

Week March 1, 2020

Sunday, March 1

9:00 a.m. Worship

Associate Pastor Maria Hosler Byler will preach on Matthew 4:1-11; *What is your hiding place?*

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

For Your Prayers List

- **Ferne Alderfer,**
Dock Woods
Community
- **Eva Alderfer,**
Souderton
Mennonite Homes
- **Phil & Betsy Moyer,**
Lezha
Academic Center,
Albania

Sunday, February 23

Offering

\$19,265

ACH Electronic

Offering

\$1,895

Kiosk Offering

\$49

Total Offering

\$21,209

Future Salford Events

- March 1 - EMU Chamber Choir Performance at Salford, 7:00 p.m.
- March 21 - MYF Auction and Fundraiser Meal
- May 3 - Spring Communion
- May 31 - Dock Touring Choir Performance, 7:00

Update from Church Board

Over the past several weeks, the board and pastoral search committee have been working to complete the necessary background and informational documents about Salford that will be provided to potential candidates. We look forward to that work being finished shortly. The board has also been working at discerning just what is needed not only during this interim time, as our search for an interim pastor remains with that position unfilled, but also for the long-term lead pastor as we look ahead to the next phase of our congregational life. In the meantime, we are grateful that Beth Yoder has increased her time commitment from 75% to 90% employment as we continue to clarify what her role will include during this time. We are also aware of the increased workloads that remain for both Beth and Maria, so we continue to identify additional pastoral needs and seek additional pastoral coverage for this interim period.

At times it can feel as though this work drags on, but this is a rich and important period that we do not want to rush. We have work to do in this interim in keeping our calling clear and letting the vision work begun last summer take root and strengthen within each of us. This vision grew from the work of a Vision Team assembled by Joe Hackman and facilitated by Jared Byas. The vision was affirmed by the congregation in various ways last fall and is now, during this time of preparation for our next long-term lead pastor, being well tended and carried forward by Beth and Maria, as affirmed by the board.

We encourage and covet your continued prayer for our leadership team, the church board, the pastoral search committee, as well as our entire church community that we might be faithful to seek and follow God's will as our work continues.

March-April Preaching/Worship Schedule

Lent: March 1 – 29

March 1

Maria Hosler Byler

March 8

Beth Yoder

March 15

Steve Kriss

March 22

Kerry Hasler-Brooks

March 29

Beth Yoder

April 5 – Palm Sunday

Michael King

April 12 – Easter

Beth Yoder

April 19 – 2nd Sunday of Easter

Maria Hosler Byler

April 26

Mary Nitzsche

May 3 – Communion

Steve Kriss

Monthly Salford Finance Update, as of February 29, 2020

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 2020 through this Monthly finance update (see below).

2020 Approved Budget:

\$857,248

2020 Offering and Income needed through 8 weeks:

\$131,884

p.m.

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

2020 Offering and income received through 8 weeks:	\$126,861
Average Weekly Offering Received through 8 weeks:	\$15,858
Average Weekly Offering Needed, 44 weeks remaining:	\$16,600

This Week at Salford

Monday, March 2

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

Tuesday, March 3

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

Wednesday, March 4

8:00 a.m. Sewing Circle (Gathering Room)

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

Sunday, March 8

9:00 a.m. Worship

Preaching: Beth Yoder

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

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Bob and Marianne Landis** for strength and continued healing as Bob recovers from flu and hopes to soon complete his current cycle of chemotherapy
- For **Sam and Sharon Godshall** as Sam continues to regain health after his recent hospitalization.
- For **Jehlani Angok and Scott and Angela Benner family** during Jehlani's extended visit to Michigan

This week all congregations in Eastern District & Franconia Conference are praying for **Line Lexington Mennonite Church**. Please pray for them during this time of transition, as they seek God's will for their future. To read more about Line Lexington, go to mennoniteconference.org/profiles.

Birthday Blessings...

To **Ada Swartley** who celebrates her 91st birthday on March 2nd, and to **Dave Meyers** who celebrates his 82nd birthday on March 3rd.

Prayers for Comfort & Strength...

for **Beth & Jim Styer** and family. Beth's brother, Jim Brenneman, died early Tuesday morning, Feb. 25 after a long journey with lung cancer.

Memorial service information will be forwarded when it is available.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for March – Canned tuna and meals in a can, spaghetti, ravioli, beefaroni, stew and chili for the food pantry at Keystone Opportunity Center in Souderton.

