



Middlebury Friends Meeting

July
2016

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News of Quakerly Interest

6•19•16 Minutes

“Be yourself;
everyone else is already taken.”

— OSCAR WILDE

JULY 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mon June 27	7:30 pm	Men's group at Tom Baskett
Thurs, July 7	12:30 pm	Pastoral Care at Wendy Goodwin's
Sun, July 10	8:30 am	Earthcare Committee at Havurah
	8:30 am	Worship & Study at Havurah
Thurs, July 21	8:30 am	ICAN at Weybridge Congregational Church
Sun, July 24	8:30 am	Summer Monthly Meeting for Business
Aug 6-11		NEYM sessions at Castleton University
Sun, August 7	11:30 am	Fellowship Committee at Havurah
Sun, Aug. 14	12 noon	summer picnic at Branbury Beach, Salisbury Rain date, Aug. 21
Sun, Aug. 21	4:00 pm	<i>Active Hope</i> tea and talk session #1 (proposed)
Sun, Sept. 18	8:30 am	Monthly Meeting for Business
Sun, Sept. 18	4:00 pm	<i>Active Hope</i> tea and talk session #2 (proposed)
Fri, Sept. 30	1-7 pm	Community Supper
Sun, Oct. 2	4:00 pm	<i>Active Hope</i> tea and talk session #3 (proposed)
Sat, Oct. 8		<i>Active Hope</i> workshop (proposed)

FOR OUR CONSIDERATION...

“The refusal to feel takes a heavy toll. Not only is there an impoverishment of our emotional and sensory life, flowers are dimmer and less fragrant, our loves less ecstatic but this psychic numbing also impedes our capacity to process and respond to information. The energy expended in pushing down despair is diverted from more creative uses, depleting the resilience and imagination needed for fresh visions and strategies.

...

To be alive in this beautiful, self-organizing universe—to participate in the dance of life with senses to perceive it, lungs that breathe it, organs that draw nourishment from it—is a wonder beyond words.”

—Joanna Macy

from *Peace Movements Worldwide*

Edited by Marc Pilisuk and Michael Nagler

NEWS OF QUAKERLY INTEREST

Collected by Lucy McKeon
lucym@shoreham.net



SAS CAREY has been sending back beautiful pictures from Mongolia. Sounds like her trip has been a great success. Her latest film *Migration* has been accepted into the Parnu Film Festival in Estonia this July.

CHRIS STACKHOUSE writes that he and JILL have purchased a small, off the grid camp on Lincoln Pond, about 1 hour from Middlebury. They purchased in April and have been putting sweat equity into it every weekend since. They are now at the point where they can enjoy it with family and friends. “Weekdays it’s the quietest there. The woods are filled with birds, the lake with fish, turtles, frogs and beaver. We feel very connected to the spirit when there”.

MEG FAHEY, KAREN NAWN-FAHEY’s daughter accepted a teaching position in Essex Town, VT. This summer she returns to work at Keewaydin.

CLAIRE ARMSTRONG graduated as co-valedictorian from MUHS and gave a terrific speech emphasizing cooperation and community. Her lacrosse team made it to the Division I finals in South Burlington. Claire is excited to be starting at Haverford in the fall.

MARY GLAZER writes from Madison that after renting for a year, she and MARK are buying a condo in a Madison suburb. “We are felling pretty settled. Mark’s job as state dental director is going well. I just got a job doing freelance writing for *Madison Magazine*, writing some of the profiles of the businesses that won the Best Place to Work Award this year. MARTIN is working at Silver Bay on Lake George this summer and back to Nazareth College in Rochester for his junior year in the fall. Our daughter MARIA and her husband DAN continue to do well in North Carolina. We miss you all!

—Lucy

Middlebury Friends Meeting

Monthly Meeting for Business

19 June, 2016

Clerk: Tom Baskett

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Ted Colwell, Tom Dickinson, Teresa Hyndman, Brud Leedom, Grace McGrath, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Don Peabody, Peter Schenck, and Chris Stackhouse.

16.06.01 Monthly meeting opened with continued reading from Patricia Loring's *Listening Spirituality, Vol II, this month* on leadings.

16.06.02 May 13, 2016 minutes: Co-clerk Tom Baskett suggested some adjustments and corrections:

Item #5, COSA, FOLLOWUP: The sentence "*COSA will discuss further the request from Jubilee VT, including if and how to present this to MFM for contribution*" should be changed to "...and determine what recommendations to make to Meeting."

