

How-To

Host a YAF social event

Got an idea for a get-together or project you want to organize?
Think it would be great to do it with other Young Adult Friends?
Here are some advices to get you going!

*The YAF Coordinator (aka Elizabeth) is the staff person with care for the YAF Program.
Together you can make a plan for the event: email epiersolschmidt@pym.org*

Who: Who's your audience? Quakers? Young adults? Is this an event you want to have open to **any and all** Young Adult Friends, not just people you know? *(The answer should be YES! - YAF events are open to **all** Friends age 18-35-ish)*

What: What do you want to do? Have a potluck, happy hour, visit a meeting together, picnic, hike, movie night, worship sharing or discussion group, etc.? Contact Elizabeth with your idea to see if it fits as a YAF Program-sponsored event. One of the YAF community's priorities for 2015-16 is for events with more than just fellowship – we are yearning for spiritual content as well. (e.g. worship sharing on various topics, a pub theology event.) If the event is approved as part of the YAF program, in addition to the communication support outlined below, there may be some financial support for it. *(If the possibility of alcohol consumption exists, make sure you follow the [YAF policy on alcohol use.](#))*

Where: Is the location public-transit accessible, or will you help arrange carpooling? Will the venue let people throughout the 18-35 age range attend? How much does it cost?

When: Email Elizabeth with potential dates for your event. Beforehand, check the PYM calendar to make sure it's not overlapping with a pre-existing event. www.pym.org/calendar. Make sure you're planning **at least 4** weeks in advance to let people know about it. Ideally 8 weeks or more! (see next item...)

Getting the word out: There are LOTS of venues for publicizing PYM YAF events! Some of it depends on how far in advance you are planning and who your audience is. Elizabeth is the resource person for getting the word out widely, and together you can make a plan to publicize the event! But if you are hosting or being point-person for an event, be prepared to do some one-on-one outreach to invite people to come.

email options: YAF e-news; PYAF listserv; PYM Today online; PYM News & Events update
web: PYM YAF website; YAF Facebook Group; PYM Facebook event
physical: flyers; postcards; invitations; carrier pigeons
other: word of mouth; texts; phone calls; skywriting

Welcoming! Think about how you can make the event accessible and welcoming to newcomers! Have nametags available, a greeter or sign, and/or some kind of icebreaker activity.

Our YAF event guidelines

This is our vision for YAF events: *The YAF community of PYM holds events to build loving community, deepen our spirituality, support one another, and live out our faith in the world. We come together with a wide range of identities and experiences, and seek to be respectful and welcoming to all. Our event guidelines support our intention to provide a fruitful, safe, and loving space for all of our members.*

These are our guidelines:

We expect that all participants will accept collective responsibility for the community's wellbeing.

We recognize that people have a wide range of boundaries. In caring for the community, it is important to get enthusiastic consent when engaging in physical contact or conversations. We know that someone is giving enthusiastic consent when they agree to the interaction both verbally and with their body language.

We are prepared for problems that may come up at this event, such as conflict, injury, and spiritual or mental distress. The YAF Working Group, as a part of PYM, has procedures in place for how to handle problems and conflicts that may arise. As a last resort, these procedures may include asking individuals to leave the event. Many of our procedures are available through the YAF Coordinator. If you have any questions about how to handle a particular situation, please speak with the YAF Coordinator or the YAF clerking team.

Affirmed July 31, 2015 by the YAF Community at PYM Annual Sessions