

December 5, 2021

**Sunday, December 5,  
9:30 am Indoor  
Worship at Salford  
and on Facebook and  
YouTube Live,** Guest  
Preacher Michael King  
will preach on Luke  
1:68-79; Luke 3:1-6;  
*Tender Mercy that  
Turns Us Soft*

**10:45 am Second  
Hour for all ages**  
Check with the  
Welcome Center for  
Second Hour Options

### For Your Prayers List

- **Faith Detweiler,**  
Sunny Crest Home
- **Donald Alderfer,**  
The Community at  
Rockhill
- **Salford Mennonite  
Child Care Center**

**Sunday, November 28**  
Offering  
\$12,324  
ACH Electronic  
Offering  
\$1,965  
Vanco Online Offering  
\$1,069  
**Total Budget Offering  
\$15,358**

### Future Salford Events

December 24, 2021 –  
Christmas Eve Worship

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

## An update from the pastors, Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Dear Salford family,

Dave writing this week. It's good to be back in the church office, and to be in touch with people again. Anita and I are both on the mend. I plan to be present in worship this Sunday – I want to experience Michael King's sermon in person! Anita's recovery has been a bit slower, and she will likely take another week or two before returning to church in the building. Thank you for your prayers, your cards and texts, and all the good comfort food!

During my time away, I was glad to be able to attend church online four different times. I have a new appreciation for the importance of virtual worship and communication during this interminable season of pandemic. Salford has done a lot to create a meaningful Sunday morning connection for those who cannot be present in person, and we need to continue to refine and improve our "product." The Salford family consists of our Sunday morning in-person gathering, our Facebook and YouTube members, as well as a variety of friends in the local retirement communities and throughout the world who tune in. "Public worship" has become public indeed!

As we move closer to winter, and as COVID numbers continue rising, we want to be sensitive to the needs of everyone. In particular, we want to know what you are thinking about your experience in second hour meetings. We seem able to distance ourselves safely in worship, but its trickier in smaller classroom settings. How are you feeling about continuing to meet in second hour? Are there folks who would rather return to a Zoom meeting for a time? Are there other ways you are hoping to continue to connect with your Salford family? Let us know what you are thinking!

In peace,

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

## Pastor Beth Yoder Farewell Thank You

Dear, dear Salford friends -

Thank you so very much for the many ways you have extended a warmhearted, blessing-filled farewell and send-off as I complete my time of ministry here at Salford. I write these words with a bittersweet ache in my heart and a lump in my throat, as I think of so many of you who have touched my life, as I look back over this decade-plus of serving as one of your pastors. I am eager to spend some time in the near future reflecting on the richness that these years have held for me - to savor the depth of relationships formed, the joy and sorrow of making our way together through the seasons of congregational life, some of the twists and turns our learning and exploring and worshipping together took, the ways we found to enter into deeper fellowship with each other. I think it is safe to say we have grown, together, through these years, and I am filled with humble gratitude for the privilege of sharing this journey with you. Thank you so much for your many kind words and reflections, your gifts that have been offered in so many ways, and for the sheer

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)

beauty and delight of the farewell service and firepits gathering on November 21. I will hold the memories of that day among my greatest treasures. May God's richest blessing be upon you and within you as you journey forward from here. I will be eagerly standing as loving witness and happily anticipating visits with you in the future. - Beth

And a practical note about email - my (or Beth's) Salford email will continue to be active for several more weeks, but should you want to contact me (her) in the future, please use either of these two addresses: [bethranckyoder@gmail.com](mailto:bethranckyoder@gmail.com) or [jbyoder@verizon.net](mailto:jbyoder@verizon.net).

## Pictorial Directory Update

It is time again to update our online pictorial directory. If you have any contact information updates or would like to submit a new photo for your family, please submit them to the church office by December 20<sup>th</sup>. We will produce new printed copies of the directory for those who need in the new year.

If you would like to download the directory app to your phone, or access it online, please contact the church office and directions will be forwarded to you.

## Bulletin Cover Artwork Needed

Mennomedia has discontinued their line of bulletin covers. So we will need to determine what to do for bulletin covers in the future. One option could be to use artwork from the congregation on a regular basis for our bulletins. If you would like to submit artwork to be considered for bulletin covers, please send them to Church Administrator Brad Alderfer. Bulletin covers are half a standard sheet of copy paper in dimension. Please contact the church office with any questions or submissions.

