

November 21, 2021

Sunday, November 21, 9:30 am Indoor Worship at Salford and on Facebook and YouTube Live,
Associate Pastor Beth Yoder will preach on Ephesians 1:15-23; *The Hope to which God Has Called You*

10:45 am Second Hour for all ages
Check with the Welcome Center for Second Hour Options

11:45 am Farewell Gathering for Beth Yoder in the parking lot with soup and bread around the fires

For Your Prayers List

- **Glenn & Elizabeth Frederick,**
Foulkeways
- **Ferne Alderfer,**
Dock Woods Community
- **Mennonite Mission Network**

Sunday, November 14
Offering
\$4,846
ACH Electronic Offering
\$1,965
Vanco Online Offering
\$1,237
Total Budget Offering \$8,048

Future Salford Events

- November 21 - Pastor Beth Yoder's

Farewell Note from pastor Beth Yoder, Friday, November 19th

Dear Salford family,

So many beloved faces and loving, true hearts surge into mind as I write these words. It has been a gift beyond what I can express to have served as one of your pastors these last nearly 11 years. In many ways it feels hard to leave my post here and step away from my place and path of offering accompaniment and leadership on your journey as a congregation. What an extraordinary privilege it has been.

These past few months - in fact the past two years - have been full of challenge and change, as well as deep satisfaction and joy, and I'm aware that I haven't had time in the midst of it all to fully take in what we have been through together, including all that transpired in the years before this tumultuous time. I look forward in this next chapter in my life to making space for continued reflection on the length and breadth of our shared journey, and while there are moments when I can't quite bear the thought of not being with you for the next stretch of the "road you will make by walking," I know that in the life of my family and in my own path of ministry, now is the time for me to say Farewell.

In keeping with the guiding principles of both MCUSA and our own Mosaic conference, Jerry and I will not be worshipping with you or participating in the life of the congregation for a significant block of time; generally, the suggestion is for at least a year of separation in that way, which allows for the two of us to truly step out of the place created by my pastoring role and also allows clear space for the newly forming next pastoral team to function effectively as your shepherds and leaders. Though I do not know who will be joining Dave and Maria to form that team, I know that you are in strong, capable hands with the two of them, and I am certain that just as God has provided in the past, so will God do so now. I am humbled to have had the opportunity to partner with such gifted pastor colleagues during these years: Dave, Maria, Dorcas, Ben, Maribeth, and Joe.

While this Sunday will be my final Sunday for serving in worship as one of your pastors, I will be in and out of the office finishing things up through November 30.

May God's love, which knows no limit in height or depth or breadth, bless you richly and strengthen you for the way that lies before you.

With much gratitude and deep affection,

Beth Yoder

Beth Yoder's Farewell Sunday at Salford, November 21, 2021

November 21 will be **Beth Yoder's** last Sunday in her pastoral role at Salford. On that day, we will celebrate her 11 years with us, say thank you and good-bye, and pray a blessing.

The schedule will include:

- Worship (9:30) with Beth preaching, words of testimony and gratitude, a litany of thanksgiving and release.

last Sunday at Salford and Retirement Celebration

- November 24 – Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service with Advent Lutheran Church at Salford

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

- Please join us after second hour outside in the grove to wish Beth well and warm up with a cup of soup and bread by the fire. Please bring your own chairs or blankets for seating, there will be a limited number available. Soup will be served in a cup for sipping (spoons will be available if desired.)
- During second hour, Beth will be available in the foyer for people to speak with her, especially those who may not be able to stay for the time of outdoor fellowship.

Feel free to bring your own lawn chairs and blankets. (A few chairs will be set up for older people.) In case of inclement weather, we will be under the carport for soup and bread.

Joint Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service with Advent Lutheran

Please mark your calendars for Salford's annual Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service! This year we will be joining again with our friends from Advent Lutheran to celebrate all we have to be thankful for in our congregations. The service will be held at Salford Mennonite Church at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 24th. We will be receiving a food offering for Keystone Opportunity Center and a money offering.

The food offering for Keystone Opportunity Center food pantry will help the 250 monthly clients who are food insecure. Keystone requests the following most needed items: **Tuna Fish, Chunky soups, Jelly, pancake mix and syrup, cereal, oatmeal and toilet paper.**

The money offering received will be divided between Salford and Advent Lutheran designated projects. Salford funds will go to **Mennonite Central Committee for food and water relief in Ethiopia**, where civil war and ethnic strife is disrupting food and water supplies for citizens.

