

Week of December 9, 2018

Sunday, December 9

9:00 a.m. Worship

Lead Pastor Glen Joe Hackman will preach on Luke 3:1-6; *Voices crying out from the wilderness*

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

Connections Class

will be meeting with **Gospel Herald** and **Reaching Out** class in the Gathering Room for Second Hour to hear Weldon Nisly from Christian Peacemaker Teams. Other adults are invited to join if interested.

For Your Prayers List

- **Eva Alderfer**,
Souderton
Mennonite Homes
- **Marian Alderfer**,
Souderton
Mennonite Homes
- **Salford Mennonite Child Care Centers**

Sunday, December 2

Offering
\$25,458
ACH Electronic
Offering
\$5,120
Kiosk Offering
\$4,143
Total Offering
\$34,721

A Message From The Salford Mennonite Child Care Ministry Team

This is a follow-up to the verbal announcement presented in worship on December 2, 2018.

For the last 19 years, Salford Mennonite Child Care Centers (SMCCC) has been leasing space from Dock Woods (part of Living Branches) and has been operating a second child care campus there, in addition to the center operated at the Salford campus.

After careful discernment and prayer the Child Care Ministry Team has decided that the Salford Mennonite Child Care Centers will be consolidated and transition to the Salford campus. This means that, effective March 30, 2019, SMCCC will no longer provide administration at the Dock campus nor will we continue to lease that space. SMCCC's relationship with the leadership at Living Branches remains positive and has been a blessing throughout the last 19 years. Living Branches is currently exploring options for the space at Dock Woods to include continuation of a Child Care Center. We will work closely with them during this time of transition.

In the meantime, all Dock families with enrolled children have been informed that we will be able to accommodate them at the Salford campus if they so choose. In addition, it is our intention to make every effort to retain all current Dock campus teachers and find the right fit at the Salford campus if they so choose.

Please be in prayer for the SMCCC Families, Directors, and Teachers as we enter this time of transition. Thank you!

SMCCC Ministry Team (Mark Nyce-chair, Linda Martin, Jennifer Gahman, Ron Freed, LuCinda Moyer, and Stephanie Rittenhouse)

2018 Monthly Salford Finance & Budget Update, as of 12/5/18

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). While the last Sunday of 2018 is 12/30/18, it would be helpful to the church staff to have year-end donations into the church office by 12/23/18. If you plan to bring a donation directly to the church office, please do so by noon on Friday, December 21st, or place your year-end offering in the church offering basket by December 23rd. Any offering received in the church office by 12/31/18 will be counted towards your 2018 donation receipt, but may be used for the 2019 expense budget.

2018 Approved Budget:	\$837,677
2018 Offering and Income received through 48 weeks:	\$715,085
Total Offering Needed, 4 weeks remaining:	\$122,592
Average Weekly Offering Needed, 4 weeks remaining:	\$30,648

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,

Future Salford Events

- December 16 - Christmas Hymn Sign with Andy Richter during Second Hour
- December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship Service
- January 26 & April 6 - Enneagram Training Sessions with Joe & Angela Hackman
- February 10 - 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

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.

Christmas Eve Worship Service

A **Christmas Eve Worship Service** is planned for Monday evening, December 24th, at **6:30 p.m.** The Christmas eve offering will include **“white gifts”** for **Maternity Care Coalition**, and money contributions will be split to support **the purchase of Relief Kits for Mennonite Central Committee, and for Mennonite Disaster Service in responding to the natural disasters that occurred across the country this year (see the announcement below for more information.)**

Maternity Care Coalition (which includes Child, Home & Community) is a ministry for pregnant and parenting adolescents in the Southeast region of Pennsylvania. Items needed are blankets, infant outfits, sleepers, onsies, socks, sweaters, diapers, hooded towels, crib sheets, baby lotions, bibs for sizes 0-4 years of age. Wrap the gifts in white paper and make them part of your offering for the most vulnerable young families living among us.

November 11, 2018 Congregational Meeting Ballot Update

At the November 11, 2018 fall congregational business meeting, the congregation was asked to affirm four ballots. The results of the ballots are presented here. For the 2019 congregational budget, 96 person affirmed the budget and 0 did not affirm. For the Foundation Fund guidelines update, 76 affirmed the update and 0 did not affirm. For the Salford columbarium project ballot, 101 affirmed the ballot and 2 did not affirm. For the cemetery guidelines update, 92 affirmed the update, and 5 did not affirm. We thank the congregation for your involvement in the meeting, and affirming these proposals. The Church board reviewed the ballots results and affirmed moving forward on all these projects as proposed.

2018 Foundation Fund Giving Update

We are grateful for the donations made to the Salford Foundation Fund in 2018. With the new Foundation Fund guidelines that have been developed and affirmed, we are excited to support our MCUSA college students, those planning a year of more in service, and those who dream of new mission projects for our community and beyond. Please consider naming the Salford Foundation Fund as part of your estate planning to support these worthy causes in the futures. Here are the contributions received for the Foundation Fund in 2018:

02/02/18, \$10,000 – **Jacob C. Landis**

10/10/18, \$3,000 – **Estate of Doris Seaman**

11/27/18, \$2,000 – **Veterans Community Network**

12/05/18, \$8,997 – **Estate of Jacob C. Landis**

Total contributions for 2018: \$23,997

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

Tuesday, December 11

7:00 p.m. Child Care Ministry Team Meeting (Friendship Room)

Wednesday, December 12

6:30 p.m. Kid's Club (Gathering Room)

6:30 p.m. Youth Night (Schoolhouse)

7:00 p.m. Gifts Discernment Ministry Team Meeting (Library)

7:30 p.m. Salford Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 16

9:00 a.m. Worship

Preaching: Beth Yoder

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

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Ron Freed** that the December 10 surgery he will have at Jefferson hospital to remove a mass between two vertebrae will successfully relieve the back and leg pain he has been experiencing since late June.
- For **Pat and Jennifer Gorman** as Pat continues with cardiology care and assessment and Jennifer seeks appropriate treatment for the breathing difficulty and chest pain she has been experiencing.
- For **Harold and Ferne Alderfer** as Harold continues to grow weaker and is now confined to bed rest.
- For **Dolores Bauman** for God's peace and strength in the midst of significant pulmonary challenges

From Mennonite Early Childhood Network

- Pray that God will help our rich nation consider the risks of bombarding children with messages that create "wants." Pray that adults will engage children in the joy of giving by together sharing love and time with others.

