

Week of October 18, 2020

Sunday, October 18
10:00 a.m. Worship
on Facebook Live and
YouTube Live, Guest
Preacher John Ruth
will preach on Psalm
130 and Matt. 18:21-
35; *Forgiveness is*
Essential for
Community

For Your Prayers List

- **Kass Landis**,
Souderton
Mennonite Homes
- **Lorraine Landis**,
Souderton
Mennonite Homes
- **Salford Mennonite**
Child Care Center

Sunday, October 11
Offering
\$9,295
ACH Electronic
Offering
\$1,895
Vanco Online Offering
\$2,204
Total Budget Offering
\$13,394

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
[g](#)

A Note From the Church Office, October 16th

Dear Salford Family,

We are beyond weary of this season of many stressors, and yet it goes on. So much uncertainty and division rack our world, our church, our hearts. Our hope in God's promise for this world can easily become shaky. And so, we affirm our faith in God's presence with us and among us, always working to bring about good. We cling to the Rock: we cling to God, and to the good news that Christ is Lord of heaven and earth.

This week will bring a notice that may feel significant for some: the summary of the survey of convictions around LGBTQ+ welcome that was conducted in June will be arriving by mail to your homes this week. A board update on this is available in the newsletter. This summary is not changing anything about how we operate at Salford – the goal is to know ourselves more clearly as we look toward hiring the next lead pastor. We are aware, though, that such new awareness prompts feelings and responses in itself. We are here for you, as together we incorporate this new information into our understanding of who we are and seek to live faithfully as a community of Jesus-followers in this time.

In the midst of all the upheaval of our time, and the happenings of our church body, we are all so in need of grace, mercy, and kindness – to ourselves and to each other. And so we urge you to watch for signs of God's grace and the grace of others around you. Be open to the surprises it offers. Celebrate it when you see it. Offer it to others. It is through this grace that we are able to praise God, love one another, and join in God's mission of healing and hope for the world.

-Pastors Beth, Maria, and Dorcas

[Beth Yoder](tel:215-859-3617): 215-859-3617

[Maria Hosler Byler](tel:267-500-5679): 267-500-5679

[Dorcas Lehman](tel:717-330-2620): 717-330-2620

[Brad Alderfer](tel:215-272-6724), church administrator: 215-272-6724

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

Board Update

Since completion of the recent survey regarding welcoming at Salford, the church board has spent several meetings reviewing and compiling the data in order to summarize those results. That work was completed at our meeting on October 6, and a summary from that survey has been mailed to each household. As a reminder, this survey was done for the benefit of our lead pastor search, not for the purpose of making decisions or initiating changes. The board chose to print and mail the summary to ensure that each regularly participating household receives a copy, and to make sure the information is as easy to read as possible. You should look for that mailing to arrive shortly. If you do not receive your copy within the next 7-10 days, please contact the church office.

October 25 Option for Outdoor Worship

We are anticipating our likely final Outdoor Worship Service in the grove for the fall season (weather permitting) on **Sunday, October 25 at 10:00 a.m.** for all who are interested. This will be in addition to, not instead of, the usual pre-recorded livestreamed service, which will take place at the regular time with preservice music at 9:50 a.m., worship at 10:00 a.m. on Facebook Live and YouTube. Thanks to the excellent sound system provided by the AV Team, we will have options for sitting in the grass or on the parking lot. If uneven ground is a concern, please plan to join us and sit on the parking lot area.

The Outdoor Worship will be similar in content to that day's livestreamed service, though not all elements will be possible outdoors. In accordance with our best understandings of safety precautions, the outdoor service will involve distanced seating, all attenders and participants wearing masks, no group singing, and a reminder to maintain 6' distance when interacting with others before and after.

Those hoping to attend must RSVP ahead of time, be free of symptoms of COVID, and not have recently traveled to states with high rates of transmission. A more detailed checklist will be emailed before the service.

In order to attend: please RSVP by Thursday, October 22nd at noon by [emailing](#) or calling the church office at (215) 256-0778. This will help us prepare the space with clear indicators for distancing. You'll need to bring your own chairs and blankets - and masks! If there is poor weather, outdoor worship will be canceled. (We'll notify the congregation by email at 9:00 a.m. if outdoor worship will be canceled).

Garden Work-day and Harvest Celebration, Oct. 17, 9:30 a.m.

