



February 11, 2024

Sunday, February 11, 9:30 am Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live. Associate Pastor Andrew Zetts will preach on Mark 9:2-9; *Who do you say that I am?*

10:30 am Second Hour for all ages

The Accessibility Ministry Team will be leading the "My Body is Not a Prayer Request" Second Hour Elective in the Fellowship hall.

The Contemplative Practices Elective Second Hour Class is meeting in Room #206, led by Karen Bergey. This week will feature *Walking Prayer*. Doors will close 10 minutes after class starts, please be prompt.

Emmaus Road Sermon Discussion Class will be meeting following worship in the Church Library. Interested in talking about the sermon? The Emmaus Road group welcomes all.

February 4, 2024

Offering
\$7,172
ACH
Offering
\$7,445

Electronic

Ash Wednesday Service

Please join us in the sanctuary on **Wednesday evening, February 14th**, for a community dinner and a brief contemplative service to observe the beginning of the Lenten season. **The meal will begin at 5:30 P.M. and the service will begin at 6:30 P.M.**

Lent is a time to reflect, seek the wisdom and guidance of the Lord in the quiet darkness of the end of wintertime, and to prepare our hearts for the Easter season. Join us for the service only or stay if you like for several contemplative activities afterward. The indoor labyrinth, guided prayer, and fireside meditation will be available as well as the usual kids' club meeting for those in grades 1-5. Junior and Senior Youth will join for the Lent service and contemplative practices.

If you'd like to take part in the entire evening, including the meal which begins at 5:30, please RSVP to Pastor Andrew by **Feb. 10th** at zetsa@salfordmc.org

- **Please Note:** the indoor Prayer Labyrinth will remain in the upstairs Gathering Room for your use from Ash Wednesday night through Wednesday, Feb 21st. Feel free to stop in anytime the church is open for a quiet visit to the Labyrinth.

"My Body Is Not a Prayer Request": Four Week Second Hour Elective

From Sunday, Feb. 11 to March 3, join Laura Alderfer and the Accessibility Ministry Team for a four-week Second Hour elective which will highlight parts of this powerful, humorous book which combines compelling storytelling, bible exegesis, and practical application. Kenny exposes unintentional ableism and casts a new vision for Christian communities to engage disability justice. The book [can be purchased here](#) or [on Audible](#), but it is not required reading to participate in the class. This class will be located in the Fellowship Hall, or on **Zoom: [Zoom Link](#)**

Passcode: 911123

Class outline:

Week 1: What is "ableism"? An overview of the book and discussion of what we hope to learn in this class.

Week 2: Curing vs. Healing: Exploring some models of thinking around disability

Week 3: A Disabled God? Examining our views of God and Scripture

Week 4: Disability "mosquitoes" and expired chocolate milk: How our language affects those with disabilities. Sharing our own stories and experiences

2024 Mennonite Youth Fellowship Auction

This year's **Mennonite Youth Fellowship Auction** will take place on **March 23rd**. If you are interested in making a donation to the auction, please [click this link](#) to fill out a form that will indicate what you intend to donate. If you prefer to fill out a paper form, there are forms available at the welcome center in the church lobby. If

Vanco Online Offering
\$4,332
Total Budget Offering
\$18,949
Children's Offering
\$39

Future Salford Events

February 14 – Ash
Wednesday Service
and Faith Formation
Night

February 25 – Salford
Advent Garden
Fundraiser Luncheon

March 3 – Monthly
Communion Service

March 10 – Families
with Children and
Youth Potluck

March 16 – Women's
Event Dinner Yahtzee,
Meeting at 4:30 pm at
Salford

March 23 – Youth
Auction and Fundraiser
meal.

April 7 - Monthly
Communion Service

April 21 – Brooke
Martin Service of
Ordination

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

you choose to fill out a paper form, please return it to the church office. Regardless of format, please submit your form by **February 26th**. Thank you for your support!

If you have any questions you can contact Pastor Andrew at zetsa@salfordmc.org or 215-859-3446.

2024 Table Fellowship Group Sign Ups

This spring we are forming table fellowship groups. Being “at the table” is a powerful way to meet God and each other. Around a table we share food and conversation, we can make simple time for praying together and encouraging and serving each other. Around a table we are able to *connect* more deeply with God and each other, *grow* in our relationships and in our faith, and *serve* together in basic ways. We are encouraging as many people as possible to participate and Come to the Table. The hope is for these groups to meet 3 times between March and June. These groups are a great way to stay connected to the Salford community during a busy season of life.