This Week at Salford

Wednesday, November 24

7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship with Advent Lutheran (Sanctuary)

Saturday, November 27

10:00 am Greeting of Family of Lorraine Landis (Foyer)

11:00 am Funeral Service for Lorraine Landis (Sanctuary and live-streamed)

Sunday, November 28

9:30 am Salford Worship Indoors and Streamed on Facebook and YouTube Live

Preaching: Dave Greiser

10:45 am Second Hour for all Ages

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Janet Yoder**, who had a pacemaker installed on Wednesday, and is grateful to be recovering well in her apartment at SMH.
- For **Marina and Dave Alderfer**, as Dave recovers at home after surgery on Tuesday, for healing and patience, as he anticipates the challenge of four weeks of being housebound.
- For **those we know who are sick and recovering from Covid**, and for the many communities around the world still struggling for wellbeing and hope during this extended pandemic.
- And for **health care providers**, whose long commitment and perseverance keeps bringing comfort and healing to many, especially as we near the holidays.

- For **Marie Shisler**, whose sister Eva S Moyer, aged 98, died on Saturday, November 6. Her funeral was on Saturday November 13 at Blooming Glen Church. Marie and Eva were the final remaining children of Harvey & Bessie Souder. They had a loving friendship and visited daily at Souderton Homes.
- For **Pastor Beth and Jerry Yoder**, in the bittersweet good-byes, as Beth begins phase one of retirement, and as both of them take a leave from Salford for this next year -- with deep gratitude for Beth's pastoral ministry, which we recognize in Sunday's celebration, and for Jerry's many commitments to music, teaching, and friendships.
- For **Advent Lutheran and Salford congregations**, as we join for our Thanksgiving Eve service and in celebration of another season of gardening and sharing with the community.
- With all congregations in Mosaic Conference, for **17 missionaries, including children, who were kidnapped in Haiti over a month ago**. The missionaries are from an Anabaptist mission agency, Christian Aid Ministries, in Ohio. The agency specifically encourage [prayers](#) for endurance for the hostages, courage for the families of the hostages, wisdom for the government officials working on the release, and God's presence to the kidnappers.

Anniversary Blessings...

To **Linford & Rhoda Landis** who celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary on November 24th, 2021.

A Christmas concert in honor of Hiram Hershey (1926-2020) is planned for 3:00 on Saturday, Dec. 4 at Salford Mennonite Church. For the community to remember his life, Hiram wrote that he wanted a worship service with a hymn sing and a choir singing parts of Handel's Messiah. Rodney Derstine will lead a hymn sing and Ralph Alderfer will conduct portions of Part Two and Three of the Messiah. The singers are from Salford's choir and from the Franconia Lancaster Choral Singers which Hiram founded and conducted for many decades. The orchestra is being assembled by Justin Yoder. Come and invite your neighbors as we join together to celebrate the life of this remarkable musician and faithful Salford member. Vaccination required to attend in person.

Labyrinth prayer walk for Thanksgiving Week: Nov. 21-27

You are invited to walk the mowed grass labyrinth next to the cemetery any time this week and focus on Thanking the Earth. Available at the labyrinth is an opportunity to practice "laying hands on Mother Earth," guided by a Native American Christian bishop and other prayers of thanksgiving.

Dear Salford, On September 1 we experienced a major disruption to our lives when Hurricane Ida passed this way, dropping eight to ten inches of rain over several hours. The water rose up over the banks of the Branch Creek by our house, crept up through our yard, climbed several steps and onto our porch. We watched helplessly as the muddy water crossed the threshold into our kitchen, invading what was for the last 125 years, safe sanctuary. The water also pulsed up through the floor mounted heater vents in our living and dining rooms. It was at that point, 11:30 pm, we decided it was time to leave. We waded through knee deep water, drove our car into town and spent the night at Henner and Sokun's house. Our place on the landscape had suddenly become a lot more tenuous.

Upon returning the next morning, in the house, we observed the high water mark six inches up on the baseboard. The floor had a thick coating of mud. As the water had climbed in the basement, we had rolled up our rugs and elevated our furnishings onto tables or upstairs so they had made it through. The garage, however, was a different story. We had elevated everything off the floor in the usual manner and were prepared for a big flood. But this time it was different, twenty-five

inches above the past high water mark. Some of Henry's tool boxes were filled with water. Everything else had collapsed into a muddy mess on the floor.