Item # 6, W & S, #3, Friendly Forums, last sentence, "Fall, 2016 FFs will focus on the book *Active Hope* by Joanna Macy" should be changed to "W & S and Earthcare will discuss ways to introduce the book, *Active Hope*."

Item #12, should be deleted (left over from previous minutes)

16.06.03 Treasurer's Report (Karen Nawn-Fahey) All statements in this report are as of May 31, 2016. During May, the Meeting had donations of \$3,245.

During April, Meeting expenditures totaled \$905. This includes \$205 for notecards and directories, \$160 for children's program coordination, \$40 for childcare, \$100 to Summer Lunch Program, and \$400 to NEYM for Summer Session Scholarship. When these checks clear, the bank balance should be \$4,605.54.

Karen reported that Sas Carey's NEYM Legacy Grant has been received.

16.06.04 Earthcare Committee (Fran Putnam, reported by Chris Stackhouse)

1. The committee discussed a program for MFM based on the book *Active Hope* by Joanna Macy (see book review in this month's MFM Newsletter). An outline of the program is included, below*. We believe this program will be very valuable for our Meeting and hope many can participate. Worship and Study Committee will co-sponsor the program. There is also serious interest at ICAN (Interfaith Climate Action Network) and MACA (Middlebury Area Clergy Association) in presenting something for the community on Joanna Macy and *Active Hope*.
2. We decided to postpone a presentation about the Carbon Pollution Tax until after those responsible for this proposal have reworked it in preparation for a new session of the Vermont Legislature. More information will be forthcoming.

3. The Earthcare Committee will sponsor a 45-minute informational session at the rise of Meeting on Sunday, July 17 for anyone interested in finding out more about alternatives to hooking up to the VT Gas pipeline.

* Outline for a program centered on the book *Active Hope* by Joanna Macy (edited for the newsletter by the recording clerk):

- 1) Have a reading group for anyone interested, three tea and talk sessions, the first session on Part I of the book, the second on Part II, and the third on Part III. These would be held on **Sunday afternoons, at 4 pm, on August 21, Sept 18, and Oct 2.** (August 21 is the rain date for the MFM summer picnic, but there is plenty of time for people to get to the discussion group.) We could invite a few other people to join the discussion group . . . e.g., from ICAN.
- 2) **Have a 3 hour workshop on Active Hope on Saturday morning, Oct 8,** that addresses the process of the Spiral of Empowerment. It would be open to MFM folks. . It would be good to keep the number to about 20. . .
- 3) **The workshop could be revised as needed and offered more broadly in the community at a later date.**
- 4) **Fran and Jean,** and any others who would like to join them, continue to plan and organize and report to Monthly Meeting.
- 5) **The Sunday afternoon monthly tea and talk discussions might continue beyond these dates.**
- 6) Earthcare and W and S members will be encouraged to send some responses on the book to the newsletter to give Friends an idea of what we would be discussing in the Tea and Talk discussion groups. Chris Stackhouse will go first.

FOLLOW UP: A suggestion was made to purchase more copies of *Active Hope*. MFM Friends agreed to purchase an additional 10 copies which will be used for our discussion group and then, perhaps, offered to local faith or other groups to help promote wider discussion. It was suggested they be purchased either from our local book seller (Vermont Book Shop) or the FGC Quaker Book Store. Friends are reminded there is a book review by Leigh Harder in the last MFM newsletter.

Tom Baskett observed that it appears MFM has a leading involving Earth Care. The co-clerks will discuss whether or not to formally propose a minute concerning this leading.

16.06.05 Committee on Outreach and Social Action - COSA (Don Peabody, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk)

1. COSA recommends MFM become a “faith community” member of JubileeUSA/ Vermont and that this group become a part of MFM’s benevolence budget. Jubilee asks a donation of \$1/member. This recommendation is transmitted to the MFM Finance Committee.

cont.

