

Midcoast Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



Photo: George Waldman

MIDCOAST MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

P.O. Box 714
Damariscotta, ME 04543

Co-Clerks:
Suzy Hallett, 563-6084 &
David Cadbury, 230-0436

Recording Clerk:
Jim Matlack, 236-0903

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November

Saturday	Nov. 3		Quarterly Meeting, Whiting (See October Newsletter for details)
Sunday	Nov. 4	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch at Halletts' home
Sunday	Nov. 18	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business

December

Sunday	Dec. 2	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Sunday	Dec. 9	8:30 a.m.	*Potluck Breakfast
Sunday	Dec. 16	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 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

"As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share."

--1 Timothy 6:17-18

PENDING MINUTES—MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS—October 21, 2012

Twenty-three Friends gathered at the meetinghouse. David Cadbury served as Clerk.

At first the group came together as the “**Corporation of Midcoast Friends Meeting**” to hold a brief **Annual Meeting**. Minutes of the previous meeting on September 18, 2011, were approved with an amendment noting that Martin Imm was Assistant Treasurer. Short positive reports were received on the financial status of the Meeting and on the overall condition of the meetinghouse and grounds. It was then moved, seconded, and agreed to adjourn the meeting.

Friends then held a period of silent worship before the Clerk opened the regular Meeting for Business. Minutes from the September Business Meeting were approved. An Agenda Review raised several additional items to be considered.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Bill Spock began the report by referring to the minutes of a recent committee meeting including discussion of a possible endowment fund. The Meeting approved having the Finance Committee investigate further the endowment idea with a view to a full report to Business Meeting at a later date.

Martin Imm then led a review of the budget tables including a new line item for “Building and Grounds.” Overall receipts are down at this time, but significant pledges are outstanding. Friends were again encouraged to contribute to Ramallah Friends School.

MEETINGHOUSE & GROUNDS: Guy Marsden described painting done on some exterior window frames but said that a more complete painting of exterior trim was due to be done in 2013. Under Linda Murray’s leadership, the garden produced pumpkins that were donated to a local food pantry.

HOSPITALITY: Committee members purchase staple supplies for refreshments provided at the rise of meeting and other occasions, but volunteers are needed to sign up to bring snacks on specific Sundays. On November 4, the Halletts will host a meal at their home in lieu of the usual potluck. A breakfast will be served at the meetinghouse before meeting on Sunday, December 9. A meal is planned in the New Year to be shared with local Unitarians. A brunch is proposed at the meetinghouse on December 30.

Carmen Lavertu raised a **concern for increased participation in Yearly Meeting sessions as well as Quarterly Meetings**. She needs a ride to Cobscook for the upcoming Falmouth Quarterly Meeting.

PEACE CENTER: Brewster Grace reported on a planned joint project with the First Congregational Church of Camden—a day-long seminar on “Farming, Fishing, and Climate Change.” A number of excellent resource persons have been identified to assist in this presentation next April. Fund-raising will be required to meet anticipated expenses, especially for out-of-state speakers. The topic links to the theme of the 2014 Camden Conference to be focused upon food and water issues. A film series at the meetinghouse is also planned. A request for additional funding may come to the Meeting at a later date.

PEACE & SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE: Carmen Lavertu reported on committee meetings and possible outreach opportunities. Use of the meetinghouse for special events or even as a drop-in center was under consideration. Carmen noted that a discussion group under the auspices of Senior College was planned for early weeks in 2013. This led to a discussion about the procedures under which the meetinghouse can be made available to outside groups. A simple form is now required to be filled out and given to the woman who has oversight of the building. Some complications in the arrangement (and fees) for the proposed discussion series would be avoided if it were put forward as a project of the Peace & Social Concerns Committee and thus an internal meeting request for use of the space.

GIFTS & LEADINGS: Suzy Hallett noted that local clergy have formed a study group to focus on homelessness in Lincoln County. George Chapman volunteered to take part in this project as a representative of the Midcoast Meeting.

