

Week March 22, 2020

Sunday, March 22 10:00 a.m. Worship on Facebook Live, no Public Worship

Guest Preacher Kerry Hasler-Brooks will preach on Psalm 23; *"words that spark": The Radical Hope of Psalm 23*

For Your Prayers List

- **Faith Detweiler,**
Sunny Crest
Homes
- **Donald Alderfer,**
The Community at
Rockhill
- **Joy Sutter,**
Moderator Elect for
MCUSA

Sunday, March 15

Offering

\$3,095

ACH Electronic

Offering

\$1,895

Kiosk Offering

\$195

Total Offering

\$5,185

Future Salford Events

- May 3 - Spring
Communion
- May 4 - Spring
Communion at
Souderton
Mennonite Homes
- May 31 - Dock
Touring Choir
Performance, 7:00
p.m.
- June 21 - 25 -
Peace Camp at
Salford

Update for March 18, 2020

The coronavirus has come as a huge shock to our world, our nation, and our local communities. Within a very short time it has challenged our attitudes and our behaviors radically. We have been forcefully reminded that we are not in control of nearly as much as we would like to be. As we become increasingly germ-conscious and virus-aware, we are likely to know moments of fear and anxiety, perhaps hints of despair. The faith we proclaim and seek to live is surely for such a time as this. In each of our hearts and as a community bound together in love, let us hold fast to the certainty that, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Let us not lose sight of our trust in God and our commitment to walk with each other through whatever comes.

The rapid news updates and ever-evolving restrictions call for much flexibility in our schedules and plans. Through at least Sunday, April 5, we will not hold services here at the church and hope instead to gather virtually for worship, as we did this past Sunday. For this coming Sunday we will again offer our worship service through a Facebook Live event at 10:00 a.m. We will plan to go live with our Facebook live stream at 9:50 a.m. to allow you time to get connected and diagnose any technical issues you may have. In addition to our regular weekly newsletter, we hope to send out this Friday a short order of worship, including a listing of prayer concerns, for you to follow along with on Sunday morning, if you like.

Similarly, for evening meetings that would normally be held at church, we are in the process of setting up a Salford Zoom account for you to use. Contact the church office to get the access information, if you would like to schedule a Zoom meeting for your evening meeting.

During this time of not being present together as a gathered body, there are options for submitting your weekly offering. If you would like to begin a weekly or monthly ACH offering deduction directly from a bank account, this can be set up on either short-term or long term basis. Contact the church office for additional information and the sign-up form. Offering envelopes can be mailed or dropped off in person at church in the office drop box (no in person contact needed). The square credit card device can also be used in person at the church at these times, or Brad could process your credit card donation by phone. We are researching online donation options and will update when a good option is in place.

Brad Alderfer is planning to work from the office as long as quarantine is not in place and no illness; Beth and Maria will be in the office as well, and are always available by phone (call or text) and email; and a small handful of people will gather on Sunday morning to lead our Sunday morning worship.

Church phone: 215-256-0778

Beth Yoder: 215-859-3617 ... yoderb@salfordmc.org

Maria Hosler Byler: 267-500-5679 ... hoslerbylerm@salfordmc.org

This Week at Salford

For events this week, groups are exploring virtual meeting options.

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

Monday, March 22

7:30 p.m. Senior Youth Night, virtual gathering

Wednesday, March 25

7:00 p.m. Gifts Discernment Ministry Team Meeting, virtual gathering

Sunday, March 29

10:00 a.m. Worship

Preaching: Beth Yoder

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Adam and Emily Messner** for successful treatment and for staying healthy during this very significant time; Adam completed his first week of treatment on Friday.
- For **Bob and Marianne Landis** in thanksgiving and praise for good results from Bob's recent scans.
- For **Jehlani Angok and the Benner family** as Jehlani receive an infusion and has surgery this week; for safety and health for all involved, for a straightforward procedure and quick recovery.
- For **Sam and Sharon Godshall** as Sam continues receiving treatment in Aria Frankford Hospital.
- For **families of all ages who are adjusting** to more time at home: for patience to abound between members, for the tasks of each day to go smoothly, for creativity and kindness to flow.
- For **those who are coping with isolation** at this time of social distancing: for loneliness to be kept at bay and relationships to be maintained in new ways.

This week all congregations in Eastern District & Franconia Conference are praying for **Ambler Mennonite Church**. Please pray for new co-pastors Michelle and Jacob Curtis and the church, as they begin their journey in mutual ministry, and for wisdom and insight as they discern a collective vision, and move through generational change. To read more about Ambler, go to mennoniteconferencex.org/profiles.

Prayer request from Salford Mennonite Child Care Center: During this unusual, changing every day virus time, pray that SMCCC Ministry Team and Administration be given clarity in making important decisions that will protect all children, families, teachers while keeping this small non-profit ministry sustainable.

Anniversary Blessings...

To **Sharon & Gladys Hunsberger**, who celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on March 26th.

From Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite Mission Network has many partners around the world that we help to support. None of Mission Network's ministries would happen without congregational contributions to support these life-changing ministries. Salford Mennonite Church's contribution of \$5,500.00 has enabled Mission Network partners with more than 115 organizations around the world. Thank you for your prayers and generous contributions in 2019. – **Stanley W. Green**

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for March – In lieu of bringing canned goods to church the rest of this month please consider making a monetary donation to Keystone

Opportunity Center, our designated project of the month. They will be trying to serve many more people over the next several months.

Local food pantries and other essential services are still in need of volunteers at this time. For information on how to volunteer in Montgomery County, visit <https://www.montcopa.org/3497/In-our-Community>. Blood donations are also still desperately needed. For information on how to donate blood, visit <https://www.redcross.org/>.

News & Notes

It's time again to **renew our group subscription to The Mennonite**. The renewal subscription form has been placed in church mailboxes and at the welcome center, along with information on the upcoming The Mennonite and Mennonite World Review merger and how this will affect subscriptions. Everyone who wants to renew their subscription through the Salford group subscription must return the renewal form to the church office by March 29th, 2020.

Youth Spotlight

At the request of the junior youth, all junior youth are receiving good-quality copies of The Message for their own bible reading. The youth each chose their own cover colors. These are currently on loan from Salford; once they have completed reading the book of Matthew, their bible will be theirs to keep. They are very excited to have a nice bible of their own and are thankful to Salford for supporting them in this way.

Mennonite Church USA News

Learn about the African American faith leaders who helped shape our denomination in Mennonite Church USA's **African American Mennonite History Timeline**. <http://mennoniteusa.org/africanamericantimeline>

Why is climate change a social justice issue? Christy Miller Hased of Shalom Mennonite Church in Newton, Kansas, answers this question in her blog, "Why Jesus would care about climate change." Read more: <http://mennoniteusa.org/jesusclimatechange>

Beyond Salford

MCC Material Resource Center will be closed until March 30. MCC Meat Canning is cancelled and will not take place March 30-April 1; as they take precautions due to coronavirus concerns.

The MAMA Project has postponed its April 4th **Banquet** due to the Covid-19 health crisis. As an alternative, MAMA Project invites you to MAMA's first ever online auction between April 13 and 18. Links to the auction will be posted on www.mamaproject.org and on the MAMA Facebook page. Please direct questions to Jonathan@mamaproject.org.