

July 30, 2023

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**Sunday, July 30, 10:00 am Outdoor Worship at Salford,** Brad Alderfer, Roma Ruth and Nathaniel Martin will offer reflections on “*How do you connect with God by creating?*”; Jeremiah 18:1-6

**No Second Hour for Children or Adults on Summer Schedule**

**Emmaus Road Sermon Discussion Class will not be meeting this Sunday.**

### **July 23, 2023**

Offering  
\$4,215  
ACH            Electronic  
Offering  
\$2,045  
Vanco Online Offering  
\$2,863  
**Total Budget Offering**  
**\$9,123**  
**Children’s Offering**  
**\$37**

### **Future Salford Events**

**July 30** – Outdoor Worship in the Grove with Fellowship Picnic

**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 27** - Bring your bagged lunch; Children’s games and

## **July 30<sup>th</sup> Outdoor Worship & Fellowship Picnic in the Grove**

This Sunday will be Salford’s annual outdoor worship service. The theme for worship will be about our creativity in response to our creative God: when we create, we are echoing the creativity of God who made us in God’s image. We will hear from different creators in our midst and have a chance to consider how we each are creative in the image of our Creator. For the fellowship meal, a main dish of hotdogs and drinks will be provided; please bring a side dish and dessert to share as well as your place settings and a lawn chair or blanket. The Potluck Fellowship Team requests that you bring your food items ready to serve, desserts cut to size and warm items in crockpots so no tending is required.

In the case of inclement weather, we will move the worship service indoors and the picnic luncheon will be in the Fellowship Hall. We will notify the congregation by email by 9:00 am if weather threatens to cancel outdoor worship. We will not be streaming outdoor worship on YouTube but will if the worship service is moved indoors.

## **“You Asked for It” Sermon Series**

Many thanks to everyone who submitted a question or topic for the August series that we are calling “You Asked for It.” This series is named after an old 1960’s TV show. Most of you probably don’t remember the series, but by the nature of your requests, I’d say you got the idea!

We all harbor certain questions and difficult doubts about faith. Some of our questions are intellectual in nature, some are spiritual, and some are practical. During August (and possibly Sept. 3 when Andrew will be preaching) our sermons will be focused on topics you gave us. Since there were 22 submissions, we won’t be able to respond to them all. In one or two cases, questions of a similar nature can be combined in one sermon.

In an Anabaptist community of faith, we all share not only the interpretation of scripture but also the naming of questions we bring to scripture, as well. I look forward to this challenge, and I know the other pastors look forward to it as well! Dave Greiser, lead pastor

## **An Update about Our Pastoral Staff**

Some of you have asked how we plan to fill the large gap left by Pastor Maria’s leaving. I am happy to have at least a *partial* answer for you.

**Karen Bergey** has agreed to increase her role on staff to half-time, starting in September. Karen will add to her pastoral care and visiting responsibilities a role as coordinator/planner for worship. She has already begun “apprenticing” to Maria to learn the ropes. Many of you have told us about your deep appreciation for Karen’s visits, and her obvious love for the people of Salford. Behind the scenes, Karen’s presence in staff meetings has been a real asset, as she is in close touch with a broad variety of people. Our interim lead minister Emily Ralph Servant recommends that Salford pursue licensing for Karen for this new assignment, and

Ultimate Frisbee after  
Worship

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)

the Board has approved this. I'm putting together a discernment group to meet and work with Karen, as a first step. Later in the fall, we hope to have a service of licensing to ministry. Salford keeps calling out new leaders!

The team is working at re-assigning other parts of Maria's job description to the team. Undoubtedly in the short term, there will be things that will not be done as fully or as well as Maria has done them, but we will do our best. Pray for us!

In September, the board will have an extended meeting, at which time we hope to approve a longer-term plan for staffing our church for the future. Pray for the board as we discern the church's long-term needs. Dave Greiser, lead pastor

## **Maria's Final Sunday on September 10**

Dear Salford Family, after almost seven years, my final Sunday as your pastor will be September 10. My family will be moving to Indiana soon after that, and in October I'll be beginning my role as pastor at Sunnyside Mennonite Church in Elkhart, IN.

