Salford News

Connect. Grow. Serve.
Salford Mennonite Church

September 20, 2026

Sunday, Sept. 20, 2026
9:30 a.m. Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live Peace Sunday w/ Salford's Justice & Peace Team

10:45 am Second Hour

Emmaus Road Sermon Discussion Class meets in the room behind the Welcome Center. All are welcome.

Sept. 13 Offering
Offering - $7,420
ACH - $1,980
Vanco - $2,983

Total Budget Offering $12,383

Children's Offering: $48

Next Week at Salford

Sun., Sept. 27
Worship in the Salford Pavilion

We continue to respond to the flooding event in the church basement. Several of the downstairs classroom spaces and Peace Place remain inaccessible. **Please do not enter the affected downstairs areas while cleanup and repairs are underway.**

This Sunday, Salford's Justice and Peace Team will lead us in a Peace Sunday service. The first half of the service will feel familiar, with Pastor Andrew offering a short reflection on Philippians 2:5-11 and connecting it to Mennonite World Conference's theme: from power over to power with. In the second half of the service, we will invite the congregation to participate in a few interactive activities that raise awareness about justice issues or help focus our longing for God's peace in the world. Each option is connected with the ongoing work of Salford's Justice and Peace Team and are reminders that everyone in our congregation is welcome to join us in our team's prayers and practices throughout the year.

All options will be accessible from Salford's sanctuary and there will be an option hosted on the live stream. Below are short titles of the faith in action options; more information will be provided during the service.

- Packing school kits for Mennonite Central Committee
- Painting/coloring and prayers for peace
- Letter writing
- Justice and peace hymn sing
- Know your rights training and ICE response
- Sidewalk chalk reflections

Reminder - Second Hour has returned!

Second hour is an opportunity for all of us to continue connecting, growing, and learning together after worship concludes, beginning around 10:45am. All adult Second Hour classes welcome new participants and visitors! Learn more about each offering below or at the Welcome Center.

Children & Youth:

- Children ages 2-5th grade meet in the basement, beginning with singing before gathering in age-based classes
- Jr. MYF (middle school) meets upstairs above the pastors' offices
- Sr. MYF (high school) usually meets in the schoolhouse near the grove

Adult class offerings:

- Reaching Out/Ambassadors (room 203) - Bible study using *Salt & Light* devotional

If you have information or prayer requests for our newsletter, please submit them to the church office by 10 am Thursdays.
If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please submit your email address to joneslongt@salfordmc.org

- Gospel Herald (Gathering Room) - Discusses articles from *Anabaptist World* magazine
- Emmaus Road (behind Welcome Center) - Discussion based on the morning's sermon
- Friendship Class (room 205) - Women sharing and praying together
- Lectionary Lookahead (room 206) - Lectio Devina-style reading of an upcoming scripture text
- Connections (room 211) - Story and faith sharing, often featuring interviews of 1-2 people
- Hilltop (room 204) - 2nd & 4th Sundays; uniquely gifted adults, lots of singing
- Prayer Room (near 211) - self-guided space for quiet prayer

Salford's Fall Women's Retreat is Postponed

Due to a limited number of registrations, we've decided to postpone the Fall Women's Retreat until next year. We hope to find a date that works for more people and allows more of our community to participate. Keep an eye out for a message from Melissa Heise or Tori Jones Long with more information and options for next year.

Service Second Hours Begin on Sunday, September 27

Throughout the year, Salford's Senior MYF will be hosting a Service Second Hour on the fourth Sunday of every month. Anyone is welcome to participate in this intergenerational Second Hour as we engage in service as a spiritual practice in our formation as disciples. This month, **on September 27**, our service project will be working in the garden with Steve Blank, so bring a change of shoes or clothes for after the service. If you're interested in participating, please let Pastor Andrew (zettsa@salfordmc.org) know ahead of time so we can prepare for an accurate number of participants.

