

Week of November 15, 2020

Sunday, November 15
10:00 a.m. Worship
on Facebook Live and
YouTube Live, Guest
Preacher's Sheldon
Good & Jenn Svetlik
will preach on Matthew
20:1-16, *Reconciliation*
at the Oval Table

For Your Prayers List

- **Kass Landis,**
Souderton
Mennonite Homes
- **Lorraine Landis,**
Souderton
Mennonite Homes

Sunday, November 8

Offering
\$3,511
ACH Electronic
Offering
\$1,895
Vanco Online Offering
\$3,496
Total Budget Offering
\$8,903
MCC Centennial
Celebration Offering
\$300

Future Salford Events

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

A Note From the Church Office, November 13th

Dear Salford Family,

On Wednesday in the Wintering the Pandemic seminar our congregation heard from James Mast, a local Licensed Professional Counselor and family therapist. He named the challenges we have been enduring as we face many losses and stresses related to the pandemic. He also gave words of wisdom for the coming months: give grace to yourself and others. Find your "tribe." Be flexible in your expectations. Name what's happening within you and in your relationships as you manage day-to-day. (You can see the full seminar recording [here](#).)

His words are timely: this week's rain brought down the leaves and it's starting to look like winter. We are also getting close to winter in the church year with Advent beginning on November 29. It's a time for settling, slowing down, wondering, and dreaming of the growth that is to come.

The winter is a slower season, but just as filled with life and intention. One way we are intentionally entering the new season is with the Pre-Advent Families Gathering next Sunday afternoon – there is more on that in the newsletter. And our congregational life goes on: our fall congregational meeting will take place next Sunday as well, via Zoom.

We are with you on the journey as we honor each season as it comes. Don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have something you want to share or if you just need some connection. This is what it means to be the church in these days.

-Pastors Maria and Dorcas

[Maria Hosler Byler](mailto:maria@hoslerbyler.com): 267-500-5679

[Dorcas Lehman](mailto:dorcas@lehman.com): 717-330-2620

Click each person's name to send them an email.

Wintering a Pandemic Seminar

We were privileged on Thursday, November 12, to have **counselor James Mast** share an online seminar on how to maintain our mental health and care for ourselves and others during the coming months of winter. James is a licensed professional counselor and certified family therapist, working as a therapist in private practice as well as Penn Foundation. Over 40 members and friends of Salford joined the excellent session, which was recorded and **available for viewing** at: [Wintering a Pandemic Seminar Video](#)

As mentioned at the end of the seminar, for anyone who feels that counseling would be helpful for them right now, Salford's Mutual Aid Response Team will cover the cost of a first session with any of the counselors below. Please tell the counselor when you make the appointment to bill Salford for your first appointment and then the counselors will submit the bill to Salford. We can also assist financially if anyone needs continued counseling but finances are too tight. Speak to a Pastor if this would be helpful.

James Mast

<https://www.facebook.com/JamesMastCounseling/>

[m.me/JamesMastCounseling](https://www.linkedin.com/company/m.me/JamesMastCounseling)

(267) 317-5602

John Drescher-Lehman

johnhd1118@verizon.net

(215) 527-7508

Ashley Miller, Willow Spring Counseling Center

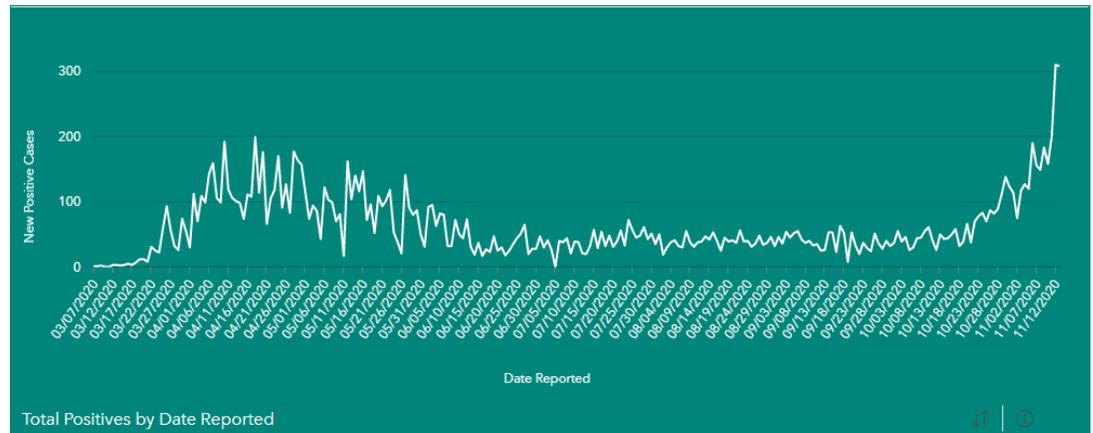
www.willowspringcounseling.com

ashley@willowspringcounseling.com

Update on Indoor Worship

Due to the recently rising COVID numbers and the urging of the Reopening Task Force, we will not begin holding indoor worship at this time. We will keep our current pattern of online worship and will continue to monitor the situation for when we can gather indoors again. Discernment about small indoor gatherings is still ongoing.