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Deborah Haviland raised a concern over the open-ended way in which committee assignments and lead positions in the Meeting are expected to be filled for the next annual cycle through volunteer sign-ups in the absence of a regular committee. By default Ministry & Counsel will have this process under its care. Deb suggested that in another year we might wish to re-constitute the Gifts & Leadings Committee.

Friends Committee on Maine Public Policy: Jim Matlack reported on the FCMPP meeting in Waterville the day before. Once again FCMPP is in need of a new Clerk. Given sporadic support from Friends across the state, the future viability of the committee is in doubt. Yet it has given valuable service and witness over the last twenty years, especially on issues related to Maine Indians; e.g., the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission and the newly formed Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Indian Child Welfare. Tribal leaders have expressed emphatic support for the continued work of FCMPP. The concern for the future of the committee and its leadership will be taken up at Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting and again at the All-Maine Gathering in May 2013.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2012, at the rise of meeting for worship. All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch. These minutes are available at www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org and the meetinghouse bulletin board.

--David Cadbury, Co-clerk; Jim Matlack, Recording Clerk

QUERIES

Home & Family—Do you make your home a place of friendliness, refreshment, and peace, where God becomes more real to those who live there and to all who visit there? Is worship a daily part of your personal and family life? Do you recognize marriage as a sacred, loving, and permanent relationship requiring mutual consideration and adjustments? Should conflict or crisis threaten the stability of the home, are you open to seeking all necessary help, both from your meeting and from the larger community?

BREAKFAST POTLUCK—DECEMBER 9

On Sunday, December 9, at 8:30 a.m., Midcoast Monthly Meeting will have a “Breakfast Potluck” before Meeting for Worship. Everyone is encouraged to bring potluck breakfast fare. The Hospitality Committee will provide juice, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate, and members of the committee will be at the meetinghouse at 8:00 a.m. to set up. Meeting members are welcomed to assist with the setup and cleanup. Please contact Pat Spock at 729-0826 or Karen Cadbury at 230-0436 if you have any questions. Bring friends!



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URGENT REQUEST FROM STEPHEN GORRY

I am going to New Jersey to assist my elderly uncle and aunt whose house was entirely flooded in Sandy's path. I am looking for floor space in Manahawken, New Jersey. Does anybody in the Meeting know people in their Monthly Meeting or nearby? (It's Barnegate Manahawken Monthly I think. I left a phone message on their machine.) I hope you are well. Best, Stephen

(Ed. note: Stephen's e-mail address is sgorry@myfairpoint.net.)

ADVICES

Home & Family—Let your lives benefit from the power of friendship and the solace of solitude. Rejoice in the beauty of those friendships which grow in depth, understanding, and mutual respect.

Friends are advised to seek divine guidance when considering marriage and to enter marriage with a commitment to cherish each other for life. In marriage, treasure the joys of intimacy, share the sorrows of losses, and mediate differences with patience. Be ready to seek the counsel of your own parents or of other experienced persons as it is needed. Consider together the responsibilities of parenthood.

Let us trust in the Light and witness to it in our daily living. We and our families are children of God with a rich accessible record of God's dealings with humanity. In dress, in furnishings, in manners, in diet, and in entertainment, let us choose the simple, the wholesome, and the beautiful. Let us be cooperative and creative in family recreation so that it encourages mutual activity and sharing.

Let us dwell with thankfulness on the blessings and happiness that life has brought us. Friends are advised to try throughout life to discern the appropriate moment to relinquish responsibilities to others. Let us face with courage the approach of old age, both for ourselves and for those dear to us, realizing that even as our outward activity lessens, our seasoned thought and prayer may liberate love and power in others.

Friends are advised to make provision for the settlement of their affairs while in health so that others may not be burdened. Such provision may include maintaining an up-to-date will and discussing with family and doctors our wishes in the event of serious illness or death.

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