

# Nurturing Community in Our Broken Worlds

2025 SAYMA Sessions & Retreat

June 14: Virtual Meeting for Business

June 20 - 23: Hybrid

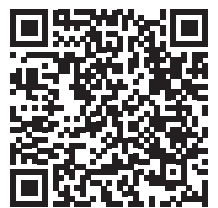
Berea College, Berea, KY



## CONTENTS

1. Cover & Contents
2. Welcome & Meeting for  
Business Guidelines
3. Logistics on Campus  
Check-in  
Dorm Access  
Campus Policies  
Golfcarts  
First time attenders
4. Yearly Meeting Central  
Meals on Campus  
SAYMA Bookstore  
Location Index  
Meeting Expectations
5. Plenaries & Special Events  
Plenary Events
6. & 7. Event Schedule

- 8 & 9. Workshops - Saturday
10. Workshops - Saturday
11. & 12. Workshops - Saturday
13. Workshops - Sunday &  
Sayma Contact Information
14. Meeting for Worship with  
Attention to Business  
Chat n Chew  
Yount Adult Friends
15. Young Friends Programs
16. Young Friends Programs  
Wider Quaker Organizations
17. Wider Quaker Organizations
18. Berea Bathroom Policies  
Shop Locally



A downloadable,  
printable PDF of the  
program here or at  
the QR code above  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rABwh0O4R-9bcZX\\_pHGM-4Fj3B56nwBuW5/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rABwh0O4R-9bcZX_pHGM-4Fj3B56nwBuW5/view)

## Note from Yearly Meeting Planning Committee (YMPC)

### Welcome Friends!

In recognition of the challenges we are all facing and the resilience many have shown over the past year, I invite you into a space focused on building community and learning how we can love each other to the fullest in a way we each need. We have relationships that need to be repaired, errors to make amends for, old wounds and broken expectations that need the restorative nurturing love can provide. I know we have the capacity to heal if we live our foundational principles of love and Light by Nurturing Community in Our Broken Worlds.

This year you may see some new and interesting activities and you may find some tried and true events changed or missing. Please join us with an open heart and accepting nature that your soul may be nourished and your capacity for empathy increased.

One thing you might prepare for is a book discussion led by Annie Black, Cookeville Meeting. You are encouraged to read *All About Love: New Visions* by bell hooks before sessions. Even if you are not in the book discussion, you will feel more welcomed by having exposure to bell hooks' teachings on the subject of love. Through the book discussion, we will discover more about how we are shaped by our lack of understanding on what love really is and why we aren't very good at demonstrating the kind of love you might long for. I hope we translate the views of bell hooks to nurture our own community.

*~Melissa Preast, Clerk, SAYMA Planning Committee*

### Some Guidelines for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

#### On Listening

- ♦ Hold the meeting in worship
- ♦ Look for and affirm that of God in yourself and others
- ♦ Listen in a spirit of continuing revelation
- ♦ Receive words spoken as you receive vocal ministry in meeting for worship

#### On Speaking

- ♦ Wait for guidance from Spirit before speaking
- ♦ Wait to be recognized by the clerk before speaking and address your remarks to the clerk
- ♦ Raise your hand only after someone else has finished speaking
- ♦ Speak to the question at hand and be concise
- ♦ Speak only once to an issue unless there is a new revelation or the need for clarity
- ♦ Refrain from put-downs of self or others

#### On discomfort and harm

- ♦ Experiencing discomfort is normal - Disagreement is ok - we recognize that of Spirit in one another even while we disagree
- ♦ Friends are encouraged to use words that are natural to them. Interpreting and understanding others' words is the responsibility of listeners. This is often called "listening in tongues"
- ♦ The clerk may intervene if a Friend is blaming others, questioning their truthfulness, attacking a person as opposed to what they said
- ♦ The clerk will reserve a time to address the harm as soon as possible, even in the moment
- ♦ If a concern doesn't get addressed at the moment, write it down and seek to resolve it between the parties or share with the clerk at a later time

#### On self advocacy

- ♦ Be open to receive assistance if someone notices that you are having trouble following this guidance
- ♦ Be open to assisting if you notice someone is having trouble following this guidance



# Logistics on Campus

## Check-in

Everyone at Yearly Meeting must check in. Report any unregistered person to the registrar. Your SAYMA nametag gives you access to Yearly Meeting activities. No one may visit SAYF or JYM who is not registered.

## Registration Hours

Registration opens at 1 p.m. Friday, as well as Saturday morning & evening, and Sunday-morning. (See the schedule on page ?)

## Check out

After breakfast Tuesday, pack up, lock your room, and turn in keys and name tag holders. If you rented linens, leave pillows & blankets folded on the bed, put sheets & towels in a pillow case and leave it outside your door.

## Dorm Access

Key cards will be used for access to the dorms. Key Deposit - \$10 cash at registration: You will need to leave a \$10 deposit in cash for each key issued to you. It is helpful to have exact change. Lost Key - Friends will be asked to pay for any lost keys. The charge for a lost key card is \$25. **Note:** Doors lock automatically when you shut them, so it is important to keep your card with you at all times. Your card will give access to dorm front door, your room and all the general spaces on campus.

## First Time Attenders

If you see someone with a green dot on their name tag, they are at Yearly Meeting for the first time. Give them a BIG HELLO and make them feel welcome.

If this is your first time coming to Yearly Meeting, we extend a special WELCOME to you! Friday and Saturday lunch we will have 1st time attenders tables. Look for the signs on the tables in the dining room and join us if you would like to share with others here for the first time and get any questions answered.

## Restrooms

SAYMA and Berea College want everyone to be able to use the restroom that most comfortably aligns with their gender identity. See the back page of this document for details of the relevant policies and location of restrooms.

## Child Protection Policy

Staff & full-time volunteers with JYM or SAYF have applied, had a background check, and an interview with the steering committee of the program. You are welcome to visit the programs as long as you have your name tag and these staff & volunteers are present.