Place items at the collection table by the Infant/Toddler Nursery.

The Goods from Gift Discernment

Are you interested in joining a Ministry Team? Need more information? Not sure what to expect? Please call or text **Vince Causerano** at 215-920-1215 or via email at vcauserano@gmail.com.

Currently, the following teams have an immediate need:

- Men's Interest Group
- Children's Club Ministry Team
- Gifts Discernment Ministry Team
- Prayer Shawl Ministry Team
- Finance Ministry Team
- Thrift Shop Ministry Team

MINISTRY TEAM SPOTLIGHT:	Thrift Shop Ministry
WHO:	We need of several people to serve as volunteers at the Care and Share Thrift Shop.
WHEN:	The 4th Friday of every month
TIMES:	The morning shift serves from 9:00 am to 1:00-1:30 pm
	The afternoon shift is from 1:00 - 5-5:30 pm.
WHAT:	Salford is responsible to provide volunteers to work in the clothing department. We help with hanging up the clothing in the various sections, fill the shoe racks, monitor the jewelry and the dressing room and straighten the displays. Several volunteers check out and bag purchases.
WHY:	This work helps to recycle clothing that might otherwise end up in landfills, provides low cost clothing for many people and then the money earned by MCC is used to support people around the world, a very worthwhile use of our time. Please consider joining us in this important work.

Please reach out to Vince Causerano or Jan Landis if you have interest.

Ministry teams are always looking for people who want to be involved, even if the team is officially "full". So if you have interest in any of the teams, please don't hesitate to express interest. If you are not sure what teams are available, reach out to Vince.

Salford children will continue collecting coins year-round to support My Coins Count for Mennonite Central Committee. Please bring spare change each week and hand it to any Salford elementary age child to collect during second hour. They are filling as many mason jars as they can! The funds will support MCC's work for food, water, and education around the world. Read about MCC at mcc.org. Thanks for helping the children of Salford make a difference in the world.

News & Notes

Join us for a **Spring Art Gallery Opening** on Sunday March 8th in the Pastor's Hallway featuring youth from Salford. Stop by after the service to meet the artists and see their work. We'll make sure you aren't late for Second Hour Class!

The **Eastern Mennonite University Chamber Singers** have announced a spring break tour to Pennsylvania. They will perform at **Salford Mennonite Church** at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 1, 2020. The group will give 10 performances in southern Pennsylvania at various churches, school chapels, and a retirement community. The program features selections on the theme of "I Will Give You Rest,"

an exploration of peace and rest through music.

The select vocal group, directed by Professor Benjamin Bergey, performs choral arrangements from various periods, styles and cultures. Don't miss this evening of wonderful music! A free will offering will be received to support the tour.

The family ministry service opportunity on March 8th has been postponed to the fall. Our hope is that one Sunday this fall, people of all ages can work together on a project for the MCC Material Resource Center that we can do in our own church building during our second hour time. The next opportunity will be posted when a date is chosen.

Better Angels Red/Blue Workshop: On Saturday, April 18, 2020, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, Salford Mennonite Church will be hosting a Red/Blue Workshop sponsored by Better Angels and led by two trained Better Angels moderators. This is a workshop bringing together about 5-7 right-leaning citizens and 5-7 left-leaning citizens for a day of structured conversations (and a free lunch!). The focus will be on listening and reflecting rather than debating and persuading. The only requirement is a willingness to listen to the other side and a desire to engage in respectful conversation. If you are interested in participating, observing, or just want to find out more, contact either the Blue Organizer, Mark Heise (484-687-0840, markheise5@gmail.com) or the Red Organizer, Tim Weaver (215-350-0758, whoistimw@gmail.com).

We are offering **valet parking service** for those who need it during the winter months. Royce Yoder will be our valet parking person for March 1st. Look for him under the carport when you arrive if you would like your car parked for you.

Inclement Weather: If it would be necessary for Salford to cancel scheduled church service, we will announce any cancellation or change of service time on our website and by email. You may also contact Church Administrator Brad Alderfer by cell phone at (215) 272-6724 if you have any questions about possible weather related closures.

Youth and Young Adult Spotlight

The Salford Youth Auction will take place on Saturday, March 21. This Sunday, March 1st is the first day to bring your auction items! View the items for auction in the foyer, and if you would like to donate an item please add it to the sheet at the welcome center. Visit salfordmc.org or contact Pastor Maria for more information.