Birthday Blessings...

To **Rhoda Landis**, who turns 83 on December 10th.

Congratulations...

to **Jacob Kropf** and Tara Yngsdal of Hubbard, Oregon on the birth of daughter Sam Lucia Kropf, who was born on Thanksgiving Day, November 22nd. Gene & Diane Kropf are grandparents.

Prayers for Comfort and Strength...

for **Eddie & Larry Landes**. Eddie's brother, Howard Cronrath, age 82 passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, November 22. The funeral for Howard will be on December 7th in Maryland.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for December – Money donations for Mennonite Central Committee Relief Kits – Please see the announcement on page two of the newsletter for more information for the money collection for MCC Relief Kits.

Vernon and Linda Martin will be part of a **Healthy Ninos** Service team going to Honduras in January. The team is composed of members from various states. We are inviting the people of Salford to contribute items needed for distribution to the villages. Items needed are: **Dark Colored Hand Towels, Acetaminophen for Infant & Children, Ibuprofen for Infant and Children,** There will be a **Healthy Ninos Basket** on the bottom shelf of the Project of the Month table by the Infant nursery during the months of November and December. Questions, contact Linda Martin 267-446-8358. Thank You.

Salford Advent Garden Update, 12/5/18:

Greetings fellow gardeners, the garden is resting for the winter but I still have a few projects in the works before the snow flies. This past summer was wet & wild, the garden really struggled. BUT our trees did very well and now we have an abundance of autumn leaves waiting to be used in the garden. Salford recently bought a TRAC-VAC leave vacuum machine. We are now able to pick up and chop our own leaves and transport them to the garden. The only problem is the ground was still very soft; we were not able to drive into the garden and dump them there. They had to be placed at the ends. So I have been moving leaves all week. I have about 1/2 the garden covered. I am asking if anyone would like to show up this Saturday morning 8 am to 12 noon and move leaves with the wheelbarrows. The leaves are dry and not heavy but bring your boots as the ground still is a little soft but you will not sink in. Think of it as tucking the garden into bed for the winter with a nice leaf comforter/quilt!

For your calendars, the Garden Luncheon is set for Sunday February 10. Steve Blank.

Cesar and Mimi Marin have sent us a November letter (with pictures!) reporting on their pastoral and family activities in Mexico. You can view using this link <http://www.salfordmc.org/cesar-marin.html> Please remember Cesar and Mimi in your prayers, and if you like, send Christmas greetings to: CesarMg_1@hotmail.com

News & Notes

All are invited to sign up for ***Understanding the Enneagram with Joe and Angela Hackman*** on January 26 and April 6 from 9-12 pm at Salford. The enneagram is an ancient tool for self-discovery used by many religions and cultures, providing a way to understand our complex human condition. It has been a helpful for us in marriage, parenting, understanding our relational networks, and it has enhanced our Christian faith. Sign up is limited to 40 participants each date. Sign up on this week's bulletin insert, at the Welcome Center, or email Joe at

jhackman@salfordmc.org. This event is not limited to Salford attendees, so feel free to invite friends or family who have interest.

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.

Senior and Junior youth will be Christmas caroling this Sunday December 9th at 4:00 p.m. in the Family Room at Souderton Mennonite Homes. You are welcome to join us!

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.

Nurture children's **faith at home this Advent and Christmas** through family worship. Find a free, downloadable guide at AnabaptistFaithFormation.org with daily scriptures, songs, activities and questions to ponder together.

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

Peaceful Living, a conference related ministry, is **seeking caring volunteers** who want to **create belonging** for **adults with intellectual disabilities and autism**. Everyone deserves to live with a sense of "belonging" and express their unique talents, interests, and capabilities. **Join us as a volunteer!** Daytime, evening, and weekend opportunities are available. **To learn more, visit** <http://www.timecounts.org/peaceful-living> or **contact Connie Maurer** at cmaurer@peacefulliving.org or 610.287.1200, ext. 2092.

Beyond Salford

"Five Easy Ways to Boost your Year-end Giving" webinar: **Tuesday, December 11 at 7:30pm**. Everence is offering a live 30 minute webinar to help you make the most of your year-end giving. With the new tax law, there are some easy and tax-smart ways to boost your giving. Email souderton@everence.com or call 215-703-0111 to register and to receive the link to join the webinar.

Blooming Glen Mennonite Church presents an **evening of seasonal carols** for congregational singing and a performance by the Adult Choir of Franz Schubert's *Mass in G*, at 6:30 pm on Sunday, December 16. A free-will offering will be received and refreshments will follow the program. For information, call 215-257-3431 or visit bgmc.net.

Perkasie Mennonite Church and Patchwork Coffeehouse invite you to an **Old-Fashioned Christmas** on Sunday, December 16, at 3:00 pm, with music by the [Tom and Betty Druckenmiller](#) with [Norm Williams](#), the [Dulcimer Boys](#) and the Kreider Family. Rob Yoder will lead the audience in a Christmas caroling. A prelude of holiday instrumental selections on classic guitar by Bert Coffman will begin at 2:40 pm.

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