

April 5, 2026

Sunday, Apr. 5, 2026
9:30 a.m. Pastor Wayne Nitzsche is preaching on John 20: 1-18 and Communion

No Second Hour This Week

March 29 Offering
Offering - \$10,190
ACH - \$2,030
Vanco - \$924

Total Budget Offering
\$13,144

Children's Offering: \$35

This Week at Salford

Wed., Apr. 8
6:30 P.M. Banned and Challenged Book Group, Library

7 P.M. Trustee Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Thurs., Apr. 9
7 P.M. Justice & Peace Team Meeting, Library and Zoom

Future Salford Events
Apr. 12 – Dock Touring Choir

May 2 – Spring Church Work Day

Easter Sunday at Salford – Communion and Flowering the Cross

Easter is sometimes called The Feast of the Resurrection. Many of us celebrate by feasting with family and friends. We bring our unique physical, emotional, and spiritual appetite. We will reflect in various ways on John's account of the Feast of the Resurrection and see that each person in the story has their unique experience of the events. Jesus calls Mary's name, and she shares her faith and joy. We'll share a foretaste of the Great Feast as we take communion together. Come, just as you are to the feast!

As you prepare for the Table, please keep a few things in mind:

- If you take communion, what are you celebrating? What are you committing to? What are you asking for?
- This meal is a symbol of Jesus' active love of the world. What does it mean for you to participate in this love at the communion table?

Are you open to the possibility that Jesus might teach, challenge, inspire, or call you through this sacred ritual?

Please plan to bring a few cut flowers with you so you and your family can help us "flower the cross". The flowering of the cross is a Western Christian tradition where worshippers place flowers on the cross, which is traditionally bare during Lent and Good Friday, to symbolize the new life and resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. As a community, we will bring life and beauty to the cross, symbolizing the beauty of new birth that comes to all of us with the resurrection!



A reminder that there is no Second Hour this week. All are invited to the Fellowship Hall after worship for coffee and donut holes.

New Assistive Devices Table in Foyer

A table in the foyer now offers assistive devices to help everyone participate more fully in our worship. You'll find items like large-print hymnals, noise-canceling headphones, and hearing devices, with additional supports such as fidgets added over time as needs are identified.

If you have information or prayer requests for our newsletter, please submit them to the church office by 10 am Thursdays. If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please submit your email address to ioneslongt@salfordmc.org

Please feel free to use these tools, return them after worship, and be in touch with Laura Alderfer or another member of the All In Project team if you have suggestions for what else may be needed.

First Quarter Finance Update for Salford Mennonite Church

For 2026, we will present regular updates on our financial situation.

- We will need an average of **\$17,319** in weekly offering to cover our anticipated expenses. Later in the year we can adjust our income need if savings or overages of budgeted expenses are identified.
- At the end of the first quarter (13 weeks) we have received **\$204,771** in offering and income, with an **average weekly offering of \$15,751**.

Peace Camp 2026

Volunteers Needed to make Peace Camp 2026 a success! – We've already had over 30 kids register! We are in need of:

- 3 more teachers
- Several helpers and specials leaders
- Kitchen Cooking, Serving, & Cleanup

Prayerfully consider how you can support the children of this congregation and the local community in one of our central outreach events. Contact Jenn Svetlik at salfordpeacecamp@gmail.com to learn more about how you can be a part of this very memorable week!

Registration is now open for Peace Camp 2026, Sunday, June 14-Thursday, June 18: <https://forms.gle/gZmULpgeED67GrRXA> Register at this link (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.

Our 2026 Healthy Niños Team Needs Donations!

Salford is sending a 12-person delegation to Honduras with Healthy Niños from May 23-30, 2026. **The team is hoping to fill 15 suitcases with the items listed below for distribution to the community members they will serve.** Donations can be brought to Salford over the next few weeks. Contact Rick Kratz with questions.

Items Needed:

- Toothbrushes
- Soccer balls (deflated)
- Coloring books and new/gently used crayons
- Toys (w/out batteries) – matchbox cars, stuffed animals, dolls, baby toys, jump ropes, beads and string for bracelets
- Work gloves

- Baseball caps (No USA or camo themes)
- Women's aprons (half aprons preferred)
- Sewing kits (Dollar Tree carries simple ones)
- Monetary donations to purchase Spanish Bibles

2026 Healthy Niños Team Members: Ron and Debbie Freed, Luke, Cassidy and Josh Gulley, Suzanne and Rick Kratz, Diane Good, Gail Alderfer, Mark Boorse, Kolson Hunsberger, and Katy Hoover.

Spring Directory Refresh

Is your church directory photo from years ago? Have you moved or changed other contact information? Please double check that your directory listing is up to date. You can update your listing yourself using the "Edit My Info" option or contact Tori in the church office for help. And a reminder that the church directory is available as an app for your smartphone. Search for "Instant Church Directory" in the App Store/Google Play and download the app with the green and white church icon. Use the email address associated with your directory listing to access the directory. If you aren't in the directory and would like to be, contact Tori.

Our Church Family

Friends at Souderton Mennonite Homes – Join us for our monthly gathering in the Friendship Room on **Monday, April 13th from 7-8 P.M.** We'll sing, pray, and consider God's word together. Contact Pastor Karen with questions.

Prayer Concerns

- For **Ginny Ward**, who fractured her left fibula. Please pray for good medical care and for healing.
- For **Willis Miller** who is at home at Souderton Mennonite Homes with an abdominal mass that is giving him discomfort. Willis has pain and increasing weakness. Pray for pain relief and rest.
- For **Juliana and her son Cole** as they mourn the loss of husband and father Vinnie Flora.
- We join all Mosaic congregations in prayer for **Rev. Dr. Calenthia Dowdy**, who recently joined the Mosaic staff as Director of Collaborative Ministries, to lead accompaniment relationships with the conference's Conference-Related Ministries. Pray for God's wisdom as Dr. C nurtures relationships and supports these ministries.