We will say goodbye to you all on the first Sunday of your fall schedule, which feels like a really fitting time to end my role leading worship and faith formation: you all are beginning the new school year, ready for the next season of fellowship and growth, just as my family is embarking on a new beginning. On September 10<sup>th</sup> we will have a guest preacher and formal goodbyes during worship, then, following second hour, a potluck reception.

The next few months are so precious to me. I've been so grateful for the many conversations and reflections you all have shared with me since I announced that I would be leaving, and I look forward to many more such conversations before I leave. Please reach out to me if you'd like to get together! My final sermon will be August 13<sup>th</sup>, and there will be many other "lasts" in these coming months as well. This community has shaped me deeply, and I hope to mark these last things and cherish them as valuable reminders of the gift that is this community.

## **Red Cross Blood Drive Scheduled at Salford**

At the request of the American Red Cross, Salford will be hosting a blood drive on Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider signing up for this vital need in our community. Each year the American Red Cross delivers millions of blood products to hospital patients and they can only do this through the generous efforts of donors like you. **Please follow this link to sign up for the Salford blood drive:** <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=0224209>

## **This Week at Salford**

### **Sunday, August 2**

8:30 am Sewing Circle (Gathering Room)

### **Sunday, August 6**

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 the **Speigle family** - Wayne's brother Sam passed away last week.

- 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 3 Ambassador participants and the congregations they are serving: Hiromi Kahkui (Philadelphia Praise Center), Dustin Aurelius (Indonesian Light Church in Philadelphia, PA), Victoria Lioe (Indonesian Light Church in Philadelphia, PA). Pray that the interns will grow in faith, leadership, and their love of Jesus as they serve and learn.

***Birthday Blessings...***

To **Lester Alderfer**, who turns 85 on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**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!**

**July 27, 2023 Salford/Advent Garden Update:**

Greetings fellow gardeners, this past week we had rain, clouds and heat! Boy O boy did the summer heat kick in this week. The plants don't seem to mind right now. There is plenty of moisture in the ground and I can give water if need be. Saturday we harvested (dug up) our potatoes. Over 800 lbs. this year WOO HOO! That is a lot of French fries! We also pulled up our onions. They did not produce as good as other years but we still found a few over 2 lbs. Not bad. We did plant some pole string beans. They will climb up the trellis we built this spring for the snap peas. By Wednesday they had already sprouted. WOW!. I also planted black dried beans. These are also a pole bean that will climb up our wedding trellis. We will let them hang and dry for later use in the spring. This week we will harvest the last of our spring cabbage and plant more along with Cauliflower and Broccoli. Red beets and Turnip seeds will be sown also. A big THANK YOU to Janet L for cleaning up the raised beds this week, so we can go right to work on Saturday. The row the onions were in will be rototilled and another row of bush string beans

will be planted. By the time our summer string beans are finished the fall string beans should be ready to go. Tomatoes are just starting to show up. 100 lbs. so far this week. More on the horizon. I don't expect this year's tomatoes to be anything great. They were planted in the bottom end of the garden and that area just never does as good as the upper end. No matter what I try that lower end always has a smaller harvest. Thank you to everyone who helped out last week. Saturday was a warm one again but we pulled, dug and picked through it all. Steve, 215-872-6616, [rsblank@verizon.net](mailto:rsblank@verizon.net)

### **Salford 2023 Reparative Hymn Royalty Payment**

Back in April 2022 Salford hosted a Music and Justice worship service in which we recognized how our worship life benefits from the contributions of creators of Negro spirituals and African American traditional music.

We learned about how, because of historical injustices, some musicians have benefited from copyright and royalties, while others, particularly from BIPOC artists whose songs were a survival tool while facing enslavement and other traumas, have not.

