

May 19, 2024

Sunday, May 19, 9:30 am Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Guest Preacher Beth Yoder will preach on John 20:19-23; *Breathing Pentecost*

10:30 am Second Hour for all ages

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.

May 19, 2024

Offering

\$7,000

ACH Electronic

Offering

\$1,980

Vanco Online Offering

\$1,548

Total Budget Offering

\$10,528

Children's Offering:

\$31

Future Salford Events

June 2 – Monthly Communion

June 16 – Summer Worship Schedule Begins, 10:00 am worship start time and no Second Hour

June 16 – 20 – Peace Camp at Salford

July 7 – Monthly Communion

July 28 – Annual Outdoor Worship and

Beth Yoder Preaching this Sunday

This Sunday, we are thrilled to have Beth Yoder back in the pulpit for the first time since 2021. Beth was Associate Pastor here at Salford for 10 years. She served our congregation with vision, creativity, and heart. As Acting Lead Pastor, her gentle voice and grounded words were a special comfort to us during the Covid pandemic. We look forward to having her preach again!!

“Season 2” for Dave Greiser

Last week I completed my 3rd year at Salford. When I came here, the Board offered me a three-year term of service, which has now ended. Instead of renewing for another three years, I asked to be offered one-year contracts from now on, working $\frac{3}{4}$ time instead of full time.

Andrew, Karen and I are re-working our job descriptions to make sure we cover all the ministries. Karen has increased from half to $\frac{3}{4}$ time.

For me, the main change will be how often I preach. Instead of 3 Sundays out of 4, I'll be preaching twice a month on average. The advantage for Salford is that you will hear a more diverse preaching menu from now on. In the coming months, our preachers will include Jonny Rashid (author of Jesus Takes a Side), Michelle Curtis, Nathan Good, Michele Hershberger (again!) and a smattering of familiar faces from Salford. We will become a more “multi-voiced” Anabaptist church.

I intend to take one more day off each week (I'll be out Monday and Friday). Thank you for allowing me to listen to my body, brain, and family, and attend to the passing of the years and slow down. Dave Greiser

Meeting the New Anabaptists (part two)

The second leg of our learning tour took us to London. We spent most of a day at the home of Stuart and Sian Murray Williams. Stuart is the author of The Naked Anabaptist, which many at Salford have read. Sian (pronounced “Shawn”- it's Welsh) is an ordained Baptist minister. We discussed Stuart's new book The New Anabaptists and enjoyed a great lunch together.

There is a small but growing presence of self-identified Anabaptists in England, including a growing fellowship of Zimbabwean Brethren in Christ congregations. There are presently no Mennonite churches in Britain (the lone Mennonite church in London stopped meeting about eight years ago). However, seeds planted by Mennonite mission workers Alan and Eleanor Kreider and Nelson Kraybill have borne fruit in the form of a network of small fellowships of believers identifying themselves as Anabaptist. “The Anabaptist Network” is made up of churches from other denominations (many are Baptist) and non-independent churches. These churches orient their corporate lives around being Jesus-centered, peace oriented, relationally deep, practiced in simplicity, and multi-voiced (that is, sharing the preaching and teaching ministry among the congregation).

Our group met several church planters whose budding congregations are

Fellowship Picnic

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

intentionally practicing Anabaptist values. One such church is a re-forming Baptist fellowship which was decimated and closed after Covid (sound familiar?). Alexandra Elish leads the small, informal group in singing, open sharing, sermon time (called “the talky bit”) and weekly potlucks. Weekly home groups and an active connection to a community group that has regular neighborhood actions protesting the war in Gaza help to bond people in a common mission. There is a spirit of willingness to experiment with new ways of being church.

We talked with two retired minister-couples who have recently relocated to London to support the development of the new churches. Simon and Linda Jones along with Stuart and Sian Murray Williams have nearly 70 years’ church leadership experience between them. Both actively support young leader-church planters. They refer to themselves as “ballast.” Ballast is a dense material – often wet sand – in the hull of a ship that serves to balance the ship during storms. These couples provide wisdom, a non-anxious presence, and the long view that offers stability to congregations with growing pains. The Anabaptist Network and its two peers, Urban Expression and Incarnate (a church planning network) are looking to forge deeper relationships with more experienced Anabaptist mission partners such as Mosaic Conference.

