

April 6, 2025

Sunday, April 6, 2025
9:30 a.m. Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Pastor Dave Greiser preaching on Luke 18:31–19:10

10:45 am Second Hour

Emmaus Road Sermon Discussion Class meets in the room behind the Welcome Center. The Emmaus Road group welcomes all.

Mar. 30 Offering
Offering - \$6,000
ACH - \$1,930
Vanco - \$1,843

Total Budget Offering
\$9,773

Children's Offering: \$6

This Week at Salford

Wed., April 9

6:30 PM, Banned Book Club, Library

7:00-8:00 PM, Choir Practice, Sanctuary

If you have information or prayer requests for our newsletter, please submit them to the church office by 10 am Thursdays.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

All three of this week's stories from Luke are about people who are unable to see. The disciples and Zaccheus do not "see" Jesus. The blind man cannot see the world, but he "sees" Jesus when others do not.

Jesus collides with our lives when we are unable to perceive who he is, or how he views our world. What are you seeing and not seeing about Jesus or the world that Jesus loves? May the Holy Spirit grant you courage, and let's find out together.

Coffee Talk with Board Members, April 6th

After the Sunday service on April 6th church board members Sharon Gehman and Ron Freed will be in the foyer for Coffee Talk. Coffee Talk is an opportunity for church board members to receive feedback and dialogue about anything regarding congregational life. Grab a warm drink from the café (upstairs) and join Sharon and Ron for conversation.

New Second Hour Option for April and May

During April and May, the Senior MYF will be hosting the Connections Second Hour class in Room 211 (upstairs, near the prayer room) and all are welcome to join. Each week, one or two people will be interviewed and share stories from their faith and life. This class has been run in the past and has been a great way for people--both those who are new at Salford and those who have been here for a long time--to connect with each other and learn more about their journey of faith. This week Pastor Andrew will interview Joe and Jan Landis. We hope to see you there!

Easter Sunday – Flowering the Cross



On Easter Sunday, 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!

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please submit your email address to ioneslongt@salfordmc.org.

Spring Choir Rehearsal Schedule

The Salford Choir will sing on Good Friday (April 18th) and Easter Sunday (April 20th). The final choir rehearsals will take place in the sanctuary on the following days:

Wednesday, **April 9th** from 7-8pm

Sunday, **April 13th** from 8:15-9am

Contact Choir Director, Emily Buckley at emilyfaye63@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

Pastoral Search Update

Salford's Pastoral Search Committee has been hard at work! We have been working diligently on drafting and finalizing various documents that are required for pastoral searches. The job description is now public and is on Salford's social media and our website. Go to www.salfordmc.org, under the About Us tab, click Pastoral Search, or simply [click here](#). The job posting is being distributed through the Mennonite Church USA ministerial database and through ads in Anabaptist World magazine and Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests' newsletter. If you have ideas of anyone who might make a good candidate, please share that person's name with Suzanne Kaczor, Randy Nyce, or any member of the Pastoral Search Committee. Please continue to be patient and pray with us as we allow time for people to discern their potential calling and interest in the position. Thank you!

Faith Formation Night – Wednesday, April 16th, 5:30-8 PM

Join us for our monthly Faith Formation Night! Faith Formation Nights are for people of all ages, with childcare available for children in kindergarten and younger. The intention is to help us synchronize our schedules once a month so we can meaningfully connect with each other and nurture our growing faith.

You do not need to be a parent to attend this event! We cherish our opportunities like this to connect intergenerationally.

5:30-6:15 P.M.: Dinner

6:15-6:30 P.M.: Worship

6:30-8:00 P.M.: Age-specific programs

Kids Club: A space for 1st-5th graders to have a fun time exploring various themes and stories from Scripture through crafts, games, and a variety of activities.