News & Notes

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 3, 2026. Participating families are asked to attend a

meeting with Salford's MEP team on **May 17th** (time and location to be determined). Please contact the MEP team (Ron Freed, Meredith Ehst or Pastor Andrew Zetts) if you have questions about MEP participation.

Salford volleyball update – Your Salford volleyball team finished the regular season with a dominating win over River of Life 5-0. It was a great team win landing them with the 5th seat overall for the season and the top seat in the loser's bracket. The first round of the playoffs is Monday at 8:30 at Leidy's.

Banned and Challenged Book Group – The Banned and Challenged Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, April 8th at 6:30 P.M.** in the church library. We are reading "Witch of Blackbird Pond" by Elizabeth George Speare. Call Carolynn Boyd at 610-489-9084 with any questions.

Sunday Morning Prayer Time: Is your head swirling and heart heavy with *All The Things*? Bring it to God – meet Pastor Karen in the prayer room before church on Sunday. Karen will be there at 8:45 to begin prayer. All are welcome to join in. There are also prayer books, journals, hymnals and guided prayer ideas available for you anytime.

Service & Mission

The Donation of the Month for March – **Keystone Opportunity Center (KOC)**

ITEMS NEEDED: Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Tuna, Chunky Soups, Beef Stew, SpaghettiOs w/ meatballs, Beefaroni, Ravioli, Pasta Sauce (with or without meat), etc.

You can also purchase items from KOC's "Immediate Needs" list. Items can be purchased for KOC through their [Amazon Wishlist](#). KOC is updating this list weekly.

Please place items in the basket at the donation of the month table or on the shelves in the coat room. Monetary donations are also welcome. You can label your offering envelope or check memo line for "Donation of the Month", check made payable to Salford Mennonite Church. Please have all supplies and donations to Salford by May 1st.

Justice & Peace Spotlight

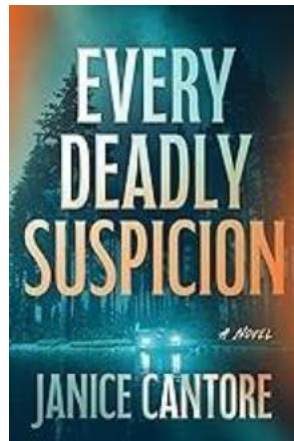
Strengthening Relationships with the Lenape People: Registration is now open for the 3rd Annual Lenape Symposium hosted by The Delaware Tribe of Indians and Ursinus College. The Lenape Symposium is Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18th. Representatives of the tribe will be there to discuss the history of the Lenape people, how best to engage with indigenous nations, treatment of Lenape artifacts in museums, and the relationship of the Lenape to the land of their ancestors in the mid-Atlantic from which they were removed. There is also a special meal being provided by the Lenape on Friday night for

which there is a separate registration. Space is limited so register early! Registration is online. See [HERE](#) for more information.

Salford-Advent Garden Spotlight

Greetings fellow gardeners – Spring has sprung and we are slowly starting to have some nice days. I would like to plant our snap peas, but the soil is still a little too wet. If I rototill now all I would get is clumps of mud. A few more dry windy days and all will be good. This Saturday I will be at the garden. I plan on replacing 2 big wooden beds and 3 of the original smaller beds. I have a plan for those smaller beds. I bought 3 new metal 4x8 beds and I will use these to see if that is the way to go. If you attended the fundraiser, you may remember Andrew Berg of Keystone Opportunity Center telling us about a garden going in at Zwingli UCC on Wile Ave. in Souderton, just down the street from me. I saw them working on it this past week and it was really nice to see others getting in the garden swing! I hope to have all beds close to ready for our first planting Saturday April 11. Cabbage, broccoli, beets, carrots, lettuce and radishes. The next Saturday, April 18, will be our second spring planting. Onions and potatoes. Saturday April 4 is my day to go fishing. Me and millions of others flock to our local streams and lakes for the first day of trout fishing. Fun, fun, fun!

Church Library Spotlight



Every Deadly Suspicion
By: Janice Cantore

In Dry Oaks, California, Chief of Police Hanna Keyes has long believed her father, Joe, is a murderer, justly imprisoned. When she's told he's dying and is being given compassionate release from prison, she wants nothing to do with him. But taking him in might be Hanna's one shot at cracking the cold case, so she reluctantly agrees to oversee his care.

Joe's arrival in Dry Oaks seems to set off a chain reaction of crimes. Then an infamous true-crime podcaster comes sniffing for information, and Hanna's first love, Jared, shows up just when she least needs the distraction. As Hanna tries to convince Joe to reveal what he knows about the missing persons, evidence in the cold case surfaces at a suspiciously rapid pace . . . suggesting there's more to the murders than people thought.

With Joe's strength failing, Hanna and her colleagues look for answers, not only about the past but also about recent criminal dealings in Dry Oaks. As the puzzle pieces start to fit together, it becomes clear that there's a sinister plot at work, far more wide-reaching than anyone suspected, and that someone is desperate to silence the truth at any cost.

Stop by the church library and speak with a librarian to see what's new, or review the library catalog on the Salford church website: <https://smck-ind.kari.opalsinfo.net/bin/home#0>

Beyond Salford

The **Pennsylvania Relief Sale, April 17-18** at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, PA, features renowned auctions, My Coins Count, Ten Thousand Villages items, artisan crafts and goods, food, displays, activities, entertainment, and more! Visit PaReliefSale.org for more information.