

Midcoast Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



MIDCOAST MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

P.O. Box 714 Damariscotta,
ME 04543

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Newsletter—November 2011

Vol. 23, No. 11

Published every month but
August.

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October

Fri., Sat., Sun. Oct. 28, 29, 20

*FWCC—Being Salt & Light,
Winthrop & Portland

November

Saturday Nov. 5

*Vassalboro QM at Midcoast

Sunday Nov. 6 Rise of Meeting

Potluck Lunch--followed by
grounds work

Sunday Nov. 13 2-5 p.m.

*Alternative Holiday Fair,
Winthrop Friends Church

Sunday Nov. 20 Rise of Meeting

Meeting for Business

December

Sunday Dec. 4 Rise of Meeting

Potluck Lunch

Sunday Dec. 18 Rise of Meeting

Meeting for Business

For New, Revised, and Updated Calendar Items, please see our online calendar at:
<http://www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org/calendar.htm>

*Look inside for more information regarding these items.

~Calendar events are held at the meetinghouse, unless otherwise noted.~

Sunday Meeting for Worship is held at the meetinghouse,
77 Belvedere Rd., Damariscotta, 10:00 a.m.
Meetinghouse phone: 207-563-3757.

Directions: Take US Route 1 to Damariscotta and turn onto Belvedere Rd. (left if coming from the south, right if coming from the north—Miles Home Health Care building on the corner). The meetinghouse is the second building on the right, .2 mile from the corner.

Moving? Changing your e-mail address? *Don't forget to let us know. Please remember that when you receive the newsletter by e-mail, you save the Meeting money and you lighten our workload. To receive the newsletter by e-mail, kindly send Diane Kirkman at diane_kirkman@hotmail.com a request. Thanks!*

For newsletters, important links, & a current calendar, visit our website:
www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org

Minutes (Pending)--Monthly Meeting for Business--October 16, 2011

After a period of silent worship, Clerk David Cadbury opened the meeting with twelve Friends present. Minutes of the September 18 Meeting for Business were approved with the addition of Karen Cadbury, along with Mallory Waldman, as coordinator of Friendly Eights.

Carmen Lavertu spoke about the **Pre-Christmas event** that the Meeting has held for several years to raise funds for a worthy cause. The person who has displayed her handmade jewelry at this bazaar is not well and may not be able to take part this year. A brief general discussion about the staging of such a pre-Christmas bazaar followed. It was announced that funds from the previous year's event have not yet been allocated to a suitable recipient. In the end, Carmen agreed to do further research prior to renewed discussion and planning at the next business meeting.

Meetinghouse & Grounds Committee—Guy Marsden reported that he had cleaned the meetinghouse sign by the roadside and that he will soon install an improved solar-powered light for that sign. Guy also reviewed the new cabinets and dishwasher installation in the kitchen. After discussion it was agreed that Guy would utilize two of the old cabinets with a wood sheet on top to create additional storage and work surface along the wall adjacent to the kitchen. Deep appreciation was expressed for Guy's valued work in these projects.

Finance Committee—Martin Imm gave a brief oral report. The Meeting holds funds in its invested reserves along with current checking/cash accounts in excess of \$100,000. Twenty-one pledges have been received in the current budget cycle (out of a total of 39 pledges in the previous year), which promise to cover roughly 80% of the \$14,000 goal to be raised.

Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting will be held at Midcoast Friends meetinghouse on Saturday, November 5. Carmen Lavertu has been working on food, accommodation, and other logistical aspects of this gathering. Brewster Grace has taken the lead in arranging for an afternoon program. Unfortunately, the AFSC staffer from Africa originally scheduled to speak is now unavailable. In his place, Brewster will speak about Quaker work at the United Nations, with special focus on the Middle East and Africa. After discussion about whether to invite others locally to attend this afternoon program, it was decided to refrain from such invitations but to see if a public event might be planned at which Brewster could present a similar overview of Quaker endeavors at the UN

New England Yearly Meeting—It was noted that Midcoast Meeting does not currently send representatives to a range of Yearly Meeting committees and activities. No one attended Yearly Meeting this year. In discussion, a number of factors were cited to explain the absence of active participation in NEYM endeavors. While recognizing the value that some have derived from such participation, it was decided not to press for volunteers to be designated as "representatives" to NEYM; rather the Meeting stands ready to provide support and encouragement to any members who feel called to engage with NEYM activities or to attend Yearly Meeting. Financial aid is available to offset travel costs for such participation.

