

March 17 2024

Sunday, March 17, 10:15 am Worship at Plains Mennonite Church, A Service of Grief and Hope for Palestine with Ambler, Methacton, Perkasio and Plains Mennonite Churches.

No Second Hour on Sunday March 17

March 10, 2024

Offering

\$4,176

ACH Electronic

Offering

\$2,080

Vanco Online Offering

\$3,258

Total Budget Offering

\$9,514

Children's Offering

\$28

Garden Fundraiser:

\$100

Future Salford Events

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

March 17 – Prayers for Palestine Worship Service at Plains Mennonite Church, 10:15 am

March 23 – Youth Auction and Fundraiser meal.

March 29 – Good Friday Worship Service, 7:00 pm

March 31 – Easter Sunday Worship, 9:30 am, No Second Hour on Easter Sunday

April 7 - Monthly

A Service of Grief and Hope for Palestine

On Sunday, March 17, Salford will join with four other Mosaic Conference congregations - Ambler, Plains, Perkasio, and Methacton, for a service of prayer, lament, and hope for the people of Palestine and Israel.

On the 17th, there will be no worship service at Salford. Instead, we will meet at 10:15 a.m. at Plains MC 50 W Orvilla Rd, Hatfield, PA 19440.

The service will consist of singing, a children's time with storytelling from Gaza, and a service divided into prayers of lament and prayers of hope. Palestinians and Jews will talk about their griefs and hope for Palestine and give the congregation a chance to lay hands on them and pray for them. There will be a special offering collected that morning for the work of [Mennonite Action](#). Mark your special offering envelope for "Mennonite Action". **Please bring your regular Salford offering to Salford next week, or mail or drop if off at the church office when you are able.**

There will be a nursery and children's activities offered during worship, as well as action/letter writing opportunities organized by Tori Jones Long.

This service will be a wonderful opportunity to deepen relationships with members of other Mosaic Conference churches and to stand in solidarity with suffering people in Gaza.

There are 100 Parking spots at Plains. We encourage as many as can to plan to carpool over to Plains on Sunday. Meet in the Salford parking lot to leave by 9:40 am to carpool.

Would you consider bringing a dozen cookies/donut holes/finger desserts to share for the after-service coffee time? (There will not be a meal as mentioned earlier) Thank you!

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 (8 weeks): \$14,320**

Women's Event - Dinner Yahtzee

Who: Anyone who identifies as female, college age and up

What: Fun evening of dinner with 4 other women. Get to meet some new friends or get to know some old friends better.

When: **Saturday March 16, at 4:30 pm**

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

Where: Meet in the church foyer and then go to an area restaurant of your choice.

How: When you arrive you will write your name on a slip of paper that will be put in a bowl. Once everyone arrives dinner groups will be formed by drawing 5 names from the bowl at random. The group of 5 will designate a driver and chose where they would like to go eat dinner together. ***This is a great event to bring someone new to Salford. If you bring a friend you may include them on your slip so you may be together in a group.*** There will be a chosen time to return to church so groups can report on their dining experiences.

No need to RSVP. Cindy Moyer is the point person if you have questions.

MYF Auction Update

The Salford MYF auction is one week away! We hope to see you on **Saturday, March 23, at 4:00 P.M.** for our meal and the **auction at 5:30 P.M.!** The proceeds of the auction go to support Salford's Mennonite Youth fellowship, providing affordable and varied faith formation opportunities to our youth.

Click this [link](#) to see the wonderful and generous auction items that have been donated so far. There have been quite a few new items that have been donated since last week. If you won't be able to attend the auction but want to bid on some items, make sure to make arrangements with someone who is attending to bid on your behalf!

If you are donating an item, please bring it to the church office by next Thursday, March 21. Experiences, meals, and service donations will have certificates created on their behalf.

Finally, this is a reminder that childcare is available at the auction from 5:15-8:00 P.M. Please have your children bring a coat, as they older children will play outside if weather permits.

If you have something to donate, make sure to contact Pastor Andrew as soon as possible at zetsa@salfordmc.org.

This Week at Salford

Wednesday, March 20

6:30 pm Banned Book Club Meeting (Library)

7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

Thursday, March 21

7:00 pm Justice & Peace Ministry Team Meeting (Library)

Saturday, March 23

4:00 pm MYF Auction Fundraiser Meal (Fellowship Hall)

5:30 pm MYF Auction Fundraiser (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, March 24

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

Preaching: Regina Wenger

10:30 am Second Hour for All Ages

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Julie Wimmer** who will have hip surgery on March 20. Pray for a successful procedure and a quick recovery.
- For **Monica Schroeder** who will have abdominal surgery on March 20. It is a follow-up to the surgery she had in September and has an expected 6-week

recovery. Pray for a successful procedure and healing..

