



March 30, 2025

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**Sunday, Mar. 30, 2025**  
**9:30 a.m. Outdoor Wild Church with Perkasio Mennonite Church**

**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. 23 Offering**  
Offering - \$6,230  
ACH - \$1,930  
Vanco - \$2,766  
**Total Budget Offering \$10,926**

**Children's Offering: \$47**

**This Week at Salford**

**Sat., Mar. 29**  
4:00-8:00 PM, MYF Auction, Fellowship Hall

**Wed., April 2**  
8:30 AM, Sewing Circle, Gathering Room

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

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

We continue to make space in our hearts and minds for the work God is doing in us. This week, our theme is Christ Collides with our Expectations and we will explore this theme in a Wild Church way. Join us as we gather with Perkasio Mennonite in our Oak Grove to sing, pray, and wander together, listening for the Spirit in the breeze, looking for new life both in the trees and plants all around us and in our hearts. Things that seem very much asleep or maybe even dead are waking to new life all around us. Could that be true in our lives also? We'll think about seeds - what we may expect from them and what God can do with them.

**Things to do for Sunday: Bundle up, bring a chair or two, an umbrella just in case, and a few seeds you are planting or plan to plant to share in the Wild Church Offering space.**

## Reminders for the 2025 MYF Auction on March 29<sup>th</sup>

We cannot wait to see everyone this Saturday for the MYF Auction! The meal begins at 4:00 P.M. and the auction will begin at 5:30 P.M. Make sure to give yourself plenty of time to browse the auction items before the auction begins!

Here are a few final reminders:

- You can view all of the items up for auction by clicking this [link](#).
- If you are unable to attend the auction, but would like to make bids, make sure you connect with someone beforehand to bid on your behalf.
- Attenders are invited to bring a dessert to share as part of the meal.
- Childcare is available starting at 5:15 P.M. Infants-kindergarteners will be in one of the children's Second Hour rooms and 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders will be in the schoolhouse.

We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

## 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](http://www.salfordmc.org), under the About Us

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

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!

## **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) were 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.

February 23<sup>rd</sup> was an informational meeting about the MEP, with the opportunity to ask any questions about it. Another meeting is scheduled for **March 30<sup>th</sup>** in the fellowship hall to afford you the opportunity to express your thoughts concerning the MEP's place in Salford's mission.

## **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, **April 9<sup>th</sup>** from 7-8pm

Contact Choir Director, Emily Buckley, if you are interested in being a part of Salford's spring choir.

## **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.

## **Need some space to pray or be quiet?**

Come to the Prayer Room – it is open from 8-12 on Sunday mornings and from 9-4 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you come during the week, come into the church by the Pastor's Office or call Karen to let you in. You can call Karen if you want someone to pray with you and we'll pick a good time. There are also

a few prayer practices available in the prayer room to walk you through different ways to pray. Our outdoor Labyrinth is also available anytime – just stop by!

## **A Note from the Shelly Family**

Many of you know that our children have been performing alongside us on stage since they were young. Over the past couple of years, they've been blessed with some really exciting opportunities in the film industry. We are grateful for the church's continued support of our family's endeavors.

We are excited to finally share with the Salford community that Aisling worked on a movie being released in theaters nationwide this weekend. The movie is based on a true story about an extraordinary woman, Dr. Audrey Evans. You can see her in the trailer!

Movie synopsis: "Philadelphia. 1969. British physician, Dr. Audrey Evans, is newly recruited to a world-renowned children's hospital and battles sexism, medical conventions, and the subterfuge of her peers to develop revolutionary treatments, purchase the first Ronald McDonald House for families of patients and, ultimately, impact the lives of millions of children around the world. Based on a true story."

We hope to host a fundraiser at a local theater to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House Charities within the next month. If you see it before then, we hope you consider watching it again for a great cause. It was inspiring watching the female-led team pour their hearts into this project to bring *\*Audrey's Children\** to theaters. We are biased, but it is a great story and a wonderful movie. We are excited for the world to learn about the amazing person who changed the lives of millions, Dr. Audrey Evans.

## **Our Church Family**

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

### **Prayer Concerns**

- For **Lowell Bishop** who is in Grandview Hospital with heart failure. Pray for rest and that he is able to breathe more clearly.
- All Mosaic Conference congregations are invited to pray for all those within Mosaic and beyond who are affected by the termination of the humanitarian parole and Temporary Protected Status programs and their families. We lament the potential disruption of lives and livelihoods of thousands of recent immigrants to the U.S. and we pray for comfort, justice, and peace.

## **News & Notes**

**Sewing Circle** will meet **Wednesday, April 2nd from 8:30-1:00** in the Gathering Room. Stop in for as long as you want! All are welcome.

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

**Salford Volleyball:** Your Salford volleyball team is heading into the final week of the season in a must-win situation. After trying out a new rotation on Monday and losing the first two games, they rallied and dominated the last three to win the set. To make the playoffs, they must win all five games on Monday night, and the team ahead of them in the standings (Penn Valley) must lose all five. It's a long shot, but doable. Monday's game is at 7 p.m. at Calvary Church.

### **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, Spring at last, Spring at last! This past week saw several really nice days. I have been working in the garden repairing a few of our raised beds. The more I looked, the more I found that needed work. I have 2 more beds to repair and all will be good. This Saturday will be warm. I plan on finishing the repairs and starting to add some compost mix to the beds. I may rototill one of the regular rows and plant our peas. I am trying two different types of Sugar Snap this year. Come on out and get your season off to a warm start. I have our seed potatoes laying out in my basement. I want them to sprout a little before we plant. I also started 7 different kinds of tomatoes. I still want to plant our Spring plants on 4/12 and 4/19. The well is fixed, needed a new pump. I still have to hook up the main line and put the drain plugs back in. Some of the drip lines will need replacing. The wedding trellis will need to be straightened. Set up is always a big job.

## 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](mailto: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 500<sup>th</sup> 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**.

- **From Dave Peters** – In 2017, I released a three-episode documentary series that I co-directed on the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation entitled, *This Changed Everything*. This award-winning series has been viewed by over a million people worldwide and has helped many gain a deeper understanding of how the Reformation reshaped not only Christianity but also society as a whole.

One of the most compelling aspects of the series is the second episode, (at 1 hour 23 mins.) which explores the Radical Reformation, the birth of the Anabaptist movement. This episode features insights from respected historians, including our own John Ruth, whose contributions bring rich historical depth to the narrative.

I encourage the Salford family to take the time to watch the full series, but if nothing else, I highly recommend viewing Episode 2. It offers an invaluable look at the historical roots of the Anabaptist tradition and, within that, the Mennonite movement. This is a chance to deepen our appreciation for the faith and convictions that shaped our heritage. Let's engage with this important history together!"

How to watch: Go to <https://redeemtv.com/>, register for a free account and search for *This Changed Everything* or view on YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P\\_iXWUEjAFQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_iXWUEjAFQ)

## **Beyond Salford**

You're Invited to **Germantown Mennonite Historic Trust's (GMHT) Open House, on April 5<sup>th</sup> 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.