

August 22, 2021

Sunday, August 22
10:00 a.m. Indoor
Worship at Salford
and on Facebook and
YouTube Live, Lead
Pastor Dave Greiser
will preach on Genesis
32:22-32; *Wrestling*
with God

For Your Prayers List

- **Eva Alderfer,**
Souderton
Mennonite Homes
- **Marian Alderfer,**
Souderton
Mennonite Homes
- **Elaine Moyer,**
Mennonite World
Conference

Sunday, August 15

Offering
\$10,216
ACH Electronic
Offering
\$1,965
Vanco Online Offering
\$969

Total Budget Offering
\$13,150

Indonesia Covid
Relief Offering
\$440

Future Salford Events

- August 22 – Meet
the New Pastor
Evening with Dave
& Anita Greiser
- September 12 –
New Second Hour
Season Begins

If you have information
or prayer requests for
our newsletter, please

An update from the pastors, Friday, August 20th

Dear Salford family,

Most of you know that Pastor Dorcas has been leading a team of pastors and members in a phone survey, in an effort to telephone every household in the congregation. In the coming days, Dorcas will be summarizing the results of those calls. People told us a great many things about their lives and relationships in Salford church during this pandemic season.

I (Dave) don't want to steal Dorcas' thunder by telling you what we learned. I do, however, want to express my thanks to everyone, both pastors and members, who made the calls and who *listened* well. There are a large number of people who love Salford church and give of themselves and their strength to the life of this congregation. This particular group of volunteers did good work.

We are living in a time in which it feels as though people are more apt to offer opinions about social and political matters, and less willing to listen to the thoughts of others. The New Testament book of James stresses the importance of listening as a Christian practice: "Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to become angry." Thanks to everyone who phoned our members, who listened carefully, and who helped us hear the heart of Salford.

On a different note, this coming Sunday night will be the second of two opportunities to meet and hear stories from Anita and Dave Greiser. We'll meet in the grove at 6:30, weather permitting, and enjoy some treats and visit. If it rains, we'll reschedule for the following Sunday evening, August 29. If weather does not permit, we will email the whole congregation with the update. We'll see some of you there!

-Pastors [Dave Greiser](#), [Beth Yoder](#), [Maria Hosler Byler](#), and [Dorcas Lehman](#)
Click each person's name to send them an email.

Worship Start Time Survey Results and Update

Thanks to the 90+ households who responded to the worship start time survey. 45% prefer a 9:30 am start time, 35% prefer a 9:00 am and 20% prefer 10:00 am. **After reviewing the results and comments, the staff team and Church Board have affirmed a 9:30 am start time for worship, with Second Hour/children's Sunday school ending no later than 11:45 am.** This worship start time with Second hour will start on **September 12, 2021.**

Indoor Mask Recommendation

In view of the recent nationwide surge in COVID cases due to the Delta Variant and given the fact that Montgomery County is considered as having "substantial" Covid transmission **we recommend as per current CDC guidelines that all vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals attending indoor gatherings at Salford wear a mask.** Mask wearing is especially important and required to participate in congregational singing, which will continue. Our hope is that with continued

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

increase in vaccination rates and mask wearing, this new case rate will begin to decrease and we can return to earlier guidance soon. The Reopening Task Force is planning to meet again on August 24 to review the current situation and this guidance. Masks remain optional for outdoor activities at Salford at this time.

This Week at Salford

Wednesday, August 25

7:00 pm Justice & Peace Ministry Team Meeting (Zoom)

Sunday, August 29

10:00 am Salford Worship Indoors and Streamed on Facebook and YouTube Live
Preaching: Dorcas Lehman

