

Week of January 6, 2019

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## Sunday, January 6

**9:00 a.m. Worship**  
Associate Beth Yoder will preach on Isaiah 60:1-6 and Matthew 2:1-2 and 9-11; *Journey by the Light of a Star*

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

### For Your Prayers List

- **Faith Detweiler**, Sunny Crest Home
- **Donald Alderfer**, The Community at Rockhill
- **Sheldon Good**, Executive Director The Mennonite, Inc.

### Sunday, December 30

Offering  
\$20,082  
ACH            Electronic  
Offering  
\$1,955  
Kiosk Offering  
\$2,339  
**Total Offering**  
**\$24,376**  
**Thanksgiving**        **Eve**  
**Offering**  
**\$3,538**  
**Christmas Eve MCC**  
**Relief Kit Offering**  
**\$5,450**  
**Christmas Eve MDS**  
**Offering**  
**\$5,450**

### Future Salford Events

- January 26 & April 6 - Enneagram

## January 6 Communion

As we prepare to celebrate Communion together this coming Sunday, January 6, we will plan again to serve first any who wish to remain seated in one of the front rows in the sanctuary.

## 2018 Year End Finance Update

We are grateful and overwhelmed for the congregation's faithful generous giving to the offering and other needs during 2018. \$834,497 was received in offering and income, exceeding our expenses and allowing for generous excess funds distribution. The Salford Church Board will be confirming how these excess funds will be used at the January 8<sup>th</sup> board meeting, and we will report this information back to the congregation through the newsletter next week. Thanks to each members and attender for your support of the mission and community life of Salford Mennonite Church.

## New Friendship Folders and Prayer Cards

**Background:** In August we introduced new connection cards in worship to replace our friendship pads. Our hope in using these new cards was to receive more complete contact information for our guests, more directs prayer concerns and comments from our members and regular attenders, and a more accurate attendance record for our Sunday morning worship. The connection cards have been very successful in gathering contact information from our guests and in receiving prayer updates from our members and regular attenders. The pastoral staff has found these to be a tremendous benefit in their work. The connection cards were not as helpful in reflecting accurate attendance records and we heard some concerns of filling out a card each week as wasteful.

**What's new:** After reviewing the results and feedback from past months, we have produced a new **friendship folder** and **prayer cards** for each pew with the goal of continued good contact information from our guest and prayer concerns and feedback from our attenders, while hopefully getting better attendance records with less waste. Each row of pews in the sanctuary now have updated prayer cards in the songbook holders and the friendship folder. The new friendship folder also contains guest pads and attendance pads. The prayer cards can be placed in the offering each week, and the guest pads and attendance pads can be left in the friendship folder for collection later. We are excited about this new method of welcoming guest and connecting with our members. We are grateful for your patience as we experiment with new methods of connection with all who attend Salford. Many thanks to Juanita Nyce, Andy Richter, Maria Hosler Byler and others who helped in the design of our new Friendship folders and prayer cards.

## Beth Yoder Sabbatical Update

Beth Yoder will be taking sabbatical leave from her pastoral responsibilities for the

Training Sessions with Joe & Angela Hackman

- February 10 – Time of Welcoming the Child in Worship
- 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](mailto:alderferb@salfordmc.org)

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."

## December MCC Relief Kit Collection Effort Update

There was a wonderful response to the money collection at Christmas Eve for MCC relief kits. We collected \$5,450.00 towards the relief kit project, with another \$5,450 collected for Mennonite Disaster Service. **With the combined donations from Plains Mennonite and Methacton Mennonite churches, we raised \$14,045.00 for our relief kit effort.** With these funds, we will be purchasing supplies for over 700 relief kits! The supplies will be purchased from Gifts for Relief in Lancaster, PA and we will have a relief kit packing party at the MCC Material Relief Center in Harleysville on February 1-2. We need to generate approximately 150 volunteers between the three churches for our packing event. We will have four shifts of volunteers for the event for unloading & prepping supplies, packing kits and loading for delivery. We are excited for a meaningful time of service with our brothers and sister from Plains and Methacton. Please see the bulletin on Sunday, or contact the church office for your chance to sign-up to be part of the kit packing effort.

## This Week at Salford

### Monday, January 7

7:00 p.m. Fellowship Time at Souderton Mennonite Homes, All Welcome

### Tuesday, January 8

7:00 p.m. Church Board Meeting (Friendship Room)

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

### Wednesday, January 9

6:30 p.m. Justice & Peace Ministry Team Meeting (Library)

6:30 p.m. Kids Club Gathering (Gathering Room)

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

### Saturday, January 12

1:30 p.m. Jr. High Mall Scavenger Hunt (Meet at Salford)

1:30 p.m. Sr. High Skyzone Activity (Meet at Salford)

### Sunday, January 13

9:00 a.m. Worship

Preaching: Maria Hosler Byler

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

## Our Church Family

### Prayer Concerns

- For **Tom and Becky Scheetz** and family, as they celebrate the life and mourn

the loss of Tom's mother Beulah Scheetz.

