

# The *intercom* In Church and Community



## Pastor for Outreach and Communication Love Begins, by Pr. Justin Kosec



April 21 was a great day to move people I never met. OSL teenager Margaux Freese, her foot in a protective boot, joined me ready to lift furniture. Todd Paulson brought a

van drained of seats.

All day your donations had poured in; our congregation hastily conjured an apartment's furnishings for the refugee family en route to Sioux Falls.

We packed Todd's van, then puzzled in more furniture from Jaysen and Sara Stevenson.

At the empty apartment we arranged dressers in bedrooms. Put lamps on tables, apples on the table, linens in the closet. It was mismatched furniture, lovingly given. It felt like an inviting place to live.

But the family we hoped to welcome—could they make it *home*?



On July 3, I learned the answer to that question. My wife and daughter and I joined Kristyne Duffy from LSS to meet the refugees, Amanuel and Yodit, at their apartment.

I'll admit I was nervous. It's easy to move a couch and imagine who might sit there. It's

another thing entirely to meet strangers you've talked about for months. Would it be weird? I was grateful Kristyne facilitated our conversation so it didn't feel like a bad first date.

For me, something changed when Yodit made coffee. She warmed the *jebena*, a clay pot, on a hot plate in the living room. We shared popcorn; we chatted about parks and American traditions and the Fourth of July. I told Amanuel that my family had moved to Sioux Falls only a couple months before they had. My wife is looking for a job—same as Yodit. We're newer to Sioux Falls but have established family here—same as them. We're trying to balance work and children and childcare—same as them. "We are all new," Amanuel laughed.

We talked hobbies as Yodit brewed our second cup. All of us love television, and we love reading, too. If you're an avid reader, imagine moving to a country where people wouldn't recognize your alphabet. Forget finding a book to read. Amanuel's been watching the World Cup. He played soccer for his national team back home. Yodit told us she loves to drink coffee and talk with her friends.

In their culture, enjoying coffee is more than idle gossip. It's ceremony, a loving ritual. It's the kind of hospitality that creates community. Yodit's still working on her English, but she left me speechless with her coffee. She tilted the *jebena* over tiny cups; small spoons tinkled on our saucers. The coffee was sweetened and spicy with cardamom and cinnamon.

As we found baby and saucer mutually exclusive, Yodit swept in and took our daughter like any auntie would. Their youngest son shared his toys with her and danced to make her laugh.

Thinking about favorite foods, I asked Amanuel and Yodit what they had left behind, what they missed. Amanuel instantly said he missed his brothers who still lived in the refugee camp, which perches on the edge of the sea with war pressing against its other side. It could take decades before their family could join them here. If ever.

After that, Amanuel said he hoped our relationship would never end, since we had helped them get started in this new life.

I felt humbled to hear that. Is that what we had accomplished just with furniture?

When you heard this family's story, you gave so much so quickly. But the stuff we brought to that apartment is almost invisible now. Their colorful fabrics cover every surface; their embroidery adorns the lampshades. Their shows speak through the television. It's a home now, no longer a patchwork of other peoples' things. *Your things* had not helped them get started in this new life. Your love, your care, had done this—because you gave enough to create a place where a family could be themselves.

Now Amanuel and Yodit do not need any more *things*. Now they need young families with

## Memorials and Honoraria May–June 2018

In Honor of Louise Lund  
Donald and Coryll Weeg

In Celebration of the Ascension of Our Lord and  
in Memory of the Chancel Mural Artist, Robert  
Aldern, 1929–2011  
Joey Aldern

## Baptisms

July 14, 2018

Odin Michael Schoenfelder, the son of Tyler  
Schoenfelder and Marin Kull.

July 15, 2018

Claire Sue Stearns, the daughter of Brad and  
Megan Stearns.

## Flowers

June 17, 2018

Flowers for Father's Day are given in loving memory  
of Lowell Jahr, whose 100<sup>th</sup> birthday would have  
been June 9. Lowell is the father, grandfather, and  
great-grandfather of Paul, Madeleine, Alison, Elise,  
and Dante Jahr.

July 15, 2018

Flowers are given by Jack Dyvig in memory of his  
wife, Cheryl Dyvig, who passed away a year ago  
on June 29.