All are welcome to join our families for service in the Salford/Advent garden plus a celebration of fall ABUNDANCE AND JOY. There will be pumpkin painting, snacks and apple cider, salsa tasting, and more! [RSVP here.](#)

Mennonite Central Committee Centennial Celebration and Special Offering

Mennonite Central Committee invites you join **Celebration 2020: MCC at 100**, a livestreamed event commemorating a century of MCC's ministry on Saturday, Oct. 17, starting at 6:50 p.m. (EDT). The event will feature photos, videos and storytelling that highlight MCC's work over the years. Former MCC leader and pastor Leonard Dow of Philadelphia will inspire participants to walk boldly into the next century of MCC's ministry while talented musicians will lead in prayer and thanksgiving. Find more information about MCC's centennial and log in for the livestreamed event at mcc.org/celebration-2020.

In honor of this anniversary and the important work that MCC does as the hands and feet of Christ, **we invite you to participate in a special offering.** MCC has suggested contributions for responding to the Beirut port explosion, and to MCC for where needed most in honor of their 100th anniversary.

We invite you to mail in or use the online donation system to make an additional donation beyond your tithe for MCC on October 11 through October 25. Mark your offering envelope for "**MCC Centennial**", or if you submit a donation by the online offering system, please email Church Administrator Brad Alderfer and inform him that you want your donation to go to MCC. Donations to MCC will be divided between the Beirut port explosion response and where needed most. Here is additional information on the Beirut Explosion Response.

Mennonite Central Committee is responding to the need for food and other assistance in Beirut, Lebanon, following the massive explosion of ammonium nitrate

on Aug. 4 that destroyed the country's main port and silos filled with grain. Food was already in short supply in the country because of an existing economic and political crisis. Together, MCC and its program partners in Beirut will also address rehabilitation and clean-up needs arising from this disaster.

You can share God's love and compassion with some of the most vulnerable people in Beirut by providing food and other assistance.

Virtual Options for the Fall Second Hour Season

We are excited to make available virtual options for Adult Second Hour classes following worship throughout the fall. Even though we are not yet together in person on a Sunday morning, please consider joining one of these class options for study and conversation:

- **Emmaus Road** class has been meeting via Zoom each week following Zoom worship. Here is the link to join their conversation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/882750887> **Hank Landes** is organizing this class.
- **Foundations** class will be meeting at 9:00 a.m. each week prior to Zoom Worship. Here is the link to join their conversation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/332187357> **Rachelle Moes** is organizing this class.
- **Gospel Herald** class has been meeting via Zoom each week at 11:15 a.m. following Zoom worship. We have been pretty unstructured in our approach so it *would be easy* for anyone wanting to drop in. Here is the link to join their conversation: <https://zoom.us/j/97432640107?pwd=SDB1amlCWE9zSTVtQzJGR0lDYjlsdz09> **Jay Ruth** is organizing this class.
- **#Sundayschool** class will be meeting via zoom each week following Zoom Worship, starting **September 20th**. Here is the link to join their conversation <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82855727834> **Tori Jones Long** is organizing this class.

Please contact one of the class organizers if you would like to be added to the class mailing list for updates on conversation topics. Also feel free to "drop in" for a visit to any of these classes, without it being a commitment to continue long-term with the group. Since we don't have the before and after service foyer time, this is an alternative way to cross paths with people you may not have other opportunities to see. Please contact the Church office if you have any questions with this information, or how to join a class.

This Week at Salford

Monday, October 19

7:00 p.m. Junior Youth Group Gathering (at Salford)

Wednesday, October 21

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

Sunday, October 25

10:00 a.m. Salford Outdoor Worship in the Oak Grove

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

Preaching: Beth Yoder

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Janet Yoder** for peace of mind as she prepares for knee surgery on Tuesday, October 27, and as she anticipates the difficult work of rehabilitation therapy during recovery.
- For **the Marvin Anders family** in the journey of grief and love and

remembrance during these weeks following Grace's death.