- For **Ferne Alderfer, Betsy and Phil Moyer, Sanford Alderfer, and the Alderfer family** as they make final preparations for the celebration of the life of Harold this Saturday afternoon.
- For **Jim Parker** as he continues to heal from his recent struggle with pneumonia.
- For **Dolores and Wilbur Bauman** as they continue to experience the challenges of Dolores' limited energy and breathing difficulty.
- For **Glenn and Elizabeth Frederick** as Glenn, now back again in their apartment at Foulkeways, hopes to regain strength and capabilities compromised by his recent stroke.

### ***Prayers for Comfort and Strength...***

for **Tom & Becky Scheetz** and the Scheetz family. Tom's mother, Beulah Scheetz, passed away Tuesday morning at her home at Souderton Mennonite Homes.

Services will be held at SMH on Saturday Jan 5th , with viewing and greeting the family from 1:00 - 1:45 pm. The memorial service is at 2:00 p.m. in the SMH chapel. Burial will follow at Franconia Mennonite Church.

Please keep Tom and the family in your prayers.

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

To **Mark Kolb**, who turns 81 on January 8<sup>th</sup>, and to **John Ruth**, who turns 89 on January 8<sup>th</sup>, and to **Irene Frankenfield**, who turns 92 on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Service & Mission**

**Donation of the Month for January** - Laundry Detergent and Dryer Sheets and/or \$25 gift cards from Wawa, Shop Rite, Hennings, Landis and Giant. (for Dock Village)

**JANUARY PROJECT OF MONTH NOTE:** Please pay special attention to the DOCK VILLAGE additional need for WAWA, SHOP RITE, HENNING'S, LANDIS and GIANT \$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**

In 2017 Mennonite Church USA began a process of renewal and refocus called **Journey Forward**. Beginning at the National Convention in 2017, we named three "renewed commitments" to ground our faith and guide our steps. The commitments are to:

- Follow Jesus,
- Witness to God's Peace, and
- Experience transformation.

The full one-page document can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2s7XfBj>. These core values reflect the heart of who we are as contemporary Anabaptists, and they can serve as central themes as we look toward our future.

In worship at Salford on January 13, 20, and 27 we will be exploring these themes together, one theme each week. What shape do these three commitments take among us at Salford? How do we live them out in our context? What do they reveal about God's work among us? My hope is that as we consider these three themes, we will better understand our faith and renew our commitment to live it out. Join us as we remind ourselves of the basics and consider our future. Sincerely, Pastor

Maria

We are offering **valet parking service** for those who need it in January, February and March. **Royce Yoder** will be our valet parking person for January 6th. Look for him under the carport when you arrive if you would like your car parked for you.

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](http://www.writethegoodfuture.org). Contact Maribeth for business cards and flyers to share with others.

**Save the Date!** – The **MYF Youth Auction and Fellowship Meal** has been scheduled for March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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.

## **Mennonite Church USA News**

Introducing the new monthly **MC USA Faith Formation Network e-newsletter!** Sign up to receive it at [mennoniteusa.org/what-we-do/faith-formation](http://mennoniteusa.org/what-we-do/faith-formation).

The latest episode of the **Holding it(,) Together podcast** is out now, focusing on infertility, miscarriage and infant loss. Listen on Apple Podcasts, Stitcher or online at <https://themennonite.org/the-latest/holding-together-podcast/>.

## **Beyond Salford**

**Peaceful Living** will be holding the training session **Lifesharing 101: Exploring Your Options** on Wednesday, January 9, 6:30 pm at Deep Run East Mennonite Church. This informative session will provide info about how those interested can open their homes to an individual with a developmental disability. Register with Connie Maurer, Mission Engagement Coordinator, at 610-287-1200, ext. 2092.

Wednesdays are **Community Nights** at **Souderton Mennonite Church**, beginning January 9. All are welcome to share a free fellowship meal at 6:00 pm, followed by activities for all ages at 7:00. Activities include children's clubs, junior high youth group, men's and women's Bible studies, men's prayer group, adult choir and various support/specialized group meetings. No registration is required. For more information, contact the church office at 215-723-3088 or visit [soudertonmennonite.org/wednesday-community-nights](http://soudertonmennonite.org/wednesday-community-nights).

Award-winning international pianist **Polina Kulikova** will be performing a free community concert of classical music at **Souderton Mennonite Church** on Sunday, January 27 at 3:00 pm. This is a must-see for pianists, piano students and classical music enthusiasts. A free-will offering will be taken. For more information, please visit contact the church office at 215-723-3088 or visit [soudertonmennonite.org/2019-concert-series](http://soudertonmennonite.org/2019-concert-series).