## Telecasts

July 22, 2018

Telecasts are sponsored by Orley and Viva Rath in  
honor of their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, on June 14.

## Theology Tapped

continued from page 1

children their kids' age. They need to know the  
rhythm of life here. You helped make this place  
a home; now God calls us to be their *communi-  
ty* so our relationship may never end.

Love begins when we patiently endure awk-  
wardness, when we go beyond the polite hello.  
Before long we notice the sure signs of the work

of God: the high places made low, the lowly  
lifted up.

Before we left, Yodit served us stews with *injera*  
she baked fresh that morning. We crowded onto  
the couch to share the meal she cooked for her  
guests in her new kitchen.

## Congregational Life

### Celebrating Marilyn Schempp

Come and celebrate with Marilyn Schempp as  
she retires from her position as Principal Or-  
ganist and Associate Director of Music and Fine  
Arts. Sunday, August 5, will be Marilyn's final  
Sunday serving as organist, during the 10:00 A.M.  
Festive worship service. Afterward, a reception  
in Marilyn's honor will be held in The Gathering  
Place, from 11:00 to noon. Be sure to stop by  
for refreshments and to greet Marilyn as she and  
Mark enter this time of transition in their lives.

To contribute to a cash gift for Marilyn, visit the  
Church Office.



### Open Scripture. Join the Conversation

There is no better time than summer to study  
the Bible. The rhythm of life, at least for many of  
us, seems to allow time to do things we other-  
wise find difficult to fit into full schedules.

Pr. Randy is offering a six-week Bible study,  
"Growing the Church God's Way: A Study of  
Ephesians," through August 28. The class meets  
in The Gathering Place from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.  
Light snacks and beverages will be served. A \$10  
donation will help cover the cost of materials.

Come and join the conversation!



### Theology Tapped

Looking for engaging conversation on matters of faith and life in a fun, informal setting? Join  
Pr. Randy for Theology Tapped on Thursday, August 23, from 8:00 to 9:30 P.M., at Monk's  
House of Ale Repute, 420 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St.



## Summer's Last Blast

OSL's final Summer Blast of the season, Ark in the Park, is coming on Wednesday, Aug. 8—rain or shine! Come and enjoy good food, a fun animal-themed game, yard games, the ZooMobile, and worship with the band Short Notice. You don't want to miss this fun event for all ages. Invite your friends to this fun summer night out! The meal starts at 5:00 and worship starts at 6:30.

## Summer Organ Recitals

OSL's Organ Recital Series continue in August. Recitals will be held on Wednesdays, from 12:15 to 12:44 P.M., followed by a light lunch (\$7 per person). Here is the remaining schedule:

- August 1: Marilyn Schempp, Our Savior's Lutheran.
- August 8: Mary Newton, St. Barnabas Lutheran, Plymouth, Minnesota.
- August 15: Zachary Brockhoff, First Lutheran, Sioux Falls.

## OSL Day at the Parks

Spend a day in the outdoors with your OSL friends on OSL Day at the Parks, August 12!

Start with worship at the McKennan Park bandshell, at 10:00 A.M., weather permitting, then spend the afternoon at the Birdcage as the Sioux Falls Canaries host the Fargo Moorhead Red-hawks. Pr. Randy will throw out the first pitch! Game time is 1:05. Tickets are \$8 per person at the Information Center or in the Church Office.



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# OSL Youth and Family

## Faith Formation Notes

Thank you to the OSL Children's group, who packed 215 lunches in one hour at Lunch Is Served! (See photo at right.) One young one asked, "Are you sure there is going to be enough lunches for everyone?" There was heart behind the work!

OSL Youth and Family Night at Wild Water West will be on August 15, from 4:00 to 8:00. There will be a live DJ, prize giveaways, and fun in the sun at a special price: Over 48 inches tall, \$7.50 plus tax; under 48 inches and seniors (60 and older), \$4 plus tax; and age two and younger, free. Children in grade five and younger must have a parent or caring adult present. If you plan to drop off your 6<sup>th</sup>- through 12<sup>th</sup>-graders and want them to check in/out with John, contact him in advance: [jschomberg@oslchurch.com](mailto:jschomberg@oslchurch.com). John, Melissa, and Pr. Sami are looking forward to seeing you there!