This month, the MYF and adults will participate in the Stations of the Cross. In this Lenten devotional practice, Christians reflect on the Passion of Christ (the time from Jesus' betrayal to his crucifixion). We will connect the pain and suffering that Jesus endured during Holy Week, prior to the surprise and

joy of Easter, with the suffering in our world today. We will go through the stations in groups around Salford's campus as we view images, read Scripture, and sing. Please **RSVP by April 14.**

Salford Childcare Fundraising Night at Chick-fil-A Lansdale

You can support Salford Mennonite Childcare Center by dining at the Lansdale Chick-fil-A on **Wednesday, April 9th from 4-8 PM.** To support SMCCC, place a mobile order through the Chick-fil-A app, enter the Community Care Code, **SALFORD**, and 10% of your purchase will be donated. Ordering through the mobile app required! Simply ordering through drive through or in store will not register the purchase to SMCCC. Thanks in advance for supporting SMCCC!

Peace Camp 2025

Registration is now open for Peace Camp 2025, Sunday, June 15-Thurs, June 19: <https://forms.gle/mNS7pLYQE92sBS6D7> 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.

Finance Update for Salford Mennonite Church

For 2025, we will present a monthly update of our financial situation.

- We will need an average of **\$16,500** in weekly offering to cover our anticipated expenses. Later in the year we can adjust our income need if expense budget savings or overages are recognized.
- We have received **\$203,808** in offering and income over the first thirteen weeks of the year, with an **average weekly offering of \$15,677.**

Our Church Family

Salford friends at Souderton Mennonite Homes: Our monthly gathering will be on **Monday, April 14th from 7-8 PM** in the Friendship Room. We will NOT have communion this month - we'll share communion in May. But we WILL have songs, scripture, and sharing. Please join us! Questions: call Karen.

Please Save the Date! The Trustees will be having a workday on Saturday, May 10th. Come help maintain and beautify our grounds.

For those of us who parent or love and support people who are trans or LGBTQIA, these are rough days. Was there ever really a great time??? Pastor Karen leads a monthly gathering called Journeys where we come together to share, pray, and strategize good ways to support our loved ones today and always. Interested? Call Karen for details.

Prayer Concerns

- For the **18 women on the Salford Women's Retreat** this weekend. Pray for rest, relationships, and a fresh understanding of God.
- For **Lowell Bishop** who is in Grandview Hospital with heart failure. Lowell is anticipating a heart valve replacement surgery soon.
- For **Steve Hackman** who is struggling with depression. Pray for peace and assurance.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for Souderton (PA) Mennonite, who will host pastoral candidate Justin Porath and his family this weekend as they discern together a possible call to serve as the Associate Pastor for Discipleship along with current pastors Ken Burkholder and Jenifer Eriksen Morales. Pray for clarity and wisdom as the congregation and the Porath family spend time together.

News & Notes

The next **Banned and Challenged Book Group** is meeting on **April 9th at 6:30** in the church library. We are reading "A Thousand Acres" by Jane Smiley. Contact Carolyn Boyd with any questions.

Salford Volleyball: Salford volleyball has made the playoffs! Winning all 5 of their games on Monday they have secured the 4th seat in the B bracket. Their first playoff game will be Monday night against Covenant Community church at 7pm at Leidy's in Souderton. It should be a great match. If you are looking for something to do Monday night, come join their one and only fan and cheer them on.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for April – **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 consider purchasing items through KOC's Amazon Wishlist. Donations can also be placed at the Donation of the Month table near the nursery for delivery at the end of the month. 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.

Salford-Advent Garden Spotlight

Greetings fellow gardeners – Peas at last, peas at last, Steve has finally planted peas at last. Yes, the first seeds of 2025 are in the ground. Last

Saturday we had a hardy crew on hand. As I repaired our raised beds that needed attention, our volunteers added wheelbarrows full of mushroom soil and compost to the beds. After I was finished repairs, I decided to see if our rototiller started. Two pulls and she fired right up. I checked out the soil in the rows where the peas would go. The soil looked really good. Four passes with the tiller and a few passes with my seed planter and the peas were in. This week was compost turning week. I had 6 bins that needed to be turned over so they could continue to cook down and turn into finished compost. The first 4 went fine then I tried turning the last 2 and realized that the compost in these bins was near perfect WOW, I was not expecting that. More compost to spread is always a plus! This Saturday is the first day of trout fishing in PA. I will be sitting by my favorite stream with a million other hopeful fisherman. It also looks to be wet so take this Saturday off. I am on vacation from work next week and will be working at the garden every day. I will be turning on the irrigation system; some beds still need compost and getting the garden ready for our first big planting day on **Saturday 4/12**. 2025 is moving right along. Thank you to the volunteers who came out and worked on a very warm Saturday morning last week.