Save the Date, Harvest Service and Salford Campout – October 23-24

Join us in the Salford pavilion for a short service to thank God for this year's harvest and enjoy a meal that will include vegetables from Salford's garden. All are invited to stay after dinner for a night of fellowship that will include games and activities. Participants are encouraged to set up a tent in the field next to the pavilion or park their camper in the adjacent parking lot. We hope to see you there!

Schedule

- 5:00-6:00 P.M.: Arrival and tent/camper set up
- 6:00-7:00 P.M.: Dinner
- 7:00-7:30 P.M.: Harvest Service
- 7:30 P.M.-7:00 A.M.: Campout
- 7:00-8:00 A.M.: Pancakes in the pavilion

Three Words - A Couples Journey from Cancer to Wholeness

Dave and Kathi Peters have completed their documentary, *Three Words*, chronicling their nearly four-year journey with Stage 4 cancer. Throughout that journey, the Salford family has walked alongside them with prayer, encouragement, friendship, and generous support.

“Salford has been such an important part of our journey. We simply can’t imagine these past four years without the love, prayers, and support of the Salford family.” – Dave & Kathi

Now we have another opportunity to support them as they share their story with the wider community. *Three Words* will be shown **Thursday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m. at LCBC Church** in Harleysville. The film explores Dave and Kathi’s personal journey – the struggles, unexpected joys, and their exploration of integrative approaches to cancer care.

A Q&A will follow the film featuring integrative medical professionals who appear in the documentary. It promises to be a moving, hopeful, and informative evening. We hope many from the Salford family will come and support Dave and Kathi as they share their story. Click HERE for the trailer and tickets.

Our Church Family

Meals for Monica Schroeder – Monica’s daughter-in-law has organized a meal train for Monica and her husband Dave. Please consider taking a meal to support Monica’s surgery recovery. You can sign up HERE.

Prayer Concerns

- We rejoice with ***Monica Schroeder*** that her surgery on Monday the 14th was successful. Please continue to pray for successful pain management, wisdom as she meets with her medical team to decide next steps, and strength as she prepares for rehab and her return home.

- For ***Dave Greiser***, as he begins his new work as a part-time pastor at Souderton Mennonite Home.

- All Mosaic Conference congregations are invited to pray for ***those who provide interpretation*** in Mosaic congregational worship. Pray that these interpreters would be equipped as they help ensure that all can hear the gospel in their own language, and for the upcoming Mosaic trainings and emerging supportive community for interpreters.

News & Notes

Peace Camp Art Installed Outside – The collaborative art created at Peace Camp 2026, led by Brent Kissel, has been "planted" outside the Fellowship Hall entrance, adding beauty outdoors alongside the flowers that peace campers planted. A big thank you to Gene Kropf for the installation. Check out these quilt-inspired panels!

Service & Mission

The Donation of the Month for September – **Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) School Kits**

NEW items only

- 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in and 70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens

Donations can be placed on the shelves in the coat room. Monetary donations are also welcome. You can label your offering envelope or check memo line for "Donation of the Month", check made payable to Salford Mennonite Church. Please have all supplies and donations to Salford by September 30th.

Faith Formation Spotlight

Weekly Faith at Home Practices for Families

We are beginning a weekly announcement for families which offers faith nurture ideas that coordinate with the weekly sessions from Shine curriculum. The story can be read from *The Peace Table* or any bible of your choice.

In the Garden: Genesis 3

Read: pages 22–23 from *The Peace Table* or Genesis 3:12-13. Imagine doing something wrong. Now imagine God saying, "I love you no matter what."

Talk: Take a walk outside together "at the time of the evening breeze," as God did in Genesis 3:8. Talk about times when you felt like hiding.

Pray: Thank you, God, for loving us even when we make unwise choices. Amen.

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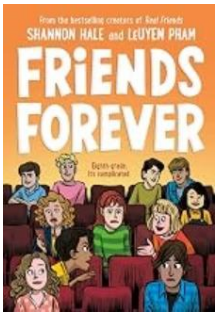
Attention parents of children in grades 1-5: Salford Kids' Club is just around the corner! Our first meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 21 from 6:30-8:00**. We meet once each month, October through May, in the Gathering Room upstairs, above the foyer. Kids' Club provides a safe space for kids to spend time together connecting, learning, and having fun. This year's unit is **"12 Names for Jesus"**, and each session has games, a Bible story, a craft, a connecting story, and snacks, of course!

