

October 9, 2022

**Sunday, October 9, 9:30 am Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live,** Lead Pastor Dave Greiser will preach on Romans 12:9-21; *How to Behave In Church*

**10:30 am Second Hour for all ages**

**All Adults and Senior MYF are requested to gather in the Fellowship Hall for Second Hour.**

**October 2, 2022**

Offering

\$4,830

ACH                      Electronic

Offering

\$5,285

Vanco Online Offering

\$3,359

**Total Budget Offering \$13,474**

**Children's Offering \$83**

## **Future Salford Events**

**October 16** – Licensing service for Andrew Zetts

**October 23** – Welcoming New Members

**October 30** – Ordination of Maria Hosler Byler

**November 6** – Welcoming New Members

**November 9** – Family Night Kickoff

**December 4** – Fall Congregational Business Meeting

## **Path Forward Design Team Update; Bring-Your-Own Lunch This Sunday**

This past Sunday during second hour was the first of six second hour meetings to begin discernment of God's will for Salford regarding LGBTQ+ participation in same-sex marriage, congregational ministry, and pastoral leadership. There were lots of people and energy. Dave Greiser taught about scripture interpretation (video available [here](#)) and we had table conversation and feedback on notecards. The plan for the next several weeks and beyond can be found [here](#) -- scroll down to "Schedule Outline for the Fall and Beyond." We continue to add to the website so please check back to see what is new.

**Bring your Paper Bag Lunch for continued conversation this Sunday after second hour.** This Sunday October 9 we will be exploring Genesis 1 and 2. All are welcome to stay beyond second hour and continue the conversation informally over a bring-your-own lunch.

Other important info about this coming week:

- **Please bring your bibles.**
- Discernment second hours will no longer be cut short if worship goes longer; they will end one hour after worship regardless of the length of worship. Second hour begins promptly 10 minutes after worship ends.

### **Some themes from last week's feedback:**

- Commitment to the work of interpretation and discernment of the Holy Spirit ("How do we weigh the meaning of specific scripture vs the whole of God's story as told through the Bible?" "Keep an open mind, listen, be respectful")
- Questions about process ("Can you clarify the goal of this process?" "How will we finally come to an outcome?") *some of these are answered on [the Path Forward webpage](#).*
- Questions about being a community amid disagreements, and what it means to move forward together ("Can we 'agree to disagree' because we love each other?" "How can two sides ever be reconciled?") *the videos toward the bottom of [the webpage](#) speak to some of these questions as well.*
- Several wanted to name the role of personal experience in interpreting scripture. Others wanted to know what absolute truth scripture tells us. LGBTQ+ people among us have named the sense that we are debating their humanity.

We will be answering many of these questions in the coming weeks. We will also have notecards available for feedback each week. And you are invited to email a member of the Path Forward Design Team with comments or questions: Ron Freed, Sally Derstine, Kerry Hasler-Brooks, Mandy Martin, Joe Landis, and the pastors.

## **Finance Update for Salford Mennonite Church**

For the remainder of 2022, we will present a weekly update of our financial situation.

- We will need **\$285,000** in offering and income for the last quarter of 2022 to

**December 10** –  
Christmas Peace  
Pilgrimage Walk

If you have information or prayer requests for 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](mailto:alderferb@salfordmc.org)

cover our expenses.

- We will need an average of **\$15,500** in weekly offering in October and November and an average of **\$36,000** in weekly offering in December. This is a **18%** increase from last year.
- **Average weekly offering needed for October and November: \$15,500**
- **Average weekly offering received so far for October and November: \$13,474**

## Notes from Church Board Work

- October is Pastor Appreciation month. There is excitement and joy radiating from our pastor team. The Board is grateful for the team's commitment to teaching, preaching, leading and growing in relationship with God and each other, to following Jesus as the center of our faith, and commitment to transformative discipleship. We give thanks in all things. Share your thanks.
- The Stewardship Team and Church Board are preparing the 2023 Salford Budget. We will share updates during this last quarter of 2023. Plan on a Congregational Meeting on **December 4th**.
- Salford Board is seeking recommendations for Board members. This position is exciting, hard, engaging, and fulfilling. Qualifications are commitment, listening skills, spiritual discernment, leadership abilities and Salford church membership. Suggestions? Look for a nomination insert in the bulletin next week or send your nominations to Church Administrator Brad Alderfer.
- Salford Delegates to the Mosaic Conference Assembly (November 5) are Dave Greiser, Maria Hosler Byler, Andrew Zetts, Melissa Heise, Joe Landis, Ron Freed, John Ruth, and Kerry Hasler-Brooks. This group will be attending 'Assembly Scattered' meetings during October to hear from the Mosaic Listening Task Force. They will be present for the November 5th Assembly to discern shaping the future together as Mosaic Mennonite Conference.
- The Salford Board encourages and welcomes all of you to participate in Salford's continuing opportunities of growing and learning together; especially as we walk Salford's Path Forward in these next few months. May the One who has begun this good work in us bring it to completion.

