



March 2, 2025

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**Sunday, Mar. 2, 2025**  
**9:30 a.m. Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live**, Lead Pastor Dave Greiser will offer a reflection as part of the communion service

**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. 23 Offering**  
Offering - \$1,520  
ACH - \$2,055  
Vanco - \$3,253  
**Total Budget Offering**  
**\$6,828**

**Children's Offering: \$28**

**This Week at Salford**

**Sun., Mar. 2**  
7:00 PM, EMU Chamber Singers Concert, Sanctuary

**Wed., Mar. 5**  
8:30-1:00 Sewing Circle, Gathering Room

6:30 PM, Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary

**Future Salford Events**  
**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**

On this final Sunday, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper, while taking a look at what the early Anabaptists believed about the Lord's Supper. Dave will bring a teaching sermon that will compare Anabaptist beliefs and practices with those of some other major Christian traditions.

Take some time between now and Sunday to prepare your mind and heart to commune with siblings in Christ at Salford. We will gather in groups around tables together, in the manner in which Salford has traditionally practiced communion for many years.

Our Exploring Anabaptism, Exploring Salford Second Hour class for people interested in exploring membership at Salford, and those just wanting to know more about us, continues this Sunday. How did Salford morph from a congregation of farmers and tradespeople to the more diverse community it is today? We'll hear the story. As time allows, we will begin to talk about similarities and differences between Mennonite beliefs and those of other traditions.

## **EMU Chamber Singers Concert**

The EMU Chamber Singers Hope and Unity Concert will be at Salford on Sunday evening **March 2nd, at 7 PM**. 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.

## **Ash Wednesday at Salford**

On Wednesday, **March 5th**, we will have a brief service at **6:30 PM** where we will sing, pray together, and receive ashes to observe the beginning of Lent. See the Faith Formation Spotlight below for a list of Lent resources to guide you in this season.

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please submit your email address to [ioneslongt@salfordmc.org](mailto:ioneslongt@salfordmc.org).

## 2025 Mennonite Youth Fellowship Auction

A date has been set for the 2025 MYF Auction: **Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**. 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](mailto:zetsa@salfordmc.org) or 215-859-3446.

### 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.

### 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. *The group of volunteers is forming and visits to a local church will start soon. If you're interesting in getting involved, contact Pastor Andrew.*

### Wildchurch Lenten Outdoor Service, Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup>

On Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup>) and Easter Sunday (April 20<sup>th</sup>). Choir rehearsal will take place in the sanctuary on the following days:

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](mailto: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.

Did you participate in last Sunday's prayer practice by leaving a fear or worry at the cross? The pastors have these and are praying over them, trusting God for peace and comfort in all things.

## **Our Church Family**

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

**Salford friends at Souderton Mennonite Homes:** Please join us for our monthly time of singing, prayer and sharing in the Friendship Room on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 7-8 PM. Call Karen with any questions.

### **Prayer Concerns**

- For **Mandy Martin** who is home from neurosurgery earlier this week. Pray for rest and recovery.
- For **Cindy and Joel Alderfer**. Cindy will be having back surgery (a lumbar decompression) on Monday, March 3, at Jefferson Hospital in Center City. Pray for a successful recovery and relief from on-going lower back and hip pain.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for partner-in-ministry **Redemption Church of Bristol (PA)**, which is moving into a new gathering space. The space is owned by the Episcopalian church in town and they are hoping to form a meaningful partnership with that congregation, sharing events and mission together. Pray with them that the space could not only be a place of rest for all of Bristol.

**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**

**Sewing Circle** will meet **Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-1:00** in the Gathering Room. Stop in for as long as you want! All are welcome.

**Salford Wood Carving Club:** We will meet again on **March 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7PM in the Fellowship Hall**. If you are interested in learning more, please email [chad.gehman@gmail.com](mailto: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!

Women's Retreat, April 4-6 at Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center - We need your payment to the church office by **March 16<sup>th</sup>**. Call Pastor Karen with any questions. There are a few spots left!

### **Service & Mission**

Donation of the Month for March – MANNA ON MAIN STREET

**ITEMS NEEDED:** Granola/Breakfast Bars, White or Brown Rice, Raisins, Flour, Sugar, Baking Powder, Baking Soda, Bean Soups, 100% fruit juices.

Manna on Main Street is committed to ending hunger in the North Penn region by providing food, fulfilling social service and education needs, and conducting community outreach. Through a food pantry and soup kitchen, emergency financial aid, counseling and referrals, and education opportunities, we serve those in need with the hope "that everyone might be fed."

Please place items in the basket at the donation of the month table or on the shelves in the coat room.

## **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 Emmauel 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.

## **Faith Formation Spotlight**

**Lent Resources for All Ages** – Lent begins next week on Ash Wednesday, March 5. The theme of this year's Lenten journey in our collective worship at Salford will be "Christ Collides". This year's six-week Lenten journey offers scripture texts from the Gospel of Luke, many of which are parables.

This season, we will take a look at the way Jesus collides with, or interrupts, our cultural ways of interacting with the world around us. We will practice opening ourselves to feel that—sometimes jarring—collision. We will invite Jesus to come alongside us, to reorient us to the Jesus way, in a world that feels topsy-turvy.

In case a prayer guide will help you to experience that reorientation, here's a bit of info about those offered at Salford this year. Paper copies will be available in the foyer on March 2 and 9.

**Lent at Home: Christ Collides** [devotional](#) and [calendar](#) offer simple scriptures and activities for daily or weekly family prayer, and include some options like "reorientation exercises" that help us to trust in God's power at a time when we are more highly aware of the world's suffering, injustices, and uncertainties.

You'll also find the "**Breaking the Chains**" devotional for families that we've used in years' past - 40 links with prayer, scripture, and activities emphasizing God as liberator and source of grace.

For adults, we are sharing Kate Bowler's 2025 Lent devotional called "[The Hardest Part](#)". As well as [a guide called "Journey Together"](#) from Mosaic Conference which uses the scriptures we'll hear each Sunday during worship.

[The Soil and The Seed Project](#) creates music, art, and "Little Liturgies." CDs and text of the simple weekly prayers are available in the foyer, or can be

streamed and downloaded [here](#). The Lent-Pentecost series runs from Mar. 5 to June. Listen to all the albums on [Soundcloud](#).

## Accessibility Spotlight

[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](https://bit.ly/49fz3Qd)

## Mosaic Conference Spotlight

[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 500<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Beyond Salford

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

The Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) mobile meat cannery will be at the Material Resource Center in Harleysville **April 22-24, 2025**. The MCC mobile meat cannery has provided millions of pounds of canned meat to areas of need around the world. You can sign up to volunteer [HERE](#).