Unfortunately, just as our plan for indoor worship is ready and the weather would indicate a move indoors, COVID cases and test positivity rates are climbing. The numbers are rising more slowly in Montgomery County than in other places, but even here they are trending in the wrong direction and have reached levels of concern for the Reopening Task Force (see chart to follow). The Task Force is clear that now is not the time to begin gathering indoors for worship. The pastors, staff, and Reopening Task Force worked hard on our plan for indoor worship and feel it is a good plan. It will remain available for us to look forward to and will be implemented as soon as the situation allows.



This Week at Salford

Monday, November 16

7:00 p.m. Junior Youth Group Gathering (by Zoom)

Tuesday, November 17

7:00 p.m. Reopening Committee meeting (by Zoom)

Wednesday, November 18

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

7:00 p.m. Child Youth Safety Team Meeting (by Zoom)

7:00 p.m. Senior Youth Group Gathering (by Zoom)

Sunday, November 22

10:00 a.m. Salford Worship on Facebook Live and YouTube

Preaching: Steve Kriss

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Jeff and Debbie Landis**, as Jeff begins a short series of radiation treatment for a new spot of cancer (renal cell), after which he will continue his regular chemo treatments. They feel encouraged and hopeful about the plan, and they value prayers during this time.
- For **Beth and Jerry Yoder**, whose diagnosis is polycythemia vera (Jak2), meaning his body produces too many red blood cells, due to a gene mutation. The treatment plan includes medication and, when needed, phlebotomies. Recovery is well underway, he is hoping to be able to do pretty much what he did before, and he says thank you for all the thoughts, prayers, cards, and meals.
- For **Ben and Carol Nase**, as she receives in-home care 24/7, and as they explore placement opportunities in retirement communities. They appreciate meals provided by the church in these early days.
- For **Jan and Chip Foderaro**, and the whole family of her brother, Michael Beckler, age 62, who passed away in Harrisonburg, VA on November 4.
- For **Ken and Melody Byler**, with gratitude for their 34 years in this Salford community, as they finish packing and moving to Belleville, where they will transition to a new life stage in the community where they first began their lives.
- For **Hannah, Andy, and Ari**, in their rejoicing, as they welcome **Elias John Richter**, born last week; and for **Becca and Jon Nagy** as they anticipate the arrival of their baby any day.
- **Brenda Snyder**, and her mother, **Nancy Alderfer**, as Brenda is in her third week of hospitalization at Haven Behavioral Hospital, Philadelphia, where she is receiving care due to mental health-related issues. Brenda is not allowed visitors, due to pandemic restrictions, so Nancy has been maintaining contact by phone. Pray for continued care, healing, and well-being.
- For the **Pastoral Search Committee** and persons involved in the search process for the next Lead Pastor.
- For **healthcare workers in crisis response** as many communities are affected by the surge in COVID cases across the country

This week all congregations in **Mosaic Conference** are asked to pray for the work of our conference, based on prayers expressed during the Conference Assembly and worship on November 7-8:

- Pray that we would continue to shape relationships around our missional, intercultural and formational priorities.
- Pray that we would continue to listen to Jesus and act on God's kingdom purposes.

Prayer for Comfort & Strength...

for **Jan & Chip Foderaro** and the Foderaro family. Jan's brother, Michael Beckler, age 62, of Harrisonburg, VA passed away on November 4, 2020 due to a heart attack after having had gallbladder surgery. Michael also lived with multiple sclerosis. Prayers of comfort and strength for Jan and the family as they mourn the loss and remember the life of Michael.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for November – canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned French fried onions, canned yams for Manna on Main Street, Lansdale.

ALL DONATIONS can be taken to the home of Linda Martin, 2550 Shelly Rd, Harleysville, PA 19438, or brought to the benches in the hallway in from the Pastors entrance at church.