## Mosaic Conference Assembly 2022 Updates

Mosaic Mennonite Conference released a special addition of Mosaic News this week focused on Conference Assembly 2022. You may read Conference Executive Minister Steve Kriss' article "[The Steadfast Love of God in a Time of Change](#)" [here](#). The Listening Task force has presented their recommendations to the conference board. You may read more about the [work of the task force](#) and read their [recommendations to the board here](#). The docket for the 2022 Conference Assembly and other related information can be [found here](#) for those interested.

## Mosaic Conference Assembly Salford-specific Informational Meeting

On Wednesday October 12<sup>th</sup> 7:00-8:00 p.m. Maria Hosler Byler will host an informational zoom meeting with updates about Mosaic Conference in anticipation of Conference Assembly on November 5. Maria has been part of the Mosaic Conference Listening Task Force, hearing from across the conference about Mosaic's relationship with Mennonite Church USA. She will have some information on the work of the Task Force, what to expect at Conference Assembly and will have time for questions.

Conference-wide worship will take place on Saturday November 5, 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Souderton Mennonite Church and streamed on YouTube and Facebook. All are welcome to attend.

## **This Week at Salford**

### **Monday, October 10**

7:00 pm Fellowship Gathering with Communion at Souderton Mennonite Homes (Friendship Room)

7:15 pm Child Care Ministry Team Meeting (Library)

### **Wednesday, October 12**

6:30 pm Kids' Club (Gathering Room)

### **Sunday, October 16**

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

Preaching: Dave Greiser

10:30 am Second Hour for all Ages

## **Our Church Family**

### **Prayer Concerns**

- For **Linnie and Rhoda Landis** as Linnie continues on Hospice at home.
- For **Ray Yoder** who was admitted to Grandview on Thursday night with a fever and weakness. Please pray as he makes some decisions on treatment.
- All Mosaic congregations are invited to pray for those in Florida, including Mosaic congregations, who have been affected by Hurricane Ian. We give thanks for those who experienced safety and pray for those who experienced loss. Pray for the clean-up process and rebuilding.

### **Birthday Blessings...**

To **Larry Landes**, who celebrates his 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### **Anniversary Blessings...**

To **Ben & Carol Nase**, who celebrates their 63<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary on October 10, 2022.

### **Service & Mission**

**Donation of the Month for October - SOAPS: laundry, dish, bar, body wash & hand soap** to benefit the clients of Keystone Opportunity Center.

Note: soap items are not covered by SNAP (previously known as food stamps). So having these items provided in other spaces is particularly important to people living below the poverty line.

Donations can be placed on the donation of the month table by the infant nursery in the main foyer.

**Garden update, 10/6/22:** Greetings fellow gardeners, this past week the skies opened up and the rains came down. The garden rain gage stopped at 3 ¾ inches rain. Saturday was a wash out as it was just too wet, cold and miserable to work outside. There are large areas of standing water in the garden. In between the rain drops, I was able to harvest broccoli and a few green peppers but overall no work has been done for 4 days. There are a lot of string beans waiting to be harvested along with other veggies. This Saturday will be a full morning. Our fall cauliflower is really starting to head up and our fall cabbage is too. Both may be ready by next week. I will restart my cleanup of the tomato plants. I hope to have some green tomatoes to give away by the end of the next week. Green tomatoes

continue to be popular. Several people have stopped by the garden asking about them. There really are a variety of recipes for them. Pickled, both sweet and hot, fried and baked. I believe you can make a relish out of them too. The deer continue to visit the garden. Since we dug up our sweet potatoes. The deer are now fattening up on our string bean and red beet plants. Turnips continue to be plentiful. Our pepper plants will still have peppers but very few. The weather looks to be in the 30s next week but looking ahead no frost predicted. When frost arrives cleanup goes into high gear. Soon our trees will start to drop their leaves and I will be starting my leaf composting for the fall. Never a dull moment in the garden. Thank you to everyone who supports this mission. Steve. 215-872-6616 [rsblank@verizon.net](mailto:rsblank@verizon.net)

