

November 19, 2023

Sunday, November 19, 9:30 am Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Lead Pastor Dave Greiser will preach on Galatians 6:1-10: *Ministry of Truth, Ministry of Tears*

10:30 am Second Hour for all ages

All Adults are Requested to Attend the Fall Congregational Business Meeting in the Sanctuary during the Second Hour

November 12, 2023

Offering

\$9,516

ACH Electronic

Offering

\$1,960

Vanco Online Offering

\$1,893

Total Budget Offering

\$13,369

Children's Offering

\$28

Future Salford Events

November 19 – Fall

Congregational

Business Meeting

November 22 –

Thanksgiving Eve

Service, 7:00 pm

December 9 – Red

Cross Blood Drive at

Salford

December 13 – Family

Faith Formation Night

If you have information or prayer requests for

A Pause in “Centered-Set Church”

This Sunday will be the last sermon in our current series on becoming a centered-set church. Next Sunday, the 26th, Michael King will lead our last second hour discussion for now in the Fellowship Hall.

It's been exciting to feel your interest building for thinking together of a new way of being church. Our original plan was to conclude the series this month. But the further we have gone in the series, the more we have felt the church's enthusiasm building to explore what a centered-set church looks like in practice.

For that reason, we are altering our plans for what will come next in the new year. In two weeks, we will begin Advent. After Advent and Christmas, we plan to come back to centered set church in January and February. What does centered-set mean in practice? How do we practice church membership, relationships, conflict resolution, outreach and mission? What are some stories of centered-set church in action?

If you haven't yet done so, you still have time to pick up Mark Baker's Centered-Set Church and read it. There are copies in the church library, and you can buy it for about \$17 from InterVarsity Press, Amazon, or other commercial book services. Keep praying, keep reading, keep dreaming! Dave Greiser, for the team

Fall Congregational Business Meeting, November 19, 2023

The fall congregational business meeting has been scheduled for November 19, 2023 and will take place in the sanctuary during second hour. A meeting packet has been placed in church mailboxes for the meeting. Please review the information closely and **bring the packet with you to the congregational meeting**. Additional copies have been placed at the Welcome Center for those who do not have mailboxes. If you would like a mailbox, please contact the church office to assign you one.

Finance Update for Salford Mennonite Church

For the remainder of 2023, we will present a weekly update of our financial situation. We can now project expected savings in our expense budget with Pastor Maria's departure and lower than expected Mennonite Education Plan expense. We project actual 2023 budget expenses to be approximately **\$865,000**. We are also hopeful that we can fully fund our below the line expenses for our larger church agencies and Mosaic Conference of \$21,844.

- We have received **\$665,875** in offering and income over the first 46 weeks of the year, with 2023 projected actual expenses of **\$865,000**. We have received 77% of the income needed for 2023 in these first 46 weeks (88%) of the year.
- We will need an average of **\$23,000** in weekly offering in November and an average of **\$35,000** in weekly offering in December to cover our projected actual expenses.
- **Average weekly offering received so far for November: \$15,845.**

our newsletter, please submit this to the church office by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday afternoon.

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

Joint Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service with Advent Lutheran

Please mark your calendars for Salford's annual Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service! This year we will be joining again with our friends from Advent Lutheran to celebrate all we have to be thankful for in our congregations. The service will be held at Salford Mennonite Church at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 22nd. We will be receiving a food offering for Keystone Opportunity Center and a money offering.

