

SAYF Worship Journal
February 2019 Nurturing/Steering Retreat
West Knoxville Friends Meetinghouse

On the weekend of February 22-24, 2019, the Nurturing and Steering Committees of the Southern Appalachian Young Friends met at the West Knoxville Friends Meeting. This is our witness. This is our story.

Dear SAYF Community,
The song "Hallelujah the Great Storm is Over" is coming to my mind. The mudslide from the rain closed I-40 and we saw a stream and mini waterfall starting in front of the West Knoxville Meetinghouse. SAYFers shoes and socks are soggy from their walk to the reservoir.

May we find our reservoir of "water" to support our life. Thank you for your sharing about how to support those who need you support while remembering to support yourself.

Lift up your wings and fly
Love ❤️ Mari
(At my last nurturing and steering meeting)

"The moss is always greener on the other side" as the saying goes. But I don't know, the moss is pretty green right here. I am very content right here. I'm not worried or stressed. I am merely in existence with the world around me. This is a feeling that I don't often feel outside of SAYF and it will be missed. While I feel ready to leave SAYF, I will never forget what this place has done for me. I thank you all for a good last nurturing retreat.

**Love,
Jonas**

Dear SAYF, 2/24/19
This was my first Nurturers retreat. I was a little nervous at first, just because people said it would be boring. There were times when it was, but for the most part it was really cool. It was really fun being included in things. Even the walk was fun (for the most part). Anyway, thank you all for letting me be a part of this community.

Love,
Eli

My dearest nurturers,
I always thought that my "lasts" at SAYF would be much more pronounced and monumental than they have proven themselves to be. While the torrential rain felt like an appropriate symbol for my last nurturing retreat, the sunshine today seems equally fitting. I know that this community will continue to do this work, these epistle books will continue to be filled, and that birthday cakes will continue to be the greatest science experiment. I feel so grateful to have had the opportunity to grow up in SAYF. I was reminded of that even more this weekend because West Knoxville was the site of my first retreat in 2013. Time really does fly. I love you all forever and for always.

Cora

RAMBLINGS SPELT BADLY

WELL, THE MEETINGS WERE SHORT (FOR NURTURERS). I'M GLAD THIS WAS THE CASE BECAUSE IT ALLOWED US TO HAVE BASICALLY A NORMAL RETREAT. THEY SHOULD BUILD MORE SIDEWALKS. CELO FIHHA BE

I G N I G H T E D

I LIKE GOING TO RETREATS THAT AREN'T THAT ONE PLACE WITH THE BROKEN COUCH, WE ALWAYS GO THERE.

PNEUMONULTRAMICROSCOPICSILICOVOLCANOCONIOSIS

SINCERELY,

JACOB MIXSON

Dear SAYF,

This Nurturing retreat was my first time "adult" clerking, it was very stressful. I am very sad I missed the prior 2 retreats but I'm back b*tches! I will now tell 2 poems.

The lake was not real
My shoes are soaked a great deal
Old-whip is bubbly

Super awesome
Awesome
Yay – awesome
Fricken awesome

- Mandy Abbate 

This is my second Nurturing retreat I find the community of adults and young friends growing more familiar I found myself looking forward to this weekend even though it is a terrible time for me to be away.

Thanks for your thoughtfulness and your initiative. You are the lights showing the way forward.

I'm already planning for August even though I'll miss the Seniors 😞 a new generation of Seniors is on its way up. I look forward to getting to know you in the ways you are leaders.

Jennifer D