

PB 23-39: Concern for Youth and Youth Ministries

At the close of Sessions 2023 Friends heard epistles and messages from Young Adult Friends (YAFs) and young adults who serve as youth program Sessions staff. Each, in their own way, voiced a plea for greater understanding of their faithfulness, and exhaustion throughout Sessions, helping to sustain youth programs and ministries during NEYM Sessions, and their personal grief over loss of a robust, restorative spiritual community of their peers.

Permanent Board Friends were deeply moved by their messages. Though minute *PB 23-35: Youth Ministries Committee Purpose, Procedures, and Composition* document was approved at the August 5, 2023 Permanent Board meeting (and subsequently approved by Sessions 2023), the Youth Ministries Committee is not yet seated, thus the work is not yet fully underway. Rebecca Leuchak, NEYM Presiding Clerk, and Clerk of the Coordinating and Advisory Committee (C&A), proposed to the Permanent Board that the C&A committee bring recommendations to PB to be heard at the September 30th PB meeting.

Friends affirmed this plan and noted that care of youth and youth ministries is clearly a part of the charge of the Permanent Board.