

Week of December 30, 2018

Sunday, December 30

9:00 a.m. Worship
Sharon Godshall will preach on Mark 10:35-45; *Making a Difference*

10:15 a.m. The Second Hour for all ages.

Connections Class will not be meeting this Sunday.

For Your Prayers List

- **Neva Moyer**, Souderton Mennonite Homes
- **Harley Gehman**, Souderton Mennonite Homes
- **Derek & Amy Godshall**, Mennonite Central Committee, Burkina Faso

Sunday, December 23

Offering \$29,809
ACH Electronic Offering \$1,955
Kiosk Offering \$9,385
Total Offering \$41,149

Future Salford Events

- January 26 & April 6 - Enneagram Training Sessions with Joe & Angela Hackman
- February 10 -

2018 Monthly Salford Finance Update, as of 12/28/18

We are grateful for the congregation's strong, consistent financial support of the life and mission of Salford Mennonite Church. We will keep you informed on where we stand in our finances for 2018 through this weekly finance update (see below). To complete our budget year, we need **\$18,556** on 12/30/18 to meet our approved budget of \$837,677. The Salford church office will be open on Monday, 12/31/18 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for any final hand delivered offering donation. Any offering received in the church office by 12/31/18 will be counted towards your 2018 donation receipt.

2018 Approved Budget:	\$837,677
2018 Offering and Income received through 51 weeks:	\$819,121
Total Offering Needed, 1 weeks remaining:	\$18,556
Average Weekly Offering Needed, 1 weeks remaining:	\$18,556

There has been questions about receiving donation receipts for offering made through the credit card Kiosk. If you would like a receipt for a credit card donation, please send yourself an email receipt from the kiosk, and then forward those receipts to the office. You may also send the office a credit card statement or printout documenting your credit card donations throughout the year, and donation credit will be recorded. Please contact the church office with any questions on donation receipts or donation options.

Beth Yoder Sabbatical Update

Beth Yoder will be taking sabbatical leave from her pastoral responsibilities for the time period of January 20 – April 20, 2019. During this three-month period, Beth anticipates a time of renewal through a variety of activities. She will be spending a week in silent retreat at St. Raphaela Center in Haverford the last week of January and will plan an additional retreat time toward the end of the sabbatical period, as well. In early February she will receive training through the International End of Life Doula Association to develop further skills in accompanying individuals through the last stages of life as they face coming death. Beth's current training in Gestalt Pastoral Care continues through the sabbatical months, and she anticipates doing the bulk of the required academic work for the course during those months. An additional priority is having more space for family time, and Beth anticipates regular trips to Virginia to help care for grandchildren, as well as intentional time with various friends and members of her extended family. Jerry and Beth hope to do a little traveling during this time, though Jerry's school schedule keeps that possibility somewhat limited. Beth says, "Woven in and among all of it, I hope to do some reflective writing and some plain old sorting, organizing, and clearing out."

January 6 Communion

In 2019 Salford's worship services will include communion approximately every other month, and through this more frequent offering, the leadership team and Spiritual Discernment Advisory Council hope to provide opportunity for the

Garden Fundraiser Luncheon

- March 23 - MYF Youth Auction & Fellowship Meal

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

congregation to intentionally reflect on the significance of communion for our community. Our hope this year is to offer communion in ways that are traditional to Salford (gathering around tables in the front), and also experiment with other practices. We also plan to provide opportunities for teaching, conversation and discernment. Dr. Derek Cooper will be teaching four elective second hour classes this February on ways the Christian church has understood communion. More information about this will be available in coming weeks. Our goal this year is to deepen the congregation's appreciation and understanding of this most important practice, and for the congregation to discern common understandings of what communion means for our community. We look forward to this journey. The first time communion will be offered in 2019 will be as part of the January 6 worship service. Finally, foot washing will remain twice a year and will be offered during May and October worship services.

December MCC Relief Kit Collection Effort Update

Our December collection of the month project is Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Relief Kits. We have decided to try a new collection method for the relief kits for this December. In an effort to generate the maximum number of Relief Kits to fulfill the recent request for 25,000 kits, we will be collaborating with local churches to meet this need. Here is how it will work. Salford will be collaborating with Plains and Methacton Mennonite Churches to raise funds during December to purchase the supplies for the Relief Kits. We will use the funds we raise to purchase the kit components from Daniel Stoltzfus of Lancaster, who has a passion for the work of MCC. Daniel's mission is to purchase kit supplies in bulk at the best possible price to maximize donations to MCC. He is able to purchase the supplies for a kit for approximately \$17.00, about half what you and I would spend buying the kits pieces individually at local stores. So we, along with the other churches, will raise funds in December, and then purchase kit supplies from Mr. Stoltzfus. Then we will schedule a kit packing party at a time and date to be determined in January 2019. Salford will designate half of our Christmas Eve offering for the Relief Kit project, with the other half of the offering being designated for Mennonite Disaster Service and the response to the recent hurricanes and fire natural disasters across the country. Three other local Mennonite churches recently undertook a Relief Kit fundraising project of this type and were able to purchase 600 kits! We are hopeful that we can match or exceed this effort. So please plan to give generously at our Christmas Eve offering. If you will not be able to attend our Christmas Eve offering, you are welcome to drop off your offering envelopes marked for "Christmas Eve" in an Office Drop Box, or in the offering on another Sunday in December.

