

April 7, 2024

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**Sunday, April 7, 9:30 am** Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Lead Pastor Andrew Zetts will preach on John 1:43-51

**Second Hour for All Ages at 10:30 am**

**Emmaus Road Sermon Discussion Class will be meeting following worship in the Church Library. Interested in talking about the sermon? The Emmaus Road group welcomes all.**

**March 31, 2024**

Offering \$8,512  
ACH Electronic Offering \$7,645  
Vanco Online Offering \$1,495  
**Total Budget Offering \$17,652**  
**Children's Offering: \$59**

**Future Salford Events**

**April 7** - Monthly Communion Service

**April 10** - Faith Formation Night with Anna Martin from Bethany Birches Camp

**April 21** - Brooke Martin Service of Ordination

**May 5** - Dock Academy Touring Choir Performance at Salford

**May 12** - Monthly Communion with Foot

## Centered-Set, Part 3 – Encounters with Jesus

This week we return to the theme of Centered-Set Church for a few weeks. For those who may be tiring of the subject, this time around the sermons will be story-based. So far, we have learned what becoming a centered-set church means for Salford. What or who is the center? How is “centered set” different from church as we have known it?

One thing we haven't asked yet is, “What does being centered on Jesus mean for me *personally*?” In the coming weeks, you will be asked to imagine yourself among of the disciples of Jesus. You'll watch Jesus draw all kinds of people to himself, and you'll be asked to consider, “What would it look like if our church began seeking people to join us in this way?”

We'll be watching Jesus through the eyes of John the gospel writer. In the first week we'll listen in as Jesus encounters a skeptical student with some tough questions. Listen to his questions; bring one of your own.

## Monthly Communion at Salford

This Sunday we come together as a community for Communion. This is another opportunity to join with Jesus and with each other at the table - remembering and celebrating the mystery and miracle of the resurrection. Healing, restoration, reconciliation, and growth are ours through Christ. Do you have a question? Visit our [website here](#) to learn more about the meaning of this sacrament to our Salford community and to the church around the world. **Please note:** to allow time for our Communion observance this week, we will not be taking verbal prayer requests in the service. Please feel free to contact a pastor with your prayer concern.

## Brooke Martin Ordination Service, April 21, 2024

Join us on Sunday morning, April 21 to celebrate with Brooke Martin as she is ordained. Brooke serves as Youth and Community Formation Pastor for Mosaic Conference. We are thrilled to honor her. Join with us in the special service to witness her commitment to service, affirm her gifts, and bless her. Plan to stay for a celebratory potluck meal for everyone. Things you can do to honor Brooke: bring a main dish and a side dish for the potluck (desserts are covered), bring a card to encourage Brooke (there will be a basket at the potluck), be present! ***\*There will be no 2<sup>nd</sup> hour on the 21<sup>st</sup>.***

## Faith Formation Night on Wednesday, April 10

Join us for our monthly Faith Formation Night this Wednesday, April 10, from 5:30-8:00 P.M. See below for the evening's schedule and let Pastor Andrew know by Monday, April 8, how many people from your household plan to attend; RSVPs are helpful for meal planning.

- 5:30-6:15 PM: Dinner
- 6:15-6:30 PM: Worship

Washing

If you have information or prayer requests for our newsletter, please submit this to the church office by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday afternoon.

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please submit your email address to [alderferb@salfordmc.org](mailto:alderferb@salfordmc.org)

• 6:30-8 PM: Age-specific programs, including:

Adults & Youth: Anna Martin, a director at Bethany Birches Camp, a Mosaic Conference-Related Ministry in Vermont, will share about Bethany Birches' ministry and lead outdoor games and spiritual practices, modeling some of the activities people encounter at Bethany Birches. This is a great time to make space for your own spiritual nourishment and connect with your inner camper!

Kids' Club: 1st-5th graders exploring various themes and stories from Scripture through fun crafts, games, and activities.

## **This Week at Salford**

### **Monday, April 8**

7:00 pm Fellowship Time at Souderton Mennonite Homes (Friendship Room)

7:00 pm Child Care Ministry Team Meeting (Zoom)

### **Wednesday, April 3**

5:30 pm Faith Formation Night Meal (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 pm Kids Club (Gathering Room)

### **Sunday, April 14**

9:30 am Salford Worship Indoors and Streamed on YouTube Live

Preaching: Dave Greiser

10:30 am Second Hour for All Ages

### **Tuesday, April 16**

7:00 pm Church Board Meeting (Friendship Room)

### **Sunday, April 21**

Ordination Service for Brooke Martin

9:30 am Salford Worship Indoors and Streamed on YouTube Live

Preaching: Michelle Hershberger

No Second Hour on Ordination Sunday

Potluck for all following Worship (Fellowship Hall)

## **Our Church Family**

### **Prayer Concerns**

- For **Vince Causerano** who is at home but waiting for surgery.
- For **Julie Wimmer** who is still recovering from her hip surgery.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for the leaders and work of **Ripple** congregation, and Conference-Related Ministry Ripple Community, Inc (Allentown, PA). RCI seeks to convert a former church building into affordable housing and medical respite shelter, and the next zoning meeting takes place on April 8.

