



Middlebury Friends Meeting

December /
January
2018-19

Inside:

Calendar of Events


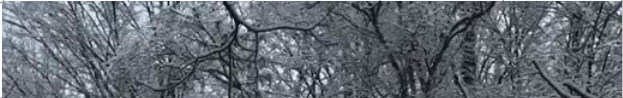
A letter from our Co-Clerk

News of Quakerly Interest


Minutes of Nov. 18

“All you need is love.” — LENNON/MCCARTNEY

DECEMBER 2018

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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JANUARY 2019

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
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QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every first Saturday	10:30-11:00 AM	ICAN Climate Vigil. New location on Cross Street Bridge
Dec. 1-2		NWQM at Monadnock Quaker Meeting, Jaffrey, NH. (See box, page 4)
Dec. 2	1-3:00 PM	“I’m a good person, isn’t that enough?” Interactive workshop with Debbie Irving, author of <i>Waking up White</i> . Sanctuary, Congregational Church of Middlebury. Copies of the book are available, ask Jean Rosenberg.
Dec. 3	7 PM	Read Aloud Group
Dec. 8	12-3 PM	Vision for Vermont. Adirondack House, Middlebury College
Dec. 9	11:30 AM	MFM Alternative Gift Fair at Rise of Meeting
Dec. 10	4:30 PM	Experiment with Light at Cheryl Mitchell’s
Dec. 16	11:20 AM	Worship and Study committee meeting
Dec. 20		Women’s Holiday Meeting
Dec. 20	8:30 AM	ICAN meeting, Weybridge Congregational Church
Dec. 23	10 AM	MFM Holiday Meeting and Potluck—At Jean and David Rosenberg’s
Dec. 25	4 PM	Meeting for Worship, S. Starksboro Meeting
Jan. 6		Worship and Study Committee meeting
	9 AM	Earthcare Committee
Jan. 7		Read Aloud Group
Jan. 13	8:30 AM	Meeting for Business
Jan. 14		Experiment with Light
Jan. 20	3-5 PM	State of the Meeting, Havurah House
	5 PM	Potluck, Havurah House open to all friends and family.
Jan. 27	3-5 PM	“Leveling the Playing Field: Interrupting Patterns of Privilege” Part II of Debby Irving workshop, Congregational Church, Middlebury
Feb. 24	8:30 AM	Friendly Forum – Visioning for Vermont – Fran Putnam and F/friends

NWQM AT MONADNOCK QUAKER MEETING

- Dec. 1 10-5 Jackie Stillwell workshop “ The Power of Enough” followed by supper and games.
- Dec. 2 9:30-10:30 “Transforming Love (carbon) Calculator” followed by singing
- 1:00-3:00 Meeting for Worship, lunch and Meeting for Worship for Business.

All are welcome! See *The Nor’wester* for details or call Margaret Hawthorn to register 603-899-3009 / hawthma@earlham.edu

Dear Friends,

As the end of the Middlebury Meeting fiscal year approaches (Dec. 31), we realized at the November meeting for worship for business that we are \$5000 away from meeting our budgeted income for this year. Our total budget comes to \$15,765, of which \$11,040 is for our direct expenses, which include rent, First Day School and childcare, the newsletter and directory, the Post Office box, some books for our library, some committee expenses, the web page and other public communication, and our contributions to maintain New England Yearly Meeting and our Quarterly Meeting. Without these, we would not have a meeting at all.

The other \$4725 is for benevolences from our whole meeting, which include modest support to 17 local organizations serving community needs (HOPE, Habitat for Humanity, Summer Lunch program, the Warming Shelter, Open Door Clinic, Parent/Child Center, and such) and to a number of Quaker organizations (AFSC, FCNL, Friends World Committee on Consultation which is the international Quaker body, Quaker UN Office, Right Sharing of World Resources, Quaker Earth Witness, Friends General Conference). We have discerned a commitment as a meeting to contribute to these organizations as part of our testimony of faith.