After a period of silent worship, the meeting was adjourned.

– Jim Matlack, Recording Clerk

QUERIES

Care of Children— Do children receive the loving care of your meeting? Does the meeting nurture their religious life and give them an understanding of the principles and practices of Friends? Are you an example to your children in your faithfulness to the ideals you profess? Do you promote your children's moral and spiritual development by loving oversight of their education, recreation, and social activities? Do you listen to children, recognizing that the Spirit may lead them along paths you have not foreseen? Do you assist them to assume their rightful responsibilities in the home, the meeting, and the community?

VASSALBORO QUARTERLY MEETING--Hosted by Midcoast Friends Meeting

Friends at Midcoast Meeting will welcome overnight houseguests on Friday and/or Saturday, November 4 and 5, the weekend of Quarterly Meeting. Please arrange with Carmen Lavertu 354-9556 or clavertu@gmail.com.

Breakfast foods and drinks will be provided at 8:30 a.m. Hearty soups will be provided for lunch. Traveling Friends are asked to bring offerings of breads, vegetable/fruit/nut side dishes, or desserts.

After lunch, Midcoast Meeting member Brewster Grace will discuss Quaker work at the United Nations in New York and Geneva. Under the auspices of the Friends World Committee for Consultation, the Quaker UN Offices since 1947 worked to promote UN commitments to disarmament, human rights, and economic justice. Brewster served as a Quaker representative in the Middle East and Southeast Asia and at the UN in Geneva. He is now on the QUNO New York Office Committee and will report on its October meeting.

From Belfast Monthly Meeting

Summer passed quickly, and we are now settled into our new meeting space at 39 Main Street in the heart of downtown Belfast. Our decision to hang a sign outside our new site that notes not only our name, but the time and day of worship, has proven to be a wise move. It was up less than a month, we were "found" by Friends from Baltimore Yearly Meeting who, while vacationing in the area, had just been strolling down Belfast's main thoroughfare.

Our desire to increase the community's awareness of our presence has also led us to join the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce. With a listing in their online "Places of Worship" directory, we have our whereabouts and contact data available 365 days a year! We hope that both locals and visitors to the Belfast area who visit the Chamber's website and "discover" us take the next step and join us for worship.

*That chamber of commerce site is:
<http://www.belfastmaine.org/business-directory/organizations/places-of-worship/religious-society-of-friends-quakers>,*

ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY FAIR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2-5 p.m.

**WINTHROP CENTER FRIENDS
CHURCH
(219 Winthrop Center Rd., Rte. 135
South)**

MAKE YOUR GIVING DOUBLY
MEANINGFUL THIS YEAR

BUY ITEMS TO SUPPORT GOOD
CAUSES,
MAKE DONATIONS IN HONOR OF A
LOVED ONE
BUY ITEMS PRODUCED LOCALLY.

LIVE MUSIC and ARTISTS AT WORK
Enjoy apple crisp and ice cream while you
shop.

FMI Call 685-4797

For details about Winthrop Center Friends
Church, visit:
<http://www.winthropcenterfriends.org>.

"We do not arm ourselves against any nation; we do not learn the art of war; because, through Jesus Christ, we have become the children of peace."

- Origen of Alexandria



FWCC--Being Salt and Light

Friends, globally, are exploring a common theme:
"Being Salt and Light: Friends Living the Kingdom of God in a Broken World"
in preparation for the 2012 Sixth World Conference of Friends
to take place in April 2012 in Kenya.