## Plan Ahead for Getting Around Campus

We provide golf cart shuttle service between the dorms and Alumni Building as well as the other buildings we use. You can request a shuttle to the parking lot as well.

### Contact for golf carts:

**Kim Saderholm**

859 358-4661



## Smoking Policy:

Berea is a non-smoking campus. This means that there is no smoking anywhere on the campus indoors or outdoors. If you smoke, you will need to leave the campus to do so.

# Yearly Meeting Central

## Alumni Building: 234 Scaffold Cane Rd.

### Dining:

Berea College provides all meals for SAYMA overnight guests - Thursday lunch through Sunday lunch (10 meals). Vegetarian and Vegan options are always available. The kitchen can accommodate other dietary restrictions as requested.

Local Friends may choose to eat in the dining hall by paying for meals at the door (\$6 breakfast, \$10 lunch, \$14 dinner)

The dorms have full kitchens that do not have any cookware. Please bring your own cookware if you wish to use the kitchens in the dorms.

### Location Index: See map

- \* Business meetings & plenaries in Alumni building main level - Baird Lounge
- \* Meals in cafeteria - lower level of Alumni Building
- \* Registration, Bookstore, WQO displays, all-day coffee, Chat & Chew/Lobby of alumni building main level
- \* Drop-off/Pick-up for JYM and Playcare: JYM & Playcare pick up and drop off area will be posted at registration.
- \* Most workshops and Worship Sharing groups/Draper Building
- \* Overnight parking is available in the lot behind Kettering Residence Hall.

### SAYMA Bookstore

The bookstore carries books recommended by workshop facilitators, SAYMA URG and others, books reviewed by *Friends Journal*, and other books of interest to Friends. SAYMA authors may be given a featured table in the bookstore to sign sell their books.

Pricing this year is in even dollars, includes tax and averages 20% below retail. Many used books are priced at \$1, plus there's the free book exchange table.

#### Bookstore Hours

8 - 9:30 a.m. 11:30 - 5 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday

(Other hours as staff is available)

Check the bookstore area for  
Info about Wider Quaker Organizations  
& "Perpetual Coffee"



### Yearly Meeting Expectations

While we are guests here, let us be mindful that Friends live in the discipline of the Spirit and our individual actions reflect on the Religious Society of Friends.

### Campus Policies

- \*Children must be supervised at all times. Parents and SAYF sponsors should be actively responsible for their children when they are not in the care of the FANs or the staff.
- \*All college-furnished equipment must be left in the room or building where it was found.
- \*SAYMA will be asked to pay for any damaged or missing college property.
- \*Do not prop building doors open for any reason, ever.
- \*No smoking, alcohol, illegal drug use, gambling allowed on campus
- \*No pets are allowed on campus unless they are registered as service animals.

## Plenaries & Special Events -

The yearly meeting planning committee endeavors to bring speakers to share their stories and experiences related to our annual theme at SAYMA sessions and retreat. These speakers may come from within SAYMA or they may be guests from outside our organization.

### Friday Afternoon

**Forest Bathing Nature R&R led by Wendy Zagray Warren, Director, Berea College Forestry Outreach Center.** Wendy will take us on a short walk to an area just southwest of the dorm. Forest bathing is a mindful immersion in nature designed to reduce stress, boost immunity, and restore emotional balance. This practice involves engaging all five senses to connect deeply with natural environments. Unlike hiking or exercise, forest bathing prioritizes slow, intentional presence, allowing participants to “bathe” in the therapeutic atmosphere of forests. You are encouraged to bring an outdoor chair or cloth to sit on. There will be limited bench seating available. It may be possible to drive close to the location or request a ride from the golf cart for those with mobility needs. All ages are welcome, however this spiritual experience is similar to Meeting For Worship and young ones might get restless.

**Book Group Discussion on bell hooks All About Love, facilitated by Annie Black.** You are encouraged to read All About Love: New Visions by bell hooks before sessions. Through the book discussion, we will share out thoughts on how we are shaped by our lack of understanding of what love really is, why we aren't very good at demonstrating the kind of love we might long for, and how we can apply the principles to create a more loving community.

### Friday Night

**Community Circles, Lissa Place and Karen Morris, Atlanta Friends Meeting**

Atlanta Friends Meeting shares experiential learning about circle processes for helping community to build and repair in the face of interpersonal injury.

### Saturday Morning

**Twenty years of Racial Justice Ministry Among Friends: Star's Story - facilitated by Pat Gailey through an interview format.** There will be time for a Q&A at the end. Friends are encouraged to send questions in advance to Pat Gailey.

### Saturday Afternoon

**Lunch Time Listening Session with the Finance Committee in the Hutchins Room.** Bring your questions and get a deeper picture of the FY26 budget with the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Finance Committee Clerk.

### Saturday Evening

**Affinity Groups -** This will be a time for self-reflection around the racial conflict transformation work at SAYMA. A time to reflect on what rises for folks in response to Star's plenary, in addition to more general reflections on the past, present and possible future of SAYMA as an anti-racist Yearly Meeting community. There will be separate facilitated groups for white/Euro descent Friends, and Friends of Color.

### Sunday Morning

**Quaker Process - Time for an Update. Mathilda Navias, New York Yearly Meeting**

Mathilda wrote *Quaker Process for Friends on the Benches* a thorough survey of the nuances of Quaker process and practice. Her book provides historical context to how Quaker process has evolved, shares common practices and variations used by contemporary Friends, and gives real-life examples of model Quaker process in action. But, she feels it is time for an update - Mathilda will share with us what she sees as needing an update. There will be an opportunity for a sharing session Quaker Process led by Mathilda as a workshop option on Sunday afternoon.

