

PYM Annual Sessions 2021

Shared Expectations for Youth Programs Online



When Youth gather, both in age-group communities and all together at Sessions, there is an expectation that participants will be respectful, caring, and use common sense. At the center of our worship, learning, service, and play together are *relationships*, and to create community we are all asked to follow guidelines that support both individuals and the community. MSF and Young Friends have developed written Guidelines ([see Young Friends' here](#)) they review together; Children and Families programs usually craft those expectations on site at the start of programs.

Online programs have moved us into new spaces and the **Shared Expectations** below are offered in the same spirit of supporting individuals, relationships, and community.

[Please visit this link to read the PYM Guidance and Practices for Online Youth Gatherings when participants are under the age of 18](#)

We welcome people also to share specific needs of a medical or non-medical nature. If a young person, parent or guardian believes the young person has any needs of which the program should be aware, they should contact the Youth Religious Life Coordinator at mwennerbradley@pym.org.

Shared Expectations for Youth Participant:

Please review and discuss the guidelines and return with parent and youth signatures.

1. Each participant is expected to treat all persons at Annual Sessions with respect for their ideas, feelings, and beliefs.
2. Children and youth will wear appropriate clothing that allows them to fully participate in movement activities. Pajamas are not appropriate for online program spaces.
3. Youth Program spaces are "safe space". Tell your own story, and if you do not have permission to tell someone else's story, keep it to yourself. Share what you learn, not what others said.
4. Devices should be set-up in a space that is thoughtfully chosen. The space should have room for movement and the background should be appropriate. (ie. Not the bathroom and be aware of any personal things that would be in the background.)

5. Harassment and bullying of any kind will not be permitted in PYM Youth Programs. This is not only a Youth Program guideline, but a PYM Annual Sessions expectation as well. See the [Annual Sessions Discernment and Expectations](#) and [Addressing Racism Ground Rules](#).

Shared Expectations for Parent & Guardian:

- Parents/guardians must review and discuss the **shared expectations for youth** (above) with the young people in their household who are participating in Annual Sessions program online.
- Parents/guardians are expected to assist young people to be ready, prepare devices, and actively engaged in Annual Sessions activities for their age-group.
- Parent/guardian of children in Children's Sessions (5th Grade and younger) are expected to be present in the room and support children as needed during programs.

By signing the bottom of the online registration page, we affirm that the above Shared Expectations for Youth and Parent/Guardian have been reviewed by registered youth participant and adult responsible for their well being.