



May 3, 2026

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**Sunday, May 3, 2026**  
**9:30 a.m. Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live**  
Pastor Wayne Nitzsche preaching on Acts 17:16-31

**10:45 am Second Hour**

**Emmaus Road Sermon Discussion Class** meets in the room behind the Welcome Center. All are welcome.

**April 26 Offering**  
Offering - \$3,010  
ACH - \$2,030  
Vanco - \$1,443

**Total Budget Offering**  
**\$6,483**

**Children's Offering: \$34**

## **This Week at Salford**

**Wed., May. 6**  
8:30 -1, Sewing Cricle, Gathering Room

## **Future Salford Events**

**May 30** – American Red Cross Blood Drive

**May 31** – Installation Service for Pastor Mark Boorse

We are four weeks into the season of Easter. The message of resurrection still confounds and astonishes all who hear the message. The preaching text this Sunday is from Acts 17:16-31. Paul is in Athens, the center of Greco-Roman culture. There he presents the gospel to the hodge-podge of rational thinkers, cynics and big idea people. His speech goes well until he introduces the risen Christ. The audience divides into those who mock and those who are interested in hearing more. We may identify with that crowd. We live in a rational, cynical world where there is little room for mystery, astonishment, and wonder. Are we able to open ourselves to the possibility that our present reality is not the way things have to be? Might our faith be able to allow room for surprising possibilities, for encountering beauty, awe and reverence because we believe, with Paul, that Christ is alive and goes before us?

## **Spring Church Workday This Saturday, May 2 |8am-12pm**

Come lend a hand as we spruce up the grounds and tackle some spring cleaning projects around the church. All are welcome! We'll have a variety of tasks for every ability. Whether you can come for the whole morning or just an hour, every helping hand makes a difference.

Come ready to work, laugh, and enjoy some good fellowship—we'll have coffee and snacks to keep us going. Contact Kyle Longacre or Tori Jones Long with questions or to let us know you're coming! Thanks for helping make our meetinghouse shine!

## **An update from "A.P. (Almost Pastor) Mark"**

As May 11, and my official start date is fast approaching, I wanted to offer a couple of things:

First, thanks for the outpouring of encouragement, support and prayers extended to Brenda and I as we move into this next chapter with you. We are truly grateful for you and our sense of belonging here.

The second is that Brenda and I are going to be in Cape Cod and Gloucester, MA over the next week. It's a family vacation that we moved up from June, so that we can have some time away and also that I can start fresh, focused, and ready to go. You won't see us for the next two Sundays, but we will be back!

And third, as we settle into the logistics of this, I have a shiny new email address; [boorse@salfordmc.org](mailto:boorse@boorse@salfordmc.org). You can feel free to add it to your

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 [joneslongt@salfordmc.org](mailto:joneslongt@salfordmc.org)

contacts. I will most likely not be checking it until I start on the 11th, but will be using it fully then.

With gratitude, Mark and Brenda

## **Curiosity Project Second Hour This Sunday, May 3 – Person of Peace**

This week Tori will lead the Curiosity Project Second Hour class. The group will discuss spending time in Third Spaces in our community. See [HERE](#) for more information about the practice. Even if you haven't completed the practice, you are invited to join the conversation and offer your experiences or learn about ways to start engaging with the project.

## **2026 Family Promise Volunteer Signup is Open!**

[Family Promise Montco PA](#) is a non-profit organization in Montgomery County working to end homelessness and hunger. It provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, food pantry services, and case management to help families become independent.

Together Salford Mennonite Church and Advent Lutheran Church are partnering with Family Promise to host a 2-week shelter this summer from **July 5<sup>th</sup> to July 19<sup>th</sup>**. Families will be housed at Salford. We are recruiting volunteers from both churches to make dinner, serve and clean up dinner, stay overnight, coordinate dinner menus, wash linens, and shop for groceries as needed. Please use this link to sign up:

[SIGN UP HERE to Volunteer at Salford's Family Promise Shelter](#)

Background checks (<https://epatch.pa.gov/home>) and child abuse clearances (<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS/Public/Home>) are required for volunteers who will have contact with guests (i.e., serving and cleaning up after dinner and staying overnight). A training session will also be offered in June (date TBD) and attendance is highly recommended.

