

Subject: March Newsletter for Young Adults and Families of NY Yearly Meeting
From: Gabrielle Savory Bailey- NYYM Young Adult Fieldsecretary <nnyym.yafs@gmail.com>
Date: 3/10/15, 4:41 PM
To: <paul@nyym.org>

Now you know!

A newsletter for Young Adult
Friends and Families
of New York Yearly Meeting
March 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! **

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.

This photo is speaking to me right now. My garden bench is covered in snow. It doesn't look like my happy summer memories. Under that mound of ice and snow are my Lilies of the Valley. They will be blooming by Mother's Day. They always do. And they will fill the air with my favorite scent. But look, how will it be possible?? In my yard is that Maple tree. It looks dead, no leaves, still brown. But as the days get longer, and the temperatures rise, the sap is also rising. An incredible life force is shooting up. Some of that sap will end up as syrup on my pancakes... But some will flow and feed the explosion of leaves and life about to engulf that tree. Each Spring this seems like a miracle. How can that magic happen when it seems so unlikely. We are nearing the end of a hard winter. It will end. The snow is melting as I type. And sometimes in our lives we have winters too, they will end. Friends, there is an incredible life force that is rising up in us. We can join it, we can embody it. There are so many ways to dabble in that movement of Spirit, and some are pretty yummy! Please, have faith, Spring is coming, and we can anticipate it with relish, and choose how we want to be a part. Please take a look at the upcoming events and opportunities. There is so much here. Can you find something that speaks to you? Will you give it a try?

Here's a sneak peek of what's in this newsletter...

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.

Want a 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 the youth of our Yearly Meeting? Your Monthly Meeting? The first 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 10-12! Register by March 27, see info below.

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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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, or co-clerks Alanna Badgely and Audrey Jaynes.



The ice is melting. The light returning.

What can I shed? Where can I warm? What will appear this Spring?

[Where have I been? Where am I going?](#)

March 15-- 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

July 19-25 NYYM Summer Sessions at Silver Bay

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 nyym.yafs@gmail.com

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[Upcoming Powell House and Pendle Hill weekends](#)

www.powellhouse.org

[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 F/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.

Many of us want vibrant multigenerational meetings. For those of us who are parents we want a place that will support our children's spiritual, emotional and physical development. We want our kids to be happy, good people. Some of our monthly meetings excel at this; most of us struggle a little or a lot at this. So we say lets get together, roll up our sleeves, and really tackle the question of meeting the needs of our youth. The Friday night plenary session will focus on the "Why" of this work. • Why are we personally Quakers? What do we experience in Meeting for Worship and within our faith community? • Why do we want our children to participate in Quaker Meetings? What do we hope that they experience in Meeting for Worship and within our faith community? Saturday plenary sessions will focus on: • Sharing among ourselves what is working in monthly meetings and regions • Exploring ways through the difficulties encountered • Discussing frameworks for thinking about programming for youth. There will also be breakout sessions (workshops) for hands on training in various aspects of youth work. During the Sunday session we'll look at next steps and close with experimental worship leading into traditional worship.

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

May 1-3 Earthcare, Eco-Justice, and Inner Transition

NYYM's Earthcare Working Group, and the Mid-Atlantice Transition Hub (MATH) present:

Earthcare, Eco-Justice, and Inner Transition

Weekend Workshop Intensive with Pamela Boyce Simms, NYYM Earthcare Working Group, Certified Lead Trainer Transition US, and the Earthcare Working Group Connectors.

What are "God and the Earth" calling Quakers to do in the face of unprecedented environmental degradation and exploitation? Friends in New York, Pennsylvania, and around the world are meeting the challenges of the times through resilient local community-building in the Transition movement. In these times of resource depletion, economic instability and climate change, we have a vision of a world of peace.