On March 1st the senior high will be making **care packages for college students**. Drop off any cookies or notes for college students to the church kitchen BEFORE worship on Sunday.

March 7, April 22, May 5 and 6: Mental Health First Aid training

Do you know how to help? Become a board-certified Mental Health First Aider. Mental Health First Aid is a public education program designed to teach everyday citizens the skills to help another person who is struggling with a mental health concern or crisis. Participants will:

- Learn risk factors, warning signs and the impact of mental health concerns
- Practice the Mental Health First Aid action plan
- Learn local resources for mental health and substance use treatment
- Receive a comprehensive, user-friendly 138-page manual & certification

More information and links to register for this FREE training on the accompanying flyer.

March 23: "Service and Gap Year" 7-8:30 pm at Souderton Mennonite Church: Parent and Youth Forum put on the Eastern District and Franconia Conference. Time will include information on what/why service as an option after high school and include a panel as well as booths from different service and gap year organizations.

Mennonite Church USA News

Mennonite Church USA is inviting everyone to **focus on climate justice** this month through its "**Learn, Pray, Join**" initiative. Discover how you can get involved at mennoniteusa.org/news/climate. ([Download a PPT slide here.](#))

Lent is a time of purposeful turning toward God. Remember God's faithful, loving presence and connect with the Rock of our salvation using the free, downloadable **Lent At-Home 2020 Worship Guide**. <http://mennoniteusa.org/resource/lent-at-home-2020/> ([Download a PPT slide here.](#))

"**What's your creation care story?**" This is the question Katie Isaac, a Climate Futures Fellow for the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions in Harrisonburg, Virginia, asks in her blog, as she challenges us to reframe our conversations about **climate justice** from politically polarizing discussions to biblically based stewardship language. Read more: <http://mennoniteusa.org/carestory>

Please pray for the **Allegheny Mennonite Conference: Spring Faith and Life Gathering** and the **Ohio Conference** annual meeting taking place this Saturday.

Beyond Salford

Dock presents **Frozen, Jr.**, an enchanting modern musical classic with a cast of beloved characters loaded with magic, adventure, and plenty of humor. Frozen Jr. is sure to thaw even the coldest heart! Shows will take place on March 13 & 14 at Dock's EC to Grade 8 campus. For tickets, [CLICK HERE](#) or visit www.dock.org.

Discover **Dock Mennonite Academy's Early Childhood to Grade 8 Open House** on Saturday, March 14, 12:30 to 3:00 pm. Dock integrates faith and learning at every grade level and teaches essential life skills, such as, critical thinking, problem solving, inquisitiveness, teamwork, and leadership. Dock also offers over \$1 million in financial aid annually to families. For more information, email admissions@dock.org. or visit dock.org.

Line Lexington Mennonite Church is inviting all Eastern District & Franconia Conference churches to an **Old Fashioned Hymn Sing** on Sunday, March 15 at 6:00 pm. This is a free event and refreshments will be served afterwards.

The Mennonite Heritage Center collects and preserves photos, documents and artifacts that tell the story of Mennonites in eastern Pennsylvania. Please contact archivist Forrest Moyer at moyerf@mhep.org or 215-256-3020 ext.118 if you have documents from your family or records from your local congregation that should be preserved for future generations.

Friends of Shirati will hold its annual banquet on Saturday, March 14, at 5:30 pm at the Gathering Place in Mount Joy. The guest speakers are Dr. Bwire Chirangi and Dr. Mekere from Tanzania. In 2020 Friends of Shirati celebrates fifteen years as a nonprofit serving Shirati Hospital, a ministry of the Tanzania Mennonite Church. Reserve your seats by Friday, March 6, by calling (717) 344-2231, or emailing banquet@friendsofshirati.org. No charge but donations accepted at the

banquet or anytime.

Shaping Faith in a Digital Culture live stream: March 2–5. Join fellow faith leaders at a joint conference of *Pastors and Leaders 2020* and *Deep Faith* at AMBS to think and reflect theologically about living, worshiping and playing in digital spaces. If you can't make it in person, join online at anabapti.st/live. View the schedule for the event at ambs.edu/pastorsandleaders.

Thinking about seminary? Strengthen your leadership skills and prepare for future ministry and service through one of AMBS's academic programs. Our scholarships and need-based financial aid can help make your education affordable. Ministry scholarship applications are due April 1. Apply today! ambs.edu/academics