



# Peace Lutheran Church

# Tidings of Peace

September 2021

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Last Spring, we memorized a bible verse that reminded us to love the Lord our God with all of our hearts, souls and minds. That is the first and greatest commandment. We all should love God, but what does it mean to love him? I understand how you love a person. You see them. You interact with them. You get to know them. But how do you love the infinite, invisible God?

Does it mean to love the idea of God? I had a friend that was a pastor for many years. After a bout with depression and a divorce, he left the ministry. He was discouraged and disappointed.

One day many years later, he told me, "When I was a pastor, I loved theology. It made sense. It was logical. I loved reading and teaching about God, but I realized that I never loved Jesus. It was like I had all of the trappings but missed the center." My friend knew a lot about God and loved the idea of God, but he did not love God.

When some people say that they love God, what they mean is that they love the church. They enjoy going to church. They enjoy the fellowship, and they like how the worship makes them feel. Again, they seem to love the trappings but not love the center.

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## **Tidings of Peace**

*The Official Newsletter  
of Peace@Monroe*

We hope you find our newsletter to be both informative and insightful with interesting news and notes on life together as God's people. If you have suggestions for the newsletter or would like to submit an article for publication, we'd love to hear from you.

Todd Roeske  
Pastor

Rebeca Castro  
Church Office Administrator  
& Newsletter Editor

## **Peace@Monroe**

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Some people love what God does for them. They love that God answers prayers and blesses them. They love to sing and praise God because God gives them what they want. Many times, I have counseled with people who feel like God no longer loves them. When I explore this with them, what they mean is that something bad happened to them. Since God is supposed to be the dispenser of blessings, when God does not give blessings or protect them from hardship, these people give up on loving God. This kind of love is like the love that one might have for ice cream or pizza. They love God for what he provides for them.

I have a hard time loving the invisible abstract God because he seems so intangible. I need something I can see and touch. God knows that. That is why God chose to become a human being in the person of Jesus. In Jesus, I can engage the invisible God. I can get to know him through God's Word. I can wrestle with his parables and try to live his commands. I can experience his forgiveness and somehow connect with him through the mystery of the Lord's Supper. I can talk to Jesus through his Spirit and know he listens to me. I can think about him dying on the cross for a goofball like me and know that God is always for me and always loves me. God is hard to get a handle on, but when

God reveals himself in Jesus, I can understand how to love him.

My friend, who loved the idea of God, has slowly come back to his faith. His journey back came through Jesus. He told me that one day he just realized that through all his struggles and life Jesus has been there. He knows that Jesus loves him and, as a result, he is learning to love Jesus.

The Bible says that when you really love God you show that by truly loving others (1 John 4:20). This is helpful. Loving God is not so much about the feeling of love toward God but is the expression of loving action. We love God by acting in love toward others. We love God, in Jesus, by loving others the way that Jesus did—with patience, grace, and healing. My prayer for our congregation this month is that as we engage God through Jesus our love for him will grow and show in our love for all those people God brings into our lives.

***Engage God  
Engage Each Other  
Engage The World***





## Peace Profiles: Shelley Wallace

### Shelley Wallace Profile

Not many people can read a musical score and a multi-column budget spreadsheet, but Shelley Wallace, a long-time member at Peace and newest Leadership Team member, can read and interpret both. After graduating from WSU with a minor in voice, she sang for nine years in the Seattle Girls' Choir; after that she learned to sing in nineteen different languages, (with Finnish being her favorite) with the Ancora Choir, a women's group devoted to performing outstanding choral music.

Before the pandemic struck 17 long months ago, Ancora (Italian for "encore") kept up a vigorous program of practice and performance, including a live performance on KING-FM. She also served on the board of Ancora, and is waiting to see when pandemic rules will permit a reconstitution

Here at Peace, she sings praises to the Lord as she helps the congregation join in worship. In both choirs, she prefers to support rather than solo.

