



Peace Lutheran Church Tidings of Peace

October 2024

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It was a beautiful day, as most days in Hawaii tend to be. I was driving down a crowded highway with Kim and three of my girls filling up the seats of my compact rental car. I glanced over to my left and started to change lanes. Screams from my daughters caused me to reflexively swerve back into my lane. A car from two lanes over had cut into my blind spot and we were inches from sharing paint and certainly affecting our vacation for the worse. I remember that story because I never saw the car that could have hurt my family. Had I seen the car, it would not have been a danger. You cannot deal with what you do not know is there.

Spiritually, we all suffer from blind spots. There are things that we do or think that are not pleasing to God, yet we don't even realize our sin. When I was young, I thought drunkenness was just a fun way to spend a weekend. It wasn't until I read, "Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit" (Ephesians 5:19-20) that I realized that drunkenness is not God's will for his people.

Sometimes blind spots can affect whole cultures. For years, many Christians justified the evil of slavery. People would go to church on Sunday and then whip their slaves on Monday. Even

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Tidings of Peace

*The Official Newsletter
of Peace@Monroe*

We hope you find our newsletter to be both informative and in-sightful 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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and Rebeca Castro
Church Office Staff
and Newsletter Editors

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today, there are injustices in our society that many Christians do not see as wrong.

The trouble with blind spots is that they, by definition, are things we cannot see. So how do we discover our blind spots and how do we deal with them? First, we must be honest that we do not know everything. Recognizing that we do not know, allows us to be teachable. Jesus told the Pharisees, "If you were blind, you wouldn't be guilty, but you remain guilty because you claim you can see." (John 9:41). Admitting our spiritual blindness allows us to come to Jesus to be healed.

Secondly, God through his Holy Spirit is the best teacher. We need to humbly read and reflect on God's word. We need to ask him in prayer to reveal our blind spots and to teach us to see as he sees.

Thirdly, we need to listen to other Christians who see things from a different perspective. Others can see what we cannot. We have a lot to learn from Christians of color that have experienced the world differently than we have. I have personally learned a lot from listening to the stories of unhoused

people. God has used their experiences to challenge my judgmental attitudes and to teach me deeper compassion. We do well to humbly listen to all our brothers and sisters so that through them God might reveal our blind spots and heal them.

Heavenly Father, We know that we have blind spots. Give us ears to listen to you and to your people so that we can learn and grow in our understanding of your Truth. Open our eyes and heal our spiritual blindness so we can see as Jesus sees. Amen.

Todd 907-259-5115

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





Brunch Church: Fun and Fellowship

By Deanna Nowadnick

Al and Sandy's grandson Carter and I love pancakes. His sisters, Kennedy and Taylor, do too. We especially love brunch church. It's been a great joy to gather together to share worship and praise along with a special meal and communion. We get to sing and pray. We get to talk amongst ourselves—at times giggling, at times groaning. We get to go back for more pancakes.

The sharing of a meal is a prominent theme in both the Old and New Testaments. We see how meals are used to establish and deepen relationships, bringing us together for a time of nourishment and fellowship. Jesus ate with his followers. He ate with tax collectors and sinners. He fed one; he also fed thousands. He even enjoyed a meal with Zacchaeus and on a separate occasion, he dined with a Pharisee.

Jesus showed us that meals aren't just about food and about eating; they're social occasions in which friendships bloom, communities grow, and all are welcome. Jesus shared loaves and fish. We get to share eggs and bacon, fruit and cinnamon rolls. We get to nourish our relationships with each other as well as those who might be visiting.

Earlier this year Pastor Todd was able to get a grant for new tables. As you may have experienced, those giggles and groans can get loud and the smaller tables keep us close and within a comfortable speaking/listening distance of each other. They also allow additional seating. Deanna loves the pretty tablecloths too. I'm not sure Jesus and the disciples had a noise issue while cooking fish on the shore, but I'll bet he made things work when he fed the five thousand!

We love brunch church! We love sharing this time with you! All are always welcome! Who do you know?

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."

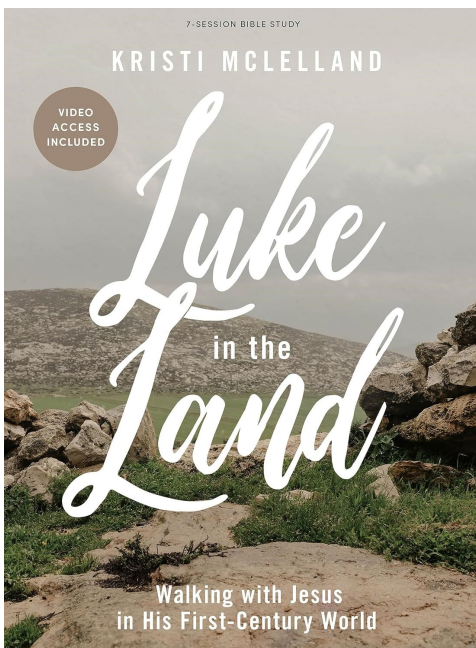
Psalms 118:24

You can join us on **Facebook: Peace Church Monroe**

Scan the QR code to receive updates.

