



Peace Lutheran Church

Tidings of Peace

SEPTEMBER 2026

In This Issue



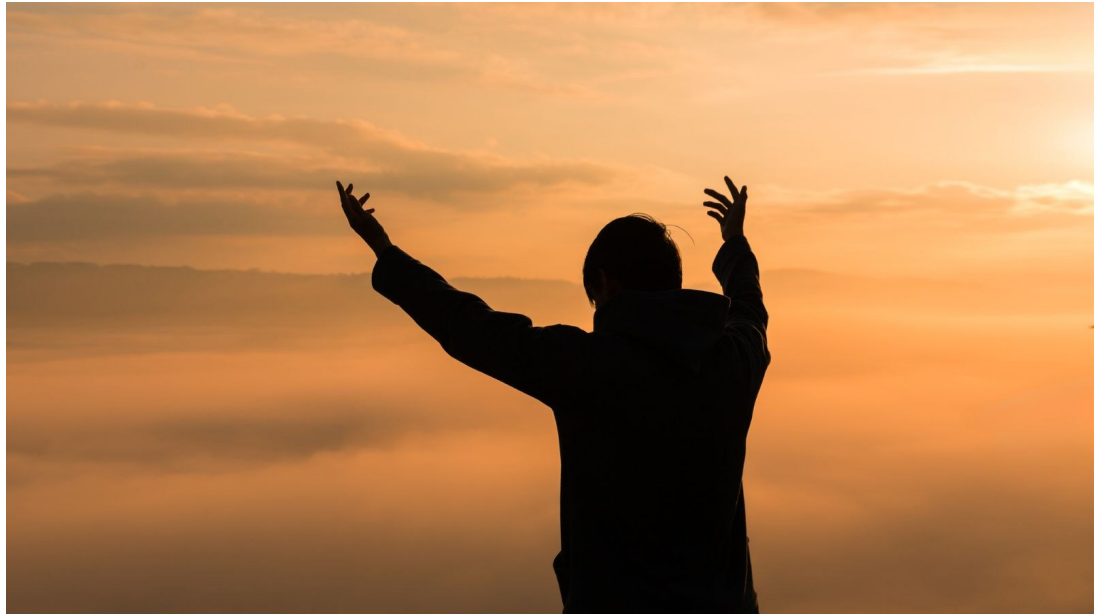
**Pastor Todd's
Message**
Pages 1-2

**Thank You &
Announcements**
page 3-5

Financial Report
page 6-7

**Little Doves
School News**
page 7

**Mission
Statement**
Back



When I was a young man, I had an embarrassing health problem. I was bleeding from a part of my body that I don't like to talk about. It didn't hurt, but it worried me. However, I was young and stupid, so I didn't tell anyone. The problem went on for years. Finally, when I was in my thirties, I matured enough to mention it to a doctor. That led to tests and finally surgery. Thankfully, by God's grace, the problem ended up not being serious, but I spent over 10 years secretly worrying for nothing. Had I told my doctor early on, I could have saved myself a lot of private grief.

I have learned over the years that a lot of us have secrets that we carry that keep us from truly flourishing in the way that God wants us to flourish. Those secrets might be things that have happened to us or things that we have done to others. Research shows that up to 75% of Christian men and 40% of Christian women view pornography. Some people might be hiding their doubts about God for fear that others may judge them. Some of us are carrying the burden of broken relationships that we are afraid to talk about. Whatever your secret, it is a burden. Some might be hiding an addiction that has control over us.

continued on next page

continued from previous page

In Celebrate Recovery, they say, "We are only as sick as our secrets". So, what do we do?

King David understood the power of a secret. He committed adultery and used his position to commit murder (2 Samuel 11-12). Those sins could have destroyed him. He expresses this well in Psalm 32:3-4 when he says, "When I kept silent about my sins, my bones began to weaken because of my groaning all day long. Day and night your hand laid heavily on me. My strength shriveled in the summer heat." When David held his secret, it was like a sweltering heat was destroying him. But David found relief. He continues, "I made my sins known to you, and I did not cover up my guilt. I decided to confess them to you, O Lord. Then you forgave all my sins." When David honestly and vulnerably brought his sin to the Lord, he found the healing and forgiveness that God used to restore him.