As I reflected on our days in London, it seemed clear that the church in Britain, while smaller than it once was, is far from dying. Anglican churches may be largely empty. But God’s Spirit is renewing the church by creating new wineskins in which a growing number of Jesus and peace-centered communities of faith are evolving.

Next week: Asylum Seekers in Calais – Dave Greiser

Thank You, Welcoming Path Team!

Our Welcoming Path Team completed a three-week elective designed to take Salford deeper in knowledge and sensitivity as we live into our life as a welcoming church. Last fall the team visited every adult second hour class with a view to discovering what people want to learn. They then designed an elective geared to the classes’ requests. In the first week, Johnny Stoeckle led the group in an empathy building exercise designed to help people experience what it might feel like to be a sexual minority.

In weeks two and three, we discussed terminology and word definitions in the areas of gender and sexuality. People seemed to appreciate the extended discussion on using correct pronouns. There was even opportunity to practice self-identifying through using the pronouns each of us prefer.

People entered eagerly into discussion. An attitude of openness and vulnerability prevailed each week. Thank you, Welcoming Path Team, for your thorough preparation and excellent teaching! Dave Greiser, lead pastor

This Week at Salford

Monday, May 20

7:00 pm Bylaw Review Committee Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, May 21

7:00 pm Church Board Meeting (Friendship Room)

Thursday, May 23

6:30 pm Justice & Peace Ministry Team Meeting (Gathering Room)

Sunday, May 26

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

Preaching: Andrew Zetts

10:30 am Second Hour for All Ages

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Katie Alderfer** who had her gallbladder removed on Friday morning. Pray for a quick and easy recovery.
- For **Rose Martin** who is feeling stronger and is preparing for a move to the community at Frederick Living on June 10th. Pray for continued strength and peace in this time of transition.
- We pray **for all who struggle with their mental and emotional health** and pray for the courage to ask for help and peace as they move toward healing. May they find loving support in this community.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for the **Mosaic Conference Board** as they gather in person at Bethany Birches, VT from May 17-19 to review the next steps in the Pathway Process and in preparation for the November Conference Assembly.

Birthday Blessings...

To **Janet Yoder**, who celebrates her 85th birthday on May 25th, and to **David Yoder**, who celebrates his 88th birthday on May 25th.

Anniversary Blessings...

To **John & Roma Ruth**, who celebrate 72nd wedding anniversary on May 26th, and to **Earl & Ruth Yoder**, who celebrate 67th wedding anniversary on May 26th.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for May – Access Services: warm weather sleeping bags, small portable tents, bug spray, \$10 WAWA or McDonalds food card.

The Access Services Street Outreach Program provides **whole-person intervention** for those facing housing instability and homelessness in Montgomery County.

Links to purchase items from Amazon:

[Tent](#)

[Sleeping Bag](#)

[Sleeping Bag](#)

[Bug Spray](#)

Purchased items can be placed at the donation table by the infant nursery. Special donations can be made through offering envelopes or checks to Salford Mennonite Church marked for “Access Services”

The **Svetlik-Goods (Sheldon, Jenn, and family)** are opening the basement in their home in Lansdale as a guest room, with the goal of welcoming 1-2 immigrants at a time to reside in their home for short periods to assist with obtaining stability in the community. We are currently developing a partnership with a congregation in Mosaic Mennonite Conference.

We will be sharing more about our vision soon, and inviting ways for you to get involved, but for now, [here is a document](#) that lists the furnishings and items we still need for accommodating our guests -- please be in touch with Jenn if you can donate any of these.

If you'd like to stay connected through email updates to these efforts and future opportunities to support, please [sign up via this form](#). Thank you! - **Sheldon and Jenn**

Salford/Advent Garden Update, May 9th,

Greetings fellow gardeners, last Saturday we had a crowd of volunteers at the garden. 26 adults and energetic youngsters arrived in droves to help out WOOHOO GREAT. Only trouble was we were laying down cardboard and straw in the aisles, we ran out of cardboard before we ran out of garden. We were only able to cover 6 rows. Not bad but still had 5 more to go. A few quick text messages and Monday morning I had two more loads of cardboard delivered to the garden. Thank you, Royce Yoder! I was able to finish the last 5 rows this week. Now comes the fun part. This Saturday we plant our first summer veggies. Tomatoes, zucchini, eggplant, cucumbers and string beans. I was able to hook up the watering system so whenever it gets too dry, we can turn a valve and water as much of the lower end as we need to. Next Saturday we plant peppers and squash. Then we can start to set up our 800 tomato cages, start to plant flowers and get our 3 sisters garden ready for summer. I still plan on planting corn for drying and sweet potatoes. Plus, several other odds and ends that need to be done. A long list that will keep us busy for many weeks to come.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out last week. It was great to see several new faces along with the old standbys. The garden is a special place, but it is the people that make it special. Steve, rsblank@verizon.net 215-872-6616

