

*Gathering Anew*

Join us as we imagine, connect, seek, and rejoice in transforming the Gathering anew.



What do you envision?

ecological

Promote carpooling and train use to save energy. Have Gatherings mainly in center of U.S. equidistant from all.

Aware that ecological impact includes not only travel to Gathering, but also the disposable diningware and covid tests, etc.

Beautiful setting, ability to experience ourselves as part of nature

anti-racism

Continue to include Native American perspective in each Gathering -- maintain awareness.

Importance of a central Gathering/conference for Q youth to experience being part of a cohort. As part of that, Q youth of color getting to connect with peer Q youth of color, which may not be otherwise possible for them.

Central importance of youth leadership opportunities

youth identity

It's so meaningful to youth and teens to have connections, a place to find their Q. identity

thought that it'd be good to have a YAY-type Gathering every few years

Collaboration w/YM or other regional youth groups-- to strengthen both the Gathering (whatever it may be called then) and YM groups (e.g. Florida van!)

Regional gatherings because (1) less cost/carbon to travel, and (2) more oppty for group cohesion in fewer days

regional

What fear & concerns arise for you?

money/time

Money - I keep having less of it and FGC is way too expensive if I'm not staff

Time -- too much time to travel there, can't take off work for a week plus travel time.

What if not enough people volunteer?

how to create a Gathering that is sustainable for staff to run?

How to care for our staff well enough?

What if there are too many competing needs to create something that is financially, physically, etc accessible?

staff/volunteer capacity

where is spiritual community in all of this?

What if we change too much to preserve what is important? What if we don't change enough?

If we only Gather in person every few years, people may drift away and find other things to do...

When we plan an in-person event, there loom dangers such as the natural disasters, spread of illnesses, etc.

climate crisis /pandemic

How to include all ages, Virtual may work best for middle and older adults, but stinks for the youngst folks

COVID

virtual or in-person

what if we try something different and it doesn't work?

participation

what if older friends stop coming?

It is true that younger kids suffer more from virtual, but I know high school age kids who totally fell apart from virtual.

White people can "opt out" of talking about racism, and thus do nothing

what if young people don't come anymore?

Loss of important resource especially for smaller YMs



What hopes & possibilities arise?

center POC

Keeping a culture of real/truth and other "old fashioned" things as the world gets weirder in its quest for social media and extremism

spaciousness and serendipity

Opportunity to change entrenched cultural BS that has seemed impossible to challenge or shift

opportunity to center friends of color?

learn from Friends of different backgrounds, races, class, etc

Our lack of clear direction might position us to hear the Spirit calling us to things that we never would have thought of on our own

continuing revelation - spiritual growth

learning from/with young people.

learning from/with older friends, also

Invitation to creativity and deep discernment, visioning, like we are doing now

go deep with worship together

let's have fun!

relationships/exchange

Opportunity to really center young people

Chance to really get to know young people from other regions that you don't ordinarily interact with.

More camping?  
Gather in a big city?  
Gather outside the box.

The talent shows worked well in-person and online!

More do-it-yourself -- Quakers cooking together to save meal costs?

youth-centered, youth-led

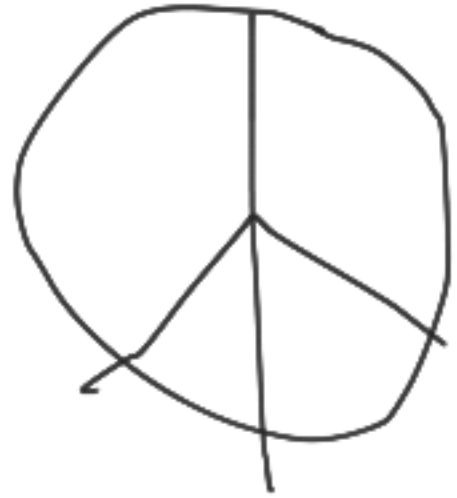
Engage youth directly in discernment of new directions

programming/logistics

**i LOVE  
YOU  
PEOPLE!**

**Junior  
Gathering  
is the  
BEST!**

**graffiti page!!!**



**Junior  
Gathering  
Rocks!**