- For **Sam and Sharon Godshall** for encouragement for both of them and for comfort and strength for Sam as he continues on hospice
- For **Carol and Ben Nase** as Carol remains hospitalized in limited isolation, unable to have visitors; Ben expresses his gratitude for the prayers of the church and the support of their family.
- For **Salford Mennonite Child Care Center Ministry Team and Administrators** with thankfulness that the center has been able to remain open since June and in prayer for continued health, safety, and growth for them all as they operate each day with integrity, hope and daily uncertainty.
- For **MCUSA and those in leadership, including moderator Joy Sutter**, as the Constituency Leaders Council meets this weekend - let us pray for careful listening, clear communication and clarity for the future of our church. And for **Joy** we pray a calm, non-anxious presence regardless of what happens, and the ability to keep faith in the church and all of its people.

This week all congregations in Mosaic Conference are praying for **Luz y Vida Iglesia Menonita** in Orlando, FL. Please join others in the conference as we pray for the following:

- That the church will achieve its goal of providing 100 pairs of glasses to 100 students.
- That the church will be able to purchase its own building to continue to provide many services to the community.
- The Mosaic Conference Board is proposing Luz y Vida Iglesia Menonita join Mosaic Conference at this fall's conference assembly. Please pray for this process and transition.

Birthday Blessings...

To **Earl Frankenfield**, who celebrates his 97th birthday on October 21st.

Dear Salford family - we want to express our appreciation for the prayers, cards, meals, and words of encouragement and concern many of you have offered to us in Jerry's recent hospitalization and in his ongoing recovery. We are incredibly fortunate to be surrounded by such a caring community. Jerry continues to heal and regain his strength and will be involved in some additional tests to try to determine the cause of the blockage in his artery. Thank you again! - **Jerry and Beth Yoder**
Salford Mutual Aid Response Team: We are now well into the COVID-19 pandemic and it seems likely that the impact to health, lost work, wages and business opportunities will continue for some months. The Salford Mutual Aid Response Team continues to work to proactively identify and assist those who may need help related to the pandemic. If you are experiencing need, know others who are, or have concerns of any type, we encourage you to reach out to any member of the Salford Mutual Aid Response Team:

Marlene Frankenfield – (215) 527-2748, marlenefrankenfield@gmail.com

Mark Heise – (484) 687-0840, markheise5@gmail.com

Cindy Moyer – (267) 374-3298, moyerchick22@yahoo.com

Kendra Rittenhouse – (215) 622-0959, kgrhouse@gmail.com

Dear Salford Friends, For many years our dear sister **Michelle McCoach** has been suffering with cutaneous T-cell Lymphoma (CTCL) Sezory syndrom. This summer she celebrated her three year anniversary of her second transplant. Now her blood and bones are cancer free and her residual skin cancer is manageable.

However, to maintain a normal quality of life she takes many medications. These expenses are not covered by insurance, grants or government programs. Currently

her past due balance at the University of Pennsylvania Pharmacy is formidable.

Michelle's current annual cost for medications is approximately \$6,500. To ease this burden I am asking 12 of you, my Salford sisters and brothers, to join me in **pledging an ANNUAL \$500 donation to Salford's McCoach fund.**

I am asking for pledges. You will make donations in the usual way you make your contributions to the Salford Mennonite Church. Each time you contribute to Michelle's medication costs, you will mark that donation as being for the McCoach fund.

If you can partner with me and eleven others to ease Michelle and Bill's financial hardship or if you have questions, e-mail (mjhershey@aol.com), text (610-209-6568) or message me on Facebook.

Oct. 15 update: Thankful for the 9 from our faith community who have pledged to help with Michelle's medication costs. Looking for 4 more members of the McCoach team.

Mary Jane Lederach Hershey

Faith Formation Spotlight

All ages are invited to send your joyful pictures to Karen at bkbergey@gmail.com. These will be used in a slideshow during online church and posted to the Salford Facebook page so be sure you are ok with that. The last day to send photos is **Sunday, October 18**. Can't wait to see them!!

Kids' Club is reuniting! All 1st-5th graders are welcome to join one (or both) of these one-time zoom gatherings led by Melissa Heise:

Sunday, October 25 1-2pm: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87373099591>

Sunday, October 25 7-8pm: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88330205294>

If you haven't been receiving Kids' Club-related communications and would like to, contact mheise@eastern.edu.

The 4th grade Sunday school class is holding a gathering on Sunday, November 1st 7-8pm. Tune in for a time to reconnect and share with your class and teacher Melissa Heise. All 4th graders are welcome to join here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87605846051>

Beatitudes Virtual Sunday School: Week 7 "Blessed are the merciful" has been posted for your family to watch together, along with activities you can use throughout the week.

