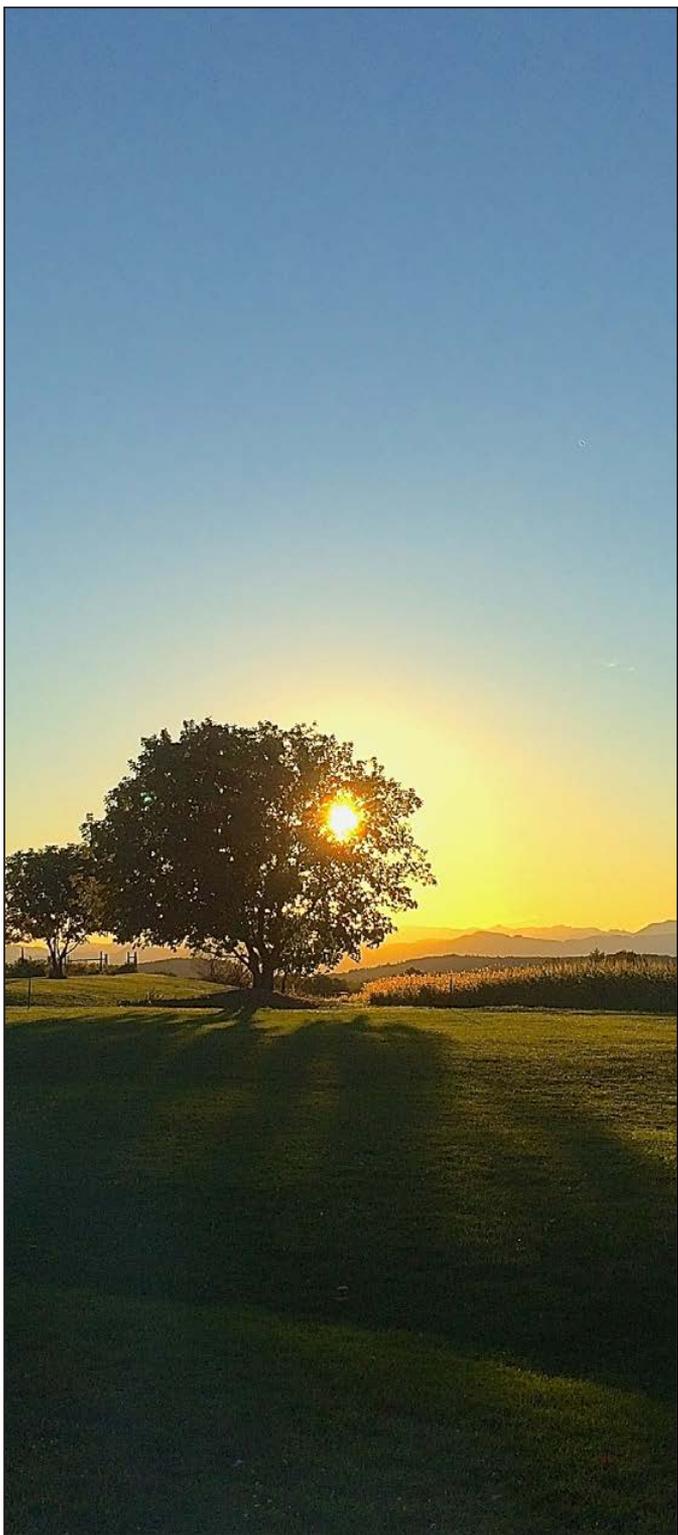


Middlebury Friends Meeting



October
2015

OCTOBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sat, Oct 3 12-3 PM ICAN Climate Revival, Middlebury Town Green and St. Stephen's Church
- Sun, Oct 4 11:30 AM Apple processing for HOPE at Havurah
- Sun, Oct 4 12 NOON CROP Hunger Walk
- Fri, Oct 9 12 NOON Pastoral Care
- Sun, Oct 11 8:30 AM W & S at Havurah
- Sun, Oct 11 8:30 AM Earthcare at Havurah
- Sun, Oct 11 10:00 AM Intergenerational Meeting with Everybody Lesson
- Sun, Oct 11 7:00 PM Rise Up Singing sing along concert, Middlebury United Methodist Church
- Tues, Oct 13 4:00 PM COSA at Dickinson's
- Thurs, Oct 15 8:00 AM ICAN, at Weybridge Congregational Church
- Sat, Oct 17 all day Interfaith Power & Light conference, Montpelier
- Sun, Oct 18 8:30 AM Monthly Meeting
- Dec. 5 & 6 QM location TBA

“While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful
to have it even more fully in your heart.”

— FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Middlebury Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business

20 September, 2015

Clerk: Jean Rosenberg

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Sas Carey, Ted Colwell, Win Colwell, Manya Dickinson, Tom Dickinson, Wendy Goodwin, Brud Leedom, Grace McGrath, Lucy McKeon, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Don Peabody, Spence Putnam, Lianna Tennial, and Peter Schenck.

15.09.01 The meeting opened with a reading from Pendle Hill Pamphlet, *Recovering Sacred Presence in a Disenchanted World*

15.09.02 July 26, 2015 minutes corrections and follow up: Childrens Program Committee reports that current child care reimbursement to be \$20/meeting for worship + \$15 for additional activity on the same day. The committee will meet, review this, and report to October MM. Friends with input should speak with a committee member: Lianna Tennial, Erin Ruble, Win Colwell, or Fran Putnam.