The same healing and forgiveness are there for us when we confess our sins and shame. The Bible says, "So admit your sins to each other, and pray for each other so that you will be healed." (James 5:16) It is incredibly freeing not to have to hide our secrets. When we can tell someone else about our deepest fears, hurt,

shame, and sin, we are finally able to heal from it. Now, I am not advocating walking up to a stranger in the grocery store and sharing your darkest secrets. But if there is something on your heart, you can go to your pastor or to a trusted Christian brother or sister who is willing to listen to you and remind you of the wonderful forgiveness that we have because of Jesus. We, as Christians don't have to pretend we have it all together. We can be honest and let God heal us from our sin and our shame. Jesus is with you.

Todd 907-259-5115

*Engage God
Each Other ~ The World*



ONE PARISH  ONE PRISONER

LISTENING LUNCH

September 20, 2026
After service

Bring a dish to share and a
willingness to learn



CANDICE BAUGHMAN
PROGRAM ASSISTANT, OPOP
FORMERLY INCARCERATED VOICE

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.

Church Office Staff
& Todd Roeske
Pastor

Peace@Monroe

202 Dickinson Street
Monroe, WA 98272

Church Phone
360-794-2082

School Phone
360-794-7230

Web Site
www.peacemonroe.org

Email
todd@peacemonroe.org
peacechurchmonroe@live.com

Our Offerings

Thank You

This issue of our newsletter includes our financial report. As we end our fiscal year, I want to share a heartfelt, very humbling thanks for your generous gifts. A year ago we knew we were approving a budget that was going to stretch us financially. Our offerings— as we knew them at that time—indicated a monthly shortfall of \$1903, almost \$23,000 for the year. With prayers for the Holy Spirit's guidance, we stepped into the new year.

And then it happened. And then it happened again and again. I don't see the offerings, only the monthly totals, but I think back to our own family's experiences with giving. There have been months of larger gifts and months with lots of smaller ones. There have been months when we've been able to "catch up" and other months when we've been able to share in ways we never expected. It's a "God thing" as Kurt and I will always say.

Yes, a God thing, a God thing that comes with our gratitude. We continue to be blessed by your faithful support of the church. Thank you! Thank you very, very much!

Deanna Nowadnick

Peace President



PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

September 6, 2026

10:00 AM

Prayer
Walk

Worship ~ Study ~ Commune ~ Serve



WORSHIP
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Spanish Services at 1:00 p.m.



Bring the joy of the Lord. Invite your friends and neighbors! We'll have fun!

You can join us on **YouTube: @peacechurchmonroe**

Scan the QR code to receive updates.

You can also visit our website (peacechurchmonroe.org).

LEARNING FROM JESUS

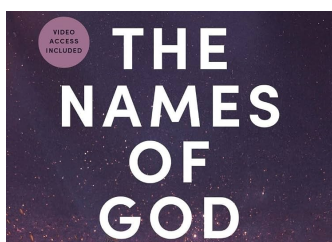
Use this link to get your copy of our 2026 Bible Reading Guide:

c6aaa4_4902290dc2234e97a3db5c7908167dfc.pdf

Reading Guides are also available in the church entry on the table.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Monday Evenings Bible Study
6:30 p.m.



September Study:

[The Names of God — Bible Study Book | Lifeway](#)

Contact Cara for more information:

206-226-4933



**Would you like to
receive a weekly
prayer letter?**

Email Pastor Todd
(todd@peacemonroe.org)



SEPTEMBER PARKING LOT EVENT

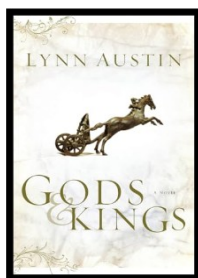
Thursday, September 10 @ 3:15 p.m.

Second day of school

Stop for an Otter Pop, help us pass them out!



WOMEN'S GROUP BOOK FUN!



Saturday's
Sept 12 - October 10
9:00-11:00a.m.
Church Fellowship Room
Books provided
All are welcome!