The food offering for Keystone Opportunity Center food pantry will help the 250 monthly clients who are food insecure. Keystone requests the following most needed items: **Tuna Fish, Chunky soups, Jelly, pancake mix and syrup, cereal, oatmeal and toilet paper.**

The money offering received will be divided between Salford and Advent Lutheran designated projects. Salford funds will go to **Mennonite Disaster Service** and Advent Funds will go towards **Lutheran Disaster Response.**

Red Cross Blood Drive Scheduled at Salford

At the request of the American Red Cross, Salford will be hosting a blood drive on Saturday, December 9th from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider signing up for this vital need in our community. Each year the American Red Cross delivers millions of blood products to hospital patients and they can only do this through the generous efforts of donors like you. Please follow this link to sign up for the Salford blood drive: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=0224209>

This Week at Salford

Tuesday, November 21

7:00 pm Church Board Meeting (Friendship Room)

Wednesday, November 22

7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Thursday, November 23

Church and Childcare Offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, November 24

Church and Childcare Offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Sunday, November 26

9:30 am Salford Worship Indoors and Streamed on YouTube Live

Preaching: Laura Alderfer

10:30 am Second Hour for All Ages

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **Linda Martin** who will have mitral valve repair and ablation surgery on her heart on November 21 at Penn Medicine. Pray for a successful procedure and a quick recovery.
- For the **Nase** family. **Ben Nase** passed away at his home at the Landings on Tuesday morning. Pray for the family as they gather to celebrate his life in a few weeks.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for **The Church of the Good Samaritan in Holland, PA** as they search for a pastor to help minister to the

congregation as well as in the community.

Memorial Service Information...

Your continued prayers are requested for the **Nase family** in the passing of **Ben Nase**, age 91, on Tuesday, November 14th.

Memorial service information for Ben is as follows:

A memorial service will be at 6:00 PM on Friday, December 15 at the Williams-Bergey-Koffel Funeral Home, Inc., 667 Harleysville Pike, Telford, 18969, where the family will receive friends from 5-5:45 PM. Interment will be private in Salford Mennonite Church Cemetery.

Service & Mission

Donation of the Month for November - Laundry, dish, bar, hand soaps, body wash, Toilet paper, paper towels, and period products

Some items collected this month are not covered by SNAP; therefore, Keystone community shoppers are always happy to find these items stocked in the Keystone Pantry. Thank you for your donations which will benefit Keystone Opportunity Center (KOC) Food Pantry in Souderton.

Salford/Advent Garden Update, 11/16/23:

Greetings fellow gardeners last Saturday was the last workday for the season. The black plastic was rolled up and the drip lines removed from the lower end of the garden. The garden will rest until next spring. Until then I will be chopping leaves, taking inventory of what we need for 2024 and of course getting our fund raiser set up for February. Next week I will add up all the totals and send out the results. Sometimes you just never know when a twist or turn can take place. I was hoping to have until January to get all of our equipment and supplies out of the Alderfer barn but on Monday, because of circumstances beyond our control, I was asked to empty the barn by this Saturday 11/18. After a few frantic phone calls and e-mails I was able to get a crew together. We emptied the barn, sorted most of the equipment and were able to find permanent and temporary homes for it all in one DAY. WOO HOO much more done than I ever expected. THANK YOU Gary Strayer and Steve GM for the assistance. We will be trying to find more space in the future maybe a new shed or out-building as the GARDEN budget will allow.

Looking for a great breakfast try the Advent Lutheran youth annual pancake breakfast this Saturday 11/18 from 8 am to 10 am. The youth do a wonderful job, you will not be disappointed.

I was not in the garden last Saturday for the final workday. I was away with a group from Salford but our volunteers pulled it off without a hitch. I am very grateful for the show of support so I could have Saturday off. The garden is a special place but it is the people that make it special. Steve, 215-872-6616, rsblank@verizon.net

Justice & Peace Spotlight

Doylestown Gun Violence Awareness Day, Sunday, November 19th at 3 PM.

This event will include:

- Witness Walk from St. Paul's Episcopal Church to Salem UCC – bring a sign
- Memorial to the Lost T-shirt display
- Remembrance moments
- An Advocacy Opportunity

LEARN—PRAY—ACT We come together as one community of faith to honor those lost to gun murders and to demand stronger and effective gun laws and

regulations.

