

**Subject:** NYYM YAF and family February newsletter- sorry for the repeat  
**From:** Gabrielle Savory Bailey- NYYM Young Adult Fieldsecretary <nnyy.yafs@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 2/13/15, 5:34 PM  
**To:** <paul@nyym.org>

## Now you know!

A newsletter for Young Adult  
Friends and Families  
of New York Yearly Meeting  
February 2015

*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.*



Greetings Friend! \*\*

I am back from Maternity leave, and so excited about all the amazing opportunities and activities that are abounding now. On October 31, 2014, Isaac Heron was born into our family. He is doing great! We all are getting to know each other, and adjust to our new life as a family of 4. We have been so appreciative of all the well wishes, blessings and prayers that have been covering us during this time.

***Full disclosure: I am 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 will 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 know many of you have been hit hard by a very snowy winter. I find it hard to remember that beneath that snow is so much new life. Sometimes there seems to be a lull in our own journeys, and we aren't sure where there is life, and yet, in an instant life may burst forth finding us newly energized. I have so much to share with you that I think might be of interest. I encourage you to look and find something that you haven't tried before, or even that you feel you do not have time or space to do, but want to. I find that sometimes the places I do not think I can go, are exactly what I need to be doing, especially if I have been caught in a rut. Take a look! There is no harm in thinking and dreaming.

COMING UP FAST is the Creativity and Spirituality Weekend at Powell House February 27-March 1. This is a GEM of a weekend. You do not have to consider yourself to be creative to attend. There will be facilitators for knitting, crocheting, quilting, weaving, photography, sculpture, painting, baking, and so much more. You do not need any prior knowledge in these arts to participate. Come as you are!! Meet your friends there! We use both houses. People of all ages welcome!!! It is fully multigenerational. It is amazing. honest. see the burb below for more info.

Do you miss Circle of Young Friends retreats? Do you long for the opportunity to meet and be with other Young Adult Friends? We are Getting our mini retreats up and running again this year. We are looking for meetings who would like to host one. The responsibility of the host meeting is not a lot, and it is a great way to get Young Adults and Families to visit. Email me if you are interested in having your meeting host one. **There is one already scheduled for May 2, at Adirondack MM.** More information will be forthcoming. If you are interested in attending one, and not hosting, it is a low cost, low time commitment way to gather with YAF and recharge your batteries. I hope to see you at one soon!

Want to meet YAF from all over North America? This is a great opportunity! **Check out [YAFCON](#) at Pendle Hill June 5-10.** It is VERY affordable, and a great experience.

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**

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- [UPCOMING NYYM EVENTS : Meetings for Discernment, Spring Sessions and 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 oversees the Circle of Young Friends (CYF) and the retreats they plan. YACC also plans the CYF activities for Summer Sessions each year. 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 Friends between 18-35 ish. YACC meets regularly throughout the year on the internet, and also in person at Summer Sessions, and one other annual meeting.

Currently sitting on this committee are: Jens Braun- Old Chatham MM, Rosie Stillman—Montclair MM, Audrey Jaynes—Montclair MM, Jens Braun--Old Chatham MM, , Alanna Badgley—Poughkeepsie MM, Joy Meilke--Wilton MM, Robin Mullaney, Nick Rozard, Alfred MM, Mauricio Alexander-- Brooklyn MM, Elena Callehan--Brooklyn, 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? They are actively looking for Friends who have gifts in organizing conferences, reaching out to new people, spiritual nurture, recognizing gifts, eldering, hospitality, and community development. Contact me at [nyym.yafs@gmail.com](mailto:nyyym.yafs@gmail.com), or co-clerks Alanna Badgely and Audrey Jaynes.



## **Where have I been? Where am I going?**

**February 27-March 1-- participating in the Powell House Creativity Weekend**  
**March 6-7 --Old Chatham MM for Meetings for Discernment, Old Chatham, NY**  
**March 8-- visit to Rockland MM**  
**March 27-29 Consultation at Stony Point**  
**April 10-12 Spring Sessions- Oakwood School, Poughkeepsie, NY**  
**May 2 YAF Mini Retreat, Adirondack MM, Glens Falls, NY**  
**May 3 Worship with Adirondack MM**  
**May 15-17 Farmington Scipio Spring Gathering**

**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 [nnyym.yafs@gmail.com](mailto:nnyym.yafs@gmail.com)**

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## **Upcoming Powell House and Pendle Hill weekends**

[www.powellhouse.org](http://www.powellhouse.org)

### February 27-March 1 Creativity and Spirituality

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, or photography. Each area will be led by a specialist, and the time will be rich with worship and creating. 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 using both houses. Last year we added upholstery. This year, we're adding baking. What fun!

