

Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Gathering
July 29th - August 2nd, 2013
at Mount Madonna Center
Young Adult Friends Epistle

We have been invigorated. We lit the embers of community at the San Jose Meeting House where Young Friends gathered to ground themselves in Spirit before PYM. That fire moved through us in the week, guiding our intention. Friend Diego Navarro led a workshop on Leadings and Holy Obedience where we examined Quaker practice and felt the Spirit move through us. Diego asked us, "What's workin' ya?" This is the phrase used by hikers on the Appalachian Trail when they pass another rambler on the path. What's workin' through us is the desire for strong spiritual community. We made ourselves open to the Spirit and found great meaning both individually and in unity. With the Spirit moving and our community deepening, even a passing question was a profound witness.

Thank you to those Friends who joined us in the workshop and in worship throughout the week. The grounding presence of experienced Friends helped create the space for the Light to reveal itself. Looking to the coming year, we spent time visioning how we want to carry the energy gathered this week to continue to strengthen our community. The Spirit and friendships of this week are vital to our lives and we want to cultivate them. We are excited about the opportunities created by the continuance of the Youth Program Coordinator position and the acceptance of the Pacific Friends Outreach Society gift.

Many of our Friends in this community were staff at the children's program. They found this to be an enriching experience developing the intergenerational community. This was also an important part of funding young friends' attendance at the gathering. We were able to revisit our childhood in play. While Friends shared their understanding of Quaker history and practice, we were not the only teachers. In worship sharing with the Middle School, the query asked us to reflect on "being reached by the life." We were touched and inspired by the care for animals and the circle of life.

Several members of Junior Yearly Meeting move up to Young Adult Friends next year. We welcomed them with ice cream followed by hours of games and general hilarity.

Having reached the end of the week, we leave this beautiful place renewed and ready to follow the leadings of the Spirit.

In Love and Light,

Young Adult Friends, Pacific Yearly Meeting

Note: Nominations for 2013-2014 following

Co-Clerks: Kylin Navarro, Elena Anderson-Williams, with Lulu Dewey Recording (with Nora Cooke as recording mentor)

Ministry and Oversight: Tess Solenberger, Cody Lowry, Martin Walden, Cedar Green, Rebekah Percy, Julian Garrett

Reading Clerk: Nora Cooke