



Over the past few days, the children and youth had the opportunity to come together in-person to share fun and fellowship. Older youth achieved a better understanding of what it means to be a Quaker and we are looking to engage more in the future in the Quaker community. As a group, we feel ready to be more engaged with the wider body. We felt the effects of isolation during the COVID pandemic, and we appreciated being together again. We learned (or relearned) how to work together after a long time apart. We appreciated planning and leading Vespers, and we were very glad that the community participated and gave us a chance to connect with the entire Yearly Meeting. Vespers allowed us the opportunity to see different people's perspectives of what they see in community. We appreciated returning to TCNJ, where many of us have memories and we enjoyed the natural space of Snipes Farm. We appreciated staff for creating space, both for youth as a whole and for separate age-specific groups. In the future, we would appreciate more time for worship and for serious discussions.

Younger youth enjoyed reconnecting with new friends, riding the golf carts, and all the water play – including getting a bucket of water dumped on our heads, the reusable water balloons, and Frank the unicorn sprinkler! We enjoyed the giant earth ball and a really long game of Jenga. We also had fun playing and talking with new friends. We liked the snacks, and the birthday cake, and getting boba, and we had a lot of fun going to Snipes Farm, especially having a conversation with and petting a goat, picking blackberries, and seeing the quails. (Although some of us wished we had more sturdy walking shoes!) Our littlest Friends loved the little pool, the toys, and the nature walks.