15.09.03 Treasurer's Report (Karen Nawn-Fahey) All statements in this report are as of August 31, 2015.

During August, the Meeting had member donations of \$1,262 plus \$25 in memory of Stewart Kirkaldy.

From July 25 through the end of August, Meeting expenditures totaled \$395. This includes \$40 to Claire Armstrong for childcare, \$150 to Paige Keren for childcare, \$105 to Win Colwell for printing directories, and \$100 for Paige's gift card.

When these checks clear, the bank balance will be \$7,111.51.

cont.

Finance Committee Report: (Spence Putnam) The Finance Committee, which met on August 23, 2015, was called to review recent history of the Meeting's donations pattern and carry-forward bank balances in order to recommend a "prudent minimum balance" to maintain in the Meeting's bank account. Numbers provided by Karen Nawn-Fahey show a three-year trend of increasing year-end bank balances, ranging from \$5,800 in January 2013 to \$8,100 in January 2015. The pattern of financial support (as much as 50% coming in the final quarter of the year) and expenses (some spread throughout the year, but most falling in the 4th quarter) results in a low point in the bank balance around the middle of the year. This year the July bank balance after outstanding checks cleared was \$7,100.

Noting that not holding property relieves the Meeting of some of the financial uncertainty that some organizations face the committee would like to suggest that we consider a prudent bank reserve to be about 1/3 of our annual budget (which in 2015 would be \$5,000). This means that the Meeting currently has about \$2,000 available for discretionary spending. The committee also would like to note that temporarily drawing the bank balance down below the "prudent minimum balance" can generally be remedied by "shaking the tree" for a specific one-time need.

FOLLOW UP: It was decided to pursue discussion about how to use the surplus, including purchase of chairs, at October monthly meeting.

