

February 26, 2023

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**Sunday, February 26, 9:30 am Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live,** Lead Pastor Dave Greiser will preach on Matthew 4:1-11; *What is a Human?*

**10:30 am Second Hour for all ages, All Adults are requested to return to the Sanctuary for Second Hour for Path Forward Discernment Conversation**

**12:00 noon, Potluck Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall**

**February 19, 2023**

Offering  
\$4,208  
ACH            Electronic  
Offering  
\$2,045  
Vanco Online Offering  
\$3,193  
**Total Budget Offering**  
**\$9,446**  
**Garden     Fundraiser**  
**Luncheon**  
**\$4,960**  
**Children's Offering**  
**\$29**

**Future Salford Events**

**February 26** – All church potluck following Second Hour  
**March 8** – Faith Formation Night and Community Prayer Night  
**March 15** – Community Prayer Night and Daily Fasting

## **Path Forward Discernment Team Update, February 23, 2023**

This coming Sunday, Steve Kriss will be with us to share a bit about Mosaic Conference's current commitments on topics related to sexuality. Steve is executive minister of Mosaic; he also functions as our leadership minister, providing conference oversight for Salford's pastors. Steve will speak for part of second hour. There will be time for some Q and A afterward on matters related to Salford's discernment and our relationship to Conference.

In the last ten minutes of this session, we will have an open time for questions or comments on anything related to our process thus far. This Sunday is our last second hour session.

Here is a list of meetings and opportunities relating to our Path Forward in March:

Wednesdays March 8, 15 and 22: fasting and prayer days, with prayer gatherings at the church in the evening.

Sunday, March 19, 6:30 p.m.: An open meeting at church for questions and reflections with members of the Path Forward committee. This will be the last opportunity for sharing your perspectives prior to our congregational meeting

Sunday, March 26: congregational meeting during second hour to decide on adopting a new welcome statement. Potluck meal to follow!

Dave Greiser, for the Path Forward Discernment Team

## **Potluck Luncheon this Sunday**

This Sunday, February 26, we will have an **all church potluck luncheon** following our last Second hour discernment session. This will be a true potluck, with no dishes being prepared by the kitchen. Please bring a dish and dessert to share and your place settings for the table. The Potluck kitchen team requests: **Please bring your food READY TO SERVE, no last minute prep, heating, etc. unless you are planning to do it yourself.**

## **Special Offering for Syria/Turkey and our Urban Churches**

In recent weeks we have been praying for those affected by the devastating earthquake in Syria/Turkey and the recent economic downturn affecting our Urban church in Mosaic Conference. We have decided to offer an opportunity to respond to these needs by holding a special offering. MCC has called for funds for urgent needs in responding to the earthquake disaster. We will also send funds to Mosaic Conference to assist the needs recognized in our urban churches. The special offering to be collected on March 12<sup>th</sup> during the worship service will be divided between these two needs. Please mark your offering envelopes for "special offering" or email a note to the church office about your online donation.

## **MYF Auction Donations Due**

If you are interested in donating to the Salford Mennonite Youth Fellowship

**March 18** – MYF Auction and fundraiser meal

**March 19** – Congregational Conversation About Discernment Process, re. Welcome of LGBTQ+ People – 6:30 pm

**March 22** – Community Prayer Night and Daily Fasting

**March 26** – Second Hour Congregational Meeting to Conclude Discernment Process Around LGBTQ+ Inclusion

**April 7** – Good Friday 6:00 pm Soup and Bread Dinner  
7:00 pm Good Friday Service

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)

auction—an item, an act of service, a meal, an experience, or something else, please make your donation by **March 5<sup>th</sup>**. We will send out the list of auction items on **March 9<sup>th</sup>** and want to ensure your auction item makes this list! You can [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 that can be returned to the church office.

Also, if you are unable to attend the auction but would still like to bid on any of the wonderful donations, we recommend working with a fellow congregant to bid on your behalf. We would hate for you to miss out on something that you want to bid on!

We appreciate your support in whatever form or fashion it takes and look forward to seeing you at the auction!