If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Scheetz (away from 5/2-5/18), Beth Styer or Carolyn Boyd. Thank you for joining us in this wonderful ministry!

## **Volunteers Needed!**

We are looking for regular volunteers to help with cemetery and columbarium maintenance (weed whacking and blowing grass off tombstones) on Saturday mornings between 9:30 A.M. and 12 P.M. Contact Linda Martin or Kyle Longacre if you're willing to lend a hand. Thank you!

## **Do You Have a Grill You're Ready to Get Rid Of?**

The Salford MYF would like to acquire a propane grill and keep it at church to use at events during our warmer months. Before buying something new, we

thought we would see if anyone in the congregation is looking to get rid of a grill that is too good to throw away. So, if you are doing your spring cleaning and looking to upgrade your grill or simply get rid of it, consider donating it to the MYF.

The grill should:

- Use propane
- Be fully functional
- Have wheels so it can be transported around the campus

Thank you for considering and please contact Pastor Andrew ([zetsa@salfordmc.org](mailto:zetsa@salfordmc.org)) if you think you have something that fits this description. Please make sure to contact Pastor Andrew prior to bringing anything to church.

## Searching for Parade Walkers

This year, we would like to participate in the annual Harleysville Country Fair Days Parade on **Saturday, May 23**, from 9:45 A.M.-12:30 P.M. This is a great way to participate in community life and be more visible in our neighborhood. If you are interested in helping to prepare our signs and banners or simply walk in the parade, please let Pastor Andrew know ([zetsa@salfordmc.org](mailto:zetsa@salfordmc.org)).

## Inclusive Mosaic Update

Over the past few years, Salford's pastors have participated in a conference-wide group of Mosaic leaders called Inclusive Mosaic. It is a group of over 30 leaders, from a dozen Mosaic congregations and Conference staff, that has met since 2023 to advocate for LGBTQIA+ inclusion and affirmation in the full life of the church. Since Fall 2025, there has been quite a bit of activity in Inclusive Mosaic that our congregation could benefit from being updated on. If you use the following links, you can access the resources that provide a fuller picture of all the work Inclusive Mosaic has done over the past few months.

- ["Is there a place in Mosaic for me?"](#) (*Anabaptist World* Article) – Inclusive Mosaic member, Christian Manero, wrote this article to share her experience as a queer pastor in Mosaic and let queer people know there is a group within Mosaic rooting and advocating for their inclusion.
- ["When We Belong: Bringing Our Full Selves"](#) (Youtube recording) – In March, Mosaic's Intercultural Committee hosted this panel discussion. Leadership Minister, Danilo Sanchez, moderated the conversation where participants shared their experiences of feeling a sense of belonging and rejection within Mosaic. Inclusive Mosaic member, Pastor Samantha Lioi, was one of the three participants and she had the opportunity to share what it is like to be a queer leader in Mosaic. Pastor Wayne Nitsche wrote a reflection that was published in *Mosaic News* that you can find [here](#).
- ["Listening, Learning, and Leading Together at the March Board Retreat"](#) (*Mosaic News* Article) – In October 2025, Inclusive Mosaic

sent the Mosaic Board a letter inviting them to meet to build relationships and discuss some of the group's requests to make the Conference more welcoming and officially inclusive. In response, one of the board members, Maati Yvonne, invited a group from Inclusive Mosaic to join the Board for part of its in-person retreat. The Inclusive Mosaic representatives were able to connect with the Board for about two hours. During this time they built relationships and participated in a restorative circle where the Inclusive Mosaic representatives were able to share stories of life and ministry with queer people. You can see the conversation mentioned in the article published about the retreat.