### Sunday Afternoon

**Lunchtime Conversation with Friends World Committee for Consultation in the Hutchins Room.** This year we have an enthusiastic group of Friends connected to FWCC at our gathering! With 4 FWCC World Plenary attenders, Jackson Napier, Star Smith, Alison Mawle and Myron Guachalla Montaña from Bolivia, our outgoing SAYMA Rep, Geeta McGahey, and FWCC Staff member and Quaker Connect program manager, Jade Rockwell. We hope you will join the conversation to hear their many perspectives on the important work of FWCC.

### Sunday Night

**Talents and Group Sing & ice cream social** The YAFs will be facilitating the ice cream social and members of SAYF will host the sharing of talents. This is more than a traditional talent show. You can expect sharing of talents, group singing, and who knows what else way opens. Consider participating either by sharing a talent, recommending a group song to sing, or watching the performances. A signup sheet will be maintained at the registration table.

# 2025 SAYMA Sessions & Retreat

## SAYMA Sessions & Retreat 2025 - Event Schedule

EDT	Friday Registration open 10a-10p	Saturday Registration open 8a-12p	Sunday Room check out by appointment	Monday Room check out 8-8:45a
6:30-7:00	<p>👉 = JYM &amp; Playcare in session H = Hybrid event</p> <p>Registration Open at 9:00am</p> <p>Create Your Name Badge</p> <p>Dorms available at 10am</p> <p>Review posted Nominations and Budget from the Pre-Sessions MFB</p> <p>Read Posted Committee Reports</p>	Early Morning Worship / Walking Meditation		
7:15-8:00		Breakfast (Dining Hall OPEN 7:00-9:00 am)		
8:00-8:30		Morning Sing - Lobby of Alumni Bldg	Opening Meeting for Worship 8-8:30 & Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business - 8:30-9:30 👉 H	Room Check Out
8:30-9:00		Worship Sharing Session 2: 👉 H (8:30-9:30)		Reading of Epistles 👉 H Singing and Sharing (8:45-11:00)
9:00-9:30		Plenary-20 years of Racial Justice Ministry Among Friends: Star’s Story 👉 H	Plenary - Mathilda Navias 👉 H	
9:45 - 11:15				
11:30-12:30	<p><b>Lunch (Dining Hall OPEN 11:00-1:30)</b></p> <p><b>SATURDAY</b> Lunchtime Listening Session with <u>Finance Committee</u> H 11:30-12:30 [Hutchins Room]</p> <p><b>SUNDAY</b> Lunchtime Conversation with <u>FWCC</u> World Plenary Attenders, SAYMA Rep, and Quaker Connect program manager 11:30-12:30 [Hutchins Room]</p>			
12:30-12:45	Transition to next activity			
12:45 - 2:30	Choose one option from the list below for this time slot:	Workshop Session A 👉 H 12:45-2:15	Meeting for Worship 12:45-1:15 & Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business - 1:15-3:15 👉 H	<u>ALUMNI BUILDING</u>
	Book Group Discussion - <u>All About Love</u> by bell hooks facilitated by Annie Black			<b>Dining Hall</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Meals,</li><li>Listening session with finance committee</li></ul>
	JYM Open House - meet staff & space			<b>Lobby</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Registration</li><li>Bookstore</li><li>WQO displays</li><li>Chat &amp; Chew/Coffee</li></ul>
	Discover Berea (suggestions at registration area)			

Nurturing Community in our Broken Worlds

EDT	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
	Open time to visit Friends, explore Berea or take a nap	30 min Break between workshops 2:15-2:45		<b>Baird Lounge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mtg for Worship &amp; Business</li><li>• Evening Programming</li><li>• Large Group Sessions</li><li>• Open Fishbowl</li><li>• Worship sharing</li><li>• Worship for Remembrance</li></ul> <b>Activities Room</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Workshops</li><li>• SAYF Fishbowl</li></ul> <u>WOODS PEN Gym</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JYM/Playcare Program</li></ul> <u>DRAPER HALL</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Workshops</li></ul>
<b>2:30 - 4:30</b>	Choose one option ..			
	Forest Bathing - Nature R&R (Wendy Warren, Facilitator, 2 hours)	Workshop Session B 🙌 <b>H</b> 2:45-4:15 Alternate Activity: Intergenerational Games Location TBD	Break to move to workshop 3:15-3:30	
	Worship Sharing Session 1 (2:30-3:30)			
	Family Outing (JYM & SAYF) walk back campus to the creek Meet at Wood’s Penn 3:30 JYM Open House 4:30-5:00	Break (next event in Alumni Bldg)	Workshop option C 🙌 <b>H</b> 3:30-5:00	
	YAF Business Meeting #1 (Kettering lounge)			
<b>4:45-5:00</b>	Break (next event in Alumni Bldg)			
<b>5:00-6:00</b>	<b>Dinner (Dining Hall OPEN 5:00-7:30)</b>			
<b>6:15-7:00</b>	Opening Worship 🙌 <b>H</b>	Worship for Remembrance 🙌 <b>H</b>	Ice Cream Social  Talents and Group Sing in Alumni Bldg	
<b>7:00-8:30</b>	Community Circle 🙌 <b>H</b>	Choose one activity from the below: Community Circle part two - Affinity Group 🙌 <b>H</b> Worship - YAF Worship Sharing 🙌 <b>H</b>		
<b>8:30-9:30</b>	Chat & Chew	Chat & Chew		
		YAF Business Meeting #2 (YAF dorm lounge)		
<b>9:30-10:00</b>	Late Night worship (9:30-10:00)			
	SAYF Sponsor orientation (1 hr)	SAYF Fishbowl (1 ½ hours)	SAYF Graduation (10:00-12:00)	



## Workshops

### Saturday & Sunday afternoons

Workshops are an important part of SAYMA's retreat. Friends offer workshops related to our annual theme and developed from their personal experiences, interests and gifts. We welcome Friends to submit Workshop proposals in the form linked at [sayma.org](http://sayma.org). Workshops may be offered in person or virtually.