While we know some previous table fellowships are still meeting, our goal is to form new groups for a season as we embrace new members of the congregation and others who have started attending Salford since our last congregation-wide table fellowship groups met. You can sign up by filling out a bulletin insert and returning it to the church office, or you can complete an online form by clicking [here](#). ***Make sure to complete either option no later than February 19, 2024.***

Contact Pastor Andrew if you have any questions.

Finance Update for Salford Mennonite Church

For 2024, we will present a monthly update of our financial situation.

- We will need an average of **\$16,200** in weekly offering from January through November and an average of **\$31,000** in weekly offering in December to cover our budgeted expenses. Later in the year we can adjust our income need if expense budget savings or overages are recognized.
- **Average weekly offering needed for January through November: \$16,200**
- **Average weekly offering received so far for January through November (4 weeks): \$15,783**

This Week at Salford

Monday, February 12

7:00 pm Fellowship Time at Souderton Mennonite Homes, All Welcome (Friendship Room)

7:00 pm Childcare Ministry Team Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, February 14

5:30 pm Community Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)

Sunday, February 18

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

Preaching: Karen Bergey

10:30 am Second Hour for All Ages

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Beth Styer** who is recovering at home from shoulder surgery on Wednesday. She is grateful for talented medical people and asks for prayer

for a speedy recovery!

- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray this week for the work of Conference-Related Ministries ***Ripple Community (Allentown, PA), Midian Leadership Project (Charleston, WV), and Crossroads Community Center (Philadelphia, PA)*** which offer vital services during the coldest months of the year. Pray for these community centers which are accompanying neighbors facing food insecurity, isolation, violence, and homelessness; that they may bring hope, innovative solutions, and opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for February – Hygiene Kits for Mennonite Central Committee:

New items only:

1 toothbrush (adult size; leave in wrapper)

1 bar soap (4-5 oz. in wrapper)

1 fingernail clipper

1 hand towel (larger than fingertip, dark color)

1 wide-toothed comb (6–8 in)

Kits can be donated in plastic grocery bags, or supplies can be donated in bulk. Full kits, supplies or cash donations are welcome. Offering envelopes can be marked for “MCC Hygiene Kits” Please have all supplies and donation to Salford by March 3rd. We hope to donate 200 kits, so please help us reach our goal.

Healthy Ninos Honduras - Rick Kratz will be leading a group to Honduras on June 29 - July 6 with Healthy Ninos Honduras. He has led many teams over the past 15 years. We will participate in a health brigade and provide cement floors in 4 rural villages. This will also be an opportunity to see where our youth will be serving just 3 weeks later. We are looking for 5 or 6 more people to join our team. All ages and abilities are welcome. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Rick at 215-350-9149 or suzanneandrick@msn.com

Faith Formation Spotlight

Lent Resources for All Ages The theme of this year’s Lenten journey in our collective worship at Salford will be “Christ with Us”. This year’s six-week Lenten journey invites us to step into what it means to be a covenant people and to do that with Jesus by our side. “Christ is among us, reminding us of who we are, and even when we fail, reminding us of grace and calling us beloved.”

In case a devotional or prayer guide will help you to do this, here's a bit of info about those offered at Salford this year:

Copies of the **Lent at Home: Christ with Us** [devotional](#) and [calendar](#) (laminated to serve as a placemat) will be available in the foyer starting this Sunday. These offer simple scriptures and activities for daily or weekly prayer and include some options like “desert quests” (mindful walks in nature), developing a family covenant, and creating a centerpiece for your table.

In the foyer you'll also find the **“Breaking the Chains”** devotional that we've used in years' past - 40 links with prayer, scripture, and activities emphasizing God as liberator and source of grace. Many thanks to Laura Stalter for making these chains!

[The Seed and The Soil Project](#) creates music, art, and “Little Liturgies.” CDs and text of the simple weekly prayers are available in the foyer or can be streamed and downloaded [here](#). The Lent-Pentecost series runs from Feb. 25 to May. [Listen to](#)

[all the albums on Soundcloud.](#)

Digital copies of some of these resources are available on the [Resources for Families](#) webpage.