This Week at Salford

Monday, December 31

Church Office Open, Child Care Closed for Christmas Break

Tuesday, January 1

Church and Child Care Closed for New Year's Day

Sunday, January 6

9:00 a.m. Worship

Preaching: Beth Yoder

10:15 a.m. Second hour for All Ages

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For *Ferne Alderfer, Betsy and Phil Moyer, and the Alderfer family* as they

grieve the death of Harold, lovingly remember the gift of his life, and prepare for the January 5 memorial service.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for January - Laundry Detergent and Dryer Sheets and/or \$25 gift cards from Wawa or Giant (for Dock Village)

JANUARY PROJECT OF MONTH NOTE: Please pay special attention to the DOCK VILLAGE additional need for GIANT & WAWA \$25 gift cards. Cards like this help tenants buy several gallons of gas to get to work, baby diapers, or milk, etc.

Place items in the baskets by the Infant/Toddler Nursery.

News & Notes

The Pastors invite **college students and recent post college young adults to join them for coffee and conversation** on December 30 during Second Hour. Please meet the Pastors at the sofa by the carport entrance in the main foyer 10 minutes after worship ends on Sunday to head out for coffee and conversation.

New **offering envelopes** have been placed in church mailboxes for pickup on Sunday. Please use these new envelopes beginning on January 6, 2019. If you did not receive new envelopes, please continue to use your present envelopes. Please contact the church office any time you need new envelopes, or have questions about donation options.

We are planning to again offer **valet parking service** for those who need it in January, February and March. **Jay Ruth** will be our valet parking person for December 30th. Look for him under the carport when you arrive if you would like your car parked for you.

George Gaugler reports that there are many accumulated coats, water bottles, children books, umbrella's, kids cups and various other items in the **coat room** off the main foyer. Please take a minute to review if any of it is yours. We will be taking any remaining items to the Care & Share in a few weeks.

When we dream, hope, and imagine, we can engage, plan, and act. As we recognize the significant effects that climate change is having on our earth, stories of a good future can be harbingers of hope for us, inviting us to change our life practices in order to live sustainably on our earth. Please consider writing and entering the **Write the Good Future 2018/2019 Writing Contest**. Stories are due on March 1, 2019. The contest is sponsored by Salford and led by **Maribeth Benner**. For more information, go to www.writethegoodfuture.org. Contact Maribeth for business cards and flyers to share with others.

Sewing Circle is cancelled for January 2, 2019. The next meeting of Sewing Circle will be on February 6, 2019.

Pat Wilson Schmid is preparing to sell her home of many years and moving to Peter Becker Retirement community. As part of her move, she making available prints of her watercolor and oil paintings to anyone interested in buying one. Pat will donate ½ of the proceeds from the sales of these paintings to Salford Mennonite Church. Painting are on display in the Pastor's hallway and foyer areas. Each painting has been labeled by Pat and purchase price is as indicated. Please contact the church office if you would like to purchase a painting.

For those who would like a printed version of the new **Salford photo directory**, they have been placed at the Welcome Center for pickup. If the available copies run out, additional copies will be printed in future weeks. If you would like to download the photo directory to your phone, or access it on the computer, please contact the church office and instructions will be provided.

Save the Date! – The **MYF Youth Auction and Fellowship Meal** has been scheduled for March 23rd, 2019

Inclement Weather: If it would be necessary for Salford to cancel scheduled church services, the following radio stations will be contacted two hours prior to the service to announce the cancellation: WBYO 88.9 FM, WNPV 1440 AM, and KYW 1060 AM. We will also announce any cancellation or change of service time on our website, by email, and on our phone message.

Youth News

- On December 30th during second hour the junior high will join the senior high in the schoolhouse for cookies and sharing.
- This news item: In Luke 1 Mary sings, The Lord “has filled the hungry with good things.” The Salford junior high participated in that proclamation through a field trip to Henning’s on December 16th, where, shopping lists in hand, they used youth funds from the auction to purchase nonperishable groceries to donate to Keystone Opportunity Center. Pastor Maria dropped off the donation – ten full grocery bags – to Keystone Opportunity Center on Tuesday.



Beyond Salford

Mennonite Disaster Service is looking for volunteers to go to **Ponce, Puerto Rico**, to help rebuild after Hurricane Maria. Weekly volunteers are needed January through March of 2019. The work may mostly be demolition and will definitely be hard labor. Skilled labor is always welcome. MDS offers up to \$200 in flight reimbursement for anyone who serves for a week (5 consecutive work days) or more in Puerto Rico. Please complete a Volunteer Registration Form online at mds.mennonite.net/volunteerregistration-form/ (make sure to specify the Ponce location in the comment section of the application.) MDS staff and the Puerto Rico Coordinators will work together to assign volunteers to project locations on the island. Your location request will be taken into consideration. If you have questions, please contact Deanna Frey of MDS at 1-800-241-8111 or emailing dfrey@mds.mennonite.net