Welcome to Church, a Milestone for two-year-olds, will be held on August 19, from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Your family will enjoy a kid-friendly lunch in The Gathering Place, and then together you will set out on a scavenger hunt, collecting sticks to complete a puzzle at each stop. At each location, a photographer will take a picture of your child and, when we are all done, these will be made into personalized books for your family to enjoy and read together. Sign up through the link Melissa sent via email, or email her ([mnesdahl@oslchurch.com](mailto:mnesdahl@oslchurch.com)) to let her know how many in your family will be attending and your two-year-old's



name. The books will be presented in 8:45 A.M. Celebrate worship on August 26, at which time there will be blessing.

It's time to sign up for 2018–2019 Frolic and Sunday and Wednesday school! Register your child each year (like in the school district), to make sure OSL's contact information is up-to-date and your child's grade placement is correct. You may register your children via [oslchurch.com/children](http://oslchurch.com/children). Kick-Off Sunday will be September 9, and Wednesday programming begins September 12.

# OSL Women of the ELCA

## Regarding Prayer by Jodie Nielsen

Some thoughts on prayer, from the July-August *Gather* magazine:

"Whether they (prayers) are short or long, in lyrical stanzas or one-word gasps, our prayers bind our hearts to God. We can be bold to pray

**Women of the ELCA** in confidence that God will change our hearts, enrich our souls, increase our strength and renew our minds to live without fear."

"...let us pray so we won't forget: No matter what happens, God is with us."

"...God's answer to prayer—whether or not a particular petition is granted—is akin to God saying, 'I see you. I love you. I am with you. No matter what.'"

—From "Closer to God" by Audrey West

"Who are your enemies? What about them is lovable? What can you ask for them in prayer? My message today? Pray ... for anyone who is different or threatening and scares you. Pray for them. Love them. Then watch as your own heart softens, transforms, and begins to engage the world in a manifestly different way."

—From "Pray for the Spiders" by Susan Sparks

**August Bible Study.** "Let Us Pray, Session Two: The Expressions of Prayer" by Anna Madsen. (Source: [gathermagazine.org](http://gathermagazine.org).) Focus Verse: "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:26–28

**Unit Wide Mission Project** for 2018 is #kidsareGod'sgift, focusing on children. Email me ([jodie.nielsen@gmail.com](mailto:jodie.nielsen@gmail.com)) if you know of an organization that focuses on children that you would like considered as one of our Mission Project recipients. We welcome your input.

### For Your Calendar:

- ♦ Saturday, September 29 – Fall Luncheon, 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., in The Gathering Place, with speaker Rebel Hurd from Church on the Street

WELCA Board Members: Jodie Nielsen, President; Michelle Schuknecht, Vice President; Valori Maher, Secretary; Toni LeVasseur, Treasurer; Sandy Fischer, Mission Action Chair; Tami Skorczewski, Advisor.

# Health Ministries

Our Savior's has a number of ongoing health ministries that meet on a weekly or monthly basis. Feel free to join any of the following sessions. For more information, contact Michelle Anderson, Faith Community Nurse, 336-2942, ext. 48, or [mianderson@oslchurch.com](mailto:mianderson@oslchurch.com).

## Footcare Clinic

Cost is \$25 per person. Wednesday, August 1, 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Call the Church Office, 336-2942, to schedule your appointment.

## Hope for Living with Illness or Cancer

Every Tuesday at 2:00 P.M. in the Friendship Room. People and their families who have or are experiencing the challenge of cancer are welcome. If you cannot attend, but would like to be on our prayer and devotional mailing list, contact Michelle Anderson, 336-2942, ext. 48, or [mianderson@oslchurch.com](mailto:mianderson@oslchurch.com).

## Knitting/Crocheting Ministry

Learn how to knit or crochet prayer shawls (to be given to people to remind them of God's presence and love in their lives) and mittens and scarves (for missions). Wednesday, August 8 and 22, 9:30 A.M., Sunshine Room.

