



# Peace Lutheran Church

# Tidings of Peace

## February 2023

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In Africa, the people in the congregation dance forward and drop their offerings in the plate. In the Philippines, people walk forward and drop them in a basket. When I grew up, two ushers passed brass offering plates through the congregation collecting the offerings of God's people. In Jesus' time, there was a box at the back of the temple where the faithful would drop their offerings to God. Now, many people donate online or through text.

A couple of people have asked me why we don't go back to passing the plate like we used to before COVID. Some people think that we might even get more offerings if people saw a plate being passed in front of them. It feels a little awkward to have a plate passed in front of you if you don't put anything into it.

I think the answer has to do with why we have an offering in the first place. God does not need our money. The bible says, "every animal of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird of the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and everything in it is mine." (Psalm 50:10-12) We do not give offerings because God needs our money. All that exists belongs to God. Instead, we give offerings as a sign of our thankfulness, love, and trust. We give offerings to show that we know that all that we have is not really ours. Offerings remind us that God has provided for us all that we need.

So when God's people give offerings at church, the point is not to see how much money the

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



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

Email Todd:  
Todd@peacemonroe.org

**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**

202 Dickinson Street  
Monroe, WA 98272

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todd@peacemonroe.org  
peacechurchmonroe@live.com

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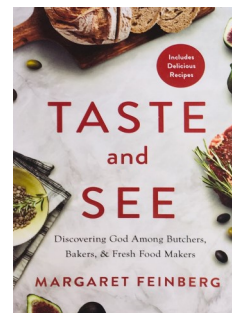
congregation can raise. Giving is a spiritual act. It is an act of faith, whereby we demonstrate to God that we believe that all we have belongs to God and that He supplies all our needs.

But you might say, "Wait a minute. The church is struggling financially. Our offerings do not cover our expenses. Don't we need to have more offerings to cover our needs?" In one sense, that is true. God condescends to let us be a part of supporting the work of his mission. He gives us the privilege of helping the poor, supporting our pastor, and even paying the utilities at the church. If God's people are not faithful, God may let the congregation struggle to teach us to be faithful with the gifts that he has given us or to teach us to pray to him to supply our needs. However, it is still not about the money. The money is a means to express our faithfulness or to lead us to prayer.

Back to how we collect the offering. Passing the plate was a convenience so that Jesus' followers could easily give their offerings. However, passing the plate is awkward for visitors who don't understand what Christian offerings are about. Some may even put in an offering out of obligation. Those gifts are spiritually harmful. The only reasons to give to God are faith and gratitude. We don't want people to give for any other reasons. Our box in the back of the sanctuary is a reminder that our offerings are a deliberate act of love. We give because God has given to us. We give generously because we know that no matter

how much we give, God continues to supply all our needs. We give joyfully because we know that God multiplies our gifts and uses them to extend his kingdom.

May God's generous grace fill you with generous joy as you follow Jesus each and every day!



**Women's Bible Study  
Saturdays @ 9:00-11:00 am**

**Beginning Sat 02/04**

According to author Margaret Feinberg, God is a foodie who wants to transform our supper into sacrament. Margaret's study will take us on a culinary exploration of Scripture. We'll learn fresh Biblical discoveries as she shares stories from wandering a California farm with one of the world's premier fig farmers, baking fresh matzo at Yale University, descending 400 feet into the frosty white caverns of a salt mine, and visiting a remote island in Croatia to harvest olives. With each visit, Margaret asks, "How do you read these Scriptures, not as theologians, but in light of what you do every day?" Their answers will forever change the way we read the Bible - and approach every meal.

Join us on Saturdays. Should be yummy fun! Should be insightfully delicious!



# Tithes & Offerings

***Thank you for your support of God's work here at Peace.***

This has been another challenging year for all of us financially. That said, we are committed to sharing God's Good News, His love, joy, peace, and hope. Our ministry team has worked hard to make sure that we connect in worship and study each Sunday, that prayers get shared and calls made. To Pastor Todd and Kim Roeske, Rebeca Castro, our musicians and soloists, technicians and support crew, our readers and greeters, our cleaners, and preschool director, Linda Herman, we thank you!

You, too, are an important part of all that we do. Your faithful giving has allowed us to be God's light in our community. In Deuteronomy 16:17, we are reminded that "Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you." Thank you for giving as you're able.

Yes, God has blessed us in many ways. Together we are God's church here in Monroe and throughout the world. Thank you for allowing us to worship and serve beside you.

*"And God is able to make all grace abound to you,  
so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times,  
you may abound in every good work."*

*2 Corinthians 9:8*

Your Leadership Team  
Brad Feilberg, Michael Mates  
Deanna Nowadnick, Shelley Wallace, Laurie Yocum

# *Worship ~ Study ~ Commune ~ Serve*



## **Worship - Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Spanish Services at 1:00 p.m.**

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.



