

August 13, 2023

Sunday, August 13, 10:00 am Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Associate Pastor Maria Hosler Byler will preach on Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Philippians 4:4-9; *If Something Good Is Happening Here...*

No Second Hour for Children or Adults on Summer Schedule

Emmaus Road Sermon Discussion Class will be meeting following worship in the Church Library, All are welcome!

August 6, 2023

Offering
\$8,639
ACH Electronic
Offering
\$7,260
Vanco Online Offering
\$3,104
Total Budget Offering \$19,003
Children's Offering \$48

Future Salford Events

August 12 – Community Garage Sale at Salford, 9:00 am

August 13 - Bring your bagged lunch; Children's games and Ultimate Frisbee after Worship

August 20 – Child Blessing

August 27 – Welcoming New

Pastor Andrew's Ongoing Education

Salford family, over the next month I have two continuing education opportunities I am participating in that I want to make you aware of. On August 13, I am traveling to Elkhart, Indiana, where I will begin a Master of Divinity program at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. I am enrolled in AMBS's MDiv Connect program which means I will travel to Elkhart one week a year for in-person classes and continue my work online for the remainder of the year. Salford has been quite generous and is paying my tuition at AMBS. I wanted to thank you all for aiding me in my formation as a pastor and I look forward to seeing how my ongoing education will help me better serve you all.

Additionally, this fall I am enrolled in Mosaic Institute's Building Mosaic Relationships class (an intercultural priority course), one of the four required courses for credentialed leaders in Mosaic Mennonite Conference. In an effort to better build relationships across intercultural and geographic boundaries, I will travel with my classmates to Tampa, FL, from September 8-10 for the introductory portion of our class. I look forward to forming meaningful relationships with my fellow leaders and humbly walking with them as we better acquaint ourselves with the diverse voices, perspectives, and gifts, which compose our Mosaic community.

Your praise and support are always appreciated! **Pastor Andrew Zetts.**

Pastor Maria Hosler Byler's Last Sermon

This Sunday will be **Pastor Maria Hosler Byler's** last sermon at Salford. We will celebrate further with Maria & Phil and family on their last Sunday with us on September 10th. More information on the September 10th celebration to follow.

Introducing the Welcoming Path Team

A new ministry team is beginning to work on the next steps of living into welcome at Salford. We will be journeying with you to create a safe and welcoming space for LGBTQ+ people that celebrates the perspective they bring on life, love and faith, as well as the diversity of gifts they bring to our community, so that our hearts may be transformed as we grow in Christ's love together.

We are looking at questions such as: How can we make our church the welcoming community we really want it to be? What attitudes and practices do we need to embody? How can we make our church building and grounds a place that says welcome to all? What learning do we still need as a congregation in order to live out this vision?

The team is looking at Salford's strengths, as well as best practices from welcoming churches, non-profits, and members of the LGBTQ+ community. If you have input to offer the team, please contact one of us. And, please be in prayer for this important work.

The Welcoming Path Team: **Phil Alderfer** (he/him), **Aaron Bishop** (he/him), **Vince Causerano** (he/him), **Liza Heavener** (she/her), **Tori Jones Long** (she/her),

Members

August 27 - Bring your bagged lunch; Children's games and Ultimate Frisbee after Worship

September 10 – Maria Hosler Byler & Family Last Sunday at Salford, with Potluck Fellowship Luncheon after Second Hour

September 10 – Return to Regular Schedule: 9:30 am Worship, 10:30 am Second Hour

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

Kyle Longacre (he/him), and **Mandy Martin** (she/her, chair)

This Week at Salford

Monday, August 14

7:00 pm Fellowship Time At Souderton Mennonite Homes (Friendship Room)

7:00 pm Child Care Ministry Team Meeting (Vernon & Linda Martin's Home)

Tuesday, August 15

7:00 pm Renewable Energy Task Force meeting (Library)

Sunday, August 20

10:00 am Salford Worship Indoors and Streamed on YouTube Live

Preaching: Dave Greiser

No Second Hour on Summer Schedule

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Faith Detweiler** who is having pain and mobility issues in her arms. Pray that physical therapy helps her improve.
- For **John Detweiler** who is continuing chemotherapy treatment for pancreatic cancer.
- For **Frank Moran** as he convalesces at home following recent surgery.
- For **Lester Rittenhouse, Jim's dad**, who has been moved to Healthcare at the Souderton Home. He is experiencing apnea. Pray for rest for Lester and peace for the whole family.
- For **Nelson Martin, Luke's dad** who is still in the hospital. Pray that he can breathe well, get his oxygen levels up and have his blood sugar regulated.
- This summer, Mosaic Conference is supporting 7 young adults in our **Ambassadors summer internship program**. This week, all Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for the following 2 Ambassador participants and the CRM and congregation they are serving: **Josiah Marrero** at Crossroads Community Center (Philadelphia, PA), **Timothy Christian** at International Worship Church (San Gabriel, CA). Pray that the interns will grow in faith, leadership, and their love of Jesus as they serve and learn.

Birthday Blessings...

To **Marie Shisler**, who turns 96 on August 15th.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for August - School Kits for Mennonite Central Committee.

Contents (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
- 2 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small (**metal only**) pencil sharpener (one or two holes). If you have trouble finding metal sharpeners, leave them out and MCC will provide them.

We have some drawstring bags available on the collection of the month table by the infant nursery. You may also donate your kits in plastic shopping bags if the

drawstring bags are not available.

MCC advises that you can donate separate items for school kits (not complete kits).

If you wish to take advantage of the sales that local stores are offering, MCC can use these items to complete kits at the Material Resource Center.

If you prefer to donate money toward this project, MCC MRC of Harleysville will purchase and assemble kits on your behalf. Please make checks payable to "Salford Mennonite Church" and mark your donation for "MCC school kits"

Place your donations on the donation of the month table by the nursery in the main foyer. **Please help us reach our goal of collecting 300 kits!**

August 10, 2023 Salford/Advent Garden Update:

Greetings fellow gardeners, This past week we had some exciting events in the garden. Last Saturday we had a GARDEN BABY SHOWER. Two of our volunteers Margret Boyer and Heather Dagenais were showered with food, fun and gifts from the other volunteers. Margaret had her baby earlier in July (Ezra) Heather is due later in August. Blessings to both families. We also harvested our first veggies from our "Three Sisters Garden." Patty pan squash and Crooked neck yellow squash were picked! GREAT! The big storm we had earlier this week knocked over the corn stalks. We shall see if they can still produce ears. We also planted turnips, Red Beets and 2 more rows of string beans. All are up and sprouted, looking to harvest around the middle of September. Tomatoes are now in full swing as I harvested over 700 lbs. so far this week. String beans have made a comeback. The old plants are flowering up and new beans are ready for harvest. Lima beans are at their peak and we should harvest a good amount this year. Cucumbers are done for now. I did plant some new plants and a few seeds in open spots around the garden. We shall see if they take hold. If they do we should have more cucumbers before frost. The cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower we planted earlier in the month have taken hold and after a scary week (Not sure they would make it) they seem to have settled in and have even grown a few inches. The deer are having a really fun time in the garden. They seem to enjoy running up and down the rows kicking up the straw, knocking over our tomato plants and feasting on our Sweet Potato leaves. At least they fertilize the garden a little before they go home and sleep for the day.

Thank you to everyone who helps out in the garden. The warmer weather can be a challenge but we always seem to find a way to get the work done. Steve, 215-872-6616, rsblank@verizon.net

Family Faith Formation Spotlight

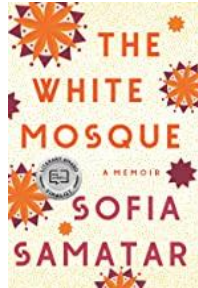
Children's Ministry Inclusion Aides Needed! The newly formed Accessibility Ministry Team has been connecting with families of children who are neurodivergent and an outcome of those conversations has been to identify a need for aides who would be willing to provide helper support in spaces like Sunday School and Kids' Club with a particular attention to kids who are neurodivergent. Training will be offered to aides to provide support to these creative and energetic kids! Are you curious to learn more about how you might be a part of this new ministry? Contact Jenn Svetlik at 267-380-0273 or jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com by Aug. 13.

Lunchbox Blessings: If you'd like 30 notes (affirmations, jokes, and blessings) to include in your kid's lunchbox this year, let Jenn know! She'll put a copy in your mailbox.

Church Library Spotlight

The church library has purchased many new books in recent weeks. Stop by and speak with a librarian to see what's new, or review the library catalogue on the Salford church website <https://smck-ind.kari.opalsinfo.net/bin/home>

The White Mosque By: Sofia Samatar



In the late nineteenth century, a group of German-speaking Mennonites traveled from Russia into Central Asia, where their charismatic leader predicted Christ would return.

Over a century later, Sofia Samatar joins a tour following their path, fascinated not by the hardships of their journey, but by its aftermath: the establishment of a small Christian village in the Muslim Khanate of Khiva. Named Ak Metchet, "The White Mosque," after the Mennonites' whitewashed church, the village lasted for fifty years.

In pursuit of this curious history, Samatar discovers a variety of characters whose lives intersect around the ancient Silk Road, from a fifteenth-century astronomer-king, to an intrepid Swiss woman traveler of the 1930s, to the first Uzbek photographer, and explores such topics as Central Asian cinema, Mennonite martyrs, and Samatar's own complex upbringing as the daughter of a Swiss-Mennonite and a Somali-Muslim, raised as a Mennonite of color in America.

A secular pilgrimage to a lost village and a near-forgotten history, *The White Mosque* traces the porous and ever-expanding borders of identity, asking: How do we enter the stories of others? And how, out of the tissue of life, with its weird incidents, buried archives, and startling connections, does a person construct a self? DONATED

Sparrow's Prayer By: Roger Hutchison



Sparrow wakes each morning, ready to sing a prayer of thanksgiving. But not today. Today his words get tangled and knotted in his beak like old yarn and straw. He feels sad and gray, and he's not sure why. So Sparrow decides to ask his friends Turtle, Mousie, and Buck for advice on how to pray. Each friend shows Sparrow a different way to pray without words, through generosity, art, and movement. As the day ends, Sparrow meditates on a rose aglow in the evening light and has an epiphany: Every living thing does what God created them to do. Each life is, itself, a prayer of thanksgiving. Often, the most powerful prayers do not include words. Lyrical and unique, *Sparrow's Prayer* is a tale about an unexpected and life-changing encounter with the holy. DONATED

Salford News & Notes

Friends at Souderton Mennonite Home:.. Please join us for the monthly gathering on **Monday August 14th from 7-8 in the Friendship Room**. Pastor Maria will be joining us this time! Let Karen know if you have questions. Hope to see you there!

Come out and join us for the **Community Yard Sale** on Saturday, August 12th from 9am-1pm in the church parking lot.