- For several in our community who are waiting on test results. Pray for peace in the time of waiting, clear diagnoses, and path to healing for all.
- For **Willis Miller** who is home recovering from a procedure on his kidney. ‘
- For **Marvin Anders** who is still in the hospital in Florida with low sodium levels. Pray he will be able to fly home soon!
- For **Nancy Alderfer** and the family as they celebrate the life of her brother Merrill who passed last week.
- For **Lissette Gonzalez and Eric, Evan and Sienna Hostetler**. Lissette’s father Hermino Gonzalez passed away on Tuesday night. Lissette was able to be with him. Pray for the family in the coming days.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray this week for **Homestead Mennonite in Homestead, FL**, as interim pastor Pavel Gailans begins to lead the congregation there. They ask for prayer for their upcoming Easter outreach events, that it may bring new families to the congregation, and for deeper connection to Mosaic congregations across the country.

Birthday Blessings...

To **Sharon Hunsberger**, who celebrates his 86th birthday on March 19th.

An Update on Beth Yoder’s Process with Conference

Last week, Beth Yoder met with the Review Committee working under the Mosaic Conference Ministerial Committee. It has been 15 months since Mosaic Conference placed Beth’s pastoral credential on probation. Mike Derstine, from Beth’s pastors’ support group, and I accompanied her to the meeting. She responded to a series of questions which the committee had given her in advance. She responded clearly and passionately to each question, and the committee appeared quite moved by what she said.

The Review Committee will now make a recommendation on whether to restore Beth’s credential to active status and send that recommendation to the Ministerial Committee. It will likely be some months until the process reaches its conclusion. Keep praying for Beth as she lives with uncertainty! Dave Greiser, lead pastor

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for March – MANNA ON MAIN STREET, ITEMS NEEDED: Long Pasta (spaghetti, linguine, etc.) Tomato Products (diced, crushed, puree, paste, etc.) Bean soups, Beef soups, 100% fruit juices.

Manna on Main Street is committed to ending hunger in the North Penn region by providing food, fulfilling social service and education needs, and conducting community outreach. Through a food pantry and soup kitchen, emergency financial aid, counseling and referrals, and education opportunities, we serve those in need with the hope “that everyone might be fed.”

Please place items in the basket at the donation of the month table or on the shelves in coat room.

Salford/Advent Garden Update, March 14, 2024:

Greetings fellow gardeners, what a great week this was. The weather is just right to make you want to go outside and dig in the dirt. I was working in the garden almost every day this week. Getting a list of jobs together that need to be done before we plant. The biggest job I already started. That was to weed the upper rows where we plant our potatoes and onions. A thick matting of weeds grew there, and it has to be removed so the soil can dry out and I can roto-till. The raised beds need weeding. Then they will need some more soil/compost added to the top. Some beds are in need of small repairs. There are a variety of small things that need to happen. I will be at the garden this Saturday if anyone has the desire

to get a little dirt under their fingernails. I can explain the schedule then. Wear your boots. I will be in and out of the garden each week until we plant our spring plants on April 13. The season is here, and it is time to gear up the garden.

Some additional funds were received this past week for the garden. I believe our total has topped \$13,000. I have run out of adjectives to describe how amazed I am. WOW! Blessings to all who thought so highly of this mission that they donated the amount we have now. Money does not come easy. I promise to use the funds entrusted to the garden in a careful and wise manner to ensure we continue to grow good food for those who need it most. Steve, 215-872-6616 rsblank@verizon.net

Faith Formation Spotlight

Registration is now open for Peace Camp 2024, Sunday, June 16-Thurs, June 20: forms.gle/pNQFQEadv9HxGY3w7

Register at this link (Jr. & Sr. Youth helpers please register here too!) and invite a friend! Feel free to pick up Peace Camp fliers at the Welcome Center to share with others or post at your school, library, or coffee shop.

We need volunteers to make Peace Camp 2024 a success! We've already had 30 kids register! There are many tasks to do before, during, and after camp. Prayerfully consider how you can support the children of this congregation and the local community.

We are in need of: 2 Small Group Leaders; Kitchen Cooking, Serving & Cleanup; Setup and Registration support.

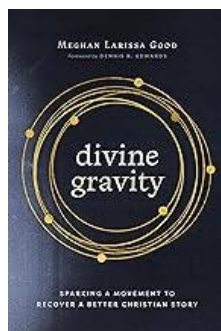
Contact Jenn Svetlik at salfordpeacecamp@gmail.com to learn more about how you can be a part of this very memorable week!