### **Birthday Blessings...**

To **Gladys Hunsberger**, who celebrates her 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Two weeks ago at the MYF Auction, someone anonymously bid on, bought and gifted to me a beautiful fraktur motto by **Roma Ruth**. This was a complete and wonderful surprise. I just want to thank the person (or persons) behind this gift, whoever you are! Sincerely, **Joel Alderfer**

### **Service & Mission**

Donation of the Month for April – **KEYSTONE OPPORTUNITY CENTER, ITEMS NEEDED: Canned Fruits, Vegetables, Tuna, Chunky Soups, Beef Stew SpaghettiOs w/meatballs, Beefaroni, Ravioli, Pasta Sauce (with or without meat),**

Please place items in the basket at the donation of the month table or on the shelves in coat room.

### **Salford/Advent Garden Update, April 4, 2024:**

Greetings fellow gardeners I hope you like rain. We got a real soaking this week. I can only pray the last weeks in April are dryer than the first weeks. Last Saturday a small crew topped off most of our raised box beds with a combination of mushroom soil and homemade compost. We wheeled about 50 wheelbarrow loads into the garden. We also planted 3 beds of red onion plants. These were planted in the beds at the very lower end of the garden and covered with netting. I call these my experimental beds. Where I try out new plants and ways to plant them. We may be putting more boxes in the upper end next year. I wanted to see how we can plant onions in raised bed boxes. This week I am taking Saturday morning off and going fishing. I am on Vacation next week so I will be finishing up prepping the upper end for Saturday the 13th and our first big planting day for 2024. WOOHOO here we go! Thank you to everyone who helps out with this mission. We are slowly gearing up for the spring and summer growing season. We will be praying for nice weather and a heavy harvest this year. Steve, [rsblank@verizon.net](mailto:rsblank@verizon.net) 215-872-6616

### **Mosaic Conference Corner**

Last month, Mosaic Conference Executive Minister (and Salford's Lead Minister) **Steve Kriss** shared with the Mosaic Pathway Steering Team three possible pathways he can identify for our future together as Mosaic Conference. Read Steve's [thoughts here](#) from the most recent edition of Mosaic News.

### **Justice & Peace Spotlight**

Members of Salford Mennonite Church are volunteers with **Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence**. They helped us to create the Memorial to the Lost in 2023-acknowledging the number of homicides (81) in Montgomery County over the last five years. Their mission seeks to energize the American faith community and actively seek to end gun violence through public witness and policy advocacy.

Zion Mennonite Church is organizing a **'Witness Walk' through Souderton on Sunday, April 21st at 1 pm.**

Members of Salford Mennonite Church, the Salford J&P ministry team and other area churches will be joining Zion Mennonite Church to walk through Souderton. The walk is about a mile to the Univest parking lot, turn around and return to Zion to sign legislative letters, hear speakers, share about gun violence and offer prayers.

### **Did You Know? Celebrating Salford Mennonite Child Care Center's Upcoming 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

"Let the children come and walk beside the elderly, gaining wisdom from them, and giving back curiosity and energy."

A second child care campus was opened in December 1999 at the Dock Woods Community (DWC) campus of Living Branches. Its program was designed to encourage intergenerational interaction for the benefit of the children and the community residents.

Linda Martin was instrumental in planning a place where children were cared for across a hall from the memory care unit. Annie Musselman, a member of the congregation, was called to be the first director of this center. At that time, she was

involved in Early Education and very familiar with the child care center at the church.

Often children were invited to share activities with residents and greeted warmly when passing in the hall. The children's music classes were always a highlight for the residents passing in the hallway, many times stopping to sing with their little friends. The playgrounds were integrated into the residents' gardens & surrounded by apartments' & dining room windows. Harold Alderfer, a Salford member, often enjoyed many sunny days sitting under the pergola watching the children ride bikes and scooters on the path around the garden or playing in the sandbox.

It was a sad day when in March 2019 the center closed. However, many relationships were formed between children, teachers, parents & the residents of DWC from the creation of this unique child care center and

## Family Faith Formation

**Sunday School Teachers Needed for 2024-25!** In the fall, a few of our amazing Sunday School teachers will no longer be with us, and ***we're in need of additional teachers and helpers for the 2-3 year old class and the 4s & K class.***

Teachers serve on a team so they can also be a part of a second hour class for half the weeks. If you're open to the possibility of teaching or serving as a helper, please let Jenn Svetlik know ([jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com)) and she can share more!

**Volunteers to make Peace Camp 2024 a success!** We've already had 35 kids register! We are in need of:

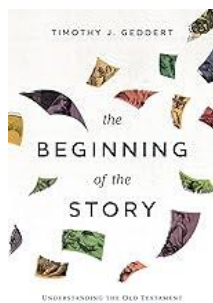
- 2 Small Group Leaders;
- Kitchen Cooking, Serving, & Cleanup

Prayerfully consider how you can support the children of this congregation and the local community. Contact Jenn Svetlik at [salfordpeacecamp@gmail.com](mailto:salfordpeacecamp@gmail.com) to learn more about how you can be a part of this very memorable week!

