

January 12, 2025

Sunday, Jan. 12
9:30 a.m. Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Karen Bergey will preach about discipleship through connection using Matthew 14:22-23, John 4:4-10, Mark 10:13-16

10:45 am Second Hour

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

Jan. 5 Offering
Offering - \$3,685
ACH - \$5,740
Vanco - \$13,287
Total Budget Offering \$22,712
Children's Offering: \$29

Future Salford Events
Feb. 2 – Pastor Karen licensing service and potluck
Feb. 16 – Garden Fundraiser
Mar. 29 – MYF Auction

This Week at Salford

Mon., Jan. 13
7-9:30 PM SMCCC
Ministry Team Meeting,
Library

Wed., Jan. 15
5:30-8:00 PM, Faith
Formation Night

7-8:30 Trustees Meeting,
Library

New Sermon Series: Connect, Grow, Serve

On Sunday, January 12th we will begin a 3-week sermon series on our Salford theme of Connect, Grow, Serve. Almost 10 years ago, we as a community of people trying to follow Jesus spent time discerning what discipleship means at Salford. Together we considered what it looks like for a community to work together to become more like Jesus and to live into the Kingdom of God. To Connect, to Grow, and to Serve is what emerged from those discussions. Each week we will focus on one part of Connect, Grow, Serve. Pastor Karen will begin with Connect this Sunday.

Following the message on Connect, 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. It will be a terrific way to practice Connecting and to learn together.

Coffee Talk with Board Members, December 12th

After the Sunday service on December 12th church board members Mark Heise and Ron Souder 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 Mark and Ron for conversation.

Faith Formation Night: Meet the Soil and Seed Project on Wednesday, January 15th

This month's Faith Formation Night will be led by Greg Yoder and Seth Crissman, directors of the Soil and Seed Project. The Soil and Seed Project creates music, art and little liturgies that follow the liturgical year to help folks welcome the seed of the Good News as it takes root in their lives. The Project helps individuals, families, and communities, establish new rhythms of faith as together we turn towards Jesus, believing and celebrating the Good News of God's Love for the whole world.

At our gathering you will hear about the mission of the Project, work through one of their little liturgies in table groups, and learn about the (free!) upcoming resources and faith formation opportunities the Project has coming your way.

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.

Dinner is provided at 5:30 P.M. and time with Seth and Greg lasts from 6:30-8:00 P.M. To register for the event, click [HERE](#) or email Pastor Andrew at zettza@salfordmc.org.

An Elective Class: Exploring Anabaptism, Exploring Salford

During February, Salford will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of the beginning of Anabaptism during our worship services.

On those Sundays we will also have a 4-week elective called “Exploring Anabaptism, Exploring Salford.” This class will serve as a class for those who are exploring church membership at Salford, but it will be more than that. It will be a class that introduces both Anabaptism and the Mennonite Church around the world. It will explore the story of Salford Church and who we have become today.

If you have been attending Salford for the past few months and would like a chance to know more about our church, its beliefs, practices, and mission; if you are looking for a chance to meet others who are also new to Salford, this class is for you.

Each household who is part of the class will receive a copy of a special edition of Anabaptist World magazine devoted to our 500th anniversary.

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Betsy Heavener** who will have shoulder replacement surgery on Wednesday, January 15th.
- For many who are recovering from lingering illness.
- For our **unhoused neighbors** during these cold stretches; may we remember them and do what we can to be the hands and feet of Jesus to bring them comfort and safety.
- All congregations in Mosaic Conference are invited to pray for the pastors and members of three Mosaic partners in Ministry: **Iglesia Menonita del Cordero (Brownsville, TX), Iglesia Menonita Fuente de Agua Viva (Los Fresnos, TX) and Casa de Oracion de Fuentes de Agua Viva (Monterrey, Mexico)** and for the immigrants in the Texas congregations. This weekend Leadership Minister Marco Güete is leading a fellowship retreat for the pastoral couples of these congregations.

Friends at Souderton Mennonite Homes: our monthly gathering for Monday, January 13th is cancelled. We made this decision after speaking with several staff people in Personal Care and on the health team. Take care and let's help keep each other healthy. We'll meet again on Monday, February 10th.

Healthy Niños Honduras Trip Interest Meeting on Jan. 26, 2025: Dr. Rick Kratz would like 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. Rick will hold an interest meeting on Sunday, January 26 in Room 211 (across the hall from the Prayer Room). At the meeting you'll learn about the organization and the kind of work volunteers do on the trip, the cost of the trip, and things that need to be done in preparation for the trip. For any questions you may have, please contact suzanneandrick@msn.com or zettza@salfordmc.org.

Volunteering at Care & Share Thrift Shoppes: In 2024 the Mosaic Conference-Related Ministry MCC Care & Share Thrift Shoppes gave \$14,800 of merchandise to refugee families. The Haitian family who had recently stayed in the Mustard Seed House in Lansdale was one of the first beneficiaries of this generosity in 2025.