On that day we made the following Commitment to Justice in Music:

*We at Salford Mennonite Church acknowledge the history and significance of the spirituals sung in today's worship service. With respect and deep gratitude for the extraordinary musical contributions made to U.S. American music by Black people, we offer our thanks and praise to God for the creators of the Negro Spirituals and their descendants.*

*Each time we sing the spiritual songs of enslaved Black people in our worship together, we commit to:*

*Singing and hearing them with reverence and open hearts;*

*Honoring the unnamed musicians who created them;*

*And paying royalties to organizations promoting the advancement of Black artists in the U.S.*

*We understand that the harm done to Black musicians and artists can never be fully addressed through payment, and that this payment is a narrow part of the healing process.*

*Through our prayers, our gifts and our actions, we will strive to do all that we can to end systemic racism in America.*

*We are grateful to the United Parish in Brookline, MA from which this commitment is adapted.*

In fall 2022, at the direction of Black pastoral leaders in our area, we directed our reparative hymn royalty payments to the [Reparative Act Fund at Shalom Community Church](#). **In 2023, we are giving the payment to the same fund, before it closes.**

This allows us to give up full control of where the funds are going, because there is a Disbursement Committee (comprised of Black Mennonite leaders) who will determine where the funds should go.

The budgeted amount is \$250, half the amount that we pay to OneLicense, for licensing of the copyrighted hymns that we sing. This is an ongoing (annual) payment from the worship budget to, in some small way, make amends.

### **Family Faith Formation Spotlight**

Sunday School will begin again on Sept. 10. This year we will have four classes: for 2s & 3s; 4s & K; 1st-3rd grade; and 4th-5th grade. We are very grateful that we already have 8 teachers and 4 helpers committed to this area of children's faith formation for 2023-24!

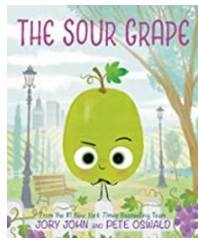
To make Sunday School possible for our children this year, **we need a few more aides and subs.**

We have two pairs of adults for each age group, so that teachers have half the weeks to engage in another second hour opportunity. No experience is necessary!

Contact Jenn Svetlik to learn more about how you can be a part of this vital and growing ministry.

## 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 Sour Grape By: Jory John and Pete Oswald**

The Sour Grape holds grudges for every reason under the sun. Lime never returned a scarf they borrowed? Grudge! Orange never called back? Grudge! But when a friend holds a grudge against the Sour Grape without listening to an explanation, the Sour Grape realizes how unfair grudges can be. Could a bunch of forgiveness and compassion be enough to turn a sour grape sweet? DONATED



### **Creepy Crayon! By: Aaron Reynolds and Peter Brown**

Jasper Rabbit has a problem: he is NOT doing well in school. His spelling tests? Disasters. His math quizzes? Frightening to behold. But one day, he finds a crayon lying in the gutter. Purple. Pointy. Perfect. Somehow...it looked happy to see him. And it wants to help.

At first, Jasper is excited. Everything is going great. His spelling is *fantastic*. His math is *stupendous*. And best of all, he doesn't have to do ANY work! But then the crayon starts acting weird. It's everywhere, and it wants to do everything. And Jasper must find a way to get rid of it before it takes over his life. The only problem? The creepy crayon will not leave. DONATED

## Salford News & Notes

**Six month donation receipts** have been placed in church mailboxes. The Church Board is grateful for the congregation's consistent giving towards the mission of Salford.

It's official! **The Community Yard Sale** will be held Saturday, August 12th from 9am-1pm in the church parking lot. If you are interested in having a table, the cost is \$20. The funds raised for the table reservations will go to the Open Link, a local organization that prides itself on providing counseling services to those seeking financial or employment assistance, their community food pantry, and their Summer Kids Meal Program. For more information about this organization, please visit <https://www.theopenlink.org/> Any money that an individual makes at the event will go to the individual to do with what they choose. People can sign up to participate or volunteer to help at the event either using the signup sheet by the Welcome Center over the course of the next few Sundays or by using this [online sign up](#). Please pass along to any friends or family that might also be interested and direct any questions to Sydney (267-642-6914).

## Beyond Salford

Mark your calendars to join **Camp Men-O-Lan** on Saturday, September 9 at 8:15 am for a fun day of shooting at Lehigh Valley Sporting Clay, a benefit event. The

goal is to help fund camp and also have a great time! Build your team in groups of 2 or 4. For more information contact Brian Barr at 215-679-5144 x325 or email [brian@menolan.org](mailto:brian@menolan.org). Watch for details online at <https://menolan.org>.