



NEW ENGLAND YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS QUAKERS

July 2, 2026

RE: Youth Ministries Committee Listening Project Report

Dear Friends,

Greetings from your Yearly Meeting Youth Ministries Committee! We are writing to share our most recent “Listening Project” report, which is a summary of many conversations and survey responses from Friends engaged in youth ministry in their Quaker meeting.

Since we finished the listening phase earlier this calendar year, we have heard from more meetings and have continued conversations with meetings where the youth ministries landscape continues to change, grow, and evolve with each season—and each new family.

As we share this report, we want to express our deep gratitude for the rich, detailed, and honest reflections so many Friends took the time to share. In such challenging times, we are heartened to see the spiritual Life, creativity, and care that is evident in the ways meetings large and small care for their offerings for youth and families.

Whether we connected with you in the initial listening process or not, we invite any Friends caring for youth ministry in their meeting, worship group, or quarter to join us for future conversations, resource sharing, and mutual accompaniment. We will be offering one such opportunity during the “Choices” time block at [Annual Sessions](#) this August. On Saturday afternoon, please consider joining the first in-person experience for Local Youth Ministers Supporting Each Other (LYMSE). The workshop will be a hybrid opportunity to have further discussion about the successes and challenges highlighted in this report, or otherwise experienced by any in attendance at the workshop. In the coming school year, we also invite you to join us at these quarterly virtual opportunities to connect with others serving in youth ministry. To be notified when dates and details about these opportunities are available, email Children and Family Ministries Coordinator Kara Price at Kara@neym.org.

The conversations that led to this report were also helpful for us, as the new constellation of the Youth Ministries Committee, in focusing our work for the coming year. In addition to more opportunities to share youth ministry ideas, challenges, and resources, we heard a need for child safety training. Toward that end, this September 21st at 7:00 p.m. we will be offering an online workshop on child safety in Quaker meetings. You can find additional details about the workshop [here](#) and a collection of child safety resources on the Yearly Meeting website [here](#).

We hope this short report is helpful to Friends in your meeting. We look forward to continued conversation and collaboration in support of youth ministry across our region.

In the Light,

The Youth Ministries Committee:

Xinef Afriam, Yearly Meeting Teen and Outreach Ministries Coordinator

Newton Barletta, Young Friends

Melissa Becce (Hartford Meeting)

Nancy Corindia, Committee clerk (Hanover Meeting)

Anna Hopkins Buller, Friends Camp Director (Wellesley Meeting)

Jana Noyes (Westerly Meeting)

Kara Price, Yearly Meeting Children and Family Ministries Coordinator (Storrs Meeting)

Nia Thomas, Yearly Meeting Program Director (Northampton Meeting)

Maille Wooten (Lawrence Meeting).