Salford has regularly provided volunteers for over 30 years, and there are 15 registered Care & Share volunteers that serve regularly in various capacities. In particular, each 4th Friday, a group from Salford serves in the Clothing Shoppe (organized by Jan Landis).

The Shoppes are always looking for new volunteers to support their mission, and have flexible schedules and opportunities to fit anyone's interest or skill level. Please contact Maggie to learn more at 215-723-0315 x13 or mpugliese@caresharethrift.org.

Women's Events 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!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Craft and Chat – *Saturday, January 25 1-4* in the Fellowship Hall

Women's Wisdom MENO-tea – information and sharing about flourishing in Perimenopause, Menopause, and beyond – Late February, date TBD

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

WOMEN'S RETREAT – *Friday to Sunday, April 4-6* at Kirkridge Retreat Center. Limited to 20 participants, details and registration soon!!

Perki Trail and Pizza – *Friday April 25, 10-1* Spring Mount parking lot

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Church volleyball is back! The church league volleyball season has begun, and your Salford volleyball team faced a tough test to start things off. It was a night to shake off the rust and get back into playing shape against Keystone, who is the team to beat this year. Salford lost 4 games to 1 but is ready to get back at it next Monday at 7 p.m. at Leidy's Church in Souderton, against River of Life Church. The team is also in need of female subs who would be interested in playing a couple of times throughout the season. Ideally, we are looking for someone who has played D1 college volleyball, but we are open

to anyone who can at least hold their own at a summer picnic. If you are interested, please talk to Luke Martin.

Family Magic Show Fundraiser with Kevin Shelly

Linda and Vernon Martin invite everyone to enjoy a morning of magic with Salford's own, Kevin Shelly (<https://www.kevsmagic.net/magic>). Proceeds from the event will benefit Salford Mennonite Child Care Center (SMCCC).

When: February 8, 2025 from 10-11 AM

Where: Salford Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall

Admission Fee: Donation amount of your choice for SMCCC

Service & Mission

The Donation of the Month for January is items from Keystone Opportunity Center's (KOC) "Immediate Needs" list. Items can be purchased for KOC through their [Amazon Wishlist](#). KOC is updating this list weekly.

Current Wishlist items include household products (food storage bags, paper products, dish and laundry soap), personal care items (deodorant, soap, shampoo and conditioner), and food items such as pasta, cereal, and granola bars.

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.

Faith Formation Spotlight

Salford Prayer Pals Winter/Spring 2025: CONNECT with our younger Salford participants! We invite you to be paired with a kid in our Sunday School program (ages 2-5th grade) and commit to praying for them and greeting them when you see them!

If you can pray, you will make a great prayer pal! Please [fill out this form](#) or be in touch with Jenn to sign up.

They will share with you an introductory letter. You are welcome, though not required, to write notes to them or sit with them/their families in worship or at church events. This pairing will last through June 2025.

Be in touch with Jenn at jennifer.svetlik@gmail.com or 267-380-0273 if you have questions.

In this pairing we do not anticipate prayer pals ever being 1:1 with children, so background checks are not required. We do, however, encourage every adult

in our community to re-familiarize themselves with our child safety policy: <https://www.salfordmc.org/child-and-youth-safety.html>

Peace Camp 2025 Save the Date: Peace Camp will take place the evenings of Sunday, June 15-Thurs, June 19 for kids entering 1-6th grades in Fall 2025. Registration will open in mid-March

Accessibility Ministry Team Spotlight

[Camp Scholarships](#) Montgomery County public school students with an active IEP or 504 plan can apply for a scholarship to the summer camp of their choice. Applications will be available again from January to April 2025 at the link above.

[The Confident Parenting Collective \(specialneedscollective.com\)](https://specialneedscollective.com): We've collected the local private resources most often recommended by families and professionals, who have little to no waitlists, here in this directory to make your life easier!

Mosaic Mennonite Conference Spotlight

Learn more about what Mosaic Conference leaders are doing in 2025 in Jenn Svetlik's piece [First Vibrant Mosaic Cohort Will Strengthen Rootedness and Increase Capacities](#).

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

Do you enjoy learning with others? Living U, the lifelong learning institute of Living Branches, will open registrations for the spring semester from January 21 to 31. Class topics include: insights from ancient Christian questions, the Mennonite communal background of Living Branches, stories behind Peace Valley, a critical history of journalism, stents, mushroom foraging, presidents in retirement, and more. Go to <https://livingbranches.org/about/living-u-lifelong-learning/> or contact Maribeth Benner, Living U coordinator, at 215-368-4438 ext. 44204.

Throughout January Church of the Holy Spirit (Harleysville) is hosting free organ recitals featuring Philadelphia-area members of the American Guild of Organists. Recitals are scheduled for Tuesdays at noon. More information about the January organ recitals and Church of the Holy Spirit's full 2025 concerts calendar can be found [HERE](#).