



# Peace Lutheran Church Tidings of Peace

January 2021

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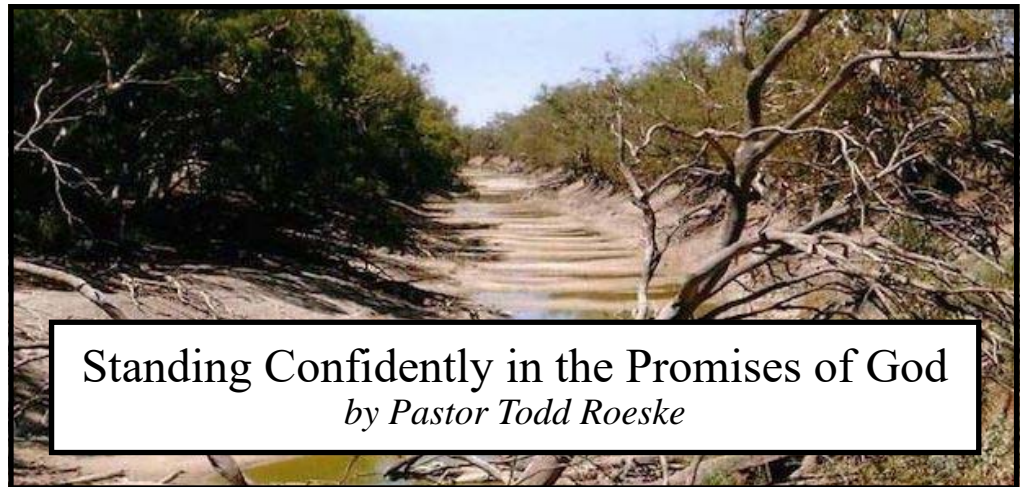
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## Standing Confidently in the Promises of God *by Pastor Todd Roeske*

The Israelites had been wondering for 40 years. Now Moses was dead and Joshua stood with them on edge of the Promised Land. The nation had survived the wilderness, but now they were looking out over a flooded Jordan River that seemed like an impossible barrier to their entering the new world that God had promised them.

So, God told Joshua to tell the Priests carrying the Ark of God's Promises to step right into the Jordan River and stand there. This must have seemed silly. The river was flooded and they were supposed to go wading. As soon as they did, something happened. The

water stopped. Unfortunately, it did not stop in front of the priests. It stopped 12 miles upstream. That means for 3 or 4 hours the water continued to flow over the priest's feet before it finally abated.

I can imagine the priests standing in the water thinking, "Joshua, this isn't working. My toes are getting wrinkly from standing in this water and the water is still flowing." God had already solved their problem. God had already damned the river but the Israelites didn't know that he had done it. They had to stand in faith and wait to see what God had done.

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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

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Church Office Administrator

Deanna Nowadnick  
Newsletter Editor

## Peace@Monroe

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We have been through a lot in 2020. We have wondered in the wilderness of the corona-virus. We are all tired and ready to be done with it. There is hope on the horizon. There is a vaccine. We are standing on the edge of a new promised land. What do we do now?

We confidently wade into 2021. As we stand in the waters of 2021, things may feel and look an awful lot like 2020. Our toes may get wrinkly. Our feet may get cold. If, however, we stand confidently on the promises of God—that He controls our destiny and that in some way we may not yet be able to see he has already solved our problem—then we just might see a miracle. Then we will enter into our promised land—the new post COVID world that God has prepared for us.

What is this new world that God is giving us? Standing on the edge of the promised land, I am sure that the people of Israel had no idea of what lay ahead of them. They had heard stories of milk and honey. They knew that God would be faithful and that He had a wonderful future planned for them. However, that wonderful future would include many challenges, as they fought

with and slowly defeated the nations, that occupied the land.

We, too, cannot clearly see our future. We know that God has a wonderful plan for us as His people. We know that he wants us to be a welcoming community of Jesus' followers who are loving God and loving others. He wants us to witness to him here in Monroe, in the surrounding areas and even to the ends of the earth.

I wonder what that future will look like for Peace Lutheran Church. In specific terms, might it include reaching out to younger people and people of other backgrounds and inviting them to serve with us and to lead us.

Whatever our future looks like, I know that there will be many challenges, but as we remain faithful to the God who brought us this far, he will lead us into the future that he has planned for us. Have a blessed 2021!



# Peace Lutheran Church

Peacemonroe.org



## Luke 2:25-32

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”



# Worship ~ Study ~



## Worship Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Bring your mask.

Be sure you're healthy. Temperatures are taken.  
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.**

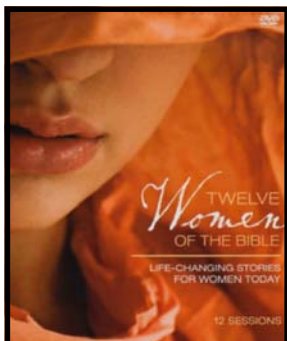
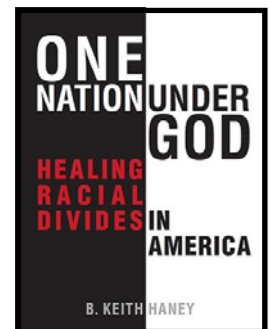
You can also call in (602-580-9478). Your access code is 5100526#.