HYBRID events are available for in person and virtual attendees. In person registrants may participate virtually in workshops but will need to supply their own device to log into Zoom.

Saturday Workshop Session A 12:45 - 2:15 pm			
FORMA T	TITLE	PRESENTER	DESCRIPTION
I	<b>Building Community: Love In Spirit-Led Action</b>	wood bouldin & Hank Fay	The workshop will explore the process of Love In Action guided by Spirit: a method for building community based in great part on bell hooks' All About Love. The workshop will be divided into 3 segments each of which will have 1) a short period of exposition on 1 of 3 dimensions of putting Love In Action followed by 2) an individual exercise of self-exploration and 3) a group exercise bringing together the fruits of the self-exploration.
I	<b>Interpreting our theme through artistic expression</b>	Laura Lane	During this workshop, participants will have a chance to use mixed media art supplies to create a 2 dimensional piece of artwork that expresses their interpretation of our theme. We will start with a short period of worship, then move into an unstructured time for creating. To close, we will have a short period of worship sharing to share our pieces with each other.
I	<b>What's really happening with immigration today- Supporting our immigrant family, neighbors and friends</b>	Hannah MacNorlin	A Know Your Rights about ICE encounters and how Atlanta Meeting is preparing for possible ICE presence at the Meetinghouse. We will talk together about ways to support folks who are impacted by current immigration policies. I will share my knowledge and experience but also look forward to us sharing together.
I	<b>Tai Chi Qigong for Relaxation</b>	Jennie Boyd Bull	After simple warmups and a brief introduction, we will practice flowing together in the Tai Chi Qigong 8 form. All ages are welcome; no experience required. We plan to gather outside, weather permitting. Wear flat-soled shoes and comfortable clothes. Handout of the form will be available for ongoing practice. Jennie is a certified Tai Chi instructor with TaiChi Healthways and has offered this workshop several times at Yearly Meeting.
H	<b>Truth, Unity, and Urgency Among Friends</b>	Thomas Rockwell	The workshop would seek to lay out the strategic landscape of Friends in the current day, dwindling meetings and membership, the lack of optimism for the future of the Society of Friends. The workshop would seek to invite Friends into deeper partnership among branches of Friends and explore steps for creating a solid foundation for coming generations of Friends.
H	<b>What Canst SAYMA Say? Threshing SAYMA's Testimony on Gender Identity and Expression</b>	Jeremiah Gold-Hopton & Thais Carr	This workshop will function as a threshing session to begin developing a new SAYMA testimony in response to the current attacks on the existence of transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming people. The first Quaker, George Fox asked, "what canst thou say?" This workshop will ask, "what canst SAYMA say?"



**Saturday Workshop Session A 12:45 - 2:15 pm - cont.**

H	<b>What Canst SAYMA Say? Threshing SAYMA's Testimony on Gender Identity and Expression</b>	Jeremiah Gold-Hopton & Thais Carr	This workshop will function as a threshing session to begin developing a new SAYMA testimony in response to the current attacks on the existence of transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming people. The first Quaker, George Fox asked, "what canst thou say?" This workshop will ask, "what canst SAYMA say?"
H	<b>Peace On Our Plates (part 1)</b>	Charlie Wilton	These workshops are for anyone interested in the intersection of our personal life choices and our witness as Quakers.  The Why: Understanding the motivations for finding a less violent way to eat and live.
H	<b>Decolonizing qism &amp; Somatic Fragmentation part 1</b>	tom kunesh	Steps in decolonizing qism, from land acknowledgement to forensic theology to religious deconstruction, & an introduction to the inherent fallacy of historic somatic fragmentation in quaker decision making: leaving out & minoritizing the Other. As an imperial english religion, q theology developed in the colonizer/settler mold of land- & people-taking, & won't grow out of that shape until qism recognizes its colonizing elements & gets rid of them. We'll list & talk through several specific steps for individuals & meetings to try to free our minds of imperial & colonizer framing.
V	<b>Be A Quaker Witness: Living Our Faith Today</b>	Nadine Hoover & Melanie Siaw (Friends Peace Teams)	Friends Peace Teams is a Spirit-led network of Quakers and others building long-term relationships around the world for justice, healing, and peace. Friends Peace Teams volunteers tell their stories of transforming power in the face of violence and war that bring Quaker practice and the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) alive. How are we guided by mutual discernment? What justice and peace work are you called to now? Would you like to offer or explore support for that work? Friends Peace Teams is whatever we who participate in it make it – JOIN US!

**Saturday Workshop Session B, 2:45 - 4:15 pm**

FORMA T	TITLE	PRESENTER	DESCRIPTION
I	<b>Planetarium Experience</b>	Jon Saderholm	Join Friend Jon Saderholm and sit back for a tour of the galaxy. This is a one hour planetarium presentation specially offered to SAYMA Friends. You'll have a chance to ask Jon about the planetarium as well as his long experience as an educator at Berea College.
See next page ...			