15.09.04 Earthcare Committee Report from September 20, 2015 meeting (Fran Putnam):

1. Interfaith Climate Action Network: A Climate Revival will be held on Saturday, October 3 from noon to 3:00 PM. Children and families are especially invited to attend. We will begin with outdoor activities, including a potluck dinner, music, and a drumming circle on the Middlebury Green and a 1½ hour service inside St. Stephens. MFM is responsible for arranging children's activities. Several of our members are on the planning committee and hope other members of the Meeting will support this effort with their presence.
2. Compost Buddies: One member is participating and another is planning to participate in bringing in compost, and so far there have been willing "takers."
3. Year of Earthcare Evaluation: Business Meeting has asked for feedback on the year's activities. We will ask Worship and Study to create a method to find out what Meeting members think of the year's activities. To cue them we created list of activities we initiated or promoted.
4. Apple Project: We will process apples for freezing for HOPE directly after Meeting on October 4. First Day School is encouraged to help with this service project.
5. Quarterly Meeting: The discussion topic was how we as Meetings express concern for social justice and the environment—how do we choose what to focus on

as a Meeting? Do we all focus on one topic, or do we support each other in many diverse efforts? Our action comes out of a “deep concern for the human and the earth condition,” but if we work on many different issues, how do we break down the silos separating them?

15.09.05 Committee on Outreach and Social Action - Report from September 15, 2015 meeting (Don Peabody and Tom Dickinson):

1. We talked about welcoming newcomers—our experiences as newcomers and concerns from the standpoint of this MFM Committee—and formulated some COSA comments for Monthly Meeting.
2. Plans for the September 25th Community Supper are proceeding apace.
3. The recent Fall Quarterly Meeting at Bethany Birches Camp in Plymouth was relatively well-attended—especially by Middlebury Friends. The experimental Friday night-to-Saturday-afternoon session focusing on families with children was considered successful enough that the Camp has been reserved for all three days in 2016. More will be revealed when evaluative feedback is received and processed.
4. Plans for a Journey of Healing Workshop sponsored by Middlebury Friends in Spring of 2016 are underway. We await potential dates from facilitator, Rachel Cary-Harper.
5. Praise and critical comments have been received in response to the draft “COSA calendar.”
6. Some Middlebury Friends have suggested expansion of the COSA/FCNL letter-writing project, bringing it out of cyberspace and into the Meeting Room. COSA hopes those Friends might make that happen.

15.09.06 Worship and Study Committee The committee has not met since last MM but reminds friends that Friendly Forums through next Spring will focus on Friends Testimonies, beginning Sept. 27.

The Children’s Program Committee met on September 9, 2015 (Win Colwell):

1. Committee Convener: Lianna will serve as First Day School Committee (FDS) convener, calling meetings and setting the agenda. Win agreed to act as Secretary. The committee will strive to meet 4 times a year, generally in the first week of the month.
2. Earthcare Year Review: All agreed the year went well. We loved having a strong theme to organize activities around. The Earthcare theme tied in many core Quaker values, and we liked the balance struck between readings and more physical activities/projects.
3. Theme for 2015-16: We decided upon Conflict Resolution as our theme for the current year. We have book resources, and thought of several people in our Meeting community who we could invite as guests/speakers. (e.g., Conscientious

Objectors, Grace on Prison work by AVP, Sas on her work in Mongolia). Lianna will create curriculum and suggest books/readings.

4. Service Projects: We would like to incorporate more service-oriented projects for our young people in addition to the community suppers. We will see about making applesauce or putting together bathroom kits for HOPE, making visits to Helen Porter with flowers, paper snowflakes, or valentines. We will contact HOPE for their input on what is needed.
5. Play time: It was suggested that we schedule more active play time in addition to curriculum activities, such as hikes on Chipman Hill, visits to playgrounds, perhaps playtime at Treleven Farm. These are good times for kids to exercise, bond, laugh.
6. Scheduling: We decided to stay with the current FDS schedule.

1st and 3rd First Day - Curriculum with teacher

2nd First Day - Everybody Lesson

4th First Day - Relaxed Childcare/play

Activities to have on consistent rotation are read aloud, talking about our week's high points and low points, and coloring. The 4th First Day in September and October (9/27 and 10/25) will have hikes (weather permitting) on Chipman Hill or elsewhere.