Welcoming Path Spotlight

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR), held on or around November 20, is a global day of mourning for transgender persons who have lost their lives to anti-transgender / nonbinary violence. It is a day to renew our commitments to and solidarity with people of trans and nonbinary experience. Anti-trans violence and threats remain ubiquitous, as apparent in the politicians who have run successful campaigns with anti-trans platforms and the ongoing murders of trans and non-binary people, especially trans people of color. Transgender Awareness Week and TDoR is a time to celebrate, uplift and honor our trans community.

There will be a **Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil** held on Monday, November 20, 2023, at 6:00 pm at Zwingli United Church of Christ, 350 Wile Ave. Souderton PA. All are welcome.

If you need help, or just want to talk to someone, these resources are available:

National LGBT Hotline 1-888-843-4564

National LGBT Youth Talkline 1-800-246-7743

National LGBT Senior Talkline 1-888-234-7243

or Visit www.psychcentral.com/blog/trans-hotline for other numbers and chat options

Family Faith Formation Spotlight

Children's Christmas Program: The children's Christmas program will take place on **Sunday, December 17**. Save the date! All children and youth are welcome to have a role (including singing, special music, speaking & non-speaking roles). We ask that you also save 9-10:30am on Saturday, Dec. 16 for a dress rehearsal. If your kid has interest in a particular role please let Jenn know.

Accessibility Spotlight

Join the FAN Club! FAN Club is a monthly event to create social opportunities for adults with disabilities and a night of respite for those who care for them. Saturday, Nov. 25 5-8pm at Plains Mennonite Church. Join for food, music, games, crafts, and more. *A quiet space is available* \$20 to attend. For more info and to apply, contact office@PlainsMennoniteChurch.org.

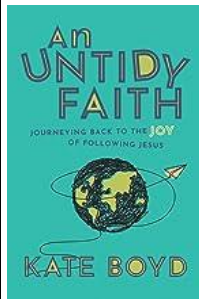
Check out the **So Much to Give Inclusive Café in Skippack's** [monthly list of events](#) including trivia, games nights, cupcake decorating and more. They have a parent support group the first Thursday of each month, 6-7:30 pm. Parents of adult children with special needs are invited to attend to discuss housing opportunities. Please contact Kim Mares at kpmares37@gmail.com to RSVP for the meeting.

Church Library Spotlight

The church library has purchased many new books in recent weeks. Stop by and speak with a librarian to see what's new, or review the library catalogue on the Salford church website <https://smck-ind.kari.opalsinfo.net/bin/home>

An Untidy Faith – Journeying Back to the Joy of Following Jesus By: Kate Boyd

In the wake of scandal, culture wars, and abuse, many Christians are wondering whether the North American church is redeemable—and if not, whether they

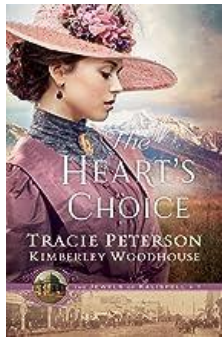


should even stay. While many are answering no to those questions, this book is for those who long to disentangle their faith from all the cultural baggage and recapture the joy of following Jesus.

Through personal anecdotes, encounters with the global church, deep dives into Scripture, and helpful historical context about Christianity, *An Untidy Faith* takes readers on two journeys. The first journey lays out the grand vision of Christianity and the legacy passed on to us by the early believers in hopes of renewing readers' belief in the church writ large. The second journey helps believers understand why they feel distant from their church settings and provides a reorientation drawn from Scripture of God's vision for community.

A gentle companion, Kate Boyd walks alongside those who have questions but can't ask them for fear of being labeled by or cast out of their communities. *An Untidy Faith* is a guidebook for those who want to be equipped with practices to rebuild their faith and shape their communities to look more like Jesus.

The Heart's Choice By: Tracie Peterson, Kimberley Woodhouse



After witnessing a wrongful conviction as a young girl, Rebecca Whitman--the first female court reporter in Montana--is now determined to defend the innocent. During a murder trial, something doesn't sit well with her about the case, but no one except the handsome new Carnegie librarian will listen to her.