QUILTING, WEAVING, SCULPTING, WATERCOLORS, KNITTING, CROCHET, UPHOLSTERY, BAKING, MUSIC

Register by February 10th: \$220/adults; \$110 ages 13-22 & commuters; \$55 infants-12. After February 10th: \$240/\$120/\$60

### March 13-15 Doing Pastoral Care, It's Not Just for Pastors

Pastoral care: where people offer help and care to others in their meetings, churches, or wider community. Pastoral care includes listening, supporting, encouraging, and caring. Pastoral Care means both "being" and "doing." When do we need to just "be" with another and when do we need to "do" for another? How do we live into stronger, more connected meeting communities? Our experience is that when pastoral care is done well, joy and grace abound.

Here are some of the areas that we'll be working with during the weekend. If you want to practice or learn more about any of these, come and be a part of this gathering of Friends: spiritual hospitality, ministry of presence, support committees, meetings for healing, acute or long-term care, avoiding burn-out, care committees

Facilitators: Ruth Ann Bradley, Poplar Ridge MM, Rachel V. Ruth, Poughkeepsie MM, and Ann Davidson, Farmington MM,

### March 27-29 Playing in the Light: Godly Play/Faith&Play Training for Quakers

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 multiage 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*

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.**

### March 27-29--Youth Institute

This is the first in a series of Youth Institutes offered under the auspices of New York Yearly Meeting's Youth Committee.

The institutes are open to anyone interested in making their meeting a multi-generational faith community.

## Centered on the Edge 11th & 12th Grade & Young Adults

April 24- 26

Change is inherent at this point in your life. Sometimes it may feel as if you're standing on the top (or bottom) of a precipice. How do you decide whether to leap or climb or just hold tight? Who catches you when you fall? Or pushes you when you're stuck. How are you there for others who need the same? Or maybe there aren't any cliffs, just a whole bunch of roads going in different directions. How do you decide which way to go? Colleges, jobs, relationships. What's right for you? Come share your strategies and maybe learn some new ones.

Fee: \$120

## Upcoming Pendle Hill weekends and conferences

[www.pendlehill.org](http://www.pendlehill.org)

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### **June 5 – 10, 2015 YAFCON: Young Adult Friends Conference**

#### Continuing Revolution:

#### A Young Adult Friends Conference on Equality

Young Adult Friends (ages 18-35) are invited to Pendle Hill's annual intensive six-day conference —YAFCON— designed to strengthen a networked generation of awakened and effective spiritually grounded change agents. This year, we will be focusing on equality in its most expansive sense as a way to explore the need for justice, the power of Truth and love, our own growing edges as individuals and as a community, and what it means to create the Beloved Kin-dom here and now. We will cultivate a brave learning space within which to unpack privilege and power, and to develop greater capacity to tackle and break down the many intersecting systems of oppression around us.



The program includes inspirational speakers, workshops and trainings, worship and worship-sharing, fellowship, community-building activities, and discernment 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. Information about the 2015 YAFCON will be posted as soon as it is available.

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. [Click here to apply online](#), or [click the following link to get a better sense of what to expect](#).

### **NYYM YAF MINI RETREATS!**

May 2 at Adirondack MM there will be a one day Mini retreat. Watch this space for more information!

click link above to see a sample brochure and schedule.

*There are funds available to help make conferences possible! PLEASE contact me, Helen Garay Toppins ([office@nyym.org](mailto:office@nyym.org)) or the clerk of your Monthly Meeting to find out how to get financial assistance. Questions about Transportation? Let's talk. I bet there is a solution!*

### **Volunteer, Job and Intern Opportunities Abound!**

#### **Quaker Voluntary Service (QVS)**

**APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 15! DON'T LET THIS PASS YOU BY!**

## Spirit-led Service and Witness

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 worshiping 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 social justice, faith, and community building topics.