In this workshop, Inner Transition, the internal aspect of the shift toward a resilient future, provides the spacious container for exploration of that vision, and consideration of the *Transition Neighborhoods* as a pathway. Thought provoking discussion, contemplative, and interactive activities will explore the intersection of social justice, eco-justice, and earthcare. Participants will cultivate an experiential understanding of inner transition. they will be equipped with practical tools to help their meetings and communities turn the vision of justice and resilience into reality.

Workshop Info: Pamela Boyce Simms, 646-214-8386, transitionmidatlantic.pbs@gmail.com

Register by April 20: \$328/adults; \$218/ages 13-22 & commuters; \$55 infant-12.

Upcoming Pendle Hill weekends and conferences

www.pendlehill.org

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!

On May 2, at Adirondack MM there will be a one day Mini retreat.

"Can I Get a Witness?"

What events in your life have brought you to where you are now? What moments were transformational, and revealed something of the Divine to you? When were you asked to be faithful? When was it hardest? What supports, or guides, have been present to you as you've moved through your faith journey? Is it hard to know what your journey has been? Do you feel like you're just beginning? Have you found yourself in a place where you came to know Spirit better?

At this one day retreat we will be witnessing and sharing our Faith journeys together. We can know each other, and God, better through sharing and witnessing these moments in our lives with each other.

click link above to see the brochure and schedule.



PLEASE contact me, Helen Garay Toppins
out how to get financial assistance. Questions about

Opportunities Abound!

THIS PASS YOU BY!

section of transformational spirituality and activism. Young
organizations addressing a wide range of issues, while living in a
Quakers. They receive housing, transportation, food, health
shops and retreats that allow for continuing education in

[check out their video!](#)

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.

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 be returning 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

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.

Ramallah Friends School

Position Available: ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS

Teaching at the Ramallah Friends School is a meaningful and stimulating experience. We are seeking to employ experienced and energetic English language teachers at various grade levels. The ideal candidate would be service-oriented, adventurous and particularly interested in working and living in the Middle East. In addition to local salary compensation, successful international candidates will be offered free housing and a round trip air ticket.

The school's two campuses are located in the twin towns of Ramallah and el-Bireh, approximately ten miles north of Jerusalem. Ramallah is a developing, dynamic, and cosmopolitan city with a bustling city-center and a vibrant expatriate community. Its location facilitates easy day trips around the region and easy travel to neighboring countries.

To Apply: Please send your Resume/CV with a letter expressing interest to application@rfs.edu.ps, with 'English Teacher' written in the Subject line. **Deadline: 30 March 2015.** *Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.*



UPCOMING NYYM EVENTS!

April 10-12 Spring Sessions is coming to Poughkeepsie at Oakwood Friends School!

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.

The Friday evening topic will be: *Fostering Leadership for Social Change*, and we're pleased to introduce Shan Creftin, General Secretary of the American Friends Service Committee. Prior to her appointment in 2010, she served as Director of the AFSC's Pacific Southwest Region for seven years, responsible for programs in Southern California, Hawaii, Arizona, and New Mexico.

Shan has served as Clerk of Pacific Yearly Meeting, co-founded the Los Angeles chapter of the Alternatives to Violence Project, and currently serves on the boards of directors of The California Endowment and Envision Peace Museum. Shan will be with us for the whole weekend, and we hope Friends will have a chance to talk with her about the many projects going on at AFSC.

AFSC supports and inspires a global network of young people who are emerging leaders in nonviolent movements to build lasting peace in their communities by pursuing social change wherever it is needed—providing just livelihoods, ending racism and intolerance, transforming policing and criminal justice systems, offering alternatives to violence, and working for humane immigration policies.

Another 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. Go to <http://www.nyym.org/?q=SpringSessions2015> for more information and to register.

Questions? Please contact me, Gabi Savory Bailey, and I will get you to the right people. (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](#).



It will melt, I promise. What can we do to prepare to greet the Spring with gladness and gratitude?

[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! nym.yafs@gmail.com

**Inhale Love.
Exhale Gratitude**

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