This year's Kids Club leaders are: Melissa Heise, Donna Barndt, Sally Derstine, and Cassy Zetts. (Diane Good, Jenn Svetlik, and Sheldon Good sometimes fill in as subs.)

Please contact Melissa Heise with any questions about Kids' Club at MelissaRHeise5@gmail.com

Church Library Spotlight

Stop by the church library and speak with a librarian to see what's new, or review the library catalog on the Salford church website: https://smck-ind.kari.opalsinfo.net/bin/home#0

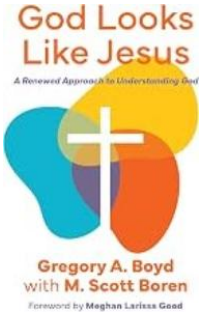


Friends Forever
By: Shannon Hale

Shannon is in eighth grade, and life is more complicated than ever. Everything keeps changing, her classmates are starting to date each other (but nobody wants to date her!), and no matter how hard she tries, Shannon can never seem to *just be happy*.

As she works through her insecurities and undiagnosed depression, she worries about disappointing all the people who care about her. Is something wrong with her? Can she be the person everyone expects her to be? And who does she actually *want* to be?

With their signature humor, warmth, and insight, Shannon Hale and LeUyen Pham have crafted another incredible love letter to their younger selves and to readers everywhere, a reminder to us all that we are enough.



Good Looks Like Jesus: A Renewed Approach to Understanding God
By: Gregory A. Boyd with M. Scott Boren

A grassroots global movement has people rediscovering a Jesus- looking God who is raising up a Jesus-looking people to transform the world in a unique, Jesus kind of way.

In this accessible introduction to understanding the character of God, author Gregory A. Boyd, with M. Scott Boren, lays out the radical truth at the heart of this movement: the conviction that God looks like Jesus. In other words, in the life, ministry, and sacrificial death of Jesus Christ, we see the embodiment of God's very essence—a love that is humble, other-oriented, and self-sacrificial.

This truth is the heart of the gospel. If we consider it deeply and live it out consistently, this truth carries the power to transform individuals, the church, and

the world. Open these pages to encounter the freedom of a God who looks like Jesus, and join a larger movement of the Spirit to reignite the church with Christ at its center.

Beyond Salford

Help Needed for the Apple Butter Frolic – The Mennonite Heritage Center is seeking volunteers for its upcoming Apple Butter Frolic on **Saturday, October 3**. A variety of opportunities are available from serving food to helping with children's activities! All those who volunteer receive free admission and those who serve for four hours or more will receive tickets to purchase food. To volunteer, contact Linda Francis at francisl@mhep.org or 215-256-3020 ext. 114.

Anabaptist Reading Group – Are you interested in Anabaptist and Mennonite history? The Mennonite Heritage Center in Harleysville is hosting a free Anabaptist Reading Group this fall from **1-2:30 on the second Thursday of each month**. The current focus is on the writings of Menno Simons. See HERE to register and view the reading list.

Tour and Taste of South Philadelphia Churches – Join the Mennonite Heritage Center on **October 10, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** for a Tour and Taste of South Philadelphia Churches. In this walking tour, we'll stop at four Mennonite churches in South Philadelphia where we'll enjoy food, fellowship, and hearing the congregation's story. We'll walk about a mile together. The cost is $15/person. Registration is required. Register online at mhep.org or contact Regina Wenger at 215-256-3020, ext. 112 or wengerr@mhep.org.

You Are Invited to a Free Benefit Banquet for The Worm Project to be held at **6 pm, Saturday, October 17, at the Franconia Heritage Restaurant**. **The banquet is free but reservations are required by October 11.** Hear inspiring stories from our keynote speaker, Ana Cespedes, CEO of Vitamin Angels. Leave the names of your attendees by sending email to info@wormproject.org or call **215-272-5305** to leave a voicemail or text your reservation.