7. FDS space: Since we are no longer sharing the upstairs of Havurah, we have access to all rooms upstairs. We decided it would be good to have separate rooms for curriculum and for play. We should strive to always have 2 grownups upstairs at all times. This may sometimes be challenging, but important for the safety of all.
8. Teacher Schedule: September/October – Lianna, November – Erin, December – Fran, January - Win

15.09.07 Fellowship Committee No report this month.

15.09.08 Pastoral Care Committee (Sas Carey)

Pastoral Care has prepared a list of 10 guidelines for welcoming newcomers which were read.

FOLLOW UP: An ad hoc committee will be formed consisting of 1 representative of each standing committee to further consider welcoming. Wendy Goodwin has volunteered to convene this committee. Each standing committee will designate someone who will notify Wendy of their participation on the ad hoc committee. Jean Rosenberg will draft a mandate for the committee. Friends are reminded to continue our practice of all Friends welcoming newcomers and visitors.

15.09.09 Ad Hoc Chair Committee (Don Peabody): Options have been narrowed down to 4 possible chairs. The committee awaits direction from MM, whether or not

to proceed with choosing and purchasing chairs. Friends are reminded we want to consider new chairs for safety (current chairs are tippy for some), as a welcoming factor for newcomers, and as a durable good investment that will be used for many years to come. The old white folding chairs will be stored in the basement. It was clarified that new chairs will belong to MFM, stored in the Fellowship Hall and available to others using the room. New chairs likely will cost over \$1,000. Samples of these chairs will remain in the circle for Friends to try out. Discussion will continue at October MM, with further refined recommendation from the Chair Committee.

15.09.10 Writing Out of the Presence: Sas Carey presented an opportunity for a *Writing out of the Presence* workshop at MFM, led by a facilitator, Ellen Michaud, from South Starksboro. Sas suggested this might take place this fall under the purview of Worship and Study.

15.09.11 Practices Within Middlebury Friends Meeting: Win Colwell is preparing to publish new copies of our pamphlet, *Practices Within Middlebury Friends Meeting*. Each committee is asked to review the section(s) in the pamphlet that pertain to their committee and offer changes that should be made.

Monthly meeting closed after a period of silence.

NEWS OF QUAKERLY INTEREST

Collected by Lucy McKeon
lucym@shoreham.net



No fewer than 17 Middlebury Friends participated in the Quarterly Meeting at Bethany Birches in Plymouth, Vt. The setting is lovely, the new (not quite completed) building is spectacular, discussions were provocative and the companionship was pleasant. Consider putting next years QM (the first weekend after labor day) on your calendar. (Submitted by SPENCE PUTNAM)

SAS CAREY writes that she swam across Lake Champlain from Bridport. She'd done it at 40 and had wanted to do it again at 70! Beautiful day, water and air a pleasant temperature. Elated with her impressive accomplishment!

JOHANNAH SCHNEIDER has been spotted helping with the Midd High School girls soccer this year. She's also been doing neuroscience research, taking classes, and working at the bakery. Great to have her in Middlebury.

Please send your news to me, Lucy McKeon, at lucym@shoreham.net

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Editor: Win Colwell

Co-Clerks

Tom Baskett 989-7034
Jean Rosenberg 388-6453

Recording Clerk

Priscilla Baker
388-8024

Treasurer

Karen Nawn-Fahey
PO Box 1026
Middlebury, VT 05753

Pastoral Care Committee

Caring for one another in a loving community is an important part of our life as a Meeting.
Call any member of Pastoral Care to share a concern or need.

Sas Carey (388-1301)
Wendy Goodwin (385-1900)

Norm Tjossem (388-0338)
Brud Leedom (623-7533)

Grace McGrath (388-6576)

We welcome your submissions! — winslow.colwell@gmail.com

News of Quakerly Interest — lucym@shoreham.net

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

PO Box 1026
Middlebury, VT 05753

Meeting for Worship 10 AM every First Day

Havarah House, 56 N. Pleasant St. (Rt.7), Middlebury

www.middleburyquakers.org