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

Invite your friends! Invite your family!



NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Monday, September 30 @ 6:30pm

7 Week Bible Study

Luke in the Land, by Kristi McLelland

Books can be ordered online, need help?

Contact the office!

DISCOVERING PEACE

Join Pastor for an in-depth study of the Christian faith and learn about our Lutheran beliefs. Date and time to be determined. Contact Pastor Todd for details (907-259-5115).

NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Led by Gayle Foster - Starting October 19th on Saturdays from 9-11 AM
A 6 week study at Peace Lutheran Church Fantastic fellowship! Bring your friends!
More details to come

SATURDAY WOMEN'S DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER

10:00-11:00 a.m. in the Church Fellowship Room

Note: Gayle Foster will be leading new study next month. More to come!





OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Sunday School Teachers

Are you able to help? We need a **Sunday School teacher** for one Sunday each month during children's church (during worship).

A **teacher** is also needed to teach on fifth Sundays (September 29, March 30, June 29, and August 31).

Join us! We work together and substitute teachers are available to help as needed. All materials and training are provided.

Call or text Kim at 907-259-5683 to learn more.

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).

Would you like to receive a weekly prayer letter?

Email Pastor Todd (todd@peacemonroe.org).



LCMS National Youth Gathering

(for ages 14-19)

July 19-23, 2025

The National Youth Gathering will be held next summer in New Orleans. This life-changing event will bring together 20,000 people! Kim and her daughter Amani attended the last one in 2022. Area LCMS churches are planning to send a combined group from our area. Learn more at <https://www.lcmsgathering.com/about>. Registration deadline is Sunday, September 8. Contact Pastor Todd for additional information (todd@peacemonroe.org).



LITTLE DOVES - TRUNK OR TREAT

Friday, Oct. 25 at 6:30 pm

Financial News

Special Offerings

Fiscal YTD

Building Maintenance	\$ 30
Total	\$ 30

Special Gifts

Fiscal YTD

75th Anniversary Missions	\$ 252
Asia Mission Gifts	\$ 4,000
Asia Mission Grant	\$14,000
Total	\$18,252

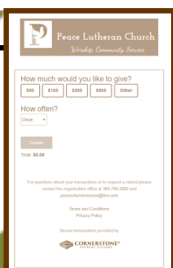
*...also excel in this grace
of giving.*

2 Corinthians 8:7

**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!



TREASURER'S REPORT

**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever.
Psalm 107:1**

Given August 2024	\$ 11,531
Given Fiscal YTD (August 2023-July 2024)	\$ 11,531

2024-25 Budget (approved July 2024)

Foundation	\$161,208
Salary and Benefits	
Administration	
Building Loan	
Ministries	
Reaching Up	\$ 2,900
Worship	
Reaching Out	\$ 5,287
The World	
The Nation	
The Region	
Reaching In	\$ 2,800
Education	
Spiritual Growth	
Fun and Fellowship	
Supplies	
Total	\$172,195

Assets (as of 8/31/2024)

Checking	\$ 54,935
Savings	\$ 18,910
Endowment	\$ 45,240

Income v. Expenses

Needed in August 2024	\$ 14,350
Given in August 2024	\$ 11,531
Needed Fiscal Year-to-Date	\$ 14,350
Given Fiscal Year-to-Date	\$ 11,531

Little Doves

Preschool and Kindergarten



The first two weeks of school have been fantastic! The children are getting use to the daily routine of the school day and settling in well. They are starting to make new friends and having lots of fun learning new things. We are so excited to have many new families at our school this year. The staff is working hard to get to know everyone's name and helping the students adjust to being at school. We have an amazing staff and they are looking forward to a wonderful school year with the children and families.

In October we have Picture Day, a field trip to a pumpkin patch, and Trunk or Treat on Oct. 25 at 6:30. It will be a month full of Fall themed events and activities.

We pray to the Lord to look after Little Doves and all the families as we experience a year full of events, learning activities, and time together in our school.

Thank you for your prayers and support of Little Doves Preschool!

Linda Herman, Director (360) 794-7230
littledovespreschool.com



Men's "Iron Sharpens Iron" Group

Tuesday, October 8 at 7:00 p.m.
Bob Johnsons House, (360-793-2315)

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, October 12 at 8:00 a.m.
Buzz Inn, Monroe



Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, October 9 at 11:45 a.m.
Golden City Buffet , 1407 W Main St, Monroe
Bring your friends!



Engaging God

Engaging Each Other ~ Engaging the World

TIDINGS OF PEACE

Peace Lutheran Church

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Address Correction Requested