

Southeastern Yearly Meeting

Quakers in Florida, southeast Georgia & South Carolina

Yearly Gathering
16 - 20 Fourth Month 2025

Youth Epistle

Dear Friends,

We want to share our experiences at the 2025 SEYM Yearly Gathering. The theme of the gathering this year is “seeking the wellspring of audacious hope: strength and courage for uncertain times.” On Thursday, not many youths were able to attend this day.

On Friday we began the day by participating in an immersive storytelling called Faith and Play. We listened and watched a story about Jesus’s teaching and Jesus with children. We then did some crafts and made some paper dolls. Following this, we made kites. In the afternoon, we went on the high ropes course where we tested our strengths and went on the zipline! Following this we cooled off in the pool. In the evening, we did some crafts and puzzles. We ended the day by participating in some intergenerational singing.

Saturday morning, we split off into teens and wee friends! The teens did an activity called “Move Like Plants” where we did some Tai Chi and it taught us relaxation, mindfulness and how to resist negativity. During this time the younger friends did animal yoga. In the afternoon we had our business meeting to discuss ideas for next year, reflect on our time here, and find ways to stay connected throughout the year. In the afternoon the teens attended the anti-racist intergenerational workshop while the younger friends listened to a story about anti-racism and made anti-racism megaphones.

Later on, some people went canoeing and kayaking. This was a very exciting activity because we had to learn to paddle against the wind and current. Other people enjoyed time at the pool. We then returned to Tripp to make buttons and other crafts. We ended the night by watching a movie that taught us to appreciate our differences. Later in the evening some youth attended the BIPOC and Young Adult hangouts.

On Easter Sunday, the younger friends prepared their Easter baskets while the older kids hid the eggs. We then hunted for eggs and ended our gathering by eating candy and reading quotes.

Sincerely,

Asma Roshi
Magdalena Mendoza
Cass Mendoza
Melanie Figueroa
Aaron Olson

Esme Dellinger
Nova May
Archer May
Shannon Rhodenbeck
Daniel Humphrey

Phoebe Heishman
Asa Heishman
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