## Saturday Workshop Session B, 2:45 - 4:15 pm - cont.

I	<b>RAWtools South-Beating Guns into Garden Tools</b>	Scotty Utz	The forge will whirl and the anvil will sing. Come learn about the work of RAWtools South and see transformation happening before your eyes. This is an interactive demonstration where participants can pick up the hammer (if Spirit leads) and help shape a gun into a garden tool or other art. I will talk briefly about our work to live into the Peace Testimony by traveling around the South helping faith communities hold gun Safe Destruction events.
I	<b>No Mud No Lotus - Transformation through Meditation</b>	O.H. Jackson Napier	This meditation workshop, inspired by Zen-Buddhist Thich Nhat Hanh, explores the concept of "no mud, no lotus". Through mindful breathing, and walking, participants will learn to embrace life's challenges as fertile ground for growth, cultivating peace and resilience. With a gentle practice we can transform our world.
I	<b>Intergenerational Games</b>	SAYF	Adults are invited to join with SAYFers for strenuous outdoor play.
H	<b>Conscientious Objection: The Return</b>	Wayne Finegar (Quaker House)	Many Friends, young and old, are having a renewed interest in conscientious objection and draft registration. Learn about the current landscape and strategies for the modern day. We will give a background on conscientious objection, the Selective Service System, the current status of draft registration for young men, and discuss ideas that communities could consider to support any younger members of the meeting who are looking to document their views on war and militarism.
H	<b>Spiritual Renewal and Resilience as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Nonbinary, and Gender Nonconforming Friends</b>	Jeremiah Gold-Hopton & Thais Carr	Guided meditation and queries for worship sharing focused on healing ourselves in the midst of ongoing attacks on our gender identity, our sexual orientation, and our existence as individuals and as a community.
H	<b>Peace On Our Plates (part 2)</b>	Charlie Wilton	These workshops are for anyone interested in the intersection of our personal life choices and our witness as Quakers.  The How: Understanding the essentials of plant-based eating and living -- nutrition, shopping, menus, recipes.
H	<b>Decolonizing qism &amp; Somatic Fragmentation part 2</b>	tom kunesh	Steps in decolonizing qism, from land acknowledgement to forensic theology to religious deconstruction, & an introduction to the inherent fallacy of historic somatic fragmentation in quaker decision making: leaving out & minoritizing the Other. Presentation & discussion about how we think about meetings as 'bodies' (soma) of people that can achieve an integrity called 'gathered', & can make unified decisions, & learning how decisions made about Others without their majority inclusion fragments us & undermines our decision making process.

**Saturday Workshop Session B, 2:45 - 4:15 pm - cont.**

H	<b>Lifelines: Aid Workers in Gaza</b>	Jacob Flowers (AFSC)	<p>Join AFSC staff for a screening and discussion of “<b>Lifelines: Aid workers in Gaza</b>” a short film that provides a window into the lives and work of aid workers in Gaza in late 2024.</p> <p>The film follows Firas Ramlawi and Serena Awad – two staff members from the American Friends Service Committee – as they provide humanitarian relief to Palestinians in Gaza who have been displaced due to relentless attacks from the Israeli military. Despite being displaced themselves and losing dozens of family members and loved ones, AFSC staff in Gaza have provided life-saving aid to over 1.5 million internally displaced people.</p>
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<b>Sunday Workshop Session C, 3:30 - 5:00 pm</b>			
<b>FORMA T</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
I	<b>Building Community: Love In Spirit-Led Action</b>	wood bouldin & Hank Fay	The workshop will explore the process of Love In Action guided by Spirit: a method for building community based in great part on bell hooks' All About Love. The workshop will be divided into 3 segments each of which will have 1) a short period of exposition on 1 of 3 dimensions of putting Love In Action followed by 2) an individual exercise of self-exploration and 3) a group exercise bringing together the fruits of the self-exploration
I	<b>Planetarium Experience</b>	Jon Saderholm	Join Friend Jon Saderholm and sit back for a tour of the galaxy. This is a one hour planetarium presentation specially offered to SAYMA Friends. You'll have a chance to ask Jon about the planetarium as well as his long experience as an educator at Berea College.
I	<b>Connecting through Publishing your Work</b>	Judith (Judy) Geary	Independent publishing enables the author to share their thoughts with others. The presenter will share from 25 years of experience in book publishing, using the resources currently available for anyone to make their words available internationally. We'll begin by introducing ourselves with what our interest is in independent publishing. Then we'll explore resources available to meet those interests, primarily from Amazon KDP and Ingram Spark. Handouts will summarize and support the information provided. The potential exists for creating an online group that will continue to meet to support the participants' projects.
I	<b>Tai Chi Qigong for Relaxation</b>	Jennie Boyd Bull	After simple warmups and a brief introduction, we will practice flowing together in the Tai Chi Qigong 8 form. All ages are welcome; no experience required. We plan to gather outside, weather permitting. Wear flat-soled shoes and comfortable clothes. Handout of the form will be available for ongoing practice. Jennie is a certified Tai Chi instructor with TaiChi Healthways and has offered this workshop several times at Yearly Meeting.

**Sunday Workshop Session C, 3:30 - 5:00 pm - cont.**

I	<b>RAWtools South-Beating Guns into Garden Tools</b>	Scotty Utz	The forge will whirl and the anvil will sing. Come learn about the work of RAWtools South and see transformation happening before your eyes. This is an interactive demonstration where participants can pick up the hammer (if Spirit leads) and help shape a gun into a garden tool or other art. I will talk briefly about our work to live into the Peace Testimony by traveling around the South helping faith communities hold gun Safe Destruction events.
H	<b>Peace On Our Plates (Part 3)</b>	Charlie Wilton	These workshops are for anyone interested in the intersection of our personal life choices and our witness as Quakers.  III: How veganism aligns with other justice movements.
H	<b>Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns: Discerning Our Way Forward as a Community</b>	Jeremiah Gold-Hopton & Thais Carr	For more than 50 years, FLGBTQC has provided opportunities for sharing in the beloved community by providing a place where Friends practice radical inclusion of every person who is excluded from other communities because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity. This workshop will be another such opportunity.
H	<b>Tools to Multiculturalize</b>	tom kunesh	The other side of anti-racism work is promoting multiculturalism - learning about other cultures & appreciating our differences. There are 4 tools we can use to raise our consciousness about the colonial/imperial language we use, how we hold ourselves accountable, and determining where we are on the path to somewhere better. Practices you can apply in your meeting ~ noticing, mentioning, ouch-oops-whoa, demographic data, locating your development on change maps.
H	<b>Fixing a Broken World. Do We Have a Dream?</b>	Don Hyde	Presenter will lead a discussion of what a working world might look like. Maybe we can even make some proposals for how to do it. Start with the theme for this yearly meeting. How do we understand the theme? Quakers have a lot of dreams about a better world. Can we agree on some we want? Do we think we can sell any of those dreams? Where can we start?
H	<b>Radical Hospitality and Quaker Witness in Washington</b>	Sarah Johnson (FCNL)	A look at the last 3+ years of the work of Friends Place on Capitol Hill, which has offered lodging, events, and programming to more than 5000 guests, including newly arrived migrants via community mutual aid. Participants will hear about the work of FCNL and Friends Place on Capitol Hill, learn about ways to engage their meeting and community in advocacy, and how they can support immigrants through mutual aid.
H	<b>Quaker Process: Bring Your Questions</b>	Mathilda Navias	Bring your questions. Mathilda is a self-defined “process geek” and author of the book, <i>Quaker Process for Friends on the Benches</i> , which she is currently revising.



