

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends
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Dear Friend,

Welcome to Baltimore Yearly Meeting! BYM is the regional gathering of Quakers from the mid-Atlantic region. We are made up of about 50 monthly meetings and worshipping groups from Pennsylvania, Maryland, DC, West Virginia, and Virginia. As your Yearly Meeting, BYM is here to help strengthen Monthly Meetings, nurture our youth through summer camps and year-round programs, help our community grow in Spirit, and help us all connect with other Quakers in our region, our country, and even around the world!

There are many ways you can get involved with BYM!

You can receive one or more of our publications.

In addition to posting information on our website www.bym-rsf.org, BYM sends out newsletters to keep our community informed about local Quaker events and resources. The E-news comes out digitally every week and the Interchange newsletter comes out quarterly—digitally and in print. Those channels are excellent ways to hear what BYM is doing to support monthly meetings and individual Friends and to learn about ways that you can volunteer and participate in actions that our BYM community is taking. You can sign up for one or both of those newsletters here: <https://bit.ly/4nJaVxI>.

You can volunteer for one of our many committees or working groups.

BYM is always looking for people to serve on one of its many committees and working groups. We have more than 20 committees addressing Quaker concerns as well as the operations of BYM. Most are open to all to participate, and you can learn more here: <https://rb.gy/0k57ea>. You can contact our Nominating Committee, at nominating@bym-rsf.org, and I'm sure they will be delighted to connect you with a committee that matches your skills and leadings.



*Friends playing with bubbles
at Annual Session*

You can join us for Annual Session or a Spiritual Formation retreat.

At Annual Session, held mid-summer, we gather for a week of Meetings for Business and Worship, workshops, plenary speakers, and community fun. All are welcome. Spiritual Formation retreats happen throughout the year and provide opportunities for community and reflection.

- To learn more about attending Annual Session, either to join for the whole week or just to attend a single event online, you can email admin@bym-rsf.org or go to <https://bit.ly/4wDTvGx>.

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- You can find more information about Spiritual Formation retreats here: <https://bit.ly/3Hsd9QK>.

We would love to see you at one of our events or retreats!

You can volunteer at one of our BYM summer camps or our STRIDE program, which helps youths from local cities access BYM camps.

BYM camps always needs volunteers to help with work grants and camp property maintenance, and to make our STRIDE program run smoothly.

- To learn more about work grants, go to: <https://bit.ly/4uEkdOd>. There's a special need this year for people who would like to help cook meals for the campers!
- You can find information about camp work days here: <https://bit.ly/4dOgd5X>. These are days the community comes together to help maintain our camp properties.
- You can contact our STRIDE coordinator to find out more about getting involved with that program: RaiCarter@bym-rsf.org. They often have opportunities to help drive campers to camps or prepare their equipment before the camping season.



BYM Campers on a hike!

You can join our community in making charitable contributions to help fund all our services and programs.

To send a gift to BYM, you can mail a check to our office or go here: <https://bit.ly/3FHSjwg>. A large portion of our annual budget is made up of charitable contributions from individual Friends like you. We use these funds to send kids to camp, hold youth and spiritual formation retreats, host Annual Session, compensate our staff, publish books, and so much more!

We are so happy that you are a part of our BYM community. I hope that you are able to find just the spot where you feel joyfully connected.

In Friendship,

Sarah Gillooly
General Secretary
Baltimore Yearly Meeting