Summer Camp Scholarship information has been placed in church mailboxes for families. Copies have also been placed at the Welcome Center for pickup. Scholarships grant forms are due back to the church office by May 15, 2024. Please contact the church office with any questions.

Salford Youth in Upcoming Musicals This March, there are quite a few Salford youth performing in their school musicals. As a community it would be great if we can get out and show them our support! Below is information about showtimes and links to purchase tickets.

- **Avery Goldcamp, Naomi Kaczor, and Jesse Ehst** are all taking part in Dock's middle school musical. Get your tickets now for our 2024 Musical, *Shrek, Jr!* There will be four shows in the EC-8 auditorium: **Friday, March 1 at 7pm; Saturday, March 2 at 3pm; Saturday, March 2 at 7pm; and Sunday, March 3 at 3pm.** Tickets are \$13 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens, and \$5 for students. [Click here](#)[<http://Click here>] to buy tickets online & reserve your seat now!
- **Alexa Sefing** is the lead in the upcoming Upper Perkiomen Valley High School musical, *Emma: A Pop Musical*. There are performance dates **March 7-10**. You can order tickets by clicking [here](#).
- Get your tickets for Dock Mennonite Academy's high school performance of *Matilda: The Musical* and see **Lela Martin** perform. The show runs from **March 14-16**, and you can get tickets [here](#). Please note that the performance is at Dock's EC-8 campus at 420 Godshall Road, Souderton.

Potluck for Salford's Children and Youth Ministries on Sunday, March 10
After Second Hour on March 10, Andrew and Jenn will be hosting a potluck for everyone involved in children and youth ministries: children and youth (ages 2-18), parents/guardians, Second Hour teacher and aides, and MYF sponsors. Bring a dish to share and please bring your own plates and cutlery to reduce the waste we generate.

Our primary goal is to provide a space of fellowship where families can interact with each other and the trusted adults who are participating in their youths' faith formation. Additionally, there will be 10-15 minutes of updates from Jenn and Andrew. Topics will include: content for the upcoming Sunday School spring quarter and Circle of Grace curricula, elementary school offering discernment project, Peace Camp, the MYF's spring service and event schedule, final needs for the MYF auction, and more.

We hope to have these potlucks twice a year, so join us for the first gathering!

Welcoming Path Learning Corner

Many people refrain from talking about sexual orientation and gender identity or expression because it feels taboo, or because they're afraid of saying the wrong thing. This weekly primer on terminology is to help give us the words and meanings to help make conversations easier and more comfortable. For a few weeks, we are focusing on terms related to [gender identity](#).

Genderqueer: Genderqueer people typically reject notions of static categories of gender and embrace a fluidity of gender identity and often, though not always, sexual orientation. People who identify as "genderqueer" may see themselves as being both male and female, neither male nor female or as falling completely

outside these categories.

Gender dysphoria: Clinically significant distress caused when a person's assigned birth gender is not the same as the one with which they identify.

Non-binary: An adjective describing a person who does not identify exclusively as a man or a woman. Non-binary people may identify as being both a man and a woman, somewhere in between, or as falling completely outside these categories. While many also identify as transgender, not all non-binary people do. Non-binary can also be used as an umbrella term encompassing identities such as agender, bigender, genderqueer or gender-fluid.

Accessibility Spotlight

A new **YOUTH Mental Health First Aid Class** will be presented in two-parts at Zion Mennonite (Souderton, PA) on April 11 and 18 from 6-9 pm (attendance is required at both classes). This is a FREE class sponsored by Montgomery County Behavioral Health. The class is great for youth workers and leaders. You will learn about resources in Montgomery County and how to interact with an adolescent in crisis. Learn more and register: fivecountymh.org

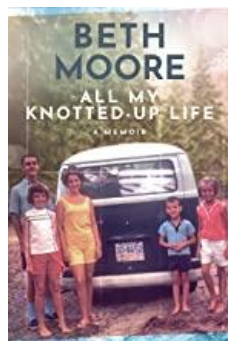
Joni & Friends facilitates family retreats for families impacted by disability. There are four retreats offered in 2024 at Spruce Lake from June to October. Volunteers are also needed. Learn more at: joniandfriends.org/pennsylvania/

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>

All My Knotted-Up Life – A Memoir By: Beth Moore

An incredibly thoughtful, disarmingly funny, and intensely vulnerable glimpse into the life and ministry of a woman familiar to many but known by few.