## This Week at Salford

### Wednesday, December 8

7:30 pm Salford Adult Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

### Sunday, December 12

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

Preaching: Dave Greiser

10:45 am Second Hour for all Ages

## Our Church Family

### Prayer Concerns

- For **Marcia Stoesz and her sister Vivian McCasland** whose husband passed away in November due to Covid 19 complications. Vivian herself has recovered from Covid. Marcia will be traveling to Canon City, CO to be with her sister in her loss and sorrow, and she will appreciate prayers for safety, health, and that she will be of comfort as they grieve together.
- For **Ray Yoder** and a surgical procedure he will have on Tuesday, December 7, at Doylestown Medical Center, as part of his ongoing journey with health issues, for God's healing presence and the care of this Salford community.
- For **Elizabeth and Glenn Frederick**, who is in skilled nursing at Foulkeways Gwynedd, due to weakness associated with ALS. They are still learning whether his stay in skilled care will be long or short term, and will appreciate prayers for wellbeing and supportive care.
- For **Herb Moyer**, who was very glad to return home Thursday, where he continues to recover from Covid, after a couple of weeks of hospitalization and

rehab, with gratitude that he is feeling much better, and for the comfort of his own home.

- For **Dave and Marina Alderfer**, saying thank you first to God and then to this Salford community for your prayers, as David had a successful operation and recovery.
- For **Lisette Gonzalez**, in gratitude that her mom was released from wearing her life vest 24/7 for six months, without need for a pacemaker. Lisette is grateful for your prayers for her mom and for comforting Lisette.
- With all congregations in Mosaic Conference, for two congregations, **Homestead (FL) and Upper Milford (Zionsville, PA)**, as long sought pastoral openings are closer to being filled as they welcome pastoral candidates and continue their discernment.
- With Mennonite World Conference churches, pray for **communities in British Columbia, Canada**, where thousands of homes and farms have been destroyed after wildfires in summer, followed by tremendous rainfall, washing out major highways that link the Port of Vancouver to the rest of Canada.

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

To **Rhoda Landis**, who celebrates her 86<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

**A Christmas concert in honor of Hiram Hershey (1926-2020)** is planned for 3:00 on Saturday, Dec. 4 at Salford Mennonite Church. For the community to remember his life, Hiram wrote that he wanted a worship service with a hymn sing and a choir singing parts of Handel's Messiah. Rodney Derstine will lead a hymn sing and Ralph Alderfer will conduct portions of Part Two and Three of the Messiah. The singers are from Salford's choir and from the Franconia Lancaster Choral Singers which Hiram founded and conducted for many decades. The orchestra is being assembled by Justin Yoder. Come and invite your neighbors as we join together to celebrate the life of this remarkable musician and faithful Salford member. Vaccination required to attend in person.

Dear Salford Family, Our family is very appreciative of the compassionate response we received from the loss of our mother, Lorraine Landis, in the form of cards, kind words and deeds. Thank you again as we continue to miss and remember our mother. **The Lorraine Landis Family**

### **Service & Mission**

**Donation of the Month for December** – Hygiene Kits for Mennonite Central Committee

New items only:

1 toothbrush (adult size; leave in wrapper)

1 bar soap (4-5 oz. in wrapper)

1 fingernail clipper

1 hand towel (larger than fingertip, dark color)

1 wide-toothed comb (6–8 in)

MCC recently put out a request to churches specifically for hygiene kits as the most needed item at the present time. We often do relief kits collection in December, but we will be collecting hygiene kit this month at MCC's request.

Hygiene kits are simpler in contents and less expensive than relief kits, so we are hopeful there will be a generous response. For those being cautious in their shopping habits or attending church in person, money can be donated for the kits in lieu of collecting the contents. Just mark your offering envelope with "MCC hygiene kits" with your special offering and MCC MRC of Harleysville will purchase the kit contents at discounted cost.

Kit bags can be found at the table by the nursery in the foyer.

### **Opportunity to Sponsor Afghans Seeking Humanitarian Parole**

Amy Godshall, who with her husband Derek served three years in Burkina Faso with MCC before moving to NY for Amy to study at Cornell Law School, is inviting Salford's support.

Cornell Law School is helping to prepare humanitarian parole applications for people who are fleeing the Taliban in Afghanistan. Each humanitarian parole applicant needs to have a sponsor based in the US who agrees to provide for them financially during their two-year parole period. Because humanitarian parole beneficiaries can receive public benefits, this commitment is largely a formality, and it is unlikely that the sponsor will have any financial connection to the family.