Dear People of Salford, On behalf of the events planning committee for a Gardening for Peace... We want to thank you for your strong support on making this a successful event. For all the Salford volunteers beginning with the gardeners, the church board, the art work; banner from peace camp, and commissioned painting, website creation and all the support from Salford staff, MYF'ers, parking, sound and AV support, music, anything to do with logistics, the delightful banquet which was prepared, food collection and distribution, welcoming people, ushers, not to mention of the more than 80 people who attended the workshops, Salford members consisted of approximately 50%. Also, on the 10 workshops, 3 presenters are Salford members. From the broader community, our presenters, Mosaic Mennonite Conference, Muslim representatives, Ursinus College, local police, Lenape community all helped to make our event possible. We will be surveying the people who attended the workshops for feedback but not the other events. So, if you do have feedback for our committee, please talk to us directly which we would appreciate. Thank you.

Joe Landis for the events planning committee; Stephanie Bower, Glen and Mary Miller, Joel Alderfer, Cindy Sheetz, John Ruth, Sharon Strayer, Linda Martin, Beth Styer.

## Faith Formation Spotlight

**Attention Parents and Children in Grades 1-5:** All kids in grades 1-5 are invited to participate in Kids' Club, which will be starting on Wednesday, October 12. Kids' Club will meet on the second Wednesday of each month from October through May. Mark your calendars for the evening of **Wednesday, October 12, from 6:30-8:00**. We will meet upstairs in **The Gathering Room** (Second Floor above the main foyer). Come for a time of learning about "Women in the Bible" and enjoy games, crafts, games, snacks, and stories. Our service project this year will be to count fabric squares for Salford's Sewing Circle to make into comforters. These comforters will be donated to Mennonite Central Committee to give to refugees all around the world.

Melissa and Mark Heise will be leading Kids' Club with the help of another adult helper each session. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa at [mheise@eastern.edu](mailto:mheise@eastern.edu) or at 484-624-1199. See you soon!

**Building Faith's "Taste the Story" Practice for October:** Magi Pilgrimage Snacks - this month, enjoy fall weather & God's creation with some specially packed snacks as you imagine the Magi's long trek following the star: <https://www.buildingfaithfamily.com/magi-pilgrimage-snacks.html>

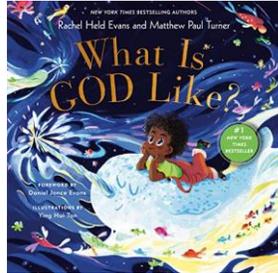
Kids & youth can continue to sign up for helping with the offering here: we need four each week; sign up for as many as you'd like! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c45a4a62eaaf94-salford>

## 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>

Here is a sampling of new materials:

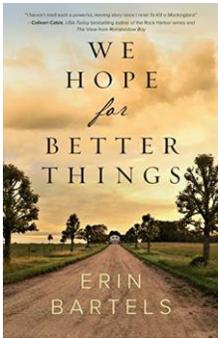
### What is God Like?, By Rachel Held Evans



Children who are introduced to God, through attending church or having loved ones who speak about God, often have a lot of questions, including this ever popular one: What is God like? The late Rachel Held Evans loved the Bible and loved showing God's love through the words and pictures found in that ancient text. Through these pictures from the Bible, children see that God is like a shepherd, God is like a star, God is like a gardener, God is like the wind, and more. God is a comforter and support.

And whenever a child is unsure, *What Is God Like?* encourages young hearts to "think about what makes you feel safe, what makes you feel loved, and what makes you feel brave. That's what God is like."

### We Hope for Better Things, By Erin Bartels



When *Detroit Free Press* reporter Elizabeth Balsam meets James Rich, his strange request--that she look up a relative she didn't know she had in order to deliver an old camera and a box of photos--seems like it isn't worth her time. But when she loses her job after a botched investigation, she suddenly finds herself with nothing but time.

