



February 16, 2025

Sunday, Feb. 16, 2025
9:30 a.m. Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Dave Greiser preaching on John 15:1-10

10:45 am Second Hour

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

Feb. 9 Offering
Offering - \$3,280
ACH - \$2,055
Vanco - \$2,504
Total Budget Offering \$7,839

This Week at Salford

Feb. 14-16: Senior MYF Retreat at The Loft

Mon., Feb. 17
5:30-7 PM, Wood Carving Club, Fellowship Hall

Tues., Feb. 18
7-9 PM Church Board Meeting, Friendship Room

Wed., Feb. 19
6:30 PM, Faith Formation Night, Fellowship Hall

7:00 PM, Trustees Meeting, Library

Future Salford Events

Mar. 2 – EMU Chamber Singers Concert

Mar. 5 – Ash Wednesday Service

Mar. 29 – MYF Auction

Commemorating Anabaptism at 500

For four Sundays, Salford will be commemorating the 500th anniversary of the beginnings of the Anabaptist movement.

Each week we will highlight a different aspect of our Anabaptist vision, incorporating stories from our past and considering ideas and practices that have shaped Anabaptists and Mennonites into the unique portion of the Christian church that we have become. Our theme this week is Renewal through Trust and Yieldedness. From the *Anabaptism at 500 Tool Kit*, “As the Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online notes, Gelassenheit (yieldedness) is an attitude of “self-surrender and joyous acceptance of God’s willing” that characterized many early Anabaptists. By yielding their lives to serve the reign of God above all, the early Anabaptists learned to trust Jesus and obey his call to follow him in everything they did. Today, many Anabaptists have lost any understanding or practice of Gelassenheit. As we learn again to yield our lives to God and prayerfully immerse ourselves in the story and teachings of Jesus, we too may be renewed in the joy that comes from trusting and obeying God’s call to live justly, love mercy, and walk humbly in the Jesus way.” On Sunday, Dave will talk about what “yielding” looks like in these tense days, as we consider what it means to be branches feeding on the Vine, which is Jesus.

For those who are new to Salford or are considering church membership with us, there will be a Second Hour elective during these weeks in Room 211 (upstairs, across from the prayer room).

Coffee Talk with Board Members, February 16th

After the Sunday service on February 16th church board members Cindy Moyer 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 Cindy and Ron for conversation.

Supporting Immigrant Communities in Mosaic Conference

Immigrant congregations in Mosaic Conference have requested the presence of interested dominant-culture congregations (like Salford) to send a few people regularly to their worship services to increase a sense of solidarity and security. There is a team forming at Salford to explore this.

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.

If you are interested in knowing more about this idea, please find Karen Bergey in the foyer after worship this Sunday. She will also be sharing important resources including Know Your Rights cards in English and Spanish that you can take and share with others who may benefit from them.

Thanks to those who were able to participate in the Salford Know Your Rights and Be an Ally training this week. For those who were interested and unable to make it, please contact Jenn Svetlik (jsvetlik@mosaicmennonites.org) for the recording.

An Update about Beth Yoder's Credentials

We are pleased to announce that Beth Yoder has had her credentials fully restored by Mosaic Conference. The Conference board recently affirmed the minutes of the Ministerial Committee, which included a recommendation that restores Beth Yoder's credentials be restored to active as of December 4, 2024, after a two-year probation following the process outlined in the Giving and Receiving Council document.

Beth says: "I am grateful to be at this point in my own personal journey but am very aware that "The journey is long," as per the song we sing. I am grateful for all of you for the various ways you are committed to helping make space in the church where queer siblings can be fully accepted and fully included, where they can be full participants from whom and with whom we can continue to learn how to live into the vision of the beloved community."

2025 Mennonite Youth Fellowship Auction

A date has been set for the 2025 MYF Auction: **Saturday, March 29th**. Join the Salford community for a wonderful meal, fellowship, and the excitement of bidding on a host of terrific donations. The proceeds of the auction will help fund Salford's MYF and Salford's annual Peace Camp. The Senior MYF is traveling to Mennonite Church USA's Convention in Greensboro, N.C., this summer and we are planning to integrate a large art project into Peace Camp this year, so we are hoping for a strong showing at the auction to help us reach our fundraising needs.