## Worship

Opportunities for worship every day

- ♦ Opening worship on the first day of the retreat
- ♦ Closing worship on the last day of the retreat
- ♦ Meeting for worship with attention to Business.
- ♦ Worship sharing\* small groups on Friday and Saturday. Facilitated worship sharing is a time to seek a deeper understanding and maybe even answers to the questions we may have had or have never even thought of. Come share, learn a new perspective or listen to what your community is experiencing.
- ♦ Early morning worship Check-in at the retreat for specific times and locations.
- ♦ Late night worship Check-in at the retreat for specific times and locations.
- ♦ Meeting for remembrance Join with Friends to celebrate the lives of those who have passed on in the previous year. Friends may submit minutes of remembrance to the worship coordinator for reading during this meeting. (submit minutes to SAYMAoffice@gmail.com)
- ♦ Young Adult Friends worship When possible young adult Friends at SAYMA will bring queries for worship sharing. Check-in at the retreat for specific times and locations.
- ♦ Special worship groups have included men's, women's, and non-binary Friends, Friends of Color, Young Adult Friends, and others - if you are led to facilitate a special worship space, please indicate that on your registration form. Check-in at the retreat for specific times and places for these groups.
- ♦ Listening worship with Finance Committee

Facilitating worship

We rely on volunteers to ensure our worship spaces are available. If you are led to facilitate worship sharing or early or late night worship opportunities, please indicate this on the registration form. These worship spaces are available when we have Friends willing to support them.

### Queries for Worship Sharing

- ♦ Session 1 (Friday) What does it mean to Love Thy Neighbor? What does that look like in our SAYMA community? In SAYMA, what are we doing well and where do we need to do better?
- ♦ Session 2 (Saturday) How can we create harmony within our diverse community? How can we learn to walk in the same spirit and hear each other deeply?
- ♦ Optional set 3: What are my root beliefs? What are SAYMA's root beliefs? How do we translate what we believe into how we practice? How can we practice Quaker moral action within our communities?
- ♦ Optional set 4: What hinders us from reimagining the dysfunctional systems within SAYMA? What hinders us from reimagining the dysfunctional systems present in our worlds?

### SAYMA Contact Information

YMPC: YMPC@sayma.org.

YMPC Clerk: Melissa Preast: YMPC@sayma.org, cell 865-244-6404

SAYMA Administrative Assistant: Saymaoffice@gmail.com, 865-272-9621

SAYMA Mail: c/o Admin.Assistant Rob Collins, 5612 10th Ave. S, Birmingham, AL 35222-4104

SAYF Program Coordinator: Autumn Woodward, AwesomeSAYFers@gmail.com, 828-333-7315

## Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Saturday, June 14 (virtual only), Sunday & Monday, June 22 & 23, (hybrid)

Each session begins with centering, expectant worship. As we start our business sessions we take a roll call of meetings and Friends present, and review the day's agenda. During meetings for worship with attention to business, Friends recognize that we are all in a single community seeking way forward guided by Spirit in our corporate discernment and that no one Friend is in possession of complete knowledge. We come to Meeting with kindness in our hearts, expecting to be surprised by the solutions that appear. In keeping with our testimony of simplicity, we endeavor to state our concerns just once, trusting that through deep listening, Friends will hear us. In turn, we strive to listen actively and carefully to others so that we can discern the sense of the meeting. Anyone at any time may request a return to centering worship to help us with our discernment. .

Meeting for worship with attention to business may include:

- ♦ Approving nominations for SAYMA's officers and committees.
- ♦ Considering the coming year's budget.
- ♦ Hearing reports from committees, invited guests, and WQO representatives.
- ♦ Laboring with concerns that have arisen over the past year.
- ♦ Epistles from JYM, SAYF, YAF, and Yearly Meeting.

### A Note on Reports:

Documents needed for business will be posted on the SAYMA website ([www.sayma.org](http://www.sayma.org)) as soon as they are available at the start of June. If you download any for reference, you'll save SAYMA the expense of printing paper copies.

Paper copies will be made available for those without internet access and binders will have copies for your perusal.

### Chat & Chew

Friday-Sunday late evening Chat and chew is an informal time for Friends to visit with each other over food and drink provided by volunteers from monthly meetings. If you would like to volunteer your monthly meeting to provide food and drink for one evening of chat and chew, please contact [YMPC@sayma.org](mailto:YMPC@sayma.org)

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## Young Adult Friends

SAYMA Young Adult Friends are a community of peers ages 18-35 who meet for fellowship and fun at SAYMA sessions and retreat. YAFs work together to nurture mutual needs and concerns within the open, safe, and sacred space of the Quaker community at SAYMA Sessions & Retreat.

YAFs invite any Friend to join them in their worship and in their business meetings and they intend to lead a worship sharing for everyone during the retreat.

### YAF Financial Support

Young Adult Friends' SAYMA registration is funded through a bequest from the Suzane and Tom Kenworthy estate. See the entry on Subsidized Tickets for promotion code to use at registration. If the designated discount is insufficient to support your attendance, please contact the YAF Treasurer, Laura Kelley ([laura.m.kelley@gmail.com](mailto:laura.m.kelley@gmail.com)). We don't want finances to be a barrier to your attendance.