2. Follow up measures to the Journey of Healing Workshop were noted:
 1. Notes from the Workshop's small groups have been edited and sent to participants.
 2. As part of the Abenaki's "Seeds of Renewal Project," Middlebury Friends helped Dr. Frederick Wiseman, and staff of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (LCMM,) establish a "demonstration garden" on LCMM grounds, with heritage seeds recovered from around New England. Mounds, topped with tripods, were planted with the "three sisters"—corn, squash (pumpkin) and beans. In one experimental mound sunflowers take the place of tripods.
 3. Friends are urged to attend the Abenaki Heritage Festival, June 25 & 26 at LCMM. Dr. Wiseman's presentation on the Seeds of Renewal Project will take place on June 25 at 11:00AM. 4. Don and AliceMae were gifted by Dr. Wiseman with surplus seeds, and have asked Susan Smiley's help in planting and tending them in her garden.
 4. The question is raised: What else might MFM, especially Workshop attendees, be doing as follow-up to the Journey of Healing Workshop?
3. Don reported Northwest Quarterly Meeting hopes Friends, especially those closest to Rutland—Wilderness, Middlebury and Poultney—will help facilitate the anticipated settlement of Syrian Refugees. More will be communicated.
4. COSA reviewed: MFM's submission to FCNL re: legislative priorities, Friends' feedback re: the April Community Supper, and COSA members' feedback re: COSA.

16.06.06 Worship and Study Committee (Leigh Harder, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk, reported by Peter Schenck): We discussed ongoing topics (query readers, Friendly Forums and All Ages Religious Education) and agreed we need more time to discuss the W & S committee description, hopefully at our next meeting. Also needing more discussion is the MFM Practices booklet. Shulamith has written a description of the Experiment with Light which we propose to include in the next reworking of the booklet. We will look more closely at the booklet for further adjustments.

We noted the reorganized Newsletter and will communicate with Win our gratitude for his attention to this. We want to invite Friends to contribute inspirational pieces, spiritual biographies and book reviews.

Joanna Macey's *Active Hope*: We discussed our wish to move forward on a Meeting-wide consideration of the book. Jean will explore how W & S and Earthcare committees can work together on this. (See Earthcare Committee report, item #4, above, including the outline for a program focused on Active Hope.)

16.06.07 Fellowship Committee: (Spence Putnam, reported by Teresa Hyndman) The newly-reconstituted Fellowship Committee (Rebecca Holmes, Teresa Hyndman,

cont.

Jake Jacobs, and Spence Putnam) met recently with the co-clerks to review its responsibilities and how the committee will relate to other Meeting committees to carry out these responsibilities. Rebecca agreed to review the duties of the Greeter (short list and detailed list), suggest some modifications if necessary, and circulate them to the committee. We will organize a summer outing at Branbury State Park on Sunday, August 14th (rain date August 21) from 1-5 pm. There will be a potluck picnic lunch at 1:30 and various games and activities. We plan to invite members of Havurah and CVUUS to join us.

FOLLOW UP: MFM co-clerks expressed concern that sometimes Fellowship Committee can get overburdened by logistic responsibilities and ask committees and Friends in general to be aware of this and help out when possible.

16.05.08 Pastoral Care Committee No report this month.

16.05.09 Nominating Committee (Don Peabody): The final draft of the new slate was presented and approved.

16.06.10 Havurah liaison report: Chris Stackhouse reported on recent communications with Havurah contact, Karen Lefkoe. Because we rent our space on Sunday mornings, only, we should plan to set up on Sundays and not assume it is OK to come in on Saturday to set up. If a Friend needs help to set up, s/he is encouraged to ask another Friend to help. It was clarified that the space should be returned to the cleanliness upon arrival, including sweeping crumbs from the floor. Friends agreed snack clean up is the responsibility of the person providing hospitality. All Friends are asked to keep an eye out for helping the greeter and hospitality provider with cleaning up.

16.05.11 NEYM 2016 sessions: Friends agreed that those who are attending will be our “official” representatives. If anyone has materials and/or the desire to put together a MFM display, about ¼ table size, this would be welcomed.

16.05.12 Syrian Refugees: Don Peabody reported that NWQM considered a concern about supporting Syrian refugees slated to settle in Rutland. Wilderness Meeting is the closest meeting. Karen Nawn-Fahey spoke of the problems that have arisen from a few people in Rutland opposed to refugee settlement there. It is anticipated that refugees will arrive in November.

16.06.13 Orlando Shootings: Teresa Hyndman noted that many Friends attended the community ecumenical candle light vigil held on the Middlebury town green on June 16. Friends are asked to continue to discuss and hold in the Light our concern about gun violence and the need for safety and for the rights of all.

Meeting closed after a brief moment of silence.

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 (558-1005)

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

Please send newsletter submissions to the address above or to
win@wcolwell.com