

Report from the Youth and Children Committee, June 17, 2026

The Annual Fall Youth Retreat (grades K-12) was held October 3-5, 2025, at the Kirkmont Center in Zanesfield, Ohio. Five youth and seven adults attended from Athens, Birmingham, Broadmead, Detroit, North Columbus, and Red Cedar. The new location was a wonderful fit for our gathering. Zanesfield is more centralized, making attendance easier for many folks. Perfect fall weather allowed us to explore our new retreat location and to fully enjoy the outdoors in our new setting. We took walks, flew paper airplanes, and played tag, kickball and gaga ball. Indoor activities included puzzles, games, drawing, reading, and listening to music. We cooked meals together in our lodge. On Sunday, we had a Prayer Walk where youth paired with adults to walk in silence or quiet conversation. Afterwards, we gathered to share our experiences through pictures and writing, reflecting on the feelings and thoughts that arose during the walk, followed by Meeting for Worship. The weekend left everyone looking forward to next year's Fall Youth Retreat.

This spring, we have been preparing for the Youth and Children's Program for Annual Sessions. The teachers of each age group have met virtually to plan for the mornings, and the clerks have met virtually to plan the afternoon activities. There are thirteen children and teenagers registered from seven meetings.

The Fall Youth Retreat will be at Kirkmont Center, October 2 – 4, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mott
Clerk, Youth and Children Committee