More details are soon to follow, but you can already sign up to make donations to the auction by clicking [this link](#) (or getting a paper registration form from the Welcome Center). If you have any questions or donations to provide right away, you can contact Pastor Andrew at zettza@salfordmc.org or 215-859-3446.

Hosts Needed for EMU Chamber Singers!

We still need a place for 2 EMU Chamber Singers. Please help by providing housing for the EMU students who will be with us – can you provide a bed or two for the nights of Sunday, March 2 and Monday, March 3? Please call

Pastor Karen with any questions or to let us know you have a spot for these students. Thank you!

The EMU Chamber Singers Hope and Unity Concert will be at Salford on Sunday evening **March 2nd, at 7pm**. Come enjoy this internationally acclaimed chamber choir for an inspiring concert on the theme of "Hope and Unity." The Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) Chamber Singers is an auditioned touring chamber choir now in its 45th year. Students are from different areas of study and ages. This choir was chosen as the representative choir from North America to sing at the 500 Year Celebration of Anabaptism in Zürich. Programs are free of charge, and a love offering will be taken to support the choir's travel expenses.

A Conversation about Mennonite Education

At last fall's congregational meeting, there were questions raised about the Mennonite Education Plan (MEP) which is part of our church budget, enabling Salford to help families afford education in local Mennonite schools.

On Sunday, **February 23rd**, Dock Mennonite Academy's Bob Rutt, (Director of Development), Conrad Swartzentruber (superintendent), and Doug Hackman (high school principal) will be at Salford during our Second Hour to explain the workings of the MEP, how it was developed, and how it aids schools and families to afford education from a Mennonite context.

We anticipate that this will be the first of several possible meetings on the topic. At this first meeting, the emphasis will be on learning what the MEP is and how it works. You will have the opportunity to ask any questions about the MEP. Subsequent meetings will afford you the opportunity to express your thoughts concerning the MEP's place in Salford's mission.

February Faith Formation Night

This month's Faith Formation Night will take place on **Wednesday, February 19**. *However, there will be no meal, childcare, or formal adult session this month.* Kids' Club and Junior and Senior MYF will still meet, starting at 6:30 PM For adults interested in gathering, there will be space set up in the Fellowship Hall to gather as well as warm beverages provided.

Spring Choir Rehearsal Schedule

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

Wednesday, **February 26th** from 7-8pm

Wednesday, **March 12th** from 7-8pm

Wednesday, **March 19th** from 7-8pm

Wednesday, **March 26th** from 7-8pm

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

Contact Choir Director, Emily Buckley, if you are interested in being a part of Salford's spring choir. Copies of the music will be available at the first rehearsal so please bring your black binder/folder if you have it and be ready to begin learning!

Healthy Niños Honduras Trip – Summer 2025

Dr. Rick Kratz plans to lead a group from Salford to volunteer with Healthy Niños Honduras this summer. The trip will either be July 19 - 26 or August 9 - 16. If you are interested in participating, please contact him as soon as possible. You can reach him at suzanneandrick@msn.com.

Wildchurch Lenten Outdoor Service, Sunday March 30th

On Sunday, March 30th we will have a Wildchurch Lenten Outdoor Service with Perkasio Mennonite in the Salford Grove. More information to follow.

Our Church Family

Meals for the Kings: Please [sign up](#) to bring a meal to the Kings as Joan recovers from surgery. Thank you for your time and delicious food!

Prayer Concerns

- For the **Salford, Whitehall, and Zion Sr. High Youth** as they have a joint winter retreat at the Loft this weekend. Pray for the students and the leaders as they deepen connections with God and with each other.
- We are thankful with **Beth Yoder** that her ministry credentials with Mosaic Conference have been fully reinstated.
- For **Joan King** who is recovering at home from her surgery on Monday. Pray for good pain management and quick healing.
- We are thankful with **Jolene Landis** who is in remission after her last treatment.
- For **Mark Nyce** - his mother Lorene Nyce passed away on Monday. Please pray for Mark, Heiki-Lara, James, Conrad and the whole family at this time.
- For **John Ruth** whose oldest sister **Lois Kennel**, passed away earlier this week at the age of 92. Please keep John and Roma and the whole family in your prayers at this time.
- For **Grant Sigmans** who will be having ear tube surgery on February 17th. Pray for the procedure to continue as scheduled and for a quick recovery.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for **Indonesian Light Church** as they seek to raise funds to purchase their new building in South Philadelphia. Pray for the success of their fundraisers and for the mortgage process.