Stunned and in shock, we began by taking inventory. No electricity, no running water, heating system kaput, wet cellulose insulation in all the walls and no phone service (on the land line). Should we stay -- build back and live with the possibility of long term damage (cupped floor boards, black mold) and the realization that this scenario could happen again next year -- or should we just walk away and start over on higher ground?

Our boys, Henner and Jake, remembering growing up here along the creek, wanted their children (Jacob, Selena, Timmy, Thalia and Elias) to have the same privilege they had. So we decided we'd stay a while longer at our house on Groff's Mill Road.

Now, ten weeks later, our lives have returned to a new normal. Our house has been restored. In no small measure it is thanks to Salford for ready-to-eat meals for a few weeks, physical volunteer labor, consultation with Salford contractors, the skilled labor of our two sons, visits by our pastors and others who prayed with us and for us, generous financial gifts handed to us while others gave through the special offering held for flood victims. We were also encouraged to apply and received help from FEMA.

We felt unworthy of all these gifts. It is easier to give than to receive. But then the Lord opened up our eyes and helped us realize that it isn't about us. It's about the Spirit of God at work restoring lives and building community.

We feel very blessed and validated having come through this trial . . . enabled by the strong and gentle love of our faith family. Sincerely, **Henry & Donna Derstine**

The pastoral team wants to thank our church board for the lovely take-out restaurant dinners each of our households received at our homes for Pastor Appreciation in October. These came as a great surprise and a welcome evening of great food for our families. Thank you Board, and thank you Salford!! **Beth, Dave, Dorcas, Maria, Brad**

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for November – MANNA ON MAIN STREET, Items needed to help fill their winter baskets are cans of: **French Fried Onions, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Pumpkin, Evaporated Milk, Low salt Corn, Cookie Mix, Mashed Potatoes.**

Manna on Main Street is committed to ending hunger in the North Penn region by providing food, fulfilling social service and education needs, and conducting community outreach. Through a food pantry and soup kitchen, emergency financial aid, counseling and referrals, and education opportunities, we serve those in need with the hope "that everyone might be fed."

Faith Formation Spotlight

Advent is just a week away! These weeks of anticipation are a gift to families, and an invitation to slow down and practice simple rituals together. Paper copies of Advent guides are available at Salford at the table in the foyer & can be downloaded here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal/resource/advent-at-home/>

A 25 day scripture-focused calendar that Brooke Martin helped create: <https://mosaicmennonites.org/2020/11/24/25-days-of-advent-family-devotional/>

Racial Justice Learning Group

The Racial Justice Learning Group will meet again this Sunday, Nov. 21 at 7-8:30pm. Shane Moes will be leading a time of reflection aimed at noticing the way in which we hold racism in our bodies. He will draw from Resmaa Menakem's book 'My Grandmother's Hands.' We hope to see you on Sunday, even if you've not joined this group before!

MEETING LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82526583885?pwd=dkxlbFFxMExRMW5oUUU2cWNsUEdQUT09>

Two other learning opportunities to share, specifically around indigenous people and history in this area:

- On Monday, 11/22 at 6pm hear from local Lenape leader Adam DePaul. [Register here](#) for the Zoom presentation on Lenape identity and culture.
- PBS will [premiere a new documentary](#) on Tues, Nov. 23 about the "children of Carlisle", about the indigenous children that died after they were removed from their lands and forced to attend a residential school very close by, 130 years ago. It should be available for viewing for several weeks.

News & Notes

Address Update:

Dave & Anita Greiser

883 Morwood Road, Harleysville, PA 19438

A "Thanksgiving At Home" resource is available for your household to use this coming week, to guide you in honoring the indigenous peoples who once lived on this land and in giving thanks for the goodness we enjoy. It has options for prayer, song, poetry, scripture, and conversation to use as-is or adapt. [Find it here.](#)

The winter edition of **Rejoice! Devotional** is now available at the welcome center.

Join the **Mennonite Heritage Center** on Saturday, November 27, 2:30 pm for the [program and book signing event](#) for the release of **John L Ruth's book, *This Very Ground, This Crooked Affair: A Mennonite Homestead on Lenape Land.*** This event will be held at Salford Mennonite Church.