Salford/Advent Garden Update, May 16th,

Greetings fellow gardeners, last Saturday we took another step towards a full garden. Tomatoes, zucchini, cucumbers, eggplant, string beans and lima beans all made it in the ground. The eggplant, zucchini and cucumbers were then covered with insect netting to keep the pests away from the young plants. The netting will stay on until the plants get too big and start to push up on the cover. This week we plant our green peppers and squash seeds. I still have some room for more tomatoes, so I bought 2 more flats. I was going to hold off on planting a large number of tomatoes, but I couldn't help myself. Who doesn't like a fresh grown garden tomato? If we have time, we will start to hill our potatoes and fertilize some of our spring veggies which are about halfway to harvest. I also planted one of our raised beds with red dry corn. The stalks get over 8 feet tall and the cobs are a deep red color. The corn is then left to dry and can be ground into corn meal. Very tasty. I will also be planting some corn seed sent to us from the Lenape Nation in Oklahoma. This is also dried and used for flour or corn meal. We will also plant some squash seed sent from Oklahoma too.

Thank you to everyone who worked on their hands and knees to make sure all the plants made it in the ground. Not an easy job but our volunteers are the best. Steve, rsblank@verizon.net 215-872-6616

Justice & Peace Spotlight

The Justice and Peace team invites Salford to join us in a conversation with Jonathan Moyer, Director, Frederick S. Pardee Institute for International Futures, at the University of Denver in Denver CO. on Thursday evening, May 23rd at 7:00 pm in the Gathering Room. Jonathan Moyer grew up at Salford and is the son of Dave and Elaine Moyer. In his role, with his unique perspective as an Anabaptist, he is involved with leaders from around the world, assisting them in planning a better future for their countries. Because of his "futures planning work", what better person to engage in a conversation about the future of Anabaptism as we approach our 500-year anniversary. Jonathan says, "I'm happy to come to one of your meetings to talk about my work and how it relates to the Mennonite response to violence in the world".

After an overview of his work, we will spend the remainder of the time on Q/A

related to building a peaceful world at home and abroad. Please plan to join us. We will be meeting in the Gathering Room for a live/zoom meeting at 7:00-8:30pm,

Thursday May 23rd. Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86353570995?pwd=RHVDU2s3LzdnTkwxMTErbTV0SGVQUT09>

If you have any questions or want more info contact Joe Landis jqlandis@gmail.com.

Faith Formation Spotlight

The children's Sunday School program for 2024-25 is almost fully staffed! **However, we are still in need of at least one helper/aide for each age group (2s&3s, 4s&K, 1st-2nd, 3rd-5th).** This role is involved on no more than half the Sundays of the year and requires absolutely no preparation. Please be in touch with Jenn Svetlik if you're willing to explore this possibility!

Did You Know? Celebrating Salford Mennonite Child Care Center's Upcoming 40th Anniversary

Part of what makes the Child Care Center highly sought out are its sanctions of two important organizations that support early childhood programs. Each has standards that must be met to earn their certification/accreditation, and these designations are key indicators to prospective families about the ongoing quality SMCCC provides. These organizations also offer invaluable resources to staff and administration.

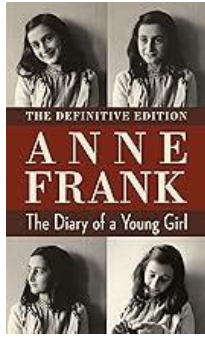
The [Pennsylvania Keystone Stars](#) licensing program is a mandatory state-level "quality rating and improvement system" built on child care health and safety requirements. After a yearly inspection, centers receive a certification and quality rating score from a STAR 1 to STAR 4. To secure a higher STAR level, higher standards must be met in four areas: staff education, learning environment, leadership/management, and family/community partnerships. SMCCC has consistently been a STAR 4 rated center and is the only STAR 4 center in our local area.