Currently there is a family of 20 who are in Afghanistan in danger, and have relatives in NY they will settle with, if they are able to receive humanitarian parole.

**Thank you to Salford households who have already submitted paperwork for 6 members of this family!** The other 14 family members still need sponsors, and Cornell will have more applicants who need sponsors in the next few months. Please reach out to Jenn Svetlik or Amy Godshall ([ang66@cornell.edu](mailto:ang66@cornell.edu)) for more information.

### **Update on Carmela Apolonio Hernandez**

We have learned the good news that Carmela has received her green card, which will give her the opportunity of employment and more security. If anyone would like to send her well wishes during the holidays, or provide support for food and needed items for the family, please contact Jennifer Svetlik, [jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com) or Mary Miller, [marypmiller13@gmail.com](mailto:marypmiller13@gmail.com) for their address.

Dia de Los Reyes/Three Kings Day, January 6, is the primary Christmas celebration for their family. We are grateful to the congregation for your support and in keeping them in your prayers.

### **Faith Formation Spotlight**

Children & Youth Engagement during Worship in Advent & Christmas: If your kids are willing to read, sing, share music, or draw as part of worship during this season, let Jenn ([jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com)) know. Opportunities are available in-person and pre-recorded.

These Advent weeks of anticipation are a gift to families, and an invitation to slow down and practice simple rituals together, as we "Dare to Imagine!" Paper copies of Advent guides are available at Salford at the table in the foyer & can be downloaded here: <http://www.salfordmc.org/church-at-home.html>

One new resource are the "[Little Liturgies](#)" from The Seed and The Soil Project. CDs and text of prayers are available at Salford or can be streamed and downloaded at the link above.

### **Racial Justice Spotlight**

The Racial Justice Learning Group will meet this Sunday, Dec. 5 at 7-8:30pm. Kerry Hasler-Brooks will facilitate a time of reflection and discussion on the words of Willie James Jennings available at:

<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/interview/whiteness-rooted-place>

We hope you can join us!

### **MEETING LINK:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82526583885?pwd=dkxlbFFxMEXRMW5oUUU2cWNsU>

## News & Notes

Thanks to all who participated in the Congregational business meeting on November 14, 2021. The 2022 proposed budget was affirmed at the meeting with 100% affirmation.

**Sharing During Prayer Returns after Christmas.** We've heard from several of you that you miss the sharing at the mic that takes place during the prayer of the congregation, a special part of "Salford being Salford." We plan to bring it back after the Advent/Christmas season.

The winter edition of **Rejoice! Devotional** is now available at the welcome center.

The Reopening task force met on Tuesday evening, 9/28/21. After reviewing current conditions and current guidance from the CDC, state and county, **we continue to recommend that all participants wear a mask indoors and outdoors when participating at Salford.** We are thankful for each person's willingness to care for others by getting vaccinated and wearing masks.

## Beyond Salford

The **Mennonite Heritage Center** invites you to their [Christmas Market](#) open house, which features fine crafts & art. Artisans will be showcasing their items for sale to ring in the holiday spirit to you and your family. Hours are Saturday, December 4, 10:00 am-4:00 pm, and Sunday, December 5, 12:00-4:00 pm.

**Camp Men-O-Lan** is hosting John Bryant for a Benefit Concert on December 9th at Zion Mennonite Church. The event starts at 6:00pm. Tickets are free, but a suggested donation of \$25.00 a person to support camp would be appreciated. This evening is for adults only and we have limited seating so register soon.

**Singing Light: A Walking Roots Band Christmas Concert** Join the Pennsylvania Relief Sale and the Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale for two acoustic, folksy Christmas concerts to benefit Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)!

**In Lancaster, PA:** Join the Pennsylvania Relief Sale on **December 11 at 7:00 p.m. EST at Stumptown Mennonite Church** (2813 Stumptown Road, Bird In Hand, PA, 17505). Admission is free, no tickets required. A free-will offering will be collected. Masks are required. **This concert will also be livestreamed online.** Details will be posted at [pareliefsale.org](http://pareliefsale.org).

**In Harrisonburg, VA:** Join the Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale on **December 12 at 7:00 p.m. EST at Eastern Mennonite School** (801 Parkwood Drive, Harrisonburg, VA 22802). General admission is by donation upon entry. Reserved seating is available for event sponsors. Masks are required. **This concert will also be livestreamed online.** Details will be posted at [vareliefsale.com](http://vareliefsale.com).