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For ***Eva Alderfer*** as she receives hospice care and experiences increasing weakness and decline.
- For ***students and teachers*** of Salford and beyond, as they begin another school year in the coming weeks, for blessings of safety, friendship, and learning in their school communities.
- For ***Maria and Philip and Mateo Hosler Byler*** as they await the birth of their new baby in the coming days.
- For ***Julie Wimmer***, who is disappointed that her surgery needed to be delayed because she has Covid, and thankful that the vaccine did its job, and that she is able to recover at home, rather than needing hospitalization
- For ***Mary Jane Hershey*** for a good recovery after receiving a pacemaker on Thursday.
- For ***Bud and Carol Gross***, as Bud has returned to Souderton Mennonite Home, where he is receiving rehab, for continuing strength.
- For ***Clyde and Gladys Yoder***, as Clyde is receiving care at home after last week's hospitalization
- For ***Lois Hackman*** for encouragement and patience as the slow process of healing continues following her fall last week.
- For ***the country of Haiti***. This week all congregations in Mosaic Conference are praying for this impoverished nation that in recent weeks has experienced a devastating earthquake and the assassination of its president. We join our Haitian brothers and sisters in Mosaic Conference who have continued relationships with persons in Haiti and pray for safety, good health, and well-being for the nation.

Birthday Blessings....

To ***Gladys Yoder***, who celebrates her 89th birthday on August 26.

Dear Salford Family, We would like to thank you for all of the prayers, cards and visits for our Dad and Pop-Pop, Howard Freed. He enjoyed staying connected with you all especially when he wasn't able to see you in person. Thank you also for the ways that you have supported the family in the recent months. **Ron and Debbie Freed, Andrew, Elise, Greg and Jeff Freed and Josh, Amy, Cassidy, Sadie and Luke Gulley.**

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for August – School Kits for Mennonite Central Committee.

Contents (NEW items only)

- 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in and 70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 2 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small (**metal only**) pencil sharpener (one or two holes). If you have trouble finding metal sharpeners, leave them out and MCC will provide them.

Pick up your drawstring bag in the foyer at the Pastors' Entrance (if you are not able to pick up bags, feel free to drop off the kit contents and we will bag them for you).

MCC advises that you can donate separate items for school kits (not complete kits).

If you wish to take advantage of the sales that local stores are offering, MCC can use these items to complete kits at the Material Resource Center.

If you prefer to donate money toward this project, MCC MRC of Harleysville will purchase and assemble kits on your behalf. Please make checks payable to "Salford Mennonite Church" and mark your donation for "MCC school kits"

Place your donations on the donation of the month table by the nursery in the main foyer. **Please help us reach our goal of collecting 300 kits!**

To read **Cesar Marin's** latest prayer letter: [Click Here](#). Salford is a sponsor of Cesar & Mimi Marin's work in Mexico City, Mexico.

The **Justice & Peace Ministry Team** will meet on Wednesday August 25, 7:00 pm on Zoom. Contact Mary Miller marypmiller13@gmail.com for decision on in person or for a Zoom link.

Garden update, 8/19/21: Greetings fellow gardeners, the August heat just keeps on building, but the garden is doing very well. High heat and humidity are the top climate for diseases to set in. Mildew, blight and black spot are some of the diseases that can show up when the conditions are like they are now. I have been treating the plants trying to keep them healthy and I am even treating our flowers to try and keep them fresh and happy. Tomatoes continue their avalanche as they are producing at an incredible pace. But I do see a light at the end, as the plants are not producing as many new fruit as before, so the next few weeks should see a decrease in production, as we count down to frost in October. The first day of autumn is only 34 days away. Green peppers, zucchini and string beans continue to be plentiful. The fall plants are looking good. We were able to keep them watered and cared for through the high heat that showed up soon after we planted. They have rooted really well and should give us a good harvest in about a month. We will be harvesting Butternut squash soon as some of plants have finished their growth and the fruit looks almost ready.

Thank You to everyone who helps out in the garden, we had a smaller crew last week but all the work was finished on time.

You may remember from my past e-mails I have mentioned a family from Iraq that came to visit the garden. I work with their son and they were very impressed with our work. I received bad news this past week as the parents, living back in Iraq, both contracted COVID and my coworker's Father passed away. His Mother was still in the hospital but should recover. At our 10 am break this past Saturday the garden group said a prayer for the family and all who are suffering during this crisis. The Garden grows, the Garden shares, our flowers glow, the Garden cares..... Steve, 215-872-6616 rsblank@verizon.net

Forwarded from the Justice & Peace Ministry Team:

For God so loved Afghanistan - Journal selections from 16 years of family living in a war-torn land, By Steve and Sheryl Martin

As young adults, Steve and Sheryl Martin developed a sense of call to serve God internationally. Through convictions partially developed during the Gulf War of 1991, they became convinced of the importance of a peaceable witness in that part of the world.