From Linda Martin - THANK YOU to all of you that came out to enjoy Kevin Shelly's phenomenal and professional magic show for the Salford church and childcare communities on February 9th. His generosity and yours helped

raise \$1,568 for SMCCC. Donations to SMCCC are very much needed and appreciated. THANK YOU.

Support Salford Youth's Upcoming Performances – Starting next week, we have Salford youth performing in school musicals through March. It would be wonderful to see the congregation get out and support our youth!

Youth: Atti and Finn Moes

Show: *Les Miserable*

Location: Perkiomen School

Dates of Performance: February 12-15

Website to Purchase Tickets: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YNMPP22>
(tickets are free but need to be reserved)

Youth: Lela Martin and Seth Alderfer

Show: *Oklahoma!*

Location: Dock EC-8 Campus

Dates of Performance: February 27-March 1

Website to Purchase Tickets: <https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/dock-mennonite-academy/6770b2eafad0a30f5f944940>

Youth: Fionn Shelly

Show: *The SpongeBob Musical*

Location: Indian Valley Middle School

Dates of Performance: March 6-8

Website to Purchase Tickets: TBD

Youth: Henry Goldcamp and Naomi Kaczor

Show: *The Little Mermaid*

Location: Dock EC-8 Campus

Dates of Performance: March 14-16

Website to Purchase Tickets: <https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/dock-mennonite-academy/6770b45b248c4c0f6d450a28>

Youth: Ciara Shelly

Show: *TBD*

Location: Souderton High School

Dates of Performance: March 27-30

Website to Purchase Tickets: TBD

News & Notes

Have you been thinking about starting a new hobby? Do you enjoy low pressure opportunities to connect with others at Salford? Conversations about starting a **Salford Wood Carving Club** (think Sewing Circle with knives) have begun. **The first meeting will be Monday, February 17th from 5:30 to 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.** If you are interested in learning more, please email chad.gehman@gmail.com All are welcome - no experience needed! Thank you & Safe Carving!

Update on Women's Events in 2025: Events for women and non-binary folks ages 18 and up! Watch your newsletter for more details. Call Pastor Karen with questions anytime!

Plan to Join Us!

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**Women's Wisdom MENO-tea** – information and sharing about flourishing in Perimenopause, Menopause, and beyond – **postponed until fall. Stay tuned for date and details**

**Dinner Yahtzee – Saturday, March 8, 4:30-8** – meet at Salford.

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Women's Spring Retreat, April 4-6: Sign-up is OPEN and limited to 20 women.

- Who: Anyone over 18 who identifies as a woman
- What: A weekend of rest, renewal, and growth – alone and together time
- Where: Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center, Pocono Mountains
- When: Arrive after 4:30 on Friday, April 4th and depart by noon on Sunday, April 6th
- Cost: \$150 for a single bed in a room for two (2) for two (2) nights in the Farmhouse
- How? Your payment to Tori in the church office will hold your place.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for February – Hygiene Kits for Mennonite Central Committee:

New items only:

1 toothbrush (adult size; leave in wrapper)

1 bar soap (4-5 oz. in wrapper)

1 fingernail clipper

1 hand towel (larger than fingertip, dark color)

1 wide-toothed comb (6–8 in)

Kits can be donated in plastic grocery bags, or supplies can be donated in bulk. Full kits, supplies or cash donations are welcome. Offering envelopes can be marked for "MCC Hygiene Kits" Please have all supplies and donation to Salford by March 2nd. We hope to donate 200 kits, so please help us reach our goal.

Salford-Advent Garden Spotlight

Greetings fellow gardeners. Welcome to the Salford Mennonite-Advent Lutheran Garden 2025. This will be our 19th season growing good food for those who need it most. Not much is going on in the garden now. There still is something you can do and that is attend our annual fund-raising luncheon on Sunday, February 16th. As in years past, we are inviting the organizations who receive our produce to come and tell their story and update on what is happening with them in 2025.

When you donate to the garden you are not just giving money for seeds, plants and fertilizer. You are helping keep the garden available for those who may need a break from everyday life, to do work that helps others.