SMCCC also has a long-standing relationship with the [National Association for the Education of Young Children](#) (NAEYC), a professional nation-wide organization that promotes "high-quality learning for young children by connecting practice, policy, and research." NAEYC evaluation is voluntary, and their accreditation is valid for five years. A center must meet 10 standards which are: relationships among children and adults, curriculum, appropriate/effective teaching approaches, assessment of child progress, health, teacher qualifications, relationships with families, relationships with the community, physical environment, and leaders/management. Receiving the NAEYC accreditation is like having a "Blue Ribbon" award in child care programs.

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>

Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl By: Anne Frank, Otto Frank

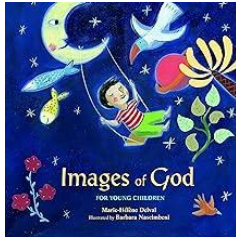


Discovered in the attic where she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has become a world classic—a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit.

In 1942, as Nazis occupied Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding. For the next two years, until their whereabouts were betrayed to the Gestapo, they and another family lived cloistered in the secret upstairs rooms of an old office building. Cut off from the outside world, they faced hunger, boredom, the constant cruelties of living in confined quarters, and the ever-present threat of discovery and death.

In her diary Anne Frank recorded vivid impressions of her experiences during this period. By turns thoughtful, moving, and amusing, Anne's account offers a fascinating commentary on human courage and frailty and a compelling self-portrait of a sensitive and spirited young woman whose promise was tragically cut short. DONATED

Images of God for Young Children By: Marie-Helene Delval



The Bible describes God in many different ways: God is light; God is joy; God is wisdom. God is the beauty that fills the earth and the rock we stand on, the promises we live by and the fire that purifies us. This volume offers a collection of these images, presented in simple language that young readers can easily understand. This book's bright artwork and lyrical text, written by the bestselling author of Psalms for Young Children, explores how, even though we cannot see or touch God, we can still discover him in our world. DONATED

News & Notes

Sunday May 26th will be the last 2nd Hour Contemplative class with Pastor Karen. Please meet in 206 for a time of prayer. We will then go to breakfast together!

Address Update:

Bill & Cindy Scheetz
110 Charles Lane, Harleysville, PA 19438

Mennonite Education Plan covenants have been placed in all church mailboxes, with a few additional copies placed at the Welcome Center. For families planning to participate in the MEP, please return the covenant to the church office by May 26, 2024. Please contact the MEP team; Ron Freed, Meredith Ehst or Jim Rittenhouse if you have questions about MEP participation.

Welcoming the Child! We will have a time for Welcoming our children on Sunday, June 16th. Contact Pastor Karen if your family would like to be a part of this time.

Beyond Salford

Dock Mennonite Academy's 63rd Annual Country Fair and Auction will be held on **Friday, May 17 from 5-9 PM**. The event promises good food, fun & entertainment for the entire family! Join us for BBQ Chicken Dinner onsite from 5-7 PM as well as a delicious variety of food truck fare throughout the evening. Our LIVE Auction will take place outdoors under the tent starting at 7:30 pm with auctioneer Sandy Alderfer. Our online auction contains many more items and

experiences and runs from May 10-20, 2024. On the fly? Drive by our Chicken Drive Thru at Franconia Mennonite Church from 4:00 PM-6:30 PM. Strawberry Pies will be available onsite and at the Drive Thru! Don't miss Inflatables, Face Painting, Ben's Balloon Animals, and our Helicopter Cow & Candy Drop Friday evening at 7 PM. Bring the whole family and share in all the fun! Shuttle parking available from March Farms/Franconia Café. Visit www.dock.org for all the details.

Please join us at **9 am on Saturday, May 18**, as **Mosaic Mennonite Conference** holds a **Fun Walk** to benefit **The Worm Project** at **Franconia Community Park**. **No sign up**. Along the walking path will be a number of fun, interactive, and educational stations for all ages. Come and stroll with family and friends and learn about our mission to treat children suffering from parasitic worms in the poorest countries around the world. Every dollar you donate will help treat 40 children. <http://www.wormproject.org>

The May edition of **On the Level** is now available from **Mennonite Disaster Service**. In our current issue: Kevin King introduces you to some of our national partners, learn how MDS is helping those who help the homeless in Selma, Alabama, and take a look at the volunteer opportunities for this summer and fall. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/4akQLBQ>