Sheryl and Steve served in Afghanistan with Mennonite Mission Network and one of its predecessor agencies over a period of 16 years, from September 1991 through June 2007. They were based in Kabul except for two stays in Mazar-e-Sharif for security reasons (1992 and 1996-1997) and two home leaves in the United States (1995 and 2001).

Steve worked in the finance department for an international nongovernmental organization, becoming finance director in 1997. Sheryl served primarily in nursing, much of the time in maternal-child health. She also worked occasionally with community health and eye care.

The Martins' three children—Sara (1995), Micah (1998) and Elizabeth (2001)—joined them in their vision in service to the Afghan people. As part of a larger international team, they had many interactions with different cultures and attended a small English-language international school.

Steve and Sheryl Martin currently live in Lancaster County, Pa. Steve is finance director for Eastern Mennonite Missions. Sheryl works part-time as an RN consultant for Friendship Community. Their children attend Ephrata area public schools.

To read the Martin's journals of their time in service in Afghanistan, [visit here to download.](#)

Faith Formation Spotlight

Sunday School Registration: Register your child age 2 to 5th grade here by Sunday, August 22: <https://bit.ly/SalfordSundaySchool>

Helpers Still Needed: As we resume Sunday School for children on Sept 12, **we need at least 1 more helper** for Oct & Dec, 3rd-5th grades. Contact Jenn to learn more (jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com; 267-380-0273)

Sunday School Parents Meeting: All families beginning Sunday School in the fall should plan to participate in a meeting on Zoom, Sunday Aug. 29 at 1pm. Contact Jenn with questions or if you can't make it. Meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86816516139?pwd=bWMwGZ5Z2JpV011ajE4QmQwK1NFUT09>

News and Notes

Aug. 29 Special Second Hour: A Civil Rights Journey with Jean and Steve Godsall-Myers This summer Jean and Steve took an extended road trip focused on the U.S.'s racial history. The itinerary included the Eastern Shore of MD, to 'meet' Harriet Tubman; Wilmington, NC where white Democrats violently overthrew a fusion government in 1898; Columbia, SC and Tuskegee, AL to recall the Airmen and the tragic syphilis study. They retraced the historic Selma to Montgomery, AL March and visited Nashville, TN, home of Fisk University and student-led sit-ins, along with Clinton, TN (first court-ordered desegregated high school); Hardy, VA (site of plantation where Booker T. Washington was born); Farmville, VA (home of

the high school that was part of Brown v. Board of Education) and Harpers Ferry (site of John Brown's raid). Join them in the Gathering Room after worship for photos, stories, and impressions from a humbling and sobering journey.

The congregation has unanimously affirmed **Aaron Bishop** to serve as a church board member for a three year term. Thanks to Aaron for his willingness to serve the congregation in this way.

you are invited to an outdoor, Sunday evening time of fellowship with **Dave and Anita Greiser**. Weather permitting, we will meet in the grove by the schoolhouse on Sunday evening, August 22 at 6:30 p.m. A sweet treat will be provided, along with drinks. Dave and Anita will tell a little more about themselves, and we'll enjoy some leisurely conversation. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to greiserd@salfordmc.org or call my cell phone, (267) 342-4146. If it rains, we'll reschedule for the following Sunday evening, August 29.

Beyond Salford

You're invited to the following **events** in September, hosted by **Mennonite Historians of Eastern PA (MHEP)** :

- September 7, 6:00 pm – an amazing story of God's endless love and grace, *A Rose in a Ditch*, is a memoir written by Julie Henning who was raised as Pearl Buck's daughter. Julie will be available for book signing after her speaking engagement.
- September 15, 7:00 pm – join them for an evening filled with rich local history as Mike Szilagyi presents stories and pictures of the railways that spanned Montgomery County.