To add to her skills, she is a certified notary public and is working to set up a notarial services business. Thank you, Shelley, for your talents, and your wise distribution of the riches God has given you.

- Michael Mates

# Worship ~ Study ~ Commune ~ Serve



## Worship - Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

The CDC and the Snohomish County Health Department are requiring masks for indoor gatherings (based on hospital admissions).

Bring the joy of the Lord. It's great to be together.

*"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."*  
Psalm 118:24

## Worship (online and on the phone) Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Our services are also recorded.

Go to **YouTube: Peace Lutheran Church**  
or **Facebook: Peace Church Monroe.**

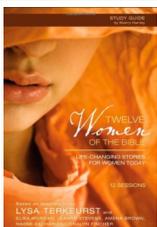
You can also call in by request. (907)259-5115

Weekly bulletins are available on our website ([peacechurchmonroe.org](http://peacechurchmonroe.org)).  
Children's messages are available, too. Share with your friends and family.



## Adult Study The Book of Revelation Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

We are studying the book of Revelation.  
Join us Sunday mornings!



## Women's Bible Study—Saturday's 10-11:30 AM September 11 -Hannah, 18 -Abigail, & 25 -Groomer.

No study on Labor Day weekend. Free Bible Study books available.  
All Are Welcome!

Listen to the Lutheran Hour on 1380 AM  
at 7:00 AM Sunday Mornings!

No DORCAS in September

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# Leadership Team Highlights

August 19, 2021 Meeting

Participating on the Leadership Team are Brad Feilberg, John Gose, Michael Mates, Deanna Nowadnick, and Shelley Wallace. We have one open position. Also attending our meetings are Pastor Todd, Rebeca Castro, church office administrator, and Linda Herman, our preschool director. Michael Mates represents the church on the Zion School Board. In August Lay Ministers, Tom Foster and Lesley Humphries attended our meeting, too.

- **Engaging God ~ Engaging Each Other ~ Engaging the World**

In September we're looking forward to reconnecting at church during worship and fellowship times. We're also excited by other opportunities to get together. Women are invited to meet for a **Saturday morning Coffee GIG** (Girlfriends Inspired by God) at Paesano's Coffee here in Monroe from 8:00-9:00 a.m., beginning Saturday September 11th. On Sunday, September 19th we have the joy and honor of  **blessing Kim and Larry Green** as they follow God's call to Florida. Tom and Gayle Foster's **granddaughter will be baptized** on Sunday, September 12th. Joyful times!

- **Worship 2.0**

We continue to follow the governor's mandates along with Snohomish County Health Department guidelines regarding worship and other events and meetings at church. For public gatherings, like worship, grab your mask. For "private" Bible studies and smaller meetings, masks are options, but recommended should anyone feel uncomfortable without masks.

We will continue with one worship service at 10:00 a.m. Join us!

- **Mission and Service Opportunities**

Our One Parish ~ One Prisoner (OPOP): Our group continues to work with Jonathan. Decisions are still being made regarding his release. The congregation will have an opportunity to support him and his wife as we know more about their own next steps.

Take the Next Step: Our food donations support the homeless and less fortunate here in Monroe. See the sign-up sheet by the front door for specific items needed. We're also looking for volunteers to drop off food bags once each month. Time needed? About an hour.

Fall Clean-Up: The Hispanic church has invited Peace members to help clean up the church—inside and outside. They're even coming to bring lunch! Many hands make light work. Many volunteers make for great fellowship! Join us Saturday, September 28th.

