



December 31, 2023

**Sunday, December 31, 10:00 am Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live,** Lead Pastor Dave Greiser will preach on Luke 2:22-40; *Seers of the Messiah*

**No Second Hour on New Years Eve Morning**

**December 24, 2023**

Offering  
\$30,950  
ACH            Electronic  
Offering  
\$1,980  
Vanco Online Offering  
\$3,678  
**Total Budget Offering**  
**\$36,608**  
**Children's Offering**  
**\$22**  
**Christmas            Eve**  
**Offering**  
**\$7,111**  
**Pavilion            Project**  
**Offering**  
**\$5,000**

**Future Salford Events**

**January 10** – Faith Formation Night

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](mailto:alderferb@salfordmc.org)

## 12/29/23 Finance Update for Salford Mennonite Church

For the remainder of 2023, we will present a weekly update of our financial situation. We project actual 2023 budget expenses to be approximately **\$857,000**. We are also hopeful that we can fully fund our below the line expenses for our larger church agencies and Mosaic Conference of \$21,844.

- We have received **\$830,000** in offering through 3:00 pm on Friday, December 29th, with 2023 projected actual expenses of **\$857,000**.
- We will need approximately **\$27,000** in offering for the rest of December to cover our actual expenses.
- The Sunday, 12/31/23 offering will be included in the 2023 income total.

## Capital Project Updates

At the fall congregational business meeting, the congregation approved proceeding with a solar panel installation project at Salford for producing renewable electricity and for architectural and site planning work for a pavilion project. In early December we signed the contract for solar panel installation with PowerStream LLC and paid a \$5,000 down payment for the start of permitting and final engineering for the project. The Interconnection Application for PECO has been prepared and submitted. Now we wait to see what response PECO provides on viability and size of the project. Next week we are scheduled to remove our kitchen equipment run on propane and the propane tank and replace them with electric kitchen appliances. We have also engaged Warren Taylor, Architect to develop a first draft of architectural plans for the Pavilion team to review. We will update on both projects as next steps are known.

## This Week at Salford

**Monday, January 1**

Church and Child Care Offices closed for the New Years Day Holiday

**Wednesday, January 3**

8:30 am Sewing Circle (Gathering Room)

**Sunday, January 7**

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

Preaching: Dave Greiser

10:30 am Second Hour for All Ages

## Our Church Family

**Prayer Concerns**

- For **Joan King** who will have thyroid surgery at University of Pennsylvania hospital on January 2nd. Pray for a quick recovery.

**Your Prayers Requested...**

Your continued prayers are requested for **Rose Martin, Rod, Jennifer, Matt & Ryan Martin, Lisa, Caleb & Brandon Stoltzfus, Luke & Mandy Martin, Joe &**

**Angela Hackman** and the entire Martin family. Glenn Martin, age 81, passed away Wednesday evening, December 20<sup>th</sup>, surrounded by his family.

***Memorial Service Information for Glenn Martin:***

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at Salford Mennonite Church, where the family will receive friends from 9:30 - 11:00 am. Inurnment will follow at the Salford Mennonite Church Columbarium.

The memorial service will also be livestreamed on the [Salford Mennonite Church YouTube Live channel](#).

You may view Glenn's [obituary here](#).

***Your Prayers Requested...***

Your continued prayers are requested for the **family of Ada Swartley**. Ada Swartley, age 94, passed away early Wednesday morning, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at Souderton Mennonite Homes.

***Memorial Service Information for Ada Swartley:***

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 20, 2024. at 1:00 pm at Souderton Mennonite Home, 207 West Summit Street, Souderton, Pennsylvania 18964. Visitation with the family will be held from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Inurnment will take place at Salford Mennonite Cemetery.

Live streaming of the service will be available online at <https://youtube.com/live/H8zSquFOCEM?feature=share>

You may view Ada's [obituary here](#).

**Service & Mission**

**Donation of the Month for December – Mennonite Central Committee Prisoner Care Kits**

We are collecting supplies for care packages for **three more weeks**. Help us hit our goal of collecting enough materials to pack 125 care packages. We welcome material donations and financial contributions (\$20 is all it takes to purchase a single care package). See below for the items we are collecting and the amount that have already been collected.

Thank you!

***Men's Prisoner Care Kit Items***

White underwear (briefs)\*: **18**  
 Bottles of lotion (maximum 3 oz.): **23**  
 Bars of soap (minimum 4 oz.): **31**  
 Deodorant (minimum 2.25 oz.): **17**  
 Pairs of white crew socks\*: **15**  
 White crewneck undershirts\*: **18**

\*Note: Clothing items are accepted in three sizes: **men's medium, large and extra-large**. Please choose one of these sizes and purchase underwear, socks and undershirts in the same size.

