



September 22, 2024

Sunday, September 22, 9:30 am Worship at Salford and on YouTube Live, Guest Preacher Michele Hershberger will preach on Ephesians 2:11-22; *Finding Ourselves in God's Story*

10:30 am Second Hour for all ages

Michele Hershberger will continue her teaching on Finding Ourselves in God's Story in the Fellowship Hall during Second Hour. All interested are welcome to attend.

Emmaus Road Sermon Discussion Class will be meeting following worship in the Meeting Room behind the Welcome Center. Interested in talking about the sermon? The Emmaus Road group welcomes all.

September 15, 2024

Offering

\$19,545

ACH Electronic

Offering

\$1,980

Vanco Online Offering

\$2,685

Total Budget Offering

\$24,210

40 for 40 Offering:

\$6,015

Children's Offering:

Baptisms at Branchwood Park!

In January of 2024, a small group of Salford youth committed to participating in an exploring baptism group. Since then, these youth have devoted themselves to a season of discernment in which they studied, heard the testimonies of Salford members, engaged in spiritual practices, and much more. A portion of the group has discerned that they are ready to be baptized and commit to a life of Christian discipleship.

On **Sunday, September 29**, we will have our Sunday service at **Branchwood Park**, 984 Camp Road, Telford, PA 18969, at **9:30 A.M.** (our usual start time). During the service, five of Salford's youth will offer their testimonies and then each person will be baptized by immersion in the creek. We want the congregation to hear their professions of faith, witness their baptisms, and warmly welcome them in as members of our congregation, so please join us for the service!

There will be light refreshments (coffee and donuts) following the service, and there will be no Second Hour for either adults or children. Instead, it will be a time to connect with our new Salford members and their families. The ground at Branchwood is quite flat, offering fairly easy walking. Bring lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on. We will be moving from the area near the pavilions (you will see them at the left-hand side of the road as you enter the park) over to the water when the baptisms begin. There is plenty of parking available.

Finding Ourselves in God's Story: A Day with Michele Hershberger (September 21, 2024, 10:00 A.M.-6:30 P.M.)

Here is the agenda for our day with Michele Hershberger:

Outline for Bib Lit at Salford Mennonite Church

Saturday 10:00 am

- Introduction to our "why"
- Problem defined: Creation and Fall stories
- Solution Promised: Matriarchs and Patriarchs
- Solution Begun: Exodus and Mt. Sinai

11:05-11:15 break

- Wilderness Wanderings
- Into the Promised Land
- United Monarchy and the Prophets

Lunch from 12:10-1:00 PM

- Division of the Kingdom
- Israel and its fall to Assyria
- Judah and its fall to Babylonia

2:00-2:15 PM break

- Exile
- Return
- Intertestamental Times

3:10-3:25 Break

- Jesus: life teachings, death, resurrection

\$34

Future Salford Events

September 21-22 – Finding Ourselves in God's Story Weekend Event with Michelle Hershberger

September 29 – Outdoor Worship with Baptism at Branchwood Park, Franconia Township

October 4-6 – Women's Fall Retreat

October 12 – Red Cross Blood Drive at Salford

October 20 – Congregational meeting during Second Hour to Discuss Pathways Process Recommendation

November 17 – Fall Congregational Business Meeting

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

- Pentecost
- 4:50-5:00 PM break
- Acts 10 story
 - Acts 15: Jerusalem Conference
 - Paul
- 6:00 Supper

There are still a few registrations left for this exciting day of learning about the Bible and our story. Please join us!

You may **register here** using this [form](#).

We Are Hiring!

We are seeking interested individuals and resumes immediately for a **Church Administrator/Bookkeeper**. This could be a full-time position as it is now OR could become part-time roles: one Office Administration/Communications/Facilities Coordinator Role and one Bookkeeping Role (this averages about 6-8 hours a week, most worked on a Wednesday). Interested? Curious? Send a resume to Dave at greiserd@salfordmc.org.

Mennonite Education Plan Survey

It has been 6 years since we last surveyed the congregation on interest and attitudes towards the Mennonite Education Plan (MEP). The MEP Ministry Team has prepared an updated survey and has placed copies in each mailbox, with extra copies at the Welcome Center. Please return completed surveys to the church office by October 6, 2024.