[check out their video!](#)

## Millennial Leaders Project (MLP) 2015 Summer Conference

Call for Applications Application Deadline: Friday, February 27, 2015

### About the MLP Summer Conference

For some, activism is an expression of their spirituality. For others, activism is their form of spiritual practice. Union's Millennial Leaders Project (MLP) Summer Conference offers a structured space for millennial generation leaders, organizers and activists to examine the intersections of social justice and spirituality in their work and lives. Through a range of activities, the MLP Summer Conference aims to provide young leaders with an opportunity to look at their work in new ways, network and build relationships with leaders from across the country, and to develop resources to sustain their work over the long term. This conference builds upon Union's longstanding role as a leader in theological education, as well as the legacy of social justice activism that Union has fostered throughout its history. Ultimately, the MLP Summer Conference hopes to encourage and inspire conversations that build bridges and support organized movements that address the many forms of inequality in our world today.

From July 20-24, 2015, Union Theological Seminary will host 50 young leaders from around the United States for its second MLP Summer Conference. Applicants may be activists, organizers, NGO/NPO staff, in ordained or lay service to a local church or spiritual community, or they may serve in less official leadership roles as well. Applicants must be between the ages of 21-35 and have a demonstrated record of sustained social justice activism in their respective communities. Formal affiliation with a specific religious tradition or community is not a prerequisite, and people with no affiliation are encouraged to apply. In this regard, the only formal requirement is an interest in the intersections between spirituality and social justice.

*Please note: Round-trip travel, shared room and board will be covered by the conference for all selected participants.*

Application Period begins on January 1, 2015

Application Deadline: Friday, February 27, 2015 (11:59pm EST)

- See more at: <http://www.utsnyc.edu/millennials#sthash.py0iJjkr.1Rdu0pGu.dpuf>

## YSOP- YOUTH SERVICES OPPORTUNITY PROJECT

Submit all application materials no later than April 3, 2015.

YSOP's office in Washington, DC is looking for a great intern this summer! If you are currently enrolled as a full time college student, check out this fantastic opportunity.

### **Description:**

YSOP engages young people in volunteer service to hungry and homeless people. Started by Quakers in 1983, YSOP has been a pioneer in service-learning. Last year 4,300 youth participated in YSOP programs, serving over 463,616 people in New York City and Washington, D.C. Our programs combine hands-on volunteer service with education on current issues and reflection on the service experience. YSOP hosts day-long, overnight and week-long service learning programs. YSOP welcomes individuals, public, independent and parochial schools, and community and religious youth groups.

### **Responsibilities:**

The intern is involved with many aspects of our organization and must be able to multi-task, as he/she will execute a variety of responsibilities each day. The intern will serve as a liaison between YSOP and community partners and student groups. The intern will prepare materials for the arrival of volunteers, lead youth in service projects, and help facilitate group orientation and reflection activities. The intern will help maintain YSOP's online presence to support participant recruitment with electronic newsletters, networking websites, various social media outlets, and the YSOP website, [www.ysop.org](http://www.ysop.org).

This is a full time (35 hour per week), 8 week position to take place during the months of June – August 2013. Some early mornings and evenings are required. YSOP is flexible regarding hours and start date.

### **Qualifications:**

- The intern must be committed to promoting youth volunteerism and YSOP's mission.

- The intern must be organized and have good communication skills.
- The ability to work independently and as a team player is critical.
- Past service experience, working with youth, coordinating volunteers and facilitating reflective activities are advantageous.
- The candidate must return to college in the Fall of 2015 as a full-time, undergraduate sophomore, junior or senior.
- YSOP seeks a staff with varied racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds. We do not discriminate against persons on the basis of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, national origin, citizenship status or age.
- Your appointment is conditional upon completion of a background check satisfactory to YSOP.