One story I will pass on is about one of our volunteers. I will call him "Our Special Volunteer". Our Special Volunteer cannot drive, he is brought to the garden on the Saturday mornings he feels able to work. When you greet Our Special Volunteer, he will tell you his name and ask you for your name. Ten minutes or so later he will ask again and maybe several times throughout the morning. You see, Our Special Volunteer has early stages of Alzheimer's, his short-term memory is spotty at best. BUT when he is working in the garden he is overjoyed, he loves to interact with the other volunteers. The other volunteers love to interact with him too. His enthusiasm and broad smile brings a smile to your face and laughter to your heart. He is more than happy to do whatever job we give him. He is never left by himself and may have to be reminded several times about the task at hand, a small price to pay for the joy he shares. Especially when our two youngest volunteers show up. We have two one-year olds that bring their parents to work in the garden. When the youngsters are there, Our Special Volunteer sometimes plays ball with them or tries to make them laugh.

The money that is donated to the garden keeps this mission running and gives so much more than just vegetables. The garden allows someone like Our Special Volunteer the opportunity to experience the outdoors and feel useful. It also allows his loved ones at home who are the caregivers a few hours of down time to relax knowing he is safe and having a good time.

Thank you for all your support in the past 19 years - Hope to see you Sunday February 16.

Accessibility Spotlight

[The So Much To Give Inclusive Cafe](#) in Skippack, which empowers all people, including those with disabilities and their families, to have equal opportunities to work, dine, socialize, volunteer and learn, has a variety of upcoming special events, including a Valentine's Day special menu.

[ARC of Philadelphia](#) is providing an extensive series of webinars, including "ask the advocate hour" on the first and third Thursday each month. If you need help navigating an IEP, we're here to help. Check out the flier below for a list of upcoming virtual sessions and click the link to register. bit.ly/49fz3Qd

Solar Spotlight

After four months of solar energy production, our system has produced 31,400 KWH of electricity and our church has used 32,200 KWH of electricity over the same time frame. This month we received our first monthly SREC payment of \$413.00 which will help pay for the project over time. We are working on receiving our 30% of project payment cost from the federal government, which was authorized by the Inflation Reduction Act. We will keep everyone informed about our progress.

You can now see a live view of our system's performance. Click [here](#) to check it out.

Mosaic Conference Spotlight

Are you curious about what Anabaptism means to members of Mosaic Mennonite Conference as together we commemorate the 500th anniversary of Anabaptism? You can read reflections on the question, "What does Anabaptism mean to me?", including one from Salford's own, John Ruth, [here](#).

[Registration is open for Mosaic Mennonite Conference 2025 Spring Assembly.](#)

"In 2025 Mosaic Mennonite Conference [will hold a dispersed Spring Assembly](#) alongside the traditional Fall Assembly. The new Spring Assembly format will resemble the 2024 delegate preparation meetings, featuring multiple regional gatherings conducted in various languages. These gatherings are designed to address the expressed need for more in-person dialogue and relationship building across the Conference."

Anabaptism at 500 Spotlight

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

- On March 20-21, 2025, John Roth will be the speaker and seminar leader for Elizabethtown College's annual Donald Durnbaugh Lecture and Seminar. John Roth is the Project Director for Anabaptism 500 and the general editor of the new *Anabaptist Community Bible*. At the Thursday evening, March 20th lecture (7pm in the Susquehanna Room in Meyer Hall at the college) he will speak on Anabaptist understandings of the Bible, historically and today. On Friday morning, 9:30-noon he will lead an interactive workshop introducing the *Anabaptist Community Bible* as a unique resource for a fresh encounter with scripture today in the same location. Both events are free and open to the public.
- The Shenandoah Mennonite Historians are sponsoring a series under the title "Five Centuries--Five Lectures." The first one, given by John Roth, covered the 16th century and set the early Anabaptist movement in its Reformation context. The second, on the 17th century, focused especially on Dutch Anabaptism, including the shaping of the *Dordrecht Confession* and the compiling of the *Martyrs Mirror*. The third, on the 18th century, will cover the Amish split and Mennonite migrations to North America and Eastern Europe, and will be live-streamed on Thursday, February 13, at 7pm EST. The lecture on the 19th century will cover further migration, modernization, and the beginnings of global mission. It will be live-streamed on February 20 at 7pm EST. The last lecture, on the 20th century, will explore global Anabaptism. It will be live-streamed on February 27 at 7pm EST. The first two lectures have been archived and are available for viewing at <https://mennonitearchivesofvirginia.net/>. The same site will provide you with the link to the streaming lectures, which will also be archived and made available at that location after the presentations.