## **Congregational Meeting - Sunday 02/26 at 11:15 am**

Agenda:



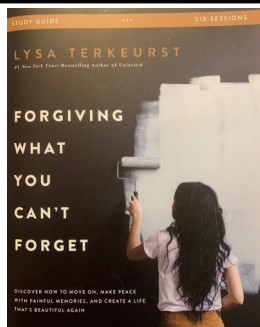
Election of Leadership Team members

Nominations for the synod's elected positions  
(to be selected at this summer's national convention in Milwaukee)

Financial update

Deanna Nowadnick: 206-335-8462

## **Together Service & Potluck - February 12 at 10 am**



## **Women's Bible Study Monday's @ 6:30 pm Ending February 6th**

Forgiving what you can't forget, by *Lysa TerKeurst*.  
Led by Cara Fleming

New bible study to come, stay tuned!

**Newsletter Items Due February 20**



## Word Studies in 2023

Learn about important Biblical Concepts through daily short readings and reflections.  
A study guide for February is attached.

**Leadership Team - Saturday, February 25, 10:00 – 11:30am**

**Free English Conversation Classes - Fridays at 6 pm**

Sign up to help! Todd@peacemonroe.org

**Best Practices Conference**

Office closed Feb 15-18.



## Parking Lot Event Thursday, February 9 @ 3:15 pm



Event once a month, sign up to help!

This month we will be welcoming all to stop by for valentines candy when picking up children from school. Interested in helping? Just show up!:)

Question?

Call Todd: 907-259-5115

Email Todd: Todd@peacemonroe.org

You may also donate candy by dropping off at the church.

## RightNow Media

“RightNow Media is like the Christian Netflix, with access to 20,000+ Bible Study videos, movies, and more!” There is material for all ages, and about just any subject. RightNow media is free to the congregation, and available for download through the App Store as well as Google Play. It is also available on fireTV, Apple TV, Android and Apple devices, Roku, and Chromecast. You can also use the Screen Casting option on your device to watch it on your smart TV.

To Sign up:

Visit <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/PEACELC>

Or Text “PLC” to 49775

You can also scan the QR code



# Financial News

## Special Offerings

### Fiscal YTD

Advertising	\$ 270
Building Maintenance	\$ 960
Thrivent Choice	\$ 71
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,301</b>

## Special Gifts

### Fiscal YTD

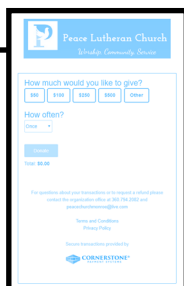
Endowment	\$ 305
Memorials	\$ 20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 325</b>



**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](https://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 December 2022</b>	<b>\$ 17,015</b>
<b>Given Fiscal YTD (August 2022-July 2023)</b>	<b>\$ 71,850</b>

### 2022-23 Budget (approved July 2022)

Foundation	\$179,532
Salary and Benefits	
Administration	
Building Loan	
Ministries	
Reaching Up	\$ 2,150
Worship	
Reaching Out	\$ 7,710
The World	
The Nation	
The Region	
Reaching In	\$ 5,250
Education	
Spiritual Growth	
Fun and Fellowship	
Supplies	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$194,642</b>

### Assets (as of 12/31/2022)

Checking	\$ 51,108
Savings	\$ 18,900
Endowment	\$ 45,240

### Income v. Expenses

Needed in December 2022	\$ 16,220
<b>Given in December 2022</b>	<b>\$ 17,015</b>
Needed Fiscal Year-to-Date	\$ 81,100
<b>Given Fiscal Year-to-Date</b>	<b>\$ 71,850</b>

### Loan Summary

Building Loan (as of 12/31/2022)	Paid off!!!
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# Little Doves

## Preschool and Kindergarten



### Little Doves Preschool & Kindergarten

January was an exciting month full of snow, ice play, rainy days, and Pajamuary Day. The children loved coming to school in their pajamas on Pajama Day and bringing a favorite stuffed toy. They watched a movie and ate popcorn to finish off a very fun day. We look forward to the month of February where we celebrate LOVE! Loving God and showing love to each other. Knowing God loves each of us so much is amazing!

Enrollment for the fall opens on February 1. We will be offering a Tuesday/Thursday Preschool, Monday/Wednesday/Friday PreK, Monday through Thursday Adv. PreK/Kindergarten, and Just for Two's. Registration forms and more information can be found on our website at: [littledovespreschool.com](http://littledovespreschool.com)

Any questions, please call Linda Herman, Director 360-794-7230

Linda Herman  
Director

Little Doves Preschool & Kindergarten

202 Dickinson Ave, Monroe, WA

PH: (360) 794-7230

WWW: [littledovespreschool.com](http://littledovespreschool.com)





## LUNCH BUNCH

Wed 02/08 @ 11:45 a.m.

HW2 Fusion: 19721 U.S. Rte 2,  
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 02/11 @ 8:00 a.m.

Buzz Inn: 18960 U.S. Rte 2 #112, Monroe  
Bob Johnson: (425-870-0681)



## Engaging God

Engaging Each Other ~ Engaging the World

When the office is closed:  
Call or Text 425-344-3445

## TIDINGS OF PEACE

Peace Lutheran Church

202 Dickinson Street  
Monroe, WA 98272

Address Correction Requested