## Young Friends Programing

### Southern Appalachian Young Friends at SAYMA (Teens 13\*-18)

SAYF at SAYMA serves as both the last and the first retreat of the year for SAYF. \*Rising 7th graders (who may be 12 years old) may attend SAYF at SAYMA as their first retreat as they age out of JYM while Young Friends who are graduating from SAYF will experience a wonderful graduation ceremony on the last evening. All teens are welcome to join SAYF at SAYMA, even if they haven't been active in SAYF in the past. This retreat combines fellowship, worship, and business. Teens stay in a dorm together and meals are eaten in the dining hall with SAYMA Friends during regular dining hours.

#### SAYF at SAYMA Sponsor requirements and additional forms:

Teens must arrange to have a sponsor in order to attend SAYF at SAYMA. We understand that not all SAYFers have parents/guardians who attend SAYMA Sessions and Retreat each year. For this reason, we ask that each teen have a sponsor, who may be a parent or may be another adult Friend, who will be on campus throughout the gathering weekend. SAYFers and their sponsors must attend a brief orientation meeting on the first night, and the sponsor will be responsible for their Young Friend whenever they are not involved in supervised SAYF activities.

**FORMS REQUIRED:** (1) SAYF retreat registration, (2) sponsor forms, (3) Berea College Participation Agreement and Liability Release Form, (4) New medical release forms for 2025-26. These forms will be mailed as paper copies to registered families by the SAYF Program Coordinator after registration for SAYMA closes June 6. Forms must be signed prior to attending and accompany SAYFers to the retreat. SAYFers without the signed forms may not attend

**QUESTIONS:** contact SAYF Program Coordinator,  
Autumn Woodward, via email: [AwesomeSAYFers@gmail.com](mailto:AwesomeSAYFers@gmail.com).

**Lead FANs:** Devin Lenz (404-313-1367, [devintlennz@me.com](mailto:devintlennz@me.com))  
and Jennifer Killen (919-749-5416, [jenkillen2@gmail.com](mailto:jenkillen2@gmail.com))



#### Teens Arriving at Berea:

1. Bring the additional SAYF at SAYMA forms with you, completed and signed.
2. Check in with the SAYMA registrar in the Alumni Building to get your name tag, dorm access key, and review any workshops you signed up for.
3. Report to the SAYF dorm for check-in from 6:30 - 7:15 pm on the first night of the event. Parents and sponsors have responsibility for SAYFers until they check in at their dorm.
4. The main sponsor orientation meeting will be held at 9:30 pm on the first evening. All SAYFers and sponsors on campus at that time must attend. Location will be posted at the check in desk.

#### Junior Yearly Meeting [JYM] (Children 6-12\*)

Bring your children, grandchildren, cousins, and other young Friends, from rising 1st through rising 6th graders to Junior Yearly Meeting!

Junior Yearly Meeting\* is big fun for young Friends with games, crafts, excursions, storytelling, music, nature, bubbles, laughter, community building, Quaker history and practice, cooking, sharing talents with the wider community, and reflecting on this year's theme with the wider community.

\*Children who are 12 years old and rising 7th graders may choose to participate in JYM or the SAYF program.

**Contact for JYM, Playcare, and babysitting is at [JYM@SAYMA.org](mailto:JYM@SAYMA.org)**

### **Playcare (Children 2-5 years)**

We offer Playcare\* at SAYMA – a supportive and contained environment where children ages 2 – 5 explore, play, and are nurtured by loving adults.

\*In some cases JYM and Playcare will be joined together for activities.

### **Babysitting (under 2 years)**

Babysitting for children under 2 years old when volunteers are available. Caring volunteers who comply with the SAYMA child safety policy may be available by pre-arrangement for babysitting for up to 2-hour periods during adult programming at SAYMA. For more information about babysitting contact JYM@SAYMA.org

### **Volunteering with Young Friends Programs**

Both JYM and SAYF need volunteer support during SAYMA Sessions & Retreat. If you are led to volunteer, please let us know on your registration form. This gives us time to get in touch with you about your interests and to complete any child safety requirements.

For more information about any of these programs, or about qualifications of adults who work with the children, contact the SAYF program coordinator at [awesomesayfers@gmail.com](mailto:awesomesayfers@gmail.com) or the JYM steering committee clerk at [JYM@sayma.org](mailto:JYM@sayma.org)

### **\*Working with Young Friends' Programs**

Both JYM and SAYF need volunteer support during our annual gathering. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know on your registration form. This gives us time to get in touch with you about your interests and to complete any child safety requirements. For more information about any of these programs, or about qualifications of adults who work with the children, contact the SAYF program coordinator at [awesomesayfers@gmail.com](mailto:awesomesayfers@gmail.com) or the JYM steering committee clerk at [JYM@sayma.org](mailto:JYM@sayma.org).

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### **Wider Quaker Organizations**

Wider Quaker Organizations [WQO] are always welcome and often send representatives to SAYMA Sessions and Retreat. Each year, on a rotating basis, SAYMA extends a special welcome to three WQO to give reports at meetings for business, set up displays, and offer workshops.

#### **Set up a WQO Display**

To set up a display for a Wider Quaker Organization, contact [YMPC@sayma.org](mailto:YMPC@sayma.org) to reserve a table near the bookstore in the Alumni Building Lobby. If you have items for sale that are related to the work of your organization, you may sell them at the table. You will be responsible for the security of these items at all times and also for collecting the proceeds of any sales. The bookstore cannot do this for you.