I receive joy almost every day. My joy has increased through my connection and baptism into the Mennonite community. During the Witting Tree ceremony, November 10, 2020 I was deeply touched and honored that so many friends from Salford Mennonite Church witnessed the invisible wounds received through service to community and country. Mary's reading in particular expressed the sacrifice of veterans, conscientious objectors, and peacekeepers in service. Thank you for this blessing. I feel at home. **Glen Miller**



Faith Formation Spotlight

Advent begins Nov. 29! We are providing Advent resources for pickup or download: a devotional for families including Advent calendar and craft, a countdown candle, Nativity stickers, and a devotional for adults. **Let Jenn or Maria know if you'd like to pick up a package at Salford. We will have these ready by 11/23** (if picking one up is a barrier please let Jenn know). PDF versions of the devotionals [are available here](#) (see Jenn for the password).

PreAdvent Family Gathering on Zoom 11/22 4pm Families will gather briefly to share hopes & talk about simple, doable practices to make this Advent season one to remember. **Please let Jenn or Maria know if you plan to participate!** (this will be interactive & kids of all ages are welcome, with their grownups!)

Virtual Christmas Pageant Our virtual pageant will be a one-of-a-kind, very memorable celebration of the Christmas season! Let us know how you'd like to participate: <https://forms.gle/Kpb6tuZKYvmSqWCPA> - please respond by Weds. 11/18.

Racial Justice Spotlight

The next meeting of the **Racial Justice Learning Group** takes place **this Sun., Nov. 15** 7-8:30p.m. [Here is the Zoom link](#). (Password is Context)

Jean Godsall-Myers will facilitate a conversation on race & perspectives on the election. She invites participants to learn from one or more Black persons via a conversation or listening to Black voices in the public sphere about how they are experiencing the election and its aftermath.

We will share reflections from this learning together in our group. For more info contact Jean (wittjgm@gmail.com) or Jenn (jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com).

News & Notes

We are preparing for an **update of the online photo directory**. Please review your listing and send any updates needed to the church office. Please provide an updated family photo for your listing and we will include it. Please respond to the church office by November 29th, 2020.

Salford Youth Auction update: our Salford Youth Auction was to take place in March and was postponed due to the pandemic. We have decided NOT to hold a youth auction this year; the next youth auction will be March 2021. We welcome any donations you would like to make to Salford youth ministry in 2020; send checks to the office with "youth" in the memo line. Thank you for all the ways you support the Salford youth.

The Salford Church Board has determined that the **Fall Congregational Business Meeting** will be held on November 22 following Sunday worship. This will be conducted on Zoom, with a phone call in option for those unable to make the computer connection. The congregational meeting packet can be [viewed here](#). Your virtual affirmation for the congregational meeting ballots can be [completed here](#).

Address Update:

Mary Jane Hershey
276 Ridgeview Estates, Harleysville, PA 19438

We anticipate that the new **Voices Together hymnals** will start to ship soon. If you order copies of the hymnals for personal use, we will let you know when they arrive and when you may pick them up.

Mosaic Mennonite Conference

November 7th the Mosaic Conference Assembly delegate session took place via zoom. Salford delegates this year were **Ron Freed, Andrew Zetts, Melissa Heise, and Kendra Rittenhouse**. Some conference assembly highlights:

- Salford's own **David Yoder** received the Everence Journey Award for a life of service (presented by **Randy Nyce!**)
- The [Mosaic Institute of Leadership Formation](#) was announced, offering classes for clergy and lay leaders
- We affirmed the new conference's [Vision and Mission statements](#)
- We welcomed [eight new congregations into membership](#)

Conference Assembly continues to be a place to build relationships and see God at work in other settings. Thanks to our delegates and other agency representatives who brought a piece of Salford into that conversation.

Mennonite Church USA News

Mennonite Church USA has partnered with Mennonite Mission Network's Peace and Justice Support Network and Mennonite Central Committee in **Mennonites Against Militarism**, an initiative to provide new resources to reinvigorate our collective voice against the destructive powers of militarism. Read more: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/mennonites-against-militarism/>

For "Voices Together," Shannon Dycus, Bradley Kauffman, and Katie Graber look at the critical role of **intercultural competency in the development of the new hymnal** in their essay, "Voices Together #801, 'I'm gonna eat at the welcome table.'" <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/voices-together-welcome-table/>

"I hope that you can slow things down just enough to listen...to see the Friday night lights, smell the BBQ and worship in one of our churches," writes Felipe Hinojosa, associate professor and author, in his blog, "**Shake loose your misconceptions about borderland communities.**" <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/shake-loose/>

When a major league baseball player refused to "take a knee" on Opening Day because he was a Christian, Gulf States Mennonite Conference Moderator **Mike Clymer reflected on his own faith and motivation for kneeling.** Read his blog, "I kneel," at <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/i-kneel/>