Many of you Friends have made a financial contribution to the meeting. We ask everyone to prayerfully consider your ability to contribute financially and whether you can make a donation, or another donation, towards the upkeep and work of Middlebury Friends Meeting this year. We hope virtually everyone will do this to their extent possible. And do know that we all are grateful for every kind of contribution you make, financial and otherwise, to our spiritual community. And that certainly includes holding the meeting in the Light!

There is so much harshness in the world that the love that flows through our meeting often feels like a lifeline. We create our meeting together. With so much gratitude,

— Jean Rosenberg, co-clerk, for Middlebury Friends Meeting

Contributions may be given to our treasurer, Karen Nawn Fahy, or mailed to her at 71, North Pleasant St., Middlebury, VT 05753

NEWS OF QUAKERLY INTEREST

Collected by Lucy McKeon
lucym@shoreham.net



DON and CHERYL MITCHELL spent two wonderful weeks in London, taking care of our Granddaughter RAMONA during the opening weeks of Hadestown at the National Theatre.

<https://www.thereviewshub.com/hadestown-national-theatre-london/>

She writes: “Our flat was around the corner from St. Paula, where I attended matins and evensong, and we had a chance to worship at Bunhill Friends Meeting (George Fox is buried in the graveyard there) and Westminster Friends, who have opened a homeless shelter to their building and a latrine partnership for their children’s program (That’s right! The kids in the meeting do certain projects to raise \$ to send to their sister organization to provide for safe sanitation for the village. The information sits behind the flush toilet in the meeting house to remind people that things we take for granted (sewer systems, running water, etc.) are almost non-existent in some areas).”

SAS CAREY writes: “I went to Morocco in October. At the end of the trip, I discovered that I had no photos of nomads which was traditionally a nomadic country. CLAIRE SPACHER, a friend of this Meeting whom I visited, told me the reason: there are only thirty nomadic families in the whole country. This reinforced the mission of Nomadicare to support and preserve traditional Mongolian nomadic life through healthcare, films, and stories.”

FRAN PUTNAM was recently recognized for her “distinguished contributions to the Middlebury Community” by the president of Middlebury College. An article was in the *Addison Independent*. The lengthy citation mentions her early childhood education career and then goes on to detail her many leadership roles in climate activism. For several years Fran has been attending the Sunday Night Environmental Group meetings on campus and she participates in many local and statewide environmental organizations. It also mentions her volunteer activities in local schools. Cheryl Mitchell was a previous winner of this award.

Special Olympics Vermont just featured KAREN and SEAN NAWN-FAHEY on its Facebook page.

—Lucy

Monthly Meeting for Business

18 November, 2018

Clerk: Jean Rosenberg

Recording Clerk: Lucy McKeon

Present were Priscilla Baker, Tom Dickenson, Debbie Ramsdell, Spence Putnam, Lianna Tennel, Brud Leedum, Joe Garren, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Fran Putnam, and Grace McGrath.

Jean opened the meeting with a reading from Pendle Hill Pamphlet #453, “A Practical Mysticism” by Elizabeth Meyer.

18.11.01 Clerk’s Report Margie Latham will be taking on the role of Social Activism Mapper. She will be contacting people soon to talk about individual social action activities.

The Clerks have received a “Letter of Introduction” from Burlington, VT Friends Meeting regarding Ruah Swennerfelt and Louis Cox who will be attending MFM soon.

The subject of companion/service/friendly dogs attending Meeting activities and worship came up. We are unclear how the Meeting members or Havurah House feel about this. Jean will contact Chris Stackhouse who is the Havurah House liaison with a request to pursue this question with them. We will need to explore members/attenders allergies and anxieties about dogs as well in order to create a policy that keeps our space safe for everyone.

18.11.02 Treasurer’s Report Reported by Karen Nahn-Fahey. All statements in this report are as of November 18, 2018.

From October 20 through November 18, 2018, the Meeting had member donations of \$3250.00. From October 20 through November 18, 2018, Meeting expenditures totaled \$405.71 including \$160 for Children’s Program Coordination, \$100 for child-care, \$39 for Pendle Hill Pamphlet subscription and \$106.71 for Community Supper reimbursement. When these checks clear, the balance in the checking account will be \$7597.23.