## Church Library Spotlight

The church library has purchased many new books in recent weeks. Stop by and speak with a librarian to see what's new, or review the library catalogue on the Salford church website <https://smck-ind.kari.opalsinfo.net/bin/home>

**The Beginning of the Story – Understanding the Old Testament in the Story of Scripture By: Timothy J. Geddert**

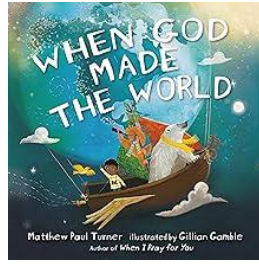


Although the Bible contains sixty-six books that usually span over a thousand printed pages, most Christians turn first--and sometimes only--to the New Testament. So often, Christian readers have little idea what to do with the Old Testament, if we read it at all. Sure, we value a few well-known stories and use a few psalms for personal devotions and for worship. Beyond that, many Christians find the Old Testament mostly confusing, troubling, or irrelevant.

But to understand the Bible as the grand story that it is--the story of God's dealings with humanity and relationship to the whole universe--we must learn to read the first three-quarters of Scripture as Jesus did, and as the New Testament teaches us to do. Walking through the arc and major themes of the Old Testament narrative, author and biblical scholar Timothy J. Geddert guides curious

readers of the Word into a fruitful and fulfilling reading of the Bible's first thirty-nine books, restoring joy in reading and studying the most important story ever told.  
DONATED

### **When God Made the World By: Matthew Paul Turner**



For spiritual parents who are looking for a different kind of creation book, Matthew Paul Turner's *When God Made the World* focuses on the complex way that God created our vast and scientifically operating universe, including the biodiversity of life on our planet and the intricacies of a vast solar system. Scottish illustrator Gillian Gamble brings the natural world to vibrant life with rich colors and poignant detail certain to stretch young minds and engage

imaginations.

Planet Earth, God made a blue and green sphere,  
And designed it to orbit the sun once a year.

God made daytime and nighttime, climates and seasons,  
And all kinds of weather that vary by region.

God made continents and oceans, islands and seas,  
A north and south pole that God put in deep freeze.

God carved rivers and brooks, mountains and caves,  
Made beaches with sand and huge crashing waves.

God made tropics and plateaus, glaciers and meadows,  
marshes and tundras and erupting volcanos. DONATED

### ***Together: A First Conversation about Love* by Megan Madison, Jessica Ralli, & Anne/Andy Passchier**



“As their grown-ups, we have a responsibility to create an environment in which children can feel confident that no matter who and how they love when they get older, our love for them is unconditional” (p. 31). The descriptions given will teach children to recognize good relationships and feeling safe as well as understanding the ones that are dangerous and not loving. Pictures and words allow children to see themselves and others lovable.

## **News & Notes**

**Church Administrator Brad Alderfer** will be on vacation from April 6 – April 13. There will not be a newsletter produced for April 14. Please contact a member of the Pastoral Team for urgent needs this week.

**Guest Song Leader:** On April 14<sup>th</sup> we will welcome **Ryan Schlotterback** as our song leader. Ryan has extensive musical background and training with a master's degree in Percussion Performance, years of teaching experience, and professional performance in large and smaller groups. Ryan will lead our singing and also share some special music with us. Ryan moved to the Souderton area from the upper Midwest last year and married Regina Wenger (our guest Preacher on March 24) this past fall. Welcome, Ryan!!

**Be sure to check out the mobile hanging near the Welcome Center** for the next two weeks, which was created by children from Salford and other congregations during the Prayers of Grief and Hope for the People of Palestine and Israel service. It is part of the [Birds of Gaza](#) global solidarity art



project.

**Salford friends at Souderton Mennonite Homes** - we will have our monthly gathering on Monday night, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 7-8 in the Friendship Room. Please join us! Questions - call Pastor Karen.

## **Beyond Salford**

April 21, 2024, 1-2:30 pm, **Zion Mennonite Church**, Souderton, is hosting an **End Gun Violence 1.3 mile downtown march** which will conclude with letter writing to legislators to advocate for common sense gun laws. Any who want to end gun violence are welcome to join us. Event will be held rain or shine. For a one page info flyer on the event that you can use to tell others about it, email [mikeford@zionmennonite.org](mailto:mikeford@zionmennonite.org).

Are there teens and young adults in your life that you hope will grow and learn in faith-filled communities? A summer at camp helps the young people in your life spend intentional time with God, develop skills for their future, learn more about themselves and their abilities, and is a great resume builder. Check out [this link](#) to see positions available or email [camp@bethanybirches.org](mailto:camp@bethanybirches.org) for more info.

A free annual **Spirit Care Seminar for pastors, chaplains and lay ministers** is offered at **Peter Becker Community** the morning of Tuesday May 14, starting with breakfast at 8 a.m. This year's topic is "Effective Ministry to Those Experiencing Depression and Loneliness" featuring presenters Dr. Karen L. Rosenberger and Rev. Dr. Paul Auckland. Contact PBC chaplain Merlin Hedrick for more information at [mhedrick@peterbeckercommunity.com](mailto:mhedrick@peterbeckercommunity.com)