You are invited to be part of this conversation now.
All are welcome to attend all Salt & Light events!

WINTHROP, MAINE

Friday, October 28, 2011--Winthrop Center Friends Church, 6:00 p.m.
Contact for information: Maggie Edmondson, Hearthstone1@myfairpoint.net.

Time: Potluck supper at 6:00 p.m.; program is from 6:45 - 8:30 p.m.

Cost: Free-will contributions to support this program and FWCC in general are appreciated. Donations will be accepted at the event and can also be made online.

Childcare: Will be available.

To register: Registering in advance helps us prepare. Please tell us you are coming. Download registration form at http://fwccamericas.org/events/Salt_Light_2011/Winthrop_reg_form.doc and send to Maggie Edmondson, Hearthstone1@myfairpoint.net.

PORTLAND, ME

Saturday & Sunday, October 29 & 30, 2011--Portland Friends Meeting, 1837 Forest Ave., Portland, ME 04103, 207-797-4720

Contact for information: Dorothy & Andy Grannell, dorothygrannell@maine.rr.com.

Time: Saturday 9:00 am - 6:00 p.m.; Sunday worship 9 am—noon: singing, programmed & unprogrammed worship.

Meals: Saturday lunch & supper, Sunday potluck lunch

Cost: Free-will contributions in support of FWCC and this program accepted. Please come and give what you are able to or make a request to your local meeting for a matching donation to whatever you are able to give. Donations will be accepted at the event and can also be made online.

Hospitality: home hospitality available

Childcare: Will be available.

To register: Registering in advance helps us prepare. You can tell us you are coming here. Or, download registration form from http://fwccamericas.org/events/Salt_Light_2011/PortlandME_reg_form.doc and send to Dorothy & Andy Grannell, dorothygrannell@maine.rr.com.

Speakers for Both Programs: Valerie Joy, Executive Secretary of the Asia-West Pacific Section of Friends World Committee; and Abel Sibonio, Friends pastor from Burundi, now Australia YM



American Friends Service Committee

Quaker values in action

The American Friends Service Committee's programs touch a wide range of issues, countries, and communities. What unites them is the unfaltering belief in the essential worth of every human being, non-violence as the way to resolve conflict, and the power of love to overcome oppression, discrimination, and violence.

AFSC's Projects Include:

Fostering Peace in Communities, Withdrawing U.S. Troops, Shaping a Just Federal Budget,
Eliminating Nuclear Weapons, Strengthening Relationships that Prevent Conflict
Providing Peaceful Alternatives for Youth, Humanely Reforming Immigration Policy
Transforming Criminal Justice Systems, Meeting the Economic Needs of Communities
Responding to Humanitarian Crises

Learn How YOU Can Be Involved at <http://www.afsc.org>

"Here is a simple truth of the Christian faith: God made us, God loves us and God accepts us as we are. We did not have to earn our creation, and we do not have to earn God's love. But God is delighted when we respond to that love. If we are to bring that love to others then we must know something of what it means to be vulnerable with one another and vulnerable with God."

From "Love and Listening," a guest essay by The Very Rev. Dr. Jane Shaw, Dean of Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

From <http://www.journeywithjesus.net/>



ADVICES

Care of Children—Care of the children of the meeting should be the responsibility of every Friend. Let us share with our children a sense of adventure, of wonder, and of trust and let them know that, in facing the mysteries of life, they are surrounded by love. Both parents and meetings need to guard against letting other commitments deprive children of the time and attention they need.

Friends are advised to seek for children the full development of God's gifts, which is true education. All Friends are cautioned against harshness of tone or manner when offering counsel or reproof. To the child, even a seeming harshness may check the beginnings of repentance or growth, and a lack of sympathy may cause harm where only good was intended. Let us nurture a spirit of common concern, thereby giving children a sense of belonging to a larger community.

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