Welcoming Path Learning Corner

March 26 marks the one year anniversary of Salford adopting our new Welcome Statement. For the past two months, we have provided a weekly primer on terminology to help give us the words and meanings to help make conversations easier and more comfortable. As we celebrate this milestone, we invite you to consider what you can do to become a more supportive and informed ally to LGBTQ+ people. The book [The Savvy Ally](#) is an excellent resource for those looking to grow in this area. The Trevor Project also offers a range of articles on topics such as [Understanding Bisexuality](#), [Understanding Gay & Lesbian Identities](#), and [Understanding Gender Identities](#). And beginning April 28, the Welcoming Path team will offer a short series of second hour elective classes so we can continue our learning together.

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>



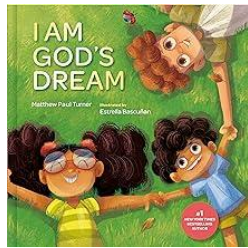
Divine Gravity – Sparking a Movement to Recover a Better Christian Story By: Meghan Larissa Good

Over five hundred years ago, the Western church underwent a period of massive recalibration that exposed abuses and theological blind spots and revived the historical foundations of Christianity. Today, signs suggest that we have entered another

such religious reformation as new technologies, ecclesial scandals, and a crisis of biblical authority leave many Christians adrift or deconstructing the faith they once took for granted. The Christian story the church has been telling has become too small, and we are at a dead end.

There is hope. Author and pastor Meghan Larissa Good invites readers into a movement that is finding ways to tell a better Christian story--a movement that is already emerging spontaneously as a work of the Spirit in many different wings of the church. Along the way, readers will encounter core rediscoveries of this authentic, Jesus-centered Christianity: through Christ, God is breathing life among us, restoring creation, and reconciling all divided things. In this better story, isolation, intolerance, polarization, and death have no grip. This story satisfies our deep spiritual hunger, beckoning us to renew the church for the coming centuries and reignite a world-changing global movement. DONATED

I Am God's Dream By: Matthew Paul Turner



I Am God's Dream is a deeply encouraging exploration of the unique strengths, curiosities, and desires in every kid. In this deeply affirming picture book, children will see how God celebrates and adores each of us—and why we should be proud to be who we are. Kids of all faith traditions will receive in these pages the gift of empowerment, purpose, and ownership over their own faith perspective early on through Matthew Paul Turner's lyrical phrasing:

I'm playful and brave

I'm a one-kid parade

I'm gonna be who I am 'cause I'm wonderfully made

In *I Am God's Dream*, kids will discover:

- The truth that God loves us deeply, and delights in who we are
- The unique strengths and traits that make up our lives
- The beautiful richness in diversity

Parents and children alike will be encouraged in these vivid and empowering pages. DONATED

News & Notes

Parents and loved ones of LGBTQIA folks: we are forming an affirming circle to meet regularly, beginning in early April. Interested? Talk to **Pastor Karen**.

Anabaptist World group subscriptions are due for renewal. A renewal form has been placed in each church mailbox with extra copies at the Welcome Center. A subscription through the group subscription costs \$40.00; \$15.00 off the regular subscription price. Please return the form and your payment to the church office by March 24th, 2024. All subscribers will need to indicate their intention to renew. There are some budget funds available for subscriptions for those who have difficulty covering the subscription cost.

Address Update: Darwin & Karen Zehr

64 S. 2nd St, Souderton PA, 18964.

The next book for the **Banned/Challenged Book Club** is Burger's Daughter by Nadine Gordimer. A story that takes place during apartheid in South Africa. We will be meeting on March 20 at 6:30. All are welcome to join in the discussion!

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.

Beyond Salford

All women are invited to a **free Mosaic Women's Event: Unity / Bersama / Unidad** focused on John 17. Saturday, April 27, 9:30am-2:30pm at Ripple Church in Allentown, PA and on Zoom. Featured speaker: Sue Park-Hur, director of racial/ethnic engagement for Mennonite Church USA. Free event, lunch included. Spanish and Indonesian interpretation available. Register at <https://mosaicmennonites.org/women>

You are invited to the [Perkasie Mennonite Church's Patchwork Coffeehouse](#) live concert with [Janie Rothfield and Allan Carr](#) on March 23, 2024, 7:30 pm, at 320 W Chestnut St., Perkasie, PA. Come enjoy Scottish and American Old Time Music – Old and New! A portion of the proceeds supports Rampacks. Wheelchair accessible.