If you have any questions, contact Pastor Andrew at [zetsa@salfordmc.org](mailto:zetsa@salfordmc.org) or 215-859-3446.

## Upcoming Prayer Nights and Fasting

As we continue to seek the presence, guidance, and direction of the Holy Spirit during the Path Forward process, we are inviting the Salford community to engage in an intentional period of prayer and fasting. These spiritual practices can help center us as we seek to discern God's will for our congregation and community.

On **March 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>**, we will host prayer meetings at Salford from **6:30 to 8:00 P.M.** The meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> will include a meal that begins at 5:30 P.M., as it coincides with our monthly Faith Formation Night. Additionally, we encourage congregants to fast as they are able to each of the three scheduled Wednesdays, devoting mealtimes to prayers of intercession on behalf of our community as we navigate a pivotal moment in our congregation's history. We encourage you to break the fast between 5:30 P.M. and 6:00 P.M. each day, knowing that others in the broader community are also doing so as we journey together to seek and live out God's will.

## Final Call for February Donation of the Month Items

This is the last week to make donations for the February Donation of the Month hygiene kits for [Mennonite Central Committee - MCC](#). We will be packing the hygiene kits at the upcoming Faith Formation night on March 8<sup>th</sup>. You can donate items or money that will be used to buy supplies for the hygiene kits.

We are in need of the following items (we can only accept new items that are in their original packaging)

- Adult-size toothbrush
- Large bar bath soap
- Nail clipper
- Hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colors; approx. 16 in x 26 in)
- Wide-toothed comb (6–8 in)

Hygiene kits are often presented to children living in refugee camps who do not have access to hygiene supplies. Some are given to women in rural education centers to support health care. People in such countries as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Haiti, Nicaragua, North Korea, Russia, Serbia and Ukraine have received hygiene kits in the past few years. Thank you for donating!

## This Week at Salford

**Tuesday, February 28**

1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Knitting (Church Library)  
6:30 pm Path Forward Design Team Meeting (Church Library)  
7:00 pm Renewable Energy Work Group Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

### **Wednesday, March 1**

8:30 am Sewing Circle (Gathering Room)

### **Sunday, March 5**

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**

- With **Christy Gross** we offer prayers of thanksgiving for the improvement in health for her **brother in law Steve Sheppard**. He has been struggling with complications of cancer treatment. This week he was able to be extubated and is in good spirits.
- Prayers are requested for the **Salford Mennonite Child Care Center** and all child care centers:
  - For the wellbeing of the teachers and administrators, as they nurture and educate our children.
  - For parents, who are not able to afford or find childcare.
  - For legislators, boards, and administrators, that they may find creative ways to provide affordable education and care for young children, while providing a living wage to educators.
  - For the children, that they may know they are loved, valued, cared for, and respected daily.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for the family and friends of **Officer Chris Fitzgerald**. **Chris was a Temple University police officer** who was killed in the line of duty on February 18. Chris was a husband and father to 4 children under the age of 12. Chris was very involved in the Crossroads Community Center (a Conference Related Ministry) in Philadelphia and is the nephew of Juan Marrero, Crossroad's Executive Director. Pray for the Crossroads community and beyond as they grieve and work at peace and unity through this. To learn more about Chris and to hear from Juan Marrero, please click [here](#).

### **Birthday Blessings...**

To **Herb Moyer**, who celebrates his 87<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 28<sup>th</sup>, to **Roma Ruth**, who celebrates her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on March 1<sup>st</sup>, and to **Ada Swartley**, who celebrates her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **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)

Our children and youth will be packing kits for the service portion of the March 8 faith formation night activities. Kits supplies do not need to be sorted or separated or bagged in any particular way. Supplies will be more helpful than cash donations, but cash donations for kits are gladly accepted if that is your option. Please have all supplies and donation to Salford by March 5<sup>th</sup>. We hope to donate 200 kits, so

please help us reach our goal.

**Yarnfolks!** Do you create with yarn - either knitting or crocheting? Would you consider sharing your gifts? The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** is alive and well! Shawls and blankets are gifted to those who are going through a hard time or are recovering from illness or are brand new babies in our community. We provide the yarn and patterns if you need them. Please stop by the table in the lobby to pick up a copy of our updated guidelines and reach out to Becky Scheetz with any questions. And consider joining us **in person** for our crafting afternoon here at the church on **Tuesday, February 28 from 1-3 in the Library**. Bring your shawl/blanket in progress or come to take a look at the yarn available to start a new one! Light refreshment will be available. If you plan to come, let Becky know at [Beckeelynn@yahoo.com](mailto:Beckeelynn@yahoo.com) .

### **Garden Update, 2/23/23**

Greetings fellow gardeners this past Sunday was our annual fund raising luncheon at Salford. We raised \$4,960 dollars. WOO HOO GREAT. I cannot thank everyone who contributed enough for all of your support. This will go a long way to funding the garden this year. There are several projects on the horizon and we may be able to cover them all. Thank you to Gail Alderfer and Katie Neer Alderfer for the wonderful meal. Now the countdown is on to our first workday of 2023. I still have a few supplies to purchase, most of our seed is ready and plants have been ordered. If the weather holds out we will start to plant our Spring veggies on Saturday April 8 and Saturday April 15. Until then there are a few odds jobs that need to be done and I will broadcast those when it is closer to the time they need to be done.

The time between now and our first planting is the season of Lent where we prepare ourselves for the sorrow of Christs death on the cross, then the joy and celebration of Easter and Jesus Resurrection and victory over death.

Thank you to everyone who helps out with this mission, last Sunday we heard a lot about the need that is out there right in our own back yard. I will do my best to see that the garden supplies a good amount of fresh veggies to those who need it most. Steve Blank , 215-872-6616 [rsblank@verizon.net](mailto:rsblank@verizon.net)

**Introduction to Conversations with the Lenape:** Thursday, March 2, 7-8pm  
In anticipation of the Lenape visiting the Mennonite Heritage Center in March and April, John L. Ruth will reflect on a Lenape appeal for a place to bury ancestors' bones in their homeland.

This presentation will be available in person and via Zoom. Please register [here](#) by March 1 to receive the Zoom link.

**The History of the Lenape in Pennsylvania:** Saturday, March 11, 7-8pm  
Adam Waterbear DePaul, Chief of Education and Tribal Storykeeper of the Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania, will discuss the past and present of the Lenape people in Pennsylvania. This will include pre-colonial life, relationships with William Penn, the era of Penn's Sons and the Walking Purchase, the Lenape diaspora and where they are today, the Lenape who remained in their homeland and how they remained, and what the Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania is doing today to revitalize Lenape culture and continue their role as caretakers of the environment. He invites discussion and questions from the audience. Adam is also a doctoral candidate at Temple University with research areas in Cultural and Mythological Studies, and co-curates the [Lenape Cultural Center](#) in Easton, PA and the exhibit *Enduring Presence 2022: Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania Art* at Haverford College. This presentation is in-person only.

For more information please visit: <https://mhep.org/events/>

## Faith Formation Spotlight

### **Feb 24: Lent Resources for your family:**

This year's Lenten journey is about discovering what it means to be fully human. Copies of the [Lent at Home: Created in the Image of God](#) devotional, and calendar (laminated to serve as a placemat), offer simple scriptures and activities for daily or weekly prayer that will connect with what happens in our worship.

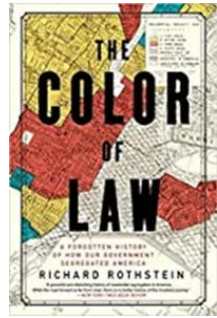
[The Seed and The Soil Project](#) creates music, art, and "Little Liturgies." CDs and text of the simple weekly prayers are available at Salford (Welcome Center) or can be streamed and downloaded here. The Lent-Pentecost series runs from Feb. 26-June 3. [Listen to all the albums on Soundcloud.](#) Copies of these are available in the foyer, and digital copies are available at [salfordmc.org/resources-for-families.html](http://salfordmc.org/resources-for-families.html)

## Church Library Spotlight

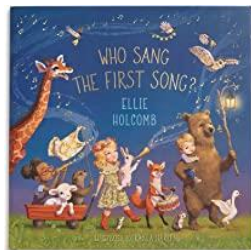
The church library has purchased many new books in recent weeks. Stop by and speak with a librarian to see what's new, or review the library catalogue on the Salford church website <https://smck-ind.kari.opalsinfo.net/bin/home>

Here is a sampling of new materials:

### **The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America – By Richard Rothstein**



Widely heralded as a "masterful" (*Washington Post*) and "essential" (*Slate*) history of the modern American metropolis, Richard Rothstein's *The Color of Law* offers "the most forceful argument ever published on how federal, state, and local governments gave rise to and reinforced neighborhood segregation" (William Julius Wilson). Exploding the myth of de facto segregation arising from private prejudice or the unintended consequences of economic forces, Rothstein describes how the American government systematically imposed residential segregation: with undisguised racial zoning; public housing that purposefully segregated previously mixed communities; subsidies for builders to create whites-only suburbs; tax exemptions for institutions that enforced segregation; and support for violent resistance to African Americans in white neighborhoods. A groundbreaking, "virtually indispensable" study that has already transformed our understanding of twentieth-century urban history (*Chicago Daily Observer*), *The Color of Law* forces us to face the obligation to remedy our unconstitutional past. DONATED



### **Who Sang the First Song? – By Ellie Holcomb / Children's Book**

*Have you ever wondered who hummed the first tune?*

Was it the flowers? The waves or the moon? Dove Award-winning recording artist Ellie Holcomb answers with a lovely lyrical tale, one that reveals that God our Maker sang the first song, and He created us all with a song to sing. DONATED

## Salford News & Notes



The new edition of **Rejoice! Devotional** has been placed at the Welcome Center. Please pick up a copy if interested.

The calendar rolls around quickly and it is time to confirm once again with our Mennonite Colleges who will be eligible for the **Salford Mennonite College Scholarship** (\$3,000 per year provided by Salford, matched by a percentage from the schools). If your student is planning to attend a Mennonite College in 2023/2024, and you have not received an email from the church office, please send an email to **Church Administrator Brad Alderfer** with your student's information.

**Anabaptist World** has notified us that it is time to update our annual group subscription. Fliers to indicate your interest in renewed, cancelled or new subscriptions have been placed in church mailboxes and at the Welcome Center. Please return the form to the church office by February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The group rate per subscription is \$35.00. For those who are able, please include payment with your form.

**Salford volleyball** had a tough week last Monday. Salford 1 fell to Calvary 3-2 but are ready to come charging back this week. Salford Bee's had last week off, so they are rested up and ready to go. This week's game are as follows: Salford 1 plays Living Hope (top ranked team in the league) at 7pm at Immanuel Leidy's and Salford Bee's follow them at 8:30 against Calvary Chapel.

We continue to enjoy the **donated artwork for the church bulletin cover** from our adults and children. Please send digital photos of your artwork to church administrator Brad Alderfer. Art featuring winter, spring, lent, easter, nature or just about anything is welcome!

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 8:00 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.

## **Beyond Salford**

Discover **Dock**, by attending one or both of their Open Houses! Tour Dock's campus, meet faculty and staff, learn about financial aid, curriculum, learning support, athletics, and co-curricular opportunities. The Early Childhood – Grade 8 campus open house will be held on Saturday, March 4 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm, and the Grades 9-12 campus on Saturday, March 18 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm. Register at [www.dock.org](http://www.dock.org).

Get your tickets now for **Dock's 2023 Middle School musical**, The Wizard of Oz-Youth Edition! There will be 3 shows in their EC8 auditorium: Friday, March 3 at 7:00 pm, Saturday, March 4 at 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children/senior citizens. Visit [www.dock.org](http://www.dock.org) to buy tickets online.

**Quakertown Christian School** invites all interested families to their Open House for Bridge Kindergarten through 12th grade, being held on Tuesday, March 21 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. There will be opportunities to tour the campus, meet the teachers and find out what makes QCS different!