

**SAYF Worship Journal**  
November 2018 Retreat  
Asheville Friends Meetinghouse

***On the weekend of November 9-11, 2018, the Southern Appalachian Young Friends met at the Asheville Friends Meeting. This is our witness. This is our story.***

This retreat was amazing. I loved the botanical gardens. I got a bird! Toilet paper games were fun. Also, I became a nurturer! I love all you beautiful people, and I can't wait to see you in January!

Lots of love & memes,  
Eli

Dear SAYF,

As my last SAYF retreat comes to a close (yes, I am retiring), I look around the room at all the beautiful souls. You are beautiful! I am still in awe of your capacity for joy, compassion, creativity, energy, and love for each other.

The faces around the room may change over time but the spirit of SAYF remains vibrant and strong. That is only possible because every member of this community, teens and adults alike, believes in the power of this program. Spread the word. Keep showing up. If our being here makes a difference in the life of just one person, it will all have been worth it. You are the reason I show up! So much love to each and every one of you!!!

Jennifer Chapman

(And, finally, thank you for letting me be a fly on the wall of your life)

This retreat has been like a breath of fresh air, I've been going through a rough time recently and SAYF was a much welcomed escape. You all are such wonderful people and I dare not imagine my life without you.

With love - David

This was a difficult retreat, though productive in healing some wounds in our community body.

We have also been working through a lot of evolutionary changes, with a number of departures and arrivals.

I'm especially saddened by the retirement of Jennifer Chapman. We have become close friends over her several years of service to SAYF and I will miss her camaraderie deeply; I will miss her humor and energy; I will miss her supportive listening...and SAYF just won't be the same without the rhapsody of head banging dinner prep and bohemian grocery runs.

Cheezy poofs forever!

In peace, with love to all,  
Aaron

Dear Fellow SAYFers!

Ok so yall are pretty cool. Also this retreat was dope. Also it had good breakfast. This retreat made me appreciate how awesome this community is and how lucky I am to have it so thanks guys :). Also, I got to see a couple people I haven't seen in a while, plus all of you in general. Love you guys. Oh yea, and I'm a nurturer now.

Stay Awesome Always,  
Or At Least Until  
I See You Next  
Marissa

Hello Beautiful SAYFers,

Thank you for a lovely and respectful weekend. Though the group was small, the energy was vibrant and alive. Proud to know all of you. Till next time.

Jennifer R.

We will miss you J. Chap! Enjoy the Cheese Balls!

Many of the faces at this retreat were new to me. It's a weird feeling after coming to SAYF for so many years. It was strange at first observing the newer generations playing and creating their own rituals, games, and meme's. It reminded me of my first ever SAYF with new people, and activities but with the same welcoming, open, free spirit and love. SAYF hasn't changed, only my perspective has changed and it is for that; I have no fear for this community. Just a longing that I could stay a bit longer. I thank you all for this eye opening and wonderful retreat.

With all my love  
- Jonas

ps. Keep goonin. Always.