

Young Adult Friends of Friends Meeting of Washington

Annual Report

October 2012

Over the past year Young Adult Friends have grown and strengthened as a spiritual and social community.

We hold twice monthly meetings – a monthly Meeting for Worship and a monthly Worship Sharing. Our Worship Sharing queries have often revolved around themes: creativity, nature, use of Christ-centered language, centering practices, etc., to help us gain insight into each other's spiritual practices.

Betsy Bramon has continued to coordinate the once-a-month SOME (So Others May Eat) breakfast, where attendance is strong. Zephyr (Michelle) Williams has coordinated several volunteering events including a Farmers Market gleaning with Bread for the City last winter. We have had impromptu post-meeting brunches and we took advantage of several free DC summertime events (Jazz in the Park, Screen on the Green) which has grown our community on a social level.

Perhaps the highlight of our year was a camping trip to Shenandoah National Park. Thanks to the generous financial and material support of Meeting, 12 YAFs and 1 spouse were able to attend. We pitched tents under the stars and hiked to a 93 foot waterfall. Members of our group led us in a walking meditation and Worship Sharing. We also sang together, cooked together, and enjoyed each other's company around the campfire.

While YAFs have busy and sometimes conflicting schedules, the option to attend either of our worship groups has allowed more people to be regularly active. At our last meeting for worship we had 15 attendees, including several YAFs from the William Penn house. It was exciting to everyone to see how our little group has grown!

While ebbs and flows are inherent to the YAF group at FMW, members of the current group have become an active indispensable part of each other's lives. Several YAFs have commented how the group allows for people to come and go and always be welcomed back. In the past year we have supported each other through moves, job searches, performances, and publications; that we have strengthened and developed friendships outside of the group activities; and are a healthy and vibrant community.

Faithfully submitted by Zoe Plaugher