Librarian Mark Andrews's father sent him to college hoping he would take over the business side of the family ranch, but Mark would rather wrangle books than cows. When a patron seeks help with research in hopes of proving a man's innocence, Mark is immediately drawn to her and her cause.

In a race against time, will Rebecca and Mark find the evidence they need--and open their hearts to love--before it's too late? DONATED

News & Notes

Address Update:

Rhoda Landis

207 West Summit Street, Apt #3121, Souderton, PA 18964
(215) 721-5825

Next week we will honor Thanksgiving, an opportunity to give thanks to our Creator and (as it says in *Voices Together* 878) and "to those peoples who have stewarded this land for generations. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, work, and worship here, as we witness the reconciling movement of the Spirit and seek to live into right relations with our Indigenous neighbors and all of creation."

The **Lenape people** have lived on the land in what is now called NJ, southern NY, and eastern PA for 16,000 years. In fact, Perkiomen, the name of our local watershed, is the Lenape word for 'place where cranberries grow.' They currently have no local tribal lands to call their own; a call to lament.

Two resources are available to support your prayer this week (paper copies at the welcome center)

[A Land Acknowledgement for Families](#): Written in faith language with simple, vivid images

[Thanksgiving Liturgy](#): with prayers, songs & scripture to guide you in honoring

the Indigenous peoples who once lived on this land and in giving thanks for all of the goodness we enjoy.

New 2nd Hour Option: Do you want to draw closer to God? Do you find yourself easily distracted by all the cares of the day or the latest social media frenzy? Does each day seem too full? Maybe it is time to pause quietly and listen for God. There are some ancient contemplative practices we can explore that may help clear some of the mental clutter and allow you to begin to hear the 'still, small voice' (1 Kings 19:12). Curious? Join Pastor Karen for a new 2nd hour class. We will meet for the first time on **December 10th in the Prayer Room**. We'll discuss and try some contemplative things together. Our first class will explore **Centering Prayer** - come with questions and an open heart as we learn and seek God's presence together. In 2024 this class will meet 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Book Banning has been around for centuries. Unfortunately there has been a big resurgence in our area and around the country. What books have been banned and why? We are a people who are welcoming to all and need to hear different voices than just our own. **You are invited to join the Banned Book Club to read and learn more about the diversity that God has created.** A time to get together and discuss the books in a safe place. Every month we will read a book that has been banned, alternating between classic books and recent publications, and then discuss them together. The only requirement to attend is to read the book and come with an open mind to what you have read and what others are saying they understand from the book. The first book is Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury. The first get together will be in January...date to be announced later. Call/text/email/message **Julie Wimmer** with any questions. Hope you can join the group!

CHRISTMAS CHOIR!! Yes, you read that correctly! We will have a Christmas Choir, led by Justin Yoder to sing on Sunday morning on **December 10th**! Please join us – there will be two rehearsals: **Wednesday, 11/29 and Thursday 12/7 each from 7-8:30** and an early soundcheck rehearsal on December 10 at **8:30**. Please reach out to Karen at bergeyk@salfordmc.org or 215.237.7367 to join the choir.

Beyond Salford

Dock's Christmas Benefit Concert Join us on December 1 at 7pm for Dock's EC to Grade 8 annual Christmas Benefit Concert. The concert will be at Franconia Mennonite Church. The concert will feature our Kindergarten students reciting Luke 2, the Elementary (Grades 1 to 4) Choir, Middle School Choir, Middle School Orchestra, Middle School Band, & our Handbells! The offering at the Christmas Benefit Concert will be matched dollar for dollar by several supportive families.

Frazer Mennonite is hosting Anna Zaros from Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP) on **Saturday, December 2, 2023** from 5:30-7 PM to talk about NP's mission of unarmed civilian protection. You may contact Brenda Beitler at beitlebj@aol.com or 484-459-2526 for more info.

The November edition of **On the Level** is now available from **Mennonite Disaster Service**. In our current issue: Kevin King explains how MDS is an emulsifier; check out our new Annual Report; and we are now accepting registration for our Annual Celebration in Fresno in February. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3G2x3xK>