In 2023 we did not have enough offering and income to cover all expenses in our church budget, and we may face similar challenges for 2024 and beyond. In preparing for the 2025 budget, the church board is considering all expenses, and the fact that we may not be able to present a balanced budget with present staffing levels while paying 100% of MEP costs and other missional and operational costs. The church board desires feedback on the perceived value of Mennonite Education in the congregation, and its perceived value compared to other funding priorities. It is important that we hear from all members and participants of the congregation.

Red Cross Blood Drive at Salford on Saturday October 12

Blood supplies are low and blood donors are always needed to keep blood supplies available for emergency needs at our hospital and treatment centers. Salford will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, October 12 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Donors in October will receive a \$10.00 gift card by email for your service to the community! Please help save a life. [You can make an appointment to give blood here.](#)

This Week at Salford

Thursday, September 26

8:30 am Weekly Morning Centering Prayer (Labyrinth)

Sunday, September 29

9:30 am Salford Worship Outdoors at Branchwood Park (Camp Road, Telford)

Youth Testimonies and Baptisms

No Second Hour with Outdoor Worship

Our Church Family

Prayer Concerns

- For **John Detweiler** who has started a new round of chemotherapy. Pray for strength and rest for **John and Kathy**.
- For **Nancy Alderfer** who will have knee replacement surgery at Grandview on October 2nd.
- For **Pastor Karen Bergey** who will have her interview with the Mosaic Conference Credentialing Committee on October 2.
- All Mosaic Conference congregations are invited to pray for new Mosaic staff members **Gary Alloway** and **Tim Weaver**, who began as leadership ministers in September. We give thanks to God for their calling and pray for wisdom and a sense of the Spirit's leading in their work.

Greetings from the Tidewater Region of southeast Virginia where I am now residing. My daughter and her husband have lived and taught school in Norfolk for 17 years and I have relocated to live near them. My address has been updated in the online church directory. I completed my treatment for lymphoma at Paoli Cancer Center in August and am grateful to report that it is in remission. I am now being followed by an oncologist in Norfolk. I would like to express my gratitude to family, friends, and the Salford Community for the loving and generous support I received during my hospitalizations and illness in the form of prayers, cards, visits, text and email messages, phone calls, pastoral care, financial gifts, assistance with meals, transportation to appointments, and help with the big move to Virginia. Leaving was bittersweet but I hope to visit from time to time. I am grateful for God's gifts of Presence, Guidance, Sustenance and Peace in their many forms. Blessings to all! - **Jolene Landis**

When she moved to VA, Jolene gifted Salford a drum

Are you anxious about current events? Feeling like life is just too much some days? Finding very little peace in each day? **Join Pastor Karen for a weekly morning Centering Prayer.** This will be a time of quietly seeking God's presence together. We'll meet at the Labyrinth. Bring a blanket, chair or something to sit on if you like. We'll meet Thursday mornings at 8:30 for 15 minutes of silent group prayer. You may linger after to walk the labyrinth or enjoy the quiet of the morning. Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 26.

Service & Mission

September Donation Of The Month - Shampoos, Conditioners, Laundry & Dish soaps, 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.

Items may be placed on the Donation of the Month table by the infant nursery.

Salford/Advent Garden Update, September 19:

Greetings fellow gardeners, we are well into September and the garden has changed dramatically from August. Tomatoes are almost over maybe a few green tomatoes will make to the end. Our eggplant and Zucchini are slowly slipping away. We still have veggies coming online. This week I started to cover our Cauliflower heads. This is called bleaching. You fold the leaves around the cauliflower head and hold them together with a rubber band. This keeps the sun off the cauliflower, and they turn a bright white. If the cauliflower is exposed to too