## Good Grief

Every Thursday at 10:00 A.M. in Room 103. This group is for anyone dealing with loss and crisis in life.

## Memory Care Support Group

Saturdays, 10:00 to 11:00 A.M., Conference Room. For caregivers of those with Alzheimer's and dementia, a place to share and to receive understanding and empathy. Contact Caring Ministries, 336-2942, for information.

## Pickleball

OSL-sponsored Pickleball meets on Mondays, 8:00 A.M. to noon and 5:00 to 9:00 P.M., in the Gym.

# Caring Ministries



## Come to a Garden Party

The Healing Garden, located near the south entrance, represents the cycle of life. It is a place to think, pray, grieve, hope, give thanks, and remember. To celebrate the Healing Garden—and the volunteers who keep it beautiful—there will be a Garden Party on Sunday, August 5, from 9:30 to 11:00 A.M. Come enjoy refreshments and the beauty of the garden—then stop inside and greet Marilyn Schempp (see page 2).

## Be a Friend!

Caring Friends opportunities exist at Bethany Meadows, Brandon; Morgan Lane Village, Tea; Good Samaritan Center, Canton; and Edgewood Vista, Covington Care Center, and Southridge Healthcare in Sioux Falls.

Caring Friends serves members who are homebound or in nursing homes or care facilities. At right, OSL Caring Friend Carol Nielsen visits Bernice Oberling at Trail Ridge Retirement Community.



Contact Deb Harlan, 336-2942, ext. 48, or [deharlan@oslchurch.com](mailto:deharlan@oslchurch.com), to join this important ministry!



## Card Making

OSL Friends of the Library meet in Room 103 on Wednesday mornings, from 9:00 to noon, to create recycled greeting cards to sell in the OSL Library. Money raised (suggested donation: \$2) supports the Library. Donations of whole used or new cards are always welcome and may be put in the box in the Library (by the card kiosk) or in the donation box by the south doors. The new cards are donated to area nursing homes and the Caring Families program at the South Dakota state prison. This is a wonderful time for women's fellowship and a chance to change old into new!



Friendship Club will kick off its fall schedule with a trip to the Heritage Hall Museum and Archives in Freeman, on September 18. The bus will leave from OSL at 9:00 A.M., returning in the early afternoon.

Watch for sign-up sheet and additional details coming soon at the Information Center and in the Church Office. For more information, contact Pr. Tim Lemme, 336-2942 or [tlemme@oslchurch.com](mailto:tlemme@oslchurch.com). Thanks to the Senior Ministries Board for scheduling this event!

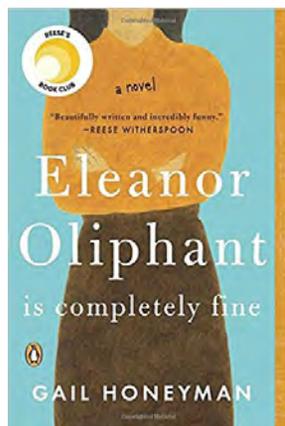
## “Reading Rocks” Summer Reading Program Runs through August 5

The OSL Library’s reading program, “Reading Rocks,” is underway and will run through August 5. Each day they check out items, children, youth, and adults will receive a treat and have their book receipt entered in a weekly drawing for a \$5 gift card.

In addition, the child, youth, and adult who read the most books in their category during the program will receive a \$15 gift card. Throughout the nine-week program, Library staff will track and display the number of books each person reads on vinyl records on the bulletin board in the center of the Library.



## Summer One Church One Read



Ten copies of *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman—the Library Committee’s selection for the Summer One Church One Read book—are available for checkout in the OSL Library.

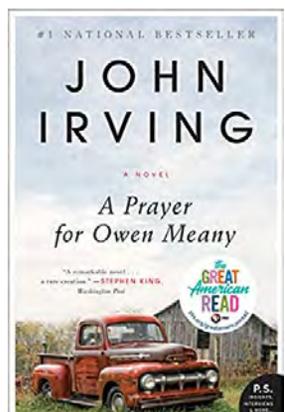
Meet Eleanor Oliphant: She struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she’s thinking. Nothing is missing in her carefully timetabled life of avoiding social interactions, where weekends are punctuated by frozen pizza, vodka, and phone chats with Mummy.

