

February 23, 2025

Sunday, Feb. 23, 2025
9:30 a.m. Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Karen Bergey preaching on James 4:1-10

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. 16 Offering
Offering - \$8,856
ACH - \$2,055
Vanco - \$2,883
Total Budget Offering \$13,794

Children's Offering: \$38

This Week at Salford

Wed., Feb. 26
7:00 PM, Choir Practice, Sanctuary

Thurs, Feb. 27
7:00 PM, Justice & Peace Ministry Team Meeting, Library and Zoom

Future Salford Events
Mar. 2 – EMU Chamber Singers Concert
Mar. 5 – Ash Wednesday Service
Mar. 29 – MYF Auction

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

Commemorating Anabaptism at 500

This week, we continue our month commemorating the 500th anniversary of the beginnings of the Anabaptist movement. Our theme this week is Renewal through Repentance. "A phrase repeated often in early Anabaptist spiritual writings is "Bend the knees of my heart." Being sorry for our sins, witting or unwitting, should motivate a persistent curiosity about our failures to live what we profess, along with creative ways to amend our lives in solidarity with the body of Christ. The scriptures tell us repeatedly that when we humble ourselves, seek God's face, and turn from our evil ways, the Holy Spirit ministers to us, and God forgives our sins, renews our communities, and heals our lands." - *Anabaptism at 500 Tool Kit*

Following the message, we will have a short response time when you can ask questions about the sermon. The bulletin will have an outline to help you keep track of your questions. We'll have a roving microphone and, to keep the morning moving, have a 30 second time limit for each question. We'll answer as best as we can on the spot or get back to you.

Next week is our last week in the series on "Anabaptism at 500." The theme is "The Lord's Table." The sermon time will explore the meaning of communion in the Anabaptist tradition, and we will celebrate communion together. We will gather around tables in order to more fully experience the reality that we are the body of Christ. For those who wish to prepare spiritually, we suggest prayerfully reading and meditating on Luke 22:14-20 and I Corinthians 11:23-26.

Pastor Dave's elective Second Hour class Exploring Anabaptism, Exploring Membership **will not** meet this week. Pastor Dave will be guest speaking at Ambler Mennonite Church this Sunday. Class will resume on March 2nd.

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.

This 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

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

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.

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. Later in the year we can adjust our income need if expense budget savings or overages are recognized.
- We have received **\$101,405** in offering and income over the first seven weeks of the year, with an **average weekly offering of \$14,486**.

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.

For those who were unable to make the recent Salford Know Your Rights and Be an Ally training, please contact Jenn Svetlik at jsvetlik@mosaicmennonites.org for the recording.

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 zetsa@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.

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.

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

The summer Salford Healthy Niños Honduras Trip: **August 9-16, 2025**. If you are interested in participating, there is time to sign up! Simply contact Dr. Rick Kratz at suzanneandrick@msn.com as soon as possible.

Praying with the News

Reading and watching the news can be a difficult activity for sensitive and caring Jesus followers. Here are some prayers that you can use before and after you scroll the day's headlines. The author, Irwin Keller, is a rabbi and spiritual writer who lives in Sonoma, California.

Before reading the news

Elohai neshamah shenatata bi tehorah hi.

My God, the soul you have placed in me is pure and vulnerable. I am afraid that looking at today's news will be painful. Encircle me in a robe of light so that I can witness the wounds of the world without being wounded myself. Let me learn what I need to know in order to be of my greatest use, without being overwhelmed by despair. I feel your protective light now as I open myself to the world's suffering and the world's joys.

After reading the news

Ribono shel Olam, I am Yours, and all that is in this world is Yours. Today I have read stories and seen images, but my knowledge is incomplete. I don't know how it all connects. But I know I am connected to everyone; I take joy in their joy; I suffer with their suffering. If there is no role for me to play today then let my learning leave me wiser and better prepared. If there is a role for me to play, let clarity rise up in me to see it, even if that role is a humble one. *Uma'aseh yadeynu konenehu*. Lift up the work of my hands, in anything they might do for peace, for justice, for the wholeness of our planet, or for the betterment of my community. Just as you turned the curse of Balaam into a blessing, so may all my actions accrue to the good.

[Add here a prayer for the healing of a specific suffering you read about.]

Barukh Atah Adonai, shomea tefilah. Blessed are You who receives my prayer.

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Mandy Martin** who will have neurosurgery for hemifacial spasm at Presbyterian/Columbia University Irving Medical Center in NY on February 26th.
- On this President's Day week, pray that God may grant our leaders increased awareness that poverty, racism and militarism tend to deprive young children of their right to be secure, healthy and educated, inhibiting their ability to reach their potential.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for **7 Ways Home Fellowship**, a partner-in-ministry based in Bowie, MD, with hybrid fellowship. Please pray for members of the community facing significant health challenges and seeking employment opportunities.

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: 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

Salford Wood Carving Club: We held our first gathering on Monday, February 17th, sponsored by band-aid brand bandages, and had a great time. We discussed the basics of wood carving briefly but spent most of our time making wood chips. **We will meet again on March 17, 2025 from 5:30 to 7PM 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!

DINNER YAHTZEE ON SATURDAY, MARCH 8

- Who: Anyone who identifies as female, 18 and up
- What: Fun evening of dinner with 4 other women. Get to meet some new friends or get to know some old friends better.
- When: Saturday March 8, at 4:30 pm
- Where: Meet in the church foyer and then go to an area restaurant of your choice.
- How: When you arrive you will write your name on a slip of paper that will be put in a bowl. Once everyone arrives dinner groups will be formed by drawing 5 names from the bowl at random. The group of 5 will designate a driver and chose where they would like to go eat dinner together. ***This is a great event to bring someone new to Salford. If you bring a friend you may include them on your slip so you may be together in a group.*** There will be a chosen time to return to church so groups can report on their dining experiences.
- No need to RSVP. Cindy Moyer is the point person if you have questions.

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 winter just keeps hanging on. This week, one morning it was 14 degrees on my way to work BRRRRR. Last Sunday was our annual Fund raiser lunch. We heard updates from all the organizations we donate veggies to. I believe we had a record crowd with over 110 in attendance WOW! A big round of applause to Gail Alderfer and her crew for the great meal that was served. \$6000 dollars was donated with more on the way this week. WOO HOO! Wednesday evening Lory and I had dinner at Rivertown Taps in Phoenixville. The restaurant is owned by the Strayer family of Advent. Lewis Leiterman the Strayer's son in law, is the head chef. The family pledged 15% of proceeds from Wednesday's receipts, to be donated to the garden fund. Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone for their generosity and support for this mission.

This week I was able to talk with Reverend John Heidgerd of Emmanuel Lutheran in Souderton. John was married to Ann Heidgerd, our contact at Emmanuel for the veggies we donated. They used the vegetables in their family boxed grocery program. Ann passed away suddenly and unexpectedly several weeks ago. John was able to give me the name of the person taking over for Ann and said the volunteers are committed to keeping that ministry going. Please remember the Heidgerd family as well Emmanuel Lutheran in your prayers as they grieve and adjust to life without Ann.

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

Mosaic Conference Spotlight

See [Mosaic Conference explores ministry partnership as Program Entity of MC USA](#) for an update on what Mosaic Conference leadership has been working on since the 2024 Mosaic Conference annual Assembly decision.

[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.

Beyond Salford

Dock Mennonite Academy Boys Tennis Head Coach needed! Season begins Monday March 3. Contact 267-203-2719 or sfrankenfield@dock.org for more information.