The current balance of the Rachel Carey Harper fund is \$1270.

The proposed budget for 2019 was presented and will be included elsewhere in the newsletter. NEYM made a strong request during Sessions this summer for increased support. Proposed changes include an increase to NEYM. Proposed cuts are noted for Books and Library, Materials for Children’s Program, Worship and Study/Pastoral Care and Quaker Camps and Conferences. These cuts were based on history and spending to date. Representatives from those programs are urged to give receipts and estimates of further spending to Karen, so that these recommendations can be adjusted as appropriate.

For 2018 we currently have a shortfall of over \$5,000. While we often get donations at this time of year, it does not typically tally to such a large sum. The benevolences totaling \$4,725.00 that were approved last year will be paid but the balance may have to come out of the Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund has been depleted as well. Efforts will be made to reach out to the Meeting community in order to further explain the situation and to encourage donations.

Friends are asked to please send in their annual contributions to our General Fund soon. It shouldn't need to be said, but even the smallest contributions are helpful in continuing the operations of the Meeting.

18.11.03 Earthcare Committee Report:

- **Personal Earthcare Profiles:** The committee is continuing to interview Friends for a series of profiles of participants in our Meeting that detail how their lives and work are informed by a concern for the Earth and the changing climate.
- **Vision for Vermont Summit:** There will be a follow-up meeting to the Summit on December 8. Anyone interested in attending, whether or not you participated V4V Summit is invited to attend. See Fran Putnam for more information or to register.
- **Alternative Gift Fair:** The Earthcare Committee will be bringing calendars from 350VT.org to Meeting for sale for \$15 as a donation to that organization. They will also be available at the Alternative Gift Fair on December 9.
- The committee will be polling members to ask for ideas for new initiatives for the Earthcare Committee.
- **ICAN/ACORN Solar Array:** Spence reported that the ACORN solar project in Shoreham is still waiting for approval from the Public Utilities Commission. This means work will not begin until April 2019 at the earliest. The Addison County Parent /Child Center has gratefully accepted the donation of solar panels from the participants in the ICAN part of the solar array project.

18.11.04 Pastoral Care Report: Concern for those who are unable to hear spoken ministry was raised. Research is being done into amplification options. In the meantime we are reminded to speak up and stand, if able, while speaking.

18.11.05 Read Aloud Group Report: The group has made a request to the Vermont Council on the Arts for copies of the book, March, which is the 2019 Vermont Reads selection.

18.11.06 Worship and Study/Children's Program Report: Annie Stratton requested release from service on the W&S Committee on Nov. 5, 2018. The committee approved the request.

6 copies of Debbie Irving's Waking Up White are available for loan.

18.11.07 Fellowship Committee Report: The Committee is planning the December 9, 2018, Holiday alternative gift fair. To this effort, on Nov. 7, we have sent out a general notice to encourage participants and alert the meeting of the event.

cont.

“The annual Holiday Alternative Gift Fair will be held on December 9 at the rise of Meeting Friends are invited to put up a display of their arts and crafts for sale, or items from any nonprofits. It is a delightful event with an opportunity to share your work or nonprofit interest with other Friends. It also has the additional benefit of festive sociability, and a moment to enjoy the artistry of the Middlebury Community.”

After Thanksgiving we will make announcements at Meeting and follow through with the necessary organization of the event.

As always the committee encourages Friends to reach out to each other for fellowship opportunities.

18.11.06 Quaker Indian Schools: Fran attended a presentation at Burlington Meeting about Quaker Indian Schools which was very well done and thought provoking. She is interested in bringing in to Middlebury if possible. Those attending Business Meeting felt it would be very worthwhile.

Meeting closed with a 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 Lucy McKeon 462-3039	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.		
Meg Langworthy (877-3217) Wendy Goodwin (385-1900)	Norm Tjossem (388-0338) Brud Leedom (558-1005)	Grace McGrath (388-6576) Faith Lowell (388-3056)
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
winslow.colwell@gmail.com