Everything changes when Eleanor meets Raymond, the bumbling and deeply unhygienic IT guy from her office. When she and Raymond together save Sammy, an elderly man who has fallen on the sidewalk, the three become the kind of friends who rescue one another from

the lives of isolation they have each been living. It is Raymond’s big heart that will ultimately help Eleanor find the way to repair her own profoundly damaged one.

Stop by the Library to check out or reserve a copy of *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*, then join in the discussion on September 23 at 10:00 A.M., in the Conference Room.

## Monthly Book Club for Adults



The Book Club for Adults meets at 7:00 P.M. on the fourth Thursday of each month in the OSL Library to discuss that month’s novel. The August 23 selection will be *A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving.

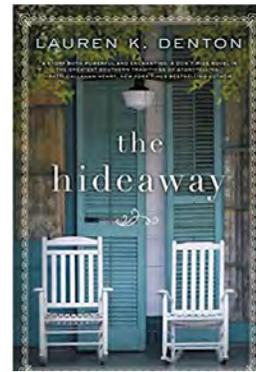
In the summer of 1953, two 11-year-old boys—best friends—are playing in a Little League baseball game in Gravesend, New Hampshire. One of the boys hits a foul ball that kills the other boy’s mother. The boy who hits the ball doesn’t believe in accidents; Owen Meany believes he is God’s instrument. What happens to Owen after that 1953 foul ball is extraordinary.

*I am doomed to remember a boy with a wrecked voice—not because of his voice, or because he was the smallest person I ever knew, or even because he was the instrument of my mother’s death, but because he is the reason I believe in God; I am a Christian because of Owen Meany.*

Join this exciting community of readers! A list of the 2018 selections is available in the OSL Library.

## New for Adults

**The Hideaway** by Lauren K. Denton. After her last remaining family member dies, Sara Jenkins goes home to The Hideaway, her grandmother Mags’s ramshackle B&B in Sweet Bay, Alabama. She intends to quickly tie up loose ends then return to her busy life and thriving antique shop in New Orleans.



Instead, Sara learns Mags has willed The Hideaway to her and charged her with renovating it—no small task considering her grandmother’s best friends, a motley crew of senior citizens, still live there. Rather than hurrying back to New Orleans, Sara stays in Sweet Bay and begins the biggest house-rehabbing project of her career.

Amid drywall dust, old memories, and a charming contractor, she discovers that slipping back into life at The Hideaway is easier than she expected. Then she discovers a box Mags left in the attic with clues to a life Sara never imagined for her grandmother. With help from Mags’s friends, Sara begins to piece together the mysterious life of bravery, passion, and choices that changed her grandmother’s destiny in both marvelous and devastating ways.

When an opportunistic land developer threatens to seize The Hideaway, Sara is forced to make a choice—stay in Sweet Bay and fight for the house and the people she’s grown to love or leave again and return to her successful but solitary life in New Orleans.

### Additional New Titles for Adults

- *The Brightest Sun* by Adrienne Benson
- *The Perfect Couple* by Elin Hilderbrand
- *The Summer House* by Jenny Hale

## The Good Old Summertime

Relax and enjoy your summer with books and movies from the OSL Library. To make your selection easy, a large selection of items is on display for children, youth, and adults.

## New for Middle- and High-School Youth

### **Endling #1: The Last** by Katherine



**Applegate.** The author of the action-packed Animorphs series and the award-winning *The One and Only Ivan* takes us on an unforgettable journey in this first book of an epic middle-grade series.

Byx is the youngest member of her dairne pack. Believed to possess remarkable abilities, her mythical doglike species has been hunted to near-extinction in the war-torn kingdom of Nedarra. After her pack is hunted down and killed, Byx fears she may be the last of her species, the Endling, so she sets out to find safe haven, and to see if the legends of other hidden dairnes are true.

Along the way, she meets new allies—animals and humans alike—who each have their own motivations for joining her quest. Although they begin as strangers, they become their own kind of family, one that will ultimately uncover a secret that may threaten every creature in their world.

