

March 9, 2025

Sunday, Mar. 9, 2025
9:30 a.m. Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Pastor Karen Bergey preaching on Luke 10: 25-42

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. 2 Offering
Offering - \$9,440
ACH - \$7,600
Vanco - \$1,944
Total Budget Offering \$18,984

Children's Offering: \$37

This Week at Salford

Mon., Mar. 10
7:00 PM SMCCC Ministry Team Meeting, Library

Wed., Mar. 12
7-8 PM, Choir Practice, Sanctuary

Thurs., Mar. 13
6:30 PM, Accessibility Ministry Team Meeting, Library and Zoom

Future Salford Events
Mar. 29 – MYF Auction

Beginning Our Lenten Journey

This Sunday is the first Sunday in Lent. Lent is a time to make space. Make space for Jesus. Life crowds in. Before we realize it, some things distract us. Some things consume our time and our energy. We wake up and realize we feel disconnected from God. Lent is a time to pause to look into our hearts, clearing out what is in the way, making space for God as we walk the 40 days to the cross. This year, for Lent, we will be reminded each week of something that Jesus “collides” with in our lives. We are invited to quiet our minds and make space to consider together what we are being called into.

This Sunday we will be led in Worship by our 3rd-5th grade Second Hour class!

Coffee Talk with Board Members, March 9th

After the Sunday service on March 9th church board members Cindy Moyer and Miles Musselman 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 Miles for conversation.

Dinner Yahtzee on Saturday, March 8th

- **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.

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 joneslongt@salfordmc.org.

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.

“What Are You Going to Do?” – A Word from Pastor Dave

Each week someone asks Anita and me about our plans when our time at Salford concludes. There's still much in the coming months that's not clear, but I thought I should respond to the questions we are being asked most often.

Are you going to move? While it is true that we have moved often, we do not plan to leave our rented house on Morwood Road anytime soon. Anita and I have lived most of our married life in urban places like Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Louisville. But we thoroughly enjoy our life in the country right now. Anita's had fun growing both flowers and vegetables, and I've loved becoming a “beginner birder” (birdwatching). Our son Aaron and his family are close enough that we can visit often, but far enough away that they need not worry we'll be there too much! And we will be able to visit our daughter Hope and family in Kansas more often.

Will you keep attending Salford? Mosaic Conference has a fairly strict rule that pastors who are resigning or retiring must step away from the congregation for at least a year. Some might say this is a harsh thing to do, since it separates them from good friends and a familiar setting. But it is wise for the pastor to leave for a time, since it clears the way for a new pastor to become established and signals that the former pastor is no longer “in charge.”

Anita has been retired for a while, but not working full time is a very new thing for me. Who am I when I'm not a pastor? I need solitude and space to ask that question, and to open myself to the call of God in the next chapter of my life. Right now, I'm looking at it with a kind of quiet readiness. I ask for your prayers.

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 23rd was an informational meeting about the MEP, with the opportunity to ask any questions about it. We are scheduling subsequent meetings on **March 16th** and **March 30th** to afford you the opportunity to express your thoughts concerning the MEP's place in Salford's mission.

Faith Formation Night – Wednesday, March 19th, 5:30-8 PM

Join us for our monthly Faith Formation Night! Faith Formation Nights are for people of all ages, with childcare is available for children in kindergarten and younger. The intention is to help us synchronize our schedules once a month so we can meaningfully connect with each other and nurture our growing faith.

You do not need to be a parent to attend this event! We cherish our opportunities like this to connect intergenerationally.

5:30-6:15 P.M.: Dinner

6:15-6:30 P.M.: Worship

6:30-8:00 P.M.: Age-specific programs

Kids Club: A space for 1st-5th graders to have a fun time exploring various themes and stories from Scripture through crafts, games, and a variety of activities.

Junior MYF, Senior MYF, and Adults: A gathering of 6th through 12th graders that connects for games, conversation, and reflection to provide mutual support and foster spiritual growth. This month we'll play games and then continue practicing our new set of songs. Youth should bring an instrument of choice or their voice to sing.

Adults: This month Erica and Nate Smith-Grasse will discuss *Neighboring* and its deep faith and practical implications in today's increasingly disconnected world. Drawing from *The Art of Neighboring* by Dave Runyon and Jay Pathak, we'll reflect on our roles in both chosen and given communities and tackle the critical question: where is all our time going? Erica and Nate will facilitate the conversation, sharing challenges and successes from their time neighboring (now in Perkasié). This isn't just theory—it's an opportunity to confront the messy reality of neighboring and find inspiration for making a difference in your own neighborhood.

