

AYF Epistle  
ILYM 2010 Gathering

To Friends Everywhere,

The Adult Young Friends met with joy and exuberance in our opening session. We welcomed traveling Friend Micah Bales, who shared his spiritual journey with us. We also welcomed several new members to our expanding group.

Together we examined the purpose of our group as a whole and our sense of AYF's direction by holding a visioning workshop. We discussed how we want to witness our service testimonies. We want to strengthen our community while connecting to the larger meeting. We came out with a stronger sense of who we are – providing a spiritual home to Adult Young Friends in a transitory state of their lives. We help to facilitate the transition from Young Friend to Adult Friend by serving on committees in the larger meeting, and leading children's groups and worship sharing sessions, while supporting and nurturing each other with conversation and a trip to the nature park of Starved Rock.

Speaker Phillip Gulley's address resonated with our sense of community and reinforced our determination to support and nourish each other. During our session we lived our transition from Young to Adult. We were touched by acts of kindness, explored our theme and our Meeting for Worship, and met the challenge of Quaker business process.

As our group matures, we continue to build more organic processes and bring our members together. We send our love to the wider Quaker community, and invite them to join ours if they are ever near.

The Adult Young Friends of ILYM