much sun the head turns brown. Still edible but not as nice. We have string beans ready to pick WOO HOO everyone's favorite. The deer tried their best to chomp the plants down, but the string beans still grew enough for a nice harvest. Last Saturday there was a small sparse group at the garden. We still were able to get all the work done that I had on my list. We harvested our sweet potatoes over 200 lbs. NICE! Sweet potatoes are a member of the morning glory family. A tropical plant that grows tremendous vines. You do not plant sweet potatoes like a regular potato. Regular potatoes are planted using seed potatoes. You use slips when you plant sweet potatoes. A slip is a shoot that grows out of a sweet potato. Almost like a small branch. This gets broken off set in a little water or soil until it roots and then you plant it. That easy. When sweet potatoes are harvested, they have to cure for a little while. This allows all the starches and sugars to intensify. Our fall veggies are starting to look good. Cabbage is balling up Cauliflower is forming heads and so is the broccoli. Beets and turnips not far behind. We are less than 30 days from our annual frost date. WOW where has the summer gone. As in years past cleanup begins when we have our killer frost and I always want to be cleaned up by Thanksgiving.

Thank you to everyone who helped out this past season. We are not finished but we could not have come this far without the support of our dedicated volunteers. Steve, 215-872-6616 rsblank@verizon.net

Justice & Peace Spotlight

This year on Saturday Sept. 21st was the 25th anniversary when the United Nations General Assembly adopted the **International Day of Peace** on September 21st, 1981. It has always been a time to speak up, share, pray and actively become involved in a "culture of peace" the theme for this year.

September 2019 Salford organized an Outdoor Retreat "*The Church Has Left the Building.*" We coupled it with the International Day of Peace. It was a day to come together to remember places in the world where prayers are needed and to pray for all Peacekeepers that serve courageously in the name of Jesus.

Joining together were Salford Board members, (Hannah Richter as Chairperson) for the event and our Justice and Peace Ministry team. Andrew Zetts was our chairperson. Maria Hosler Byler and I coordinated children's activities.

As we opened the day our Justice and Peace Ministry team unveiled a Peace Pole in front of our church. We shared the message "*May Peace Prevail on Earth.*" There are eight languages on the pole. (English, German, Spanish, Korean, Hebrew, Swahili, Arabic and Lakota). The Lenape Nation was not available as a choice for us. The connection to the two tribes were the words (Peaceful/Friendship (Lenapes). The Lakota word is (Wowanwa) John Ruth spoke of our historical roots of the Mennonites (German) settling in our area, Mary Jane Hershey shared our connection to Korean families.

We sang songs, shared a meal, Pastor Joe Hackman sat on a stationary bicycle making ice cream for our dessert. Children painted Peace Rocks, made Friendships bracelets. We closed with poems and Pinwheels as the theme for 2019 chosen by the United Nations. It is a reminder of happiness, joy as a child to play freely, peacefully. May we pray now for peace in the world, within our communities and our families in the name of Jesus. Submitted by **Mary P. Miller**

Mosaic Conference Spotlight

Danilo Sanchez, Leadership Minister of Mosaic Conference offers these thoughts on the Pathway Process, [Surrendering our Desires, Becoming Fully Mosaic.](#) MCUSA offers additional information on [recent conversations with Mosaic Board](#)

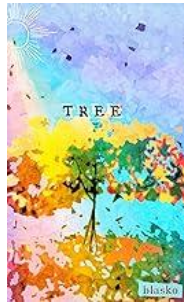
[and staff about the Pathways Process.](#)

Salford has the unique opportunity of hosting people from across **Mosaic Conference on Saturday, Sept. 28 11am-1:30pm for a Fellowship Meal** hosted by the intercultural team. Get to know people from other congregations, bring a favorite dish to share, sing together, reflect on God's call to rest, and enjoy improv games. **All ages are welcome.** [RSVP here.](#)

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>

Tree By: SJ Blasko



This beautiful book of poetry resonates with a panoply of themes like nature, discovery, hurt, self, friendship, love, hope, and more. Blasko is a queer Christian writer who gently opens the straight world to the effects of hurtful church doctrines and practices with poems that express some of the pain endured. Queer readers identify with these expressions. One example:

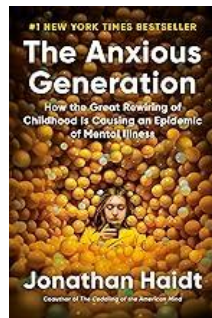
My God

I have been having nightmares

Of a house that they called Yours. (p38)

Enjoy the beauty and be willing to feel and learn from the joyful and real expressions of self. (reviewed by Monica Schroeder) DONATED

The Anxious Generation – How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness By: Jonathon Haidt



After more than a decade of stability or improvement, the mental health of adolescents plunged in the early 2010s. Rates of depression, anxiety, self-harm, and suicide rose sharply, more than doubling on many measures. Why?