Wildchurch Lenten Outdoor Service, Sunday March 30th

On Sunday, March 30th we will have a Wildchurch Lenten Outdoor Service with Perkasie Mennonite in the Salford Grove. *We are in search of a few firepits and an adult to mind each fire during the outdoor service. If you are willing to participate that Sunday in this way, please call Karen.*

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, **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!

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.

Our Church Family

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 10th from 7-8 PM.** Call Karen with any questions.

Save the Date: Mark **June 1, 2025** on your calendars for Pastor Dave's Farewell. Our beloved pastor Dave Greiser will finish serving at Salford at the end of May, and June 1 marks his last Sunday worship service at Salford. Please mark this special day on your calendars and join us as we plan to recognize Pastor Dave's service at Salford and then share the noon meal together. Keep your eyes open for more details later!

Prayer Concerns

- For **Mandy Martin** who is recovering from neurosurgery. Pray for continued healing for Mandy and for the family as they support her.
- For **Cindy Alderfer** who is home after her back surgery on Monday. Pray for a successful recovery and relief from on-going lower back pain.

- For **Maragret Neer**, Katie Alderfer's mother, who is in Bryn Mawr hospital with pneumonia. Pray for a quick recovery.
- All Mosaic congregations are asked to pray for the many people within Mosaic congregations who are feeling vulnerable at this time, and for their pastors to be able to lead well, trusting in God, who says, "Fear not, for I am with you." (Isaiah 41:10)

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: Fionn Shelly

Show: *Alice in Wonderland*

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

This Sunday, March 9th, is **daylight savings time**. Don't forget to move your clocks forward one hour on Saturday night.

Anabaptist World group subscriptions are due for renewal. A renewal form has been placed in each church mailbox with extra copies at the Welcome Center. A subscription through the group subscription costs \$40.00; \$15.00 off the regular subscription price. Please return the form and your payment to the church office by March 24th, 2025. All subscribers will need to indicate their intention to renew. There are some budget funds available for subscriptions for those who have difficulty covering the subscription cost.

Salford Volleyball: It was another strong showing for Salford Volleyball this week as the team took a 5-0 victory. Everyone played well, but it was Lela Martin who was the standout player. After missing a few weeks, she returned to the court with an impressive offensive showing. With only a few weeks left in the season, the playoff push is now on, and the team will need every win it can get. Monday's game is at 7:00 against Calvary on their home court.

Salford Wood Carving Club: We will meet again on **March 17th 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!

Women's Events in 2025: Women's Retreat, April 4-6 at Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center - We need your payment to the church office by **March 16th**. 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.

Justice & Peace Spotlight

Mennonite Action – Mennonite Action Worship Service at Penn's Landing, **March 26, 2025**. Join members of the Philadelphia Mennonite Action chapter for a public worship service with the theme "God's Love Knows No Borders" to be held at Penn's Landing in Philadelphia (exact location TBD) on **Wednesday, March 6, 5:00 – 6:30 pm**. We will publicly proclaim that all God's people, from Philly to Palestine, deserve to live in safety. With songs and banners we will demonstrate a faith that opposes complicity in the violence of deportations and ethnic cleansing.

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](#).

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](#).

Anabaptism at 500 Spotlight

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

- **Anabaptism at 500 Essay Contest Offers College Scholarship Opportunities** – Want to earn a scholarship for college? The [Living Forward: Anabaptism at 500 Essay Contest](#) is your chance to showcase your writing skills and win financial support for your education. Eligible students are invited to submit an essay to compete for a scholarship for the 2025-2026 academic year. The student with the best essay will receive a scholarship of \$1,000 and the first runner-up will receive a scholarship of \$500. Don't miss this chance to share

your perspective, strengthen your writing, and invest in your future. Submit your essay today! **Submission deadline is April 19, 2025.**

- William Higgins, a Lancaster-based teacher, is organizing a free 5 session on-line Anabaptist Classics Reading Group this spring. It will be focused on Swiss Anabaptism from 1524-1589, including readings from Conrad Grebel, Felix Manz, Balthasar Hubmeier, Michael Sattler, and selections from the Ausbund, the early Anabaptist hymnal. All readings will be provided. There will be two tracks, an evening track on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm, beginning on March 25, and a daytime track on Thursday mornings at 10:30 am, beginning on March 27. Both groups will meet every two weeks for five sessions. For further information or to register, contact whiggins@lmchurches.org. Registration deadline is March 18.

Beyond Salford

The Lenoir-Rhyne University Choir and Brass Ensemble will begin their spring tour with a concert at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansdale **on Friday, 3/28 at 7:00 pm.**

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](#).