

The Young Adult Concerns Committee of the New York Yearly Meeting invites YOU to join us for a weekend of joyful connection, and deepening of spiritual relationships with Friends old and new for...

Quite-possibly-the-first-ever
Quaker Party*
JUNE 17-19, 2016

Who's Invited?

Every Friend, friend of Friends, long-lost Friend, relative of Friends, or friendly person wandering by who finished high school in 1990 or after...ish from NYYM, NEYM, PhYM, BYM and Beyond!

Where?

NEW YORK CITY
(Couches/Hosts will be provided!)

More info to come soon!!!

*Not, like, y'know, a frat party, but a connecting/laughing/playing/singing/celebrating/fellowshipping/worshipping party.



AVAILABLE NOW!! Did you grow up as a Friend and drift away? Do you no longer live near your home meeting? Did you find Quaker friends in college? Are you an attender who wants to meet more people? Do you yearn for time Young Adult Friends from your local or Yearly Meeting? Do you want to meet YAF from other nearby Yearly Meetings? THIS IS FOR YOU! Please share this with anyone and everyone who might be interested! Print it and bring it to your meeting. Let's find all those Friends we've love touch with! Email your PoHo and gathering friends. Let's connect! PLEASE SHARE. [Also check out the facebook event here.](#)

UPCOMING NYYM EVENTS!
SAVE THE DATE!

(Couches) Hosts will be provided.

February 27--Meeting for Discernment--Westbury Meeting

550 Boston Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590

Every Friend, friends of Friends, long-lost Friends, relatives of Friends, or friendly person wandering by who finished high school in 1990 or after...ish, from NYYM, NEYM, PhYM, BYM and Beyond.

9:00 am Coffee and signing in

Do you or someone else you know want to be on an email list or contacted personally? please email Gabi nnyym.yafs@gmail.com or Emily at epruvance@hotmail.com

9:30 am Worship begins
4:00 pm Meeting for Discernment ends

[Download the flyer.](#)

Meeting for discernment is a chance for extended worship among New York Yearly Meeting Friends, a chance to hear and experience what is rising in our meetings and in our selves. It is a way to bring our meetings together and to get to know each other better. The meeting is a full day, with lunch provided in between.

- Come hear and experience what is rising in our meetings and in our selves.
- Bring our meetings together, and get to know each other better.
- Share extended worship among New York Yearly Meeting Friends.
- Come let your voice and your spirit participate.

Our query is:

What is alive, engaging, exciting in your meeting? What is alive in you?

We are ready to hear where Friends are alight, led, and enthusiastic.

Where is the spark of Spirit in our meetings? In ourselves?

Lunch will be provided. We request a cash donation of \$15 to cover lunch and childcare. A reflections session for those who wish to stay will be from 4:15 to 5:15.

The registration form is on the upcoming events page on the NYYM website, NYYM.org. For more information, email MfDSC.NYYM@gmail.com.

Snow date: March 5.

March 12--Creating One Spiritual Community: Integrating Children into the Spiritual Life of the Community--A Retreat for All Ages

Brooklyn Meetinghouse --110 Schermerhorn St., Brooklyn, New York

[Download a flyer.](#)

How can our meetings better integrate our children into the spiritual life of our Meetings? How can we give them a voice in their experience of Quakerism and an awareness of Quaker process? Participants will leave with new energy, new ideas, and new tools to implement these ideas.

Sessions will explore both the worship and the community aspects of Quakerism, including:

- *Children in the circle of meeting life: joys and challenges*
- *Supporting children's spiritual development*
- *Hands-on approach to teaching children Quaker process*

* Some parts of the day will be multigenerational and childcare will also be provided.

Who should attend? Religious Education Committee members, Ministry & Counsel Committee members, Parents, Families, and anyone with a concern for the spiritual life of our children. ***It is recommended that Meetings send two, or more, participants to the session. There is no cost to attend.***

Facilitators:

Mary Harpster has served on Ministry & Counsel and Religious Education Committees; as a First Day School teacher she develops programming that gives the students input into Meeting life.

Melinda Wenner Bradley leads religious education workshops for yearly meetings, FGC, Pendle Hill and Friends schools. She serves on the NYYM Youth Committee, and is the former clerk of the Children's Spiritual Life Committee of Philadelphia YM.

April 1-3 Spring Sessions is coming to Central NJ!

This is an easy commute from NYC and Northern NJ, and is a wonderful opportunity to see what committees and the body of NYYM are doing. What is Spring Sessions and why should you care? Spring Sessions is a time when we gather as a yearly meeting body, as we do in the Summer. During the weekend there is time for worship, fellowship, committees, and Business Worship.

[click here for more info](#)

A great opportunity during Sessions is staying with a Quaker host and getting to know someone better and get free hospitality at the same time!

I really like Spring and Fall Sessions because it is a low cost, shorter, low commitment way of being involved and seeing the work of [New York Yearly Meeting](#). Someone described it to me as like a buffet. You can visit, and taste what is going on, and you are not committed to anything big. It is easy to get to from NYC. And there is scholarship help. Money should be no issue. Questions? Ask me!!

There will be Youth programming for ages 0-18 throughout the whole sessions weekend.

Questions? Please contact me, Gabi Savory Bailey, and I will get you to the right people. (nyym.yafs@gmail.com)

Save the Date! The 321st Summer Sessions of NYYM July 24-30, 2016

Stay tuned for information!



Joyful Wednesdays at 15th St. MM. Interested? contact emily, eprovince@hotmail.com
Photo credit: Jillian Smith, Saratoga MM

[friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

Do you have ideas for this newsletter? I love feedback! Do you have photos, drawings, stories, news items, jokes, quotes? Send 'em over! nnyy.yafs@gmail.com

**Inhale Love.
Exhale Gratitude**

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