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 "One Nation under God: Healing Racial Divides in America" Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

Contact the church office, if you'd like to participate.  
We're meeting at church between services. Bring your mask.

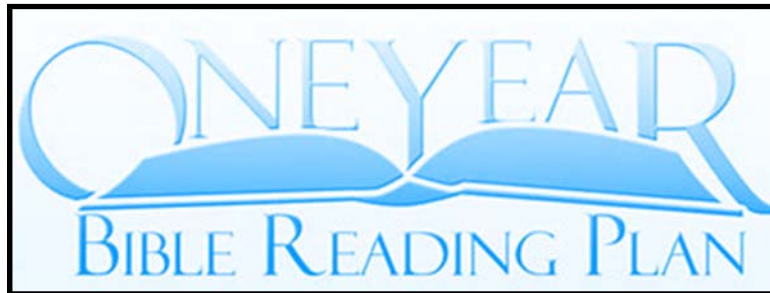


## Women's Bible Study Mondays, starting 1/4/2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Join Cara Fleming for a wonderful study of Lysa Terkeurst's  
"Twelve Women of the Bible."

We enjoy our time together.  
These life changing stories will inspire you!

# Commune ~ Serve



2020 has been a tough year. As we start 2021, let's start by centering ourselves in God's Story. We invite you to join us as we read through the Bible in the next year. In December, we will distribute a reading plan which references each Bible Project video that relates to what you are reading that week. We will also have a forum on our website where you can ask questions and get answers about what you are reading. You can participate as much or as little as you like. Some of you may choose to just watch the videos, read the forum or read. Whatever your level of involvement, we know that being in God's Word is a worthwhile use of your time.



## 2-4-1 Project

Thanks to two Thrivent Action Team grants and your cash donations, the Peace Lutheran 2-4-1 Project will continue through January, February and March! Your generosity means we won't need additional donations to fill bags for three months! Of course, if you still want to donate, your contributions will be very much appreciated!



## Dorcas Women's Group

Our monthly meetings are on hold until we can safely gather. And we're praying that's soon!

# Financial News

## Special Offerings

### Fiscal YTD

Thrivent Choice	\$ -0-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ -0-</b>

## Special Gifts

### Fiscal YTD

Advertising	\$ 60
Building	
10 for 10 Campaign	\$ 250
Principal Paydown	\$2,145
Endowment	\$ 204
Memorials	\$ 190
Missions	\$1,665
PPP Grant	\$3,688
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,202</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.

It's easy!



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# TREASURER'S REPORT

*Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,  
always giving thanks to God the Father for everything,  
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Ephesians 5:19b-20

<b>Given October 2020</b>	<b>\$ 12,993</b>
<b>Given Fiscal YTD (August-October 2020)</b>	<b>\$ 51,534</b>

### 2019-20 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

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**Total \$226,107**

### Assets (as of 10/31/2020)

    Checking \$123,418

    Savings \$ 18,882

    Endowment \$ 39,578

### Income v. Expenses

    Needed in October 2020 \$ 18,842

**Given in October 2020** **\$ 12,993**

    Needed Year-to-Date \$ 56,526

**Given Year-to-Date** **\$ 51,534**

### Loan Summary

    Building Loan (as of 12/07/2020) \$ 48,311



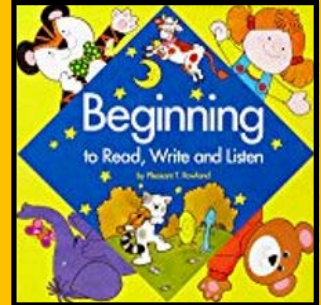
# Little Doves

## Preschool and Kindergarten

### School Reopening

We reopened the school mid-October after closing last March.

After much preparation to meet recommended guidelines for meeting during the pandemic, we opened with three classes and 1/3 of our normal enrollment of students.



### School Safety Measures

We have kept the classes smaller to maintain proper social distancing. We are careful not to mix the “pods” of students. We have instituted a contactless check-in. Visitors are not allowed inside the building. Temperatures are checked. We do not share snacks. All classrooms have air filters. Portable sinks are outside and in the classrooms. Everyone wears a mask. We have lots of hand washing and an abundance of disinfectant cleaning.

### God's Guidance and Care

We are thankful and grateful for God's protection, guidance, and care through these unprecedented times. So far we have had no COVID -19 outbreaks where we would have had to close the school.

Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to support our children and their families.

Watch for information regarding enrollment for next year! Registration starts in February.

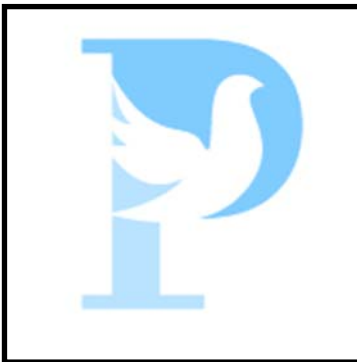
## LUNCH BUNCH

To Be Announced

As you know, restaurants are closed to indoor dining and outdoor dining in January is difficult. Still too cold, friends! We hope to see you soon (in February?). More to come!

Happy New Year!

*Ken and Nancy Strain and Chuck and Andi Swanson*



## Engaging God

Engaging Each Other ~ Engaging the World

### TIDINGS OF PEACE

Peace Lutheran Church

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Address Correction Requested