Families with children age 2-10 should've received in the mail another packet of materials for Weeks 7-12; please contact Jenn if you do not. **Sunday School webpage:** salfordmc.org/sunday-school-for-families

Are you interesting in joining with another Salford family or two, perhaps with kids of similar ages, to create a pod where your kids can play safely and parents can connect? Or would you be interested in meeting another family for a distanced gathering once or more, as we seek to stay connected to one another while living very differently than we used to? Reach out to Pastor Maria with any such interest or curiosity.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for October – Hot Cereal and Gluten Free Products for Keystone Opportunity Center.

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.

Racial Justice Spotlight

Updates on Salford justice initiatives as well as resources to help center a commitment to antiracism as individuals and as a congregation:

The next meeting of the **Racial Justice Learning Group** takes place **this Sun., Oct 18** 7-8:30p.m. [Here is the Zoom link](#). (Password is Context)

Sheldon will continue a discussion on Tobin Miller Shearer's article [White Mennonite Static](#). Please join us, even if you aren't able to read the article ahead of time.

We recognize that the land where we worship belongs to God, as does all of creation. We also acknowledge that the Lenape peoples lived here before settlers of European descent claimed ownership of it and displaced those for whom this land was home. Learn more about the [Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania](#), and consider [giving financially](#) to support their Cultural Center in Easton, which was recently damaged by water. Learn more about Anabaptist efforts to [Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery](#).

News & Notes

On November 8th 7-8:30 pm Salford will host a meeting for youth and parents about everything **College Finances** related: financial aid, student loans, etc. **Randy Nyce** will be coordinating this through his role with Everence, bringing in other guests.

We anticipate that the new **Voices Together** hymnals will start to ship in early November. 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.

The Salford worship services are being live-streamed on both **Facebook Live** and **YouTube** at the same time. To find the YouTube stream at the appropriate time: go to youtube.com, search and select "Salford Mennonite Church," and find the video with a red "live" tag on the corner. This Sunday the live-stream will begin at 9:50 pre-service and 10:00 service.

Mennonite Church USA News

In his blog, "**Sharing our stories at Mennonite conventions**," Curt Weaver, pastor of children and youth at Portland (Oregon) Mennonite Church, compares the Mennonite convention to a family reunion, where deeper, intergenerational and faith formative conversations happen. Read more at <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/mennocon-stories>

What does radical hospitality mean? Pastor Ulises Arenas of Iglesia Buenas Nuevas in San Juan, Texas, demonstrates the challenges immigrants face through three stories from his own South Texas community and asks us to dig deeper (más allá) to find understanding and answers. Read his blog, "**Think 'más allá' about the immigrants in your midst**," here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/mas-alla>

Richard R. Aguirre, an administrator at Goshen College, talks about the disproportionate **impact of COVID-19 on Latinos** and challenges Mennonites to do more to help immigrants and refugees stay healthy and safe. Read his blog, "Like

Good Samaritans, we must help immigrants through COVID-19,” here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/immigrants-covid-19>

Please pray for the congregations in the **Atlantic Coast Mennonite Conference**, who will be gathering via video conference for their annual assembly on Oct. 24-25.

Beyond Salford

Join the Pennsylvania Relief Sale for a live online quilt auction to support MCC! Auction Date: October 24, 10 a.m.* Early Bidding Begins: October 15 [Visit the online quilt auction website](#) to learn how to register, browse, bid and buy. You do not need to register to view the quilt catalog. Contact: info@pareliefsale.org or 717-208-4152.

Join **MEDA** for 2 days of inspiration, information and networking online, November 6 & 7. MEDA Convention is an intersection of faith and business where you can explore what it means to be faithful in daily work and learn about MEDA's business solutions to poverty. Go to www.medaconvention.org for more information.

Lend a hand in the **MCC Material Resource Center** warehouse! Each first and third Wednesday of the month from 5:30 to 8:30 pm they're in need of a few volunteers to help out. Call 267-203-8074 to let them know you're coming.

Join Bible teacher Joe Sawatzky on [Mission Network's Facebook](#) on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. (EST) for "Missional Meditations." A church relations representative, Sawatzky will help you gain insight for your sermons or daily life and inspire a missional imagination in your congregation!