***Women's Prisoner Care Kit Items***

White basic underwear (briefs)\*: **24**  
 Bottles of lotion (maximum 3 oz.)  
 Bars of soap (minimum 4 oz.): **5**  
 Deodorant (minimum 2.25 oz.): **4**  
 Pairs of white crew socks\*: **0**  
 White crewneck undershirts (women's or men's style acceptable)\*: **0**  
 Package of sanitary pads (minimum count of 8 thin pads): **3**

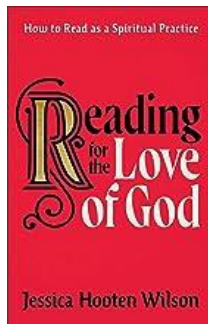
\*Note: Clothing items are accepted in three sizes: **women's small, medium, and large**. Please choose one of these sizes and purchase underwear, socks and undershirts in the same size.

Tubes of toothpaste (minimum 6 oz.): **26**

## 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>

### Reading for the Love Of God: How to Read as Spiritual Practice By: Jessica Hooten Wilson



What if we viewed reading as not just a personal hobby or a pleasurable indulgence but a spiritual practice that deepens our faith?

In *Reading for the Love of God*, award-winning author Jessica Hooten Wilson does just that--and then shows readers how to reap the spiritual benefits of reading. She argues that the simple act of reading can help us learn to pray well, love our neighbor, be contemplative, practice humility, and disentangle ourselves from contemporary idols.

Accessible and engaging, this guide outlines several ways Christian thinkers--including Augustine, Julian of Norwich, Frederick Douglass, and Dorothy L. Sayers--approached the act of reading. It also includes useful special features such as suggested reading lists, guided practices to approaching texts, and tips for meditating on specific texts or Bible passages. By learning to read for the love of God, readers will discover not only a renewed love of reading but also a new, vital spiritual practice to deepen their walk with God.

### Ladies of the Lake By: Cathy Golke



When she is forced to leave her beloved Prince Edward Island to attend Lakeside Ladies Academy after the death of her parents, the last thing Adelaide Rose MacNeill expects to find is three kindred spirits. The Ladies of the Lake, as the four girls call themselves, quickly bond like sisters, vowing that wherever life takes them, they will always be there for each other. But that is *before*: Before love and jealousy come between Adelaide and Dorothy, the closest of the friends. Before the dawn of World War I upends their world and casts baseless suspicion onto the German American man they both love. Before a terrible explosion in Halifax Harbor rips the sisterhood irrevocably apart.

Seventeen years later, Rosaline Murray receives an unsuspecting telephone call from Dorothy, now headmistress of Lakeside, inviting her to attend the graduation of a new generation of girls, including Rosalines beloved daughter. With that call, Rosaline is drawn into a past she is determined to put behind her. To memories of a man she once loved . . . of a sisterhood she abandoned . . . and of the day she stopped being Adelaide MacNeill.

## News & Notes

Salford Friends - we will have our monthly gathering at Souderton Mennonite Homes on **Monday, January 8 from 7-8 in the Friendship Room**. Please join us to kick off the New Year with friends and song. Questions? Call Karen.

The date has been set! The **Banned Book Club** will have its first meeting on Wednesday, January 17, at 6:30 in the library. We will be talking about the book "**Fahrenheit 451**" by Ray Bradbury. Everyone is welcome to join us as long as you are willing to read the book. Text/email/message Julie Wimmer if you are planning on participating.

## **Beyond Salford**

Join the Mennonite Heritage Center (565 Yoder Rd., Harleysville) for a rousing evening of singing at our **Winter Hymn Sing**, January 25, 2024, from 7:00-8:30 p.m.! We'll gather in the Rosenberger Meetinghouse Room and sing together from the red Mennonite Hymnal (1969).

The Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will sponsor the **January Tuesday at Noon Organ Recitals** at Zion Mennonite Church, (149 E Cherry Ln, Souderton PA). The following talented organists are scheduled to perform featuring Zion's Fisk Organ:

- **January 9** – Vincent M. Ryan (Music Director at Advent Lutheran Church – with Melissa Freilich, flute)
- **January 16** – Aaron Patterson (Graduate of Curtis Institute of Music and presently a student at The Juilliard School)
- **January 23** – Parker Kitterman (Music Director at Christ Church, Philadelphia, with a recent Fisk Organ installation)
- **January 30** – Mark Bani (Graduate of Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School)

These free recitals are presented at a different church each month from October through May. For more information call Jon Leight at 215.368.2884