In *The Anxious Generation*, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt lays out the facts about the epidemic of teen mental illness that hit many countries at the same time. He then investigates the nature of childhood, including why children need play and independent exploration to mature into competent, thriving adults. Haidt shows how the “play-based childhood” began to decline in the 1980s, and how it was finally wiped out by the arrival of the “phone-based childhood” in the early 2010s. He presents more than a dozen mechanisms by which this “great rewiring of childhood” has interfered with children’s social and neurological development, covering everything from sleep deprivation to attention fragmentation, addiction, loneliness, social contagion, social comparison, and perfectionism. He explains why social media damages girls more than boys and why boys have been withdrawing from the real world into the virtual world, with disastrous consequences for themselves, their families, and their societies.

Most important, Haidt issues a clear call to action. He diagnoses the “collective action problems” that trap us, and then proposes four simple rules that might set us free. He describes steps that parents, teachers, schools, tech companies, and governments can take to end the epidemic of mental illness and restore a more humane childhood.

Haidt has spent his career speaking truth backed by data in the most difficult

landscapes—communities polarized by politics and religion, campuses battling culture wars, and now the public health emergency faced by Gen Z. We cannot afford to ignore his findings about protecting our children—and ourselves—from the psychological damage of a phone-based life.

News & Notes

The date for the next Banned and Challenged Book club meeting has been changed. The next meeting will now be October 9th at 6:30 pm in the church lib. Banned and Challenged Book Club is now reading “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” by Mark Twain. All who read the book are welcome! Contact Julie Wimmer with any questions.

Help fill our windowsills! What helps you stay grounded? Is it artwork - viewing it, making it? Yarn? Wood crafting? A song or hymn? A certain color? Maybe even a special person? Would you lend us a physical representation of this? (a photo, piece of artwork, photocopy of your hymn or poem, etc.) Help encourage others in our community - bring your item with your name attached somehow to the benches near the pastor offices. There are no limits on this, so long as it can safely fit on a window sill for the fall season. Questions - call Pastor Karen.

Beyond Salford

All are invited to a **Mosaic Fellowship Meal hosted by the intercultural team.** Bring a favorite dish to share, connect with others within Mosaic Conference, and enjoy improv games. Saturday, Sept. 28 at 11am at Salford Mennonite (480 Groff Mill Rd. Harleysville, PA). [RSVP here.](#)

Dock Homecoming and Family Saturday will be happening on Saturday, October 5th. There is something for everyone as there will be food trucks from 4-8pm and varsity sports games occurring all day long including girls volleyball, field hockey, and boys and girls soccer. If it is a reunion year for you, there will be a dinner catered by Scratch Kitchen. To learn more about everything available and to register, click this link: https://www.dock.org/alumni/homecoming-2024?blm_aid=42081

Our September edition of **On the Level** is now available. In this edition, Executive Director Kevin King shares the power of prayer, learn how volunteers are keeping our fleet rolling, and volunteers look back on a year of Mennonite Disaster Service. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3ZtD4Pd>

MCC Material Resource Center Harleysville Annual (Brisket & Oyster) Fundraising Dinner. Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024, 6:00 PM. Franconia Heritage Banquet and Conference Center, 508 Harleysville Pike, Telford, PA 18969

Together, we **Carry on The Legacy.**

Join us for this enjoyable evening that brings us together to support our shared mission of spreading God’s love and compassion. MCC continues to respond to urgent needs in many places. In recent months, relief kits, comforters and canned meat have been sent to assist people in Cuba, Burundi, Ethiopia, Gaza, Malawi, Puerto Rico, South Sudan, Ukraine and Zambia.

An offering will be collected after the meal. Funds raised will go towards Relief Kits. Kindly call 267-203-8704 by **October 4** to register.

We look forward to seeing you there!