At her great-aunt's 150-year-old farmhouse north of Detroit, Elizabeth uncovers a series of mysterious items, locked doors, and hidden graves. As she searches for answers to the riddles around her, the remarkable stories of two women who lived in this very house emerge as testaments to love, resilience, and courage in the face of war, racism, and misunderstanding. And as Elizabeth soon discovers, the past is never as past as we might like to think.

Debut novelist Erin Bartels takes readers on an emotional journey through time--from the volatile streets of 1960s Detroit to the Michigan's Underground Railroad during the Civil War--to uncover the past, confront the seeds of hatred, and discover where love goes to hide.

## News & Notes

### Next Sunday, Andrew Zetts will be licensed for ministry here at Salford!

Licensing is a three-year journey that introduces new pastors to the world of congregational ministry and serves as a time of spiritual and professional growth and a period of testing and refining their call. Steve Kriss, Mosaic Executive Minister, will be with us to lead the service of licensing. Pray for Andrew and send him good thoughts as we move toward the big day!

**Attention volleyball players** – We are trying to put together a Salford volleyball team to join the Indian Valley Church Volleyball league. The league starts in January and runs through playoffs in April. Games are Monday nights at either 7pm or 8:30pm. It is a co-ed league. We need at least 6 people to field a team but it would be nice to have some alternates as well. This is a competitive league

and lots of fun. If you are interested details please talk to Luke Martin.

**In January of 2021 David & Kathi Peters released their documentary film Postcards from Babylon - Evangelicals in the Shadow of Christian Nationalism.** The film is a prophetic critique of the continued rise of Christian nationalism in America. David has donated several DVD's of the film to the library for anyone one to take home for free. The DVD contains the film, a 90 minute zoom discussion amongst participants in the film, and bonus interviews with some of the participants of the film including Brian Zahnd, Walter Brueggemann, John Fea, and Kistin Du Mez. Please pick up a copy in the library.

Check out the help wanted postings and information on an available apartment on the bulletin board in the coat closet off the main foyer. If you are considering work opportunities or new living arrangements, check out these opportunities.

## **Beyond Salford**

You're invited to the **MEDA Global Farm Party** at Spring Creek Farm (near Peddler's Village) on October 9 from 12:00 to 5:00 pm rain or shine. This event is free, and will offer interactive, hands-on activities for all ages, live music – including The Brunners, local and international food, hayrides and much more. Learn more at [meda.org/farmparty](http://meda.org/farmparty).

**Dock Mennonite Academy** (9-12) invites you to their **Homecoming weekend festivities**, including a Fall Concert, Friday, October 14 at 7:00 pm, and a full day of free activities on Saturday, October 15 – including games, athletic events, a kids festival, and the Willow Run Band in concert. Learn more at [dock.org/alumni](http://dock.org/alumni). Saturday will also feature an open house on the 9-12 campus from 12:30 to 2:30 pm.

You're invited to join in on the **"Comforter Blitz"**, Monday, October 17, 9:00 am to 7:00 pm at **MCC Material Resource Center**. Many comforters (blankets) are needed to share with people who have lost their homes because of war or other disasters. Refreshments will be provided; if you have questions, call 267-203-8074.

**The Worm Project** is holding a free benefit **banquet** on Saturday, October 22, 6:00 pm at the Franconia Heritage Restaurant. Hear inspiring stories from their partners, including Dr. Herman Sagastume of Healthy Ninos Honduras. Reservations are required by October 16 and can be made by leaving your name and number of attendees by phone at 267-932-6050 ext. 201 or go to [wormproject.org](http://wormproject.org).

Save the date for the annual **Harvestfest Open House** event at **Camp Men-O-Lan** on Saturday, October 29 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Enjoy family fun activities, a food court, hayrides, guessing games, crafts, lawn games, petting zoo, paddle boats, campfire, live music, and the annual car show! The pre-order for apple dumplings is already open and can be found on their Facebook page at [Facebook.com/CampMenOLan](https://Facebook.com/CampMenOLan) or call 215-679-5144.

**Healthy Niños Honduras** is celebrating their 5-year Anniversary at their **Annual Banquet & Silent Auction** on Saturday, November 12, and you are invited! You can expect a hot dinner buffet, a chance at cool prizes, and a presentation discussing all that they have been able to accomplish this year. To register your attendance, [click here](#).