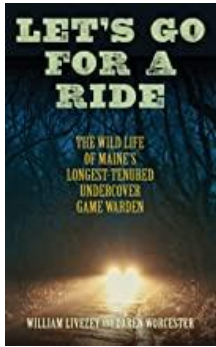


"It's a peculiar thing, this having lived long enough to take a good look back. We go from knowing each other better than we know ourselves to barely sure if we know each other at all, to precisely sure that we don't. All my knotted-up life I've longed for the sanity and simplicity of knowing who's good and who's bad. I've wanted to know this about myself as much as anyone. This was not theological. It was strictly relational. God could do what he wanted with eternity. I was just trying to make it here in the meantime. As benevolent as he has been in a myriad of ways, God has remained aloof on this uncomplicated request." – Beth Moore

All My Knotted-Up Life is told with surprising candor about some of the personal heartbreaks and behind-the-scenes challenges that have marked Beth's life. But beyond that, it's a beautifully crafted portrait of resilience and survival, a poignant reminder of God's enduring faithfulness, and proof positive that if we ever truly took the time to hear people's full stories . . . we'd all walk around slack-jawed.

Let's Go For a Ride – The Wild Life of Maine's Longest-Tenured Undercover Game Warden

By: William Livezey ** LOCAL INTEREST BOOK



Let's Go for a Ride is the story of William (Bill) Livezey's thirty-year career in the Maine Warden Service. Heralded as "one of the best covert investigators in the country" by Maine Warden Service Lieutenant Dan Scott, Bill is the agency's longest-tenured undercover operative, having spent twenty years in the Special Investigations Unit.

His success at putting the bad guys out of business was driven by his upbringing as one of them. Born and raised in Pennsylvania, Bill's father was a successful businessman whose blind ambition sent him down the dark path of drug trafficking. It wasn't long before young Bill was tagging along and doing drugs with his dad. The aftermath of witnessing his father perish in a fiery standoff with police sent Bill spiraling out of control. He lashed out at law enforcement by dealing drugs, and he numbed the pain and confusion by doing them. Deep down, Bill knew his life was broken. When a high school football teammate invited him to attend a Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting, he discovered his faith and a new path.

News & Notes

The **Salford Mailboxes** will be re-organized for February 25th or March 3rd. Please remove all items from your mailboxes in the coming weeks. If your mailbox has a "hold mail" sticker and you would like to receive mail, please remove the sticker. If you would like a mailbox and do not have one or would like to check the status of your mailbox, please contact **Church Administrator Brad Alderfer**.

Salford Choir! Justin Yoder will lead the choir to sing twice: for **Palm Sunday morning and Good Friday evening services**. Interested? Contact Justin at justin.n.yoder@gmail.com. Make **Salford Easter Choir** the subject of your email and please **include your full name and voice part** in your email! Rehearsals:

Wednesday February 28th, 7:00-8:45 pm

Tuesday March 5th, 7:00-8:45 pm

Thursday March 14th, 7:00-8:45 pm

Wednesday March 20th, 7:00-8:45 pm

Tuesday March 26th, 7:00-8:45 pm

Salford Friends: we'll have our monthly gathering at Souderton Mennonites Homes on Monday February 12th from 7-8 in the Friendship Room. Please join us!!

Your **Salford volleyball team** fought hard this past Monday but lost the match to ReNew 2 games to 3. Despite missing our two star players Jared Byas and Adam Messner we were able to take two games and fight into overtime in game 5. Lela Martin had a game winning dig and Nathaniel Martin had a couple massive blocks at the net. This Monday's game is at Immanuel Leidy's at 7pm v. Landsdale Life. Love to have you come cheer us on.

The next Banned/Challenged Book Club is Wednesday, February 21 at 6:30. We will be discussing the book "The Bluest Eye" by Toni Morrison. All are welcome as long as you read the book!

In the event of **inclement weather that may affect our Sunday morning worship service and Second Hour**, we will announce any changes or closures by all church email and on the front page of our website by 8:30 am. If there are any questions about inclement weather and you do not have computer access, feel free to call Church Administrator **Brad Alderfer** at (215) 272-6724.