Justice & Peace Spotlight

Heeding God's Call – There will be an End Gun Violence Walk on **Sunday, April 6, 2025 starting at Zion Mennonite Church at 1:00 p.m.** Join us as the Souderton faith community organizes a peaceful outdoor walk and letter writing to support legislation to help end gun violence. All are welcome. We come together as one community, many of us inspired by our faith convictions, to honor those who have lost their lives to gun murders, to witness publicly through our presence, and to advocate for stronger and more effective gun laws and regulations. The 1.3 mile walk will go through downtown Souderton, starting at Zion, stay on public sidewalks, and ending in the pavilion at the Souderton Community Park, Wile Ave.

For more information contact Cindy Scheetz and/or Mary Miller. Learn more about Heeding God's Call [HERE](#).

Accessibility Spotlight

Nurturing Accessible Family Ministry – Join congregational leaders within Mosaic Conference for a workshop on supporting young people with autism and ADHD in congregational life. We will explore practical tools for creating safe and inclusive spaces, led by Morgan Shull (Plains), Board Certified Behavior Analyst.

When: Saturday, May 10 9-11am ET

Where: In-person at the Mosaic Conference Office and on Zoom

Register here: <https://forms.gle/9a7bbMi6A4Jz68Ls8>

Salford's children's ministry can cover the registration fee of anyone interested in attending from Salford. Please contact Jenn at jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com with any questions.

Mosaic Mennonite Conference Spotlight

Director of Community Engagement & Editor for Mosaic Conference, Jennifer Svetlik, shares an update about recent efforts to support immigrant-majority congregations in our conference in her piece [Mosaic Congregations Come Together for Accompaniment in Worship](#). Salford is one of several dominant-culture congregations coming alongside our vulnerable neighbors. If you're interested in learning more about how to get involved, contact Jenn or pastor Andrew.

Anabaptism at 500 Spotlight

In this 500th anniversary of Anabaptism, we're passing along resources for learning about our roots.

- The Mennonite Heritage Center will host a panel discussion regarding alternative service options and military service. Anabaptists may choose alternative service in times of peace or war. Without a draft in the United States, such service has become a choice for all Americans. The panel, co-moderated by **Glen Miller** and Scott Hutchinson, will include Salford's **Joel Alderfer**, **Joe Landis**, and **Eldon Miller**. You are invited to hear their stories at **Zion Mennonite Church** (149 E. Cherry Ln, Souderton, Pa.) on **May 17, 2025 from 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM**.

Beyond Salford

You're Invited to **Germantown Mennonite Historic Trust's (GMHT) Open House, on April 5th from 11:00 am - 1 pm**. The last few months have been a difficult transition at GMH, with the tragic passing of their beloved long time Board member and Interim President, Ruth Marino. From GMHT- "As we regain our footing, we are reaching out to you for support. Our Open House is an opportunity to learn more about GMHT and ways that you can support our work. We are seeking new Board members, committee members, and volunteers, to help us lift up GMHT and its work in the community. It is an exciting time for the organization, as we reinvent ourselves and reinvigorate our purpose and mission and we are excited to share more about our organizational structure and current needs with you."

GMHT is a steward of the first Mennonite Meetinghouse and cemetery in America and now, also home to Pastorius Community Gardens. At the Open House we'll meet in the historic meetinghouse to share its story, tour the historic cemetery and swing by Pastorius Gardens. Over lunch, we'll discuss ways you can get involved to help us continue building community at GMHT and Pastorius Gardens. Lunch will be provided.