## **American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)**

American Friends Service Committee has many opportunities to volunteer, and to intern. [Learn more at www.afsc.org](http://www.afsc.org)

## **Friends United Meeting (FUM)**

### **Job Opening: Communications Officer – Africa Ministries Office**

#### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Job Title:** Communications Officer – Africa Ministries Office

**Department:** Global Ministries, with significant participation in the Communications Department

**Employment Status:** Full time/non-exempt

**This position is designated for a North American candidate who meets the following qualifications:**

- Passionate understanding for and practical experience in holistic mission work.
- Cultural competence and humility, with previous cross-cultural experience strongly preferred.
- Willingness and ability to relocate to Kisumu, Kenya.
- Willingness and ability to travel extensively throughout East Africa.
- Ability to work cooperatively with colleagues from a variety of cultural backgrounds.
- Strong ability to communicate in a compelling way what God is doing in and through African Friends using a variety of media, including print, social media, photography and video. Proven technical skills in multi-media communication preferred.
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills.
- Capacity to listen to and work well with others.
- Growing Christian Quaker faith and strong grounding in a Friends community.
- Fundraising ability, including raising project funds as well as raising own salary, benefits.
- Grant writing experience is an advantage.

**Reports to:** Friends United Meeting Global Ministries Director

*“Friends United Meeting commits itself to energize and equip Friends through the power of the Holy Spirit to gather people into fellowships where Jesus Christ is known, loved and obeyed as Teacher and Lord.”*

With this purpose statement in view, the Communications Officer works alongside other members of the Africa Ministries team to fulfill their shared mission objectives. By producing dynamic, creative and culturally-competent communication, the Communications Officer is a catalyst for effective ministry and assists in mobilizing mission activity throughout Africa and all of FUM.

## **UPCOMING NYYM EVENTS!**

### **March 6 Meetings for Discernment- Old Chatham MM, Old Chatham, NY**

**Old Chatham Meetinghouse**

**Saturday, March 7, 2015 9:00 a.m.to 5:00 p.m.**

**Hosted by Old Chatham Friends Meeting and Powell House**



*"Presence in the Midst", Doyle Penrose*

Meetings for Discernment are a time when the Yearly Meeting gathers for extended worship without the weight of an agenda for business, but with prepared queries discerned to help elicit what is rising and tender in our monthly meetings and worship groups. Because Meetings for Discernment offer an occasion for the Yearly Meeting community to hear what is rising up among us, monthly meetings and worship groups are asked to send at least one person to participate. Appointees are not asked to bring prepared messages, but rather to speak to the queries as moved in the moment by God, by the Inward Light of Christ, by Spirit. By meeting this way, we may hear that which might not be heard in the midst of committees and attending to business.

**This Meeting for Discernment will focus on the following queries. As preparation, we invite Friends to consider the queries in light of the life of your monthly meeting or worship group.**

***What is happening in your monthly meeting that the rest of us need to hear?***

***What is happening in your monthly meeting that the rest of us might hold?***

Your timely registration will facilitate our planning. **To register** for day attendance, possible pick-up from the train station in Hudson, and for hospitality and/or childcare, please complete the registration form available on the NYYM website in the Spirit among Us Section, under Meeting for Discernment([www.nnym.org](http://www.nnym.org)). Please then email the form to [dianne.leung@fairpoint.net](mailto:dianne.leung@fairpoint.net), or send via U.S. mail c/o Dianne Leung, 52 Silvermail Rd., Valatie, NY 12184 **to arrive no later than February 20**. *Do not mail it to the Yearly Meeting office. Please come prepared to pay a registration fee of \$15 per person, to help defray the cost of childcare, a simple lunch, and other necessities. We ask everyone to contribute something, even if they cannot afford the full \$15.*

**April 10-12 Spring Sessions** will be held at Oakwood School in Poughkeepsie, NY. This is an easy commute from NYC, and is a wonderful opportunity to see what committees and the body of NYYM are doing. There will be an Multi-generational gathering and fellowship on Friday Evening. 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](mailto:nyym.yafs@gmail.com))

### **Save the Date! The 320th Summer Sessions of NYYM July 19-25, 2015**

*320 Years, One Faith. 60 Years, One Meeting. Today, One Vision.*—That's the theme for Summer Sessions 2015, which will be held July 19–25 at Silver Bay in New York. The Yearly Meeting Sessions Committee invites you to read their introduction by clicking the following link: [Summer Sessions 2015](#).





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Do you have ideas for this newsletter? I love feedback! Do you have photos, drawings, stories, news items, jokes, quotes? Send 'em over! [nyym.yafs@gmail.com](mailto:nyym.yafs@gmail.com)

**Inhale Love.  
Exhale Gratitude**

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