**Engaging God ~ Engaging Each Other ~ Engaging the World**

# Financial News

## Special Offerings

### Fiscal YTD

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Building "10-for-10" | \$1470         |
| Thrivent Choice      | \$ 745         |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$2,215</b> |

## Special Gifts

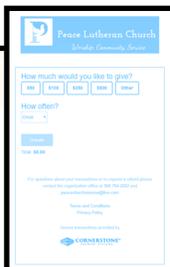
### Fiscal YTD

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Advertising           | \$ 60           |
| Building              |                 |
| Loan Paydown          | \$ 6,020        |
| Endowment             | \$ 439          |
| Memorials             | \$ 2,003        |
| Missions              |                 |
| Alaska                | \$ 6,147        |
| Asia Offerings        | \$ 1,500        |
| Asia Grant            | \$16,300        |
| Africa (Shauen Trump) | \$ 355          |
| Take the Next Step    | \$ 825          |
| PPP Grant             | \$ 3,688        |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>\$37,337</b> |

**Would you like  
to give your offerings  
online?**

Just go to [https://  
give.cornerstone.cc/  
peacemonroe](https://give.cornerstone.cc/peacemonroe)  
or access the link  
at [peacemonroe.org](http://peacemonroe.org).

It's easy!



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## TREASURER'S REPORT

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>Given July 2021</b>                          | <b>\$ 9,322</b>  |
| <b>Given Fiscal YTD (August 2020-July 2021)</b> | <b>\$191,431</b> |

### 2020-21 Budget (approved July 2020)

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Foundation          | \$195,707        |
| Salary and Benefits |                  |
| Administration      |                  |
| Building Loan       |                  |
| Ministries          |                  |
| Reaching Up         | \$ 2,400         |
| Worship             |                  |
| Reaching Out        | \$ 21,800        |
| The World           |                  |
| The Nation          |                  |
| The Region          |                  |
| Reaching In         | \$ 6,200         |
| Education           |                  |
| Spiritual Growth    |                  |
| Fun and Fellowship  |                  |
| Supplies            |                  |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>\$226,107</b> |

### Assets (as of 7/31/2021)

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| Checking  | \$124,659 |
| Savings   | \$ 18,890 |
| Endowment | \$ 46,421 |

### Income v. Expenses

|                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Needed in July 2021              | \$ 18,842        |
| <b>Given in July 2021</b>        | <b>\$ 9,322</b>  |
| Needed Fiscal Year-to-Date       | \$226,107        |
| <b>Given Fiscal Year-to-Date</b> | <b>\$191,431</b> |

### Loan Summary

|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Building Loan (as of May 2021) | \$ 41,500 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|



# Little Doves

## Preschool and Kindergarten



**We're enrolling for 2021-2022 school year!**

Little Doves Preschool and Kindergarten

We are excited to start a new year of school. It has been challenging with COVID 19 but we are more prepared this year in knowing what to do to keep COVID out of our school and to create a safe environment for the children. It is an ever changing dynamic but we will do our best to make this school year as normal as possible for the children and families and do some amazing learning activities. We ask for your support and prayers in this wonderful ministry of our church. If you would like to know how to be involved in this ministry, please contact the Director, Linda Herman.

We have a part time teacher job opening (a couple days a week). If you are interested in applying or know of someone who would love to work with children, please contact Linda Herman at [littledovespreschool@gmail.com](mailto:littledovespreschool@gmail.com) Thank you!



## LUNCH BUNCH

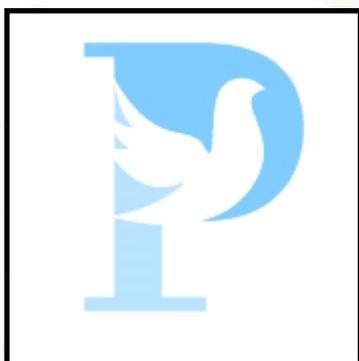
Mon 09/13 @ 11:45 a.m.  
Golden City Buffet : 1407 West Main Street,  
Monroe, WA 98272

Grab a friend. Bring your neighbor.  
Call Ken and Nancy, if you need a ride (425-308-9984).



## Men's Breakfast

Sat 09/11 @ 8:00 a.m.  
Denny's: 18824 US-2, Monroe, WA 98272  
Bob Johnson: (425-870-0681)



## Engaging God

Engaging Each Other ~ Engaging the World

### TIDINGS OF PEACE

Peace Lutheran Church

202 Dickinson Street

Monroe, WA 98272

Address Correction Requested