## Our Church Family

### Prayer Concerns

- For **Karen, Darwin, Isaac, Micah, Lukah, Josiah and Elijah Zehr** as they mourn the loss of Karen's mother, *Barbara Myers*, who passed on Wednesday morning after a short time on Hospice. Pray for peace in the coming days.
- For **Anna Lisa Yoder** who left for Spain on Tuesday of this week. Anna Lisa and her mom and several other family members are walking a stretch of the Camino together. Pray for their physical stamina for this journey and for their time together, relationally and spiritually.
- For **Jan Landis** who will have some upper GI testing done on May 6th after some acute abdominal pain. Jan has a hiatal hernia and possible gall bladder issues. Pray for good discernment with the doctors as they determine the best treatment.
- All Mosaic Conference congregations are invited to pray for **Resplandece Mennonite** (Pembroke Pines, FL and hybrid) as they recently welcomed Haroldo Nunes as their next pastor. May God grant Nunes wisdom, courage, and a shepherd's heart as he serves the congregation.

### News & Notes

**Sewing Circle** will meet on **Wednesday, May 6th** from 8:30-1:00 in the Gathering Room. Stop in for as long as you want! All are welcome.

**Friends at Souderton Mennonite Homes** – Join us for our monthly gathering in the Friendship Room on **Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 7-8 P.M.** We'll sing, pray, and consider God's word together. Contact Pastor Karen with questions.

**Banned and Challenged Book Group** – The Banned and Challenged Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M.** in the church library. We are reading "Animal Farm" by George Orwell. Call Carolyn 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 May – **Access Services Street Outreach**

ITEMS NEEDED: Warm weather sleeping bags, small/portable tents, bug spray and sunscreen, \$10 Wawa or McDonald's food gift cards. You can also purchase items from Access Services' [Amazon Wishlist](#).

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 June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Justice & Peace Spotlight**

**Strengthening Relationships with the Lenape People** – On the afternoon of **Sunday, May 3**, Lenape cultural ambassadors from the Delaware Tribe in Bartlesville, OK, will be present at [Pennsbury Manor](#) (the state historic site in Bucks County containing a reconstruction of William Penn's original Pennsylvania dwelling, as well as a museum, and a re-burial site for Lenape remains and funerary objects recovered from various museums and institutions.) The tribal members will be sharing about their history and culture. Admission to Pennsbury that day also includes the opportunity to take a guided tour of the reconstructed colonial plantation and to watch the sheep-shearing demonstration also planned for that day, which may be especially interesting for families with children.

### **Salford-Advent Garden Spotlight**

Greetings fellow gardeners – This week the bottom end of the garden was rototilled. Thank you Kyle Longacre! Jamee Welby from the Freed farm in Morwood will be helping me lay down the plastic mulch and drip tape, Friday afternoon. On Saturday we can lay down our cardboard and straw in the aisles. I have stakes in the ground for the sugar snap pea trellis. All we need is a little extension added to each post and the netting. We will use this same trellis for our pole beans in the fall. While walking around the garden I noticed some of our potatoes have popped up! That was quick. WOW! I was able to replant some of the cabbage that was hit by the frost the other week. The beets have not resprouted so they will have to be reseeded. Our carrots have started to sprout. They were the smart ones. They waited until after the frost to pop out. I am off work next week and should be working at the garden almost every day getting ready for our summer planting on Saturday May 9th. If you have never volunteered at the garden on Saturday, the 9th would be a great time to see what goes on and how we plant our summer veggies. As always, we start at 8

am and are finished by 12 noon or sooner, with our 10 am break thrown in there too.

Thank you to all who support this mission - 20 years and growing - growing good food for those who need it most.

## **Church Library Spotlight**

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**

**65th Annual Dock Country Fair & Auction – Friday May 15, 2026:** Dock Mennonite Academy invites the community to its 65th Annual Country Fair & Auction on Friday, May 15, 2026, from 5–9 PM at the EC8 campus (420 Godshall Road, Souderton, PA). The event features family-friendly entertainment, great food, and activities for all ages. For more information, visit [www.dock.org](http://www.dock.org)