Office Hours

Office hours return to normal
Beginning September 9

Normal Office Hours:
9AM-Noon, Mon-Friday.



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



Readers and Communion Assistants

Available to help with **Sunday morning readings**? Assist with **communion**?
Contact Jill Burrington Brown
(jill.burrington.brown@frontier.com) or
the church office
(peacechurchmonroe@live.com).



Altar Guild Volunteers

We're also looking for **additional help setting up and cleaning up for communion** on Sunday. Volunteers also help with decorating the sanctuary on occasion. If you can help, please leave a message for Karen Johnson at the church office (peacechurchmonroe@live.com).

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE



Sunday Morning Treats

Looking for additional ways to give? Consider sharing a package of cookies, a pound of coffee, creamer, or lemonade mix. Surprise us with your favorite after-church treat!



Take the Next Step 2-4-1 Project

We continue our support of Take the Next Step with monthly meals for those in need in our community. See the list of specific needs in the entry at church. Your gifts provide two days of food and four meals a day for one person (2-4-1). Thank you for continuing to do what you do!



LUNCH BUNCH

Wed 09/09
Highway 2 Fusion Diner
19721 US-2, Monroe
Location suggestions? We would love to hear!

Please RSVP to Ken and Nancy Strain
(425-308-9984)

Need a ride? Let Ken and Nancy know!
All are welcome! Bring a friend!

August Financial Report

Special Offerings

Fiscal YTD

Building Maintenance	\$ 480
Thrivent Choice	\$ 980
Total	\$ 1,460

Special Gifts

Fiscal YTD

Endowment	\$ 489
LCMS Mission Grant	\$ 15,000
Missions	\$ 24,951
Total	\$40,440

*...also excel in this grace
of giving.*

2 Corinthians 8:7

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

It's easy!

You may also use Zelle®:
donations@peacemonroe.
onmicrosoft.com

*It's easy and no cost to you
and no cost to Peace!*

**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever.**

Psalm 107:1

Given July 2026	\$ 11,227
Given Fiscal YTD (August 2025-July 2026)	\$199,912

2025-26 Budget (approved July 2025)

Foundation	\$174,148
Salary and Benefits	
Administration	
Building Loan	
Ministries	
Reaching Up	\$ 2,900
Worship	
Reaching Out	\$ 4,740
The World	
The Nation	
The Region	
Reaching In	\$ 2,800
Education	
Spiritual Growth	
Fun and Fellowship	
Supplies	
Total	\$184,588

Assets (as of 7/31/2026)

Checking	\$120,719
Savings	\$ 18,922
Endowment	\$ 56,875

Income v. Expenses

Needed in July	\$ 15,382
Given in June	\$ 11,227
Needed Fiscal Year-to-Date	\$184,588
Given Fiscal Year-to-Date	\$199.912



Little Doves

Preschool, Pre-K, and Kindergarten



Little Doves Preschool & Kindergarten

The new school year is here and we are excited to see our returning students and families and welcome our new ones! This year is going to be amazing because we have wonderful teachers & students, awesome curriculums to teach, great support from our congregation, a new fence, and redecorated rooms! The staff is getting the school ready for all the awesome children arriving on our doorstep in a few weeks. Please keep our school in your prayers for a wonderful, safe, and prosperous year.

We have a few openings in our T/Th AM class and we start the Just for Two's class on Sept. 25th. Please tell your family and friends about us!!!

Have a great end of the summer!!!

Contact Miss Linda:

little dovespreschool@gmail.com

For any questions.





Men's Breakfast
Sat 09/12 at 8:00 a.m.
Buzz Inn, Monroe
Men's "Iron Sharpens Iron"
Thu 10/01 at 7:00 p.m.
Bob Johnson's House
128 E Rivemont Dr. Monroe



LUNCH BUNCH: Wed 09/09
11:45 a.m. @ HWY 2 Fusion Diner
19721 US-2, Monroe, WA 98272

Please RSVP
to Ken & Nancy Strain
(425-308-9984).

All are welcome!



Engaging God
Engaging Each Other ~ Engaging the World

TIDINGS OF PEACE

Peace Lutheran Church

202 Dickinson Street
Monroe, WA 98272

Address Correction Requested