David & Kathi Peters wish to thank Hank Landes, Mary Jane Hershey, and Steve Hackman for generously supporting their film ***Postcards from Babylon - The Evangelical Church in the Shadow of Empire.*** The film is now available on multiple streaming platforms, including Amazon. If you have seen the film and would be willing to write a review or rate it on Amazon, they'd be so grateful! Here's the link for all the streaming options, including Amazon. <https://globalstoryfilms.com/>

Please take a moment to review the **lost and found items and coats** from the coat closet on the table in the main foyer. We have accumulated many items over the past year and want to organize the coat closet. The items will be available for the next two weeks and then remaining items will be taken to the Thrift Store.

The Reopening task force met on Tuesday evening, 9/28/21. After reviewing current conditions and current guidance from the CDC, state and county, **we continue to recommend that all participants wear a mask indoors and outdoors when participating at Salford.** We are thankful for each person's willingness to care for others by getting vaccinated and wearing masks.

Mennonite Church USA News

Are you looking for a meaningful Christmas gift for friends or family? Give a gift of peace and inspiration with the **“Pause: Play, Breathe, Pray” card deck!** Developed by Mennonite Church USA Faith Formation leaders, each card has a different image on one side and a prayerful pause on the other. Learn more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/pause-play-breathe-pray>

Calling all pastors and faith formation leaders! Registration is now open for **Pastors & Leaders | Deep Faith 2022**, a joint conference of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) and Mennonite Church USA Faith Formation. Join us Feb. 21-24, 2022, either virtually or in person on the AMBS campus in Elkhart, Indiana, to explore the theme, “Formed in the Wilderness, Leading in Hope.” Learn more here: ambs.edu/pastorsandleaders.

Ruth Goring, Mennonite author of children’s books, wrote about how her faith community nurtured her writing and art for children. Read her blog, **“Picture books for the kin-dom of God,”** here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/kin-dom-of-god>.

In his blog, **“Seeing poverty up close around the world,”** Stanley Green, executive conference minister of Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference, recounts his experiences with poverty in Cambodia, South Africa and Argentina, where he saw people impoverished due to low wages, lack of education, gentrification and systemic oppression. Read about his experiences here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/seeing-poverty-up-close>

Learn, Pray, Join: Cost of Poverty: In his blog, **“Poverty and climate injustice,”** Doug Kaufman of the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions explains how climate injustice affects people experiencing poverty and communities of color disproportionately, which causes further economic and ecological problems. Read how churches can help people in these vulnerable communities here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/poverty-climate-injustice>

Beyond Salford

Penn Foundation presents **Grief is a Dancer** – a community-wide event presented in word, music, and dance – being held December 2 at 7:00 pm at LCBC Church, Harleysville. Join them for this powerful event with author Alisa Bair and dancers Gregg and Susan Hurley and learn how to acknowledge grief during this difficult time. Advanced registration required. See the COVID safety protocols in place and reserve your seat by November 24 at www.PennFoundation.org.

Support Mennonite Central Committee by shopping at **Darning Egg Gifts** in the **MCC Material Resource Center**. Their Christmas Open House will feature many handmade and repurposed gift items. Hours are December 2 & 3, 9:00 am to 8 pm; December 4, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; December 6 to 11, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Join us for **Dock Mennonite Academy’s** (EC to Grade 8 campus) annual Christmas Benefit Concert on Friday, December 3, 2021 at 7:00 PM at Franconia Mennonite Church. *The concert will feature our Kindergarten students reciting Luke 2, the Third Grade Choir, Middle School Choir, Middle School Orchestra, Handbells & our High School’s Chamber Choir!* The offering at the Christmas Benefit Concert will be matched dollar for dollar by several supportive families. *Our goal is to raise \$24,000. For more information, visit dock.org or call [215.723.1196](tel:215.723.1196).*

The **Mennonite Heritage Center** invites you to their **[Christmas Market](#)** open

house, which features fine crafts & art. Artisans will be showcasing their items for sale to ring in the holiday spirit to you and your family. Hours are Saturday, December 4, 10:00 am-4:00 pm, and Sunday, December 5, 12:00-4:00 pm.

Camp Men-O-Lan is hosting John Bryant for a Benefit Concert on December 9th at Zion Mennonite Church. The event starts at 6:00pm. Tickets are free, but a suggested donation of \$25.00 a person to support camp would be appreciated. This evening is for adults only and we have limited seating so register soon.

The November edition of **On the Level** is now available from **Mennonite Disaster Service**. In our current issue: MDS Canada Hay West program provides relief to farmers, the U.S. border reopens for volunteers coming from Canada, and you can learn more about our Annual Celebration in Sarasota, Florida in January. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/3CrHHtZ>