#### **Current Rotation**

- 2025 FCNL, FPT, Quaker House
- 2026 AFSC, RSWR, QVS
- 2027 FWCC, QEW, AVP

**American Friends Service Committee [AFSC]** - AFSC promotes a world free of violence, inequality, and oppression. Guided by the Quaker belief in the divine light within each person, we nurture the seeds of change and the respect for human life to fundamentally transform our societies and institu-



## Nurturing Community in our Broken Worlds

tions. We work with people and partners worldwide, of all faiths and backgrounds, to meet urgent community needs, challenge injustice, and build peace. (afsc.org)

**Friends Committee on National Legislation [FCNL]** - FCNL is a national, nonpartisan Quaker organization that lobbies Congress and the administration to advance peace, justice, and environmental stewardship. Founded in 1943 by members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), FCNL fields an expert team of lobbyists on Capitol Hill and works with a grassroots network of tens of thousands of people across the country to advance policies and priorities established by our governing General Committee. (fcnل.org)

**Friends General Conference [FGC]** - Founded in 1900, FGC is an association of local and regional Quaker organizations primarily in the United States and Canada. FGC is a volunteer-led association. Our focus areas and related projects are determined by volunteers representing our affiliates and consistent with FGC's organizational Minute of Purpose and Vision Statement. What was once an association of seven yearly meetings holding a biennial "general conference" is now a coalition of sixteen yearly meetings and eleven directly affiliated monthly meetings. (fgcquaker.org)

**Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns [FLGBTQC]** FLGBTQC is a North American Quaker faith community that affirms that of God in all people. Gathering twice yearly for worship and play, we draw sustenance from each other and from the Spirit for our work and life in the world. We are learning that radical inclusion and radical love bring further light to Quaker testimony and life. (flgbtqc.herokuapp.com)

**Friends Peace Teams** - Friends Peace Teams is a Spirit-led organization working to develop long-term relationships with communities in conflict around the world to create programs for peace building, healing and reconciliation. (friendspeaceteams.org)

**Friends World Committee for Consultation [FWCC]** - FWCC represents Quakers around the world. Known today for its peaceful principles, the Quaker community circles the globe, spanning a rich diversity of regional cultures, beliefs and styles of worship. FWCC exists to bring fellowship to all Quakers around the world and speak on behalf of Quakers in international spaces such as the United Nations. (fwcc.world)

**Quaker Earthcare Witness [QEW]** - Quaker Earthcare Witness is the largest network of Friends (Quakers) working on Earthcare today. We work to inspire Spirit-led action toward ecological sustainability and environmental justice. QEW has grown out of strong leading among Friends that our future depends on a spiritual transformation in our relationship with each other and the natural world. (quakerearthcare.org)

**Quaker House** - Quaker House is a manifestation of the Friends' Peace Testimony. Based in Fayetteville, NC, home of Ft. Bragg, Quaker House provides counseling and support to service members who are questioning their role in the military; educates them, their families, and the public about military issues; and advocates for a more peaceful world. (quakerhouse.org)

**Quaker Voluntary Service [QVS]** - QVS is an experiment at the intersection of transformational spirituality and activism, a year-long Fellowship program for young adults. (quakervoluntaryservice.org)

**Right Sharing of World Resources [RSWR]** - RSWR is an independent Quaker not-for-profit organization sharing the abundance of God's love by working for equity through partnerships around the world. RSWR gives grants to groups of marginalized women in Kenya, Sierra Leone, and India to fund individual micro-enterprise projects. Right Sharing's work is grounded in a sense of stewardship for the world's material, human, and spiritual resources. (rswr.org)

## Restrooms:

### Information about Berea College's restrooms:

SAYMA YMPC provides the following information about Berea College's restrooms, and restroom policies to help you discern whether and how to participate in annual sessions.

\* Berea College recommends that people use the restroom with which they are most comfortable. We understand that college officials will support this stance in the case of any conflict about restroom use.

\* The college provides a map of current restrooms on campus categorized by gender-segregated and gender-neutral facilities.

\* The primary buildings during our sessions and retreat for adult programming and dining, the Alumni Building and Draper Hall, have only gender-segregated restrooms.

\* The gender-neutral restrooms nearest to the Alumni Building are next door in Wood-Pen and across the street in Kettering Dorm.

\* There are no gender-neutral restrooms near Draper Hall, where most workshops will be held. We have scheduled a 30 minute break between workshops to allow time for Friends to access gender-neutral restrooms as needed.

\* The Alumni Building and Draper Hall are open to the public and will be used concurrently by other groups on campus.

\* Kettering Dorm has one restroom per secured hall. SAYMA treats these restrooms as gender-neutral because we assign rooms on mixed gender halls.

\* All Kettering Dorm restrooms have locking stalls for toilets and showers.

\* In the event a person is challenged about their use of a restroom:

\* Alert YMPC Clerk, Melissa Preast (cell 865-244-6404) who will contact our event coordinator.

\* The SAYMA YMPC reminds Friends to be prepared to nonviolently intervene for any person who is harassed or attacked by anyone for any reason.

## Shop Locally

Materials are also available at registration from the local tourism board about things to do and visit in the area.

### Farmer's Market

635 Chestnut St.

859 404-1230

Hours: Saturday 9 AM – 1 PM

### Happy Meadow –

locally owned natural food store with a wide variety of food and body care products

286 Glades Rd.

859 986-3456

Hours 10-6 M-F, 10 -5 Sat.

### Save-A-Lot

403 Richmond Rd. N.

859 986-0338

Hours: 8 AM -9 PM

### Berea Urgent Care

234 Brenwood (across from Walmart)

859 985-0302

Hours: 9 AM - 8:30 PM, or until patient load is at capacity

### Walgreens

220 Richmond Rd.

859 986-1494

Hours: 8 AM - 10 PM weekdays, 8 AM - 6 PM weekends

Pharmacy Closed 1 - 1:30 for lunch every day

### Walmart

120 Jill Dr

859 267-8368

Hours: 6 AM – 11 PM

### Berea Community POOL

(Sorry. Closed this year.)