

SAYF Worship Journal
August 2023 SAYF Nurturing Retreat
Swannanoa Valley Friends Meetinghouse

On the weekend of August 18-20, 2023 the Southern Appalachian Young Friends met at Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting. This is our witness. This is our story.

This was my first nurturing retreat. I was afraid that since we only had 5 nurturers in attendance that it would not be fun and we wouldn't do good business. I was quite wrong. The nurturers destroyed our agenda and had a great time. It was sad without Oliver and Eli but as the great Aunt Jenny said we have to make our own shoes too. Huge props to Nevin for being the old nurturer to nurture us. Thanks to Mason for endless hilarity and for being made in gods image. Love to Sage and thanks for all the cuddles, even though you may or may not ever read this. And to Mike for being an amazing car ride companion, for late night talks (sorry), and being generally awesome. Adelaide and Anders are pretty cool too but they were just here for the business section.

Love - Bax

SAYF,

Following is the list of gratitudes for this nurturer weekend.

1. Food brought by Swannanoa Valley members
2. My roommate Jenny, who is always positive and helpful
3. Our seven nurturers who hold the gifts of sensitivity, empathy, eagerness, wisdom, humor and the silliness required of leaders.
4. A beautiful meetinghouse with a creek and porch
5. FANs who love this program and kept it alive.

Beth Myers
FAN

Rivers keep rolling, every day all the water is new, rocks shift, banks change. And standing at the banks of the Swannanoa it's still the same river, that has cradled this meeting house for years, and for many many more before any white people walked these lands. Permanent, and always changing.

SAYF seems to follow the same path - constantly flowing, rolling, sometimes a flood, sometimes a trickle. I'm honored to be here this weekend with the "new water" of SAYF, and look forward to seeing where you flow this year.

Much love,
Chris