### **Additional New Titles for Middle- and High-School**

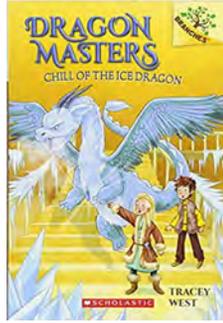
- *Worldquake #1: Dragon's Green* by Scarlet Thomas
- *Blackbird Fly* by Erin Entrada Kelly
- *Spy School* by Stuart Gibbs

### **OSL Library Hours**

Sunday	8:30 A.M.–NOON
Monday	9:00 A.M.–NOON
Tuesday	9:00 A.M.–NOON
Wednesday	9:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.
Thursday	9:00 A.M.–NOON
Friday	Closed
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month	10:00 A.M.–NOON and 4:30–6:30 P.M.

## New Chapter, Picture, and Early Reader Books

### **Dragon Masters: Chill of the Ice Dragon**



**by Tracey West.** In the ninth book of this series, a Dragon Master named Mina arrives at the castle. She tells Drake and his friends that her kingdom in the Far North Lands was attacked by a magical Ice Giant.

Everything there was frozen but Mina escaped. Only a fire dragon can unfreeze her land and defeat the terrible Ice Giant, but Rori and Vulcan are no longer at the castle! Can the Dragon Masters find them in time to help their new friend?

### **Additional New Chapter Books**

- *Eerie Elementary: The Science Fair Is Freaky!* by Jack Chabert
- *The Jewel Fairies: India the Moonstone Fairy* by Daisy Meadows

### **New Early Readers**

- *Brave Fire Truck* by Melinda Melton Crow
- *Rabbit & Robot and Ribbit* by Cece Bell

### **New Picture Books**

- *Pet This Book* by Jessica Young and Daniel Wiseman
- *There's a Monster in Your Book* by Tom Fletcher



## OSLC Foundation

### **Foundation Notes: Making a Positive Impact**

It almost goes with saying—but I must, I must! Yes, making a positive impact is a goal of the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Foundation.

And how is this accomplished?

In many ways. Donors who contribute via direct gifts, memorial gifts, or legacy gifts are the first ones who see the impact. I believe that anyone who gives is enriched by their giving.

Our Savior's, as a part of the body of Christ, sees the financial impact of funds distributed year-in and year-out, such as updating climate-control software to ensure comfortable worship experiences in OSL's worship spaces. (Sorry, there's no software to control conditions for outdoor worship!) Or perhaps a recent contribution to Mission: Possible.

And who can forget the beneficiaries of this goodness! Yes, people who are unable to attend OSL but view worship services via TV Ministry

benefit from equipment upgrades funded in part by the OSLCF.

Don't forget the summer food service program partnership with EmBe. New flooring in Fellowship Hall is the result of your Foundation support, and it ensures a welcoming setting for the many kids who participate.

I think you get the message: the OSLC Foundation delivers a positive impact...and you are the foundation of the Foundation! Thank you!

When you are ready to participate further, I am ready to shepherd you through the process. You may reach me, Jon Oien, at [joien@sio.midco.net](mailto:joien@sio.midco.net). I know you will benefit from the positive impact it will have on you.



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# The *intercom* August 2018

## In Church and Community

The Monthly Newsletter of Our Savior's Lutheran Church

### *Summer Worship Services (through Labor Day)*

#### Saturday Evening

Festive Worship – 5:00 P.M., Sanctuary

#### Sunday Morning

Celebrate Worship – 8:45 A.M., Celebrate Center

Festive Worship – 10:00 A.M., Sanctuary

Celebrate Worship – 10:30 A.M., Celebrate Center

### *Television and Internet*

Celebrate: 9:00 A.M., KTTW (cable channel 9; channel 7.1)

Festive: 1:00 P.M., KSCB (cable channel 30; channel 53)

Website: [oslchurch.com](http://oslchurch.com)

Social Media: [twitter.com/oslchurchsf](https://twitter.com/oslchurchsf) · [facebook.com/oslchurchsf](https://facebook.com/oslchurchsf) ·  
[youtube.com/oslchurchsf](https://youtube.com/oslchurchsf)

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## Your Offering Makes a Difference

Your generