

January 1, 2023

**Sunday, January 1,
10:00 am Worship at
Salford and on
YouTube Live,** Lead
Pastor Dave Greiser
will preach on Matthew
2:13–23; *With Us in
Our Weakness*

**No Second Hour on
New Year's Day
Morning**

December 25, 2022

Offering
\$46,574
ACH Electronic
Offering
\$2,070
Vanco Online Offering
\$10,702
**Total Budget Offering
\$59,346**
**Children's Offering
\$17**
**Christmas Eve
Offering
\$5,062**
**Christmas Eve White
Gift Offering
\$65**

Future Salford Events

January 1 – New Year
Day Morning Worship –
10:00 am, no Second
Hour

January 11 – 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

Pastor's Update for December 30, 2022

Happy almost-New Year! With both Christmas and New Year's days on successive Sundays this year, we may not see too many of you in person until the year is well underway. With that in mind, here are a few things to catch you up on some important matters.

First, our financial year has ended on a strong note. By the end of this week, we had received offerings in the amount of \$827,679 toward our 2022 budget. Since our budgeted expenses for the year totaled \$791,312 we have been able to meet all of our congregational commitments for the year, including our "below the line" giving to our conference and church-wide ministries. Thank you, church, for your outpouring of generosity in the last days of 2022!

As 2023 begins, we plan to begin a new sermon series, along with a five week return to our Path Forward Process. In the next week, we hope to be able to share some results of the congregational survey from late November. This will give us all a sense of what people are saying and thinking, as we enter the home stretch of our discernment.

Our sermon series which starts on January 15 will come from the book of Acts. If our congregational discernment helps us to determine what kind of church Salford aspires to be, the book of Acts is the text that can focus us on our mission. Why did the early church exist? Why does Salford exist? What was the call of God on the first Christians? What is God's call for Salford? In the words of Karl Barth, we come before God "with the Bible in one hand and the daily newspaper in the other." Yours in the Work, Dave, for the Team

Finance Update for Salford Mennonite Church

Our offering and income for 2022 is **\$827,679**, with actual budget expenses of **\$791,312**. The Church Board and Leadership Team are grateful to everyone for your stewardship of gifts and your generosity with the Salford community. God has been generous to us and you have been faithful with God's generosity. With the \$36,367 in excess funds, we will fund MCUSA, Mosaic Mennonite Conference and Larger church organizations with \$21,844 to cover our below the line expenses to funds these entities at recommended levels. The church board will review needs in January to determine how the remaining \$14,523 in excess funds will be used.

Faith Formation Night on January 11, 2023

Join us for our next Faith Formation Night on January 11, 2023, from 5:30-8:00 P.M.! Please let Pastor Andrew know if you and your family will attend.

Schedule

5:30-6:15 P.M.: Dinner
6:15-6:30 P.M.: Worship
6:30-8:00 P.M.: Age-specific programs

Different Gathering Spaces

receive this newsletter by email, please submit your email address to alderferb@salfordmc.org

Kids Club: A space for 1st-5th graders to have a fun time exploring various themes and stories from Scripture through crafts, games, and a variety of activities, with Melissa Heise and helpers.

Junior and Senior Mennonite Youth Fellowship: A gathering of 6th through 12th graders that connects for games, conversation, and contemplation to provide mutual support and foster spiritual growth.

Adults: This month, adults will reflect on experiences and gratitude's of the past year and look toward the new year. There will be time for reflection individually as well as group conversation. This is open to any adults of any age, with children or not.

This Week at Salford

Monday, January 2

Church and Child Care Offices closed for New Year's Day Holiday

Wednesday, January 4

8:30 am Sewing Circle (Gathering Room)

Sunday, January 8

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 **Mary and Glen Miller** and their family as they remember **Marie**, Mary's mother who passed on Monday night.
- For **Glenn Frederick** who is recovering from cellulitis in his feet.
- For **Cindy and Bill Scheetz**: Cindy's sister **Phyllis** is very sick with pneumonia and Bill's co-worker, **Michael Essicks** had a stroke.
- For **Dave and Kathi Peters** who leave on Sunday for a clinic in Mexico. Pray for healing for Dave and rest for both of them.

Birthday Blessings...

To **Mark Kolb**, who celebrates his 85th birthday on January 8th, and to **John Ruth**, who celebrates his 93rd birthday on January 8th.

Your Prayers Requested...

Your prayers are requested for Mary & Glen Miller and the Miller family. Mary's mother, Marie Penrose, age 104, passed away peacefully Monday evening. We pray for Mary & Glen and family as they mourn the loss and remember the life of Marie in the coming days.

The Memorial service will be private at a date to be determined.

Dave Peters Cancer Support

The Pastors and Deacons have named Dave Peters as a mission of the church in support of the expenses in treatment of his aggressive prostate cancer. Donations can be made to Salford Mennonite Church with your offering envelope or check memo line marked "Dave Peters Cancer Support." Our prayers are with Dave & Kathi as they pursue treatment in Dave's journey with cancer.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month Project for January – Access Services Street Outreach:

The Street Outreach team at the nonprofit Access Services provides support and connection to services/resources to persons experiencing homelessness in Montgomery County. Last year the **county's only year-round emergency shelter for individuals closed**, and while there are plans to reopen it, it will not happen for another year.

This winter they need hand warmers, wool socks, and \$10 Walmart, Wawa and McDonald's gift cards.

Larger items like tents, sleeping bags, and backpacks are also very needed and can be purchased from the Street Outreach Wish List at <https://www.amazon.com/registries/custom/RZ11V542EFSY/guest-view>

Alternatively, monetary donations can be made through Salford's donation system, at <https://www.accessservices.org/donate/> (designate Street Outreach), or can be mailed to:

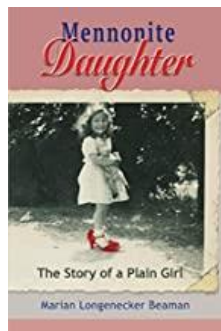
Access Street Outreach, 4070 Butler Pike, Suite 900, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

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:

Mennonite Daughter: The Story of a Plain Girl, by: Marian Longenecker Beaman

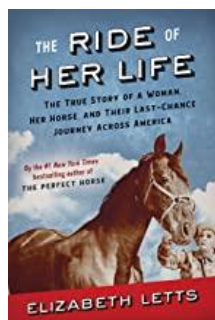


What if the Mennonite life young Marian Longenecker chafed against offered the chance for a new beginning? What if her two Lancaster County homes with three generations of family were the perfect launch pad for a brighter future? Readers who long for a simpler life can smell the aroma of saffron-infused potpie in Grandma's kitchen, hear the strains of four-part a capella music at church, and see the miracle of a divine healing.

Follow the author in pigtails as a child and later with a prayer cap, bucking a heavy-handed father and challenging church rules. Feel the terror of being locked behind a cellar door. Observe the horror of feeling defenseless before a conclave of bishops, an event propelling her into a different world.

Fans of coming-of-age stories will delight in one woman's surprising path toward self-discovery, a self that lets her revel in shiny red shoes.

The Ride of Her Life: The True Story of a Woman, Her Horse, and Their Last-Chance Journey Across America, by: Elizabeth Letts



In 1954, sixty-three-year-old Maine farmer Annie Wilkins embarked on an impossible journey. She had no money and no family, she had just lost her farm, and her doctor had given her only two years to live. But Annie wanted to see the Pacific Ocean before she died. She ignored her doctor's advice to move into the county charity home. Instead, she bought a cast-off brown gelding named Tarzan, donned men's dungarees, and headed south in mid-November, hoping to beat the snow. Annie had little idea what to expect beyond her rural crossroads; she

didn't even have a map. But she did have her ex-racehorse, her faithful mutt, and her own unfailing belief that Americans would treat a stranger with kindness.

Annie, Tarzan, and her dog, Depeche Toi, rode straight into a world transformed by the rapid construction of modern highways. Between 1954 and 1956, the three travelers pushed through blizzards, forded rivers, climbed mountains, and clung to the narrow shoulder as cars whipped by them at terrifying speeds. Annie rode more than four thousand miles, through America's big cities and small towns. Along the way, she met ordinary people and celebrities—from Andrew Wyeth (who sketched Tarzan) to Art Linkletter and Groucho Marx. She received many offers—a permanent home at a riding stable in New Jersey, a job at a gas station in rural Kentucky, even a marriage proposal from a Wyoming rancher. In a decade when car ownership nearly tripled, when television's influence was expanding fast, when homeowners began locking their doors, Annie and her four-footed companions inspired an outpouring of neighborliness in a rapidly changing world.

News & Notes

Salford friends at Souderton Home - please join us for our first gathering of 2023 on **Monday January 9th at 7 in the Friendship Room**. Questions? Call Karen at 215.237.7367. See you soon!!

Address Update:

DD Wolf - 654 Camp Wawa Rd, Schwenksville, PA 19473

Exploring Membership at Salford. If you're a new(ish) attendee at Salford, you are invited to join a short term class on exploring church membership. Come together in a relaxed atmosphere with other newbies to learn about our church, our Anabaptist heritage, our vision and mission, and more. Send Dave Greiser an email, a text, or talk to him personally if you want to know more!