

Youth Programs at NYYM Spring and Fall Sessions

Ideas from 2014 and 2015 sessions

Fall Sessions 2015

Teen Program

Friday evening at Powell House, two youth and two adult leaders came together and prepared a soup, sharing fellowship.

Saturday morning at Doane Stuart, the youth gathered together in the cafeteria after registration. There were a total of 7 youth, 4 of whom joined us from an AVP group. The AVP group's 2 leaders along with 2 young adults and another interested adult joined us for the day, bringing our total group, including our 2 program leaders, to 14 people.

We began with a session on activism, which also became a time for the Quaker youth to share with the non-Quaker youth about Quaker beliefs. We played a game and discussed privilege and how to communicate with those who are different from you.

In the late morning, we took three vehicles to the Hill Street Inn in Troy; a supportive housing program (part of Joseph's House and Shelter) for people who have been chronically homeless and live with disabilities. Together we prepared and served lunch to tenants, and many of us sat to eat and visit with them.

2015 Spring Sessions

Youth Program

The theme for the youth program will be "What is a Quaker Life"? We will try to find a way to live in the world with our Quaker values intact. We will have visits with older Friends, play games, do some service projects, watch movies, and come together as a community. There will be one group for 7th - 12th graders and another for 2nd - 6th graders. Child care will be provided to the youngest ones. Please send a registration form for each youth who will be participating. Childcare will be available only if requested in advance. Parents are responsible for any children registered after March 27, 2015.

Spring Sessions 2014

Youth Program

(1) Pre-Sessions: Effort (via email, telephone and personal conversations) extending over several months; finding childcare providers, several different program facilitators, overnight Adults for teens; trying to develop a program that accommodated few or many children depending upon who showed up; creating programs that did not rely on having someone deliver materials to a certain site on a certain day (too much likelihood of failure). Creating a program that adjusted to parents who thought "yes" then "no" then "maybe" then finally "no" then last minute "yes".

Spent wonderful time in conversation and email contact with the PoHo staff and the two Coordinators from Fall 2013 Sessions. Received lists of suggestions from each and reflections from each and used those to work with volunteer facilitators to create the program for Spring 2014.

One of my first questions was about the foundational purpose of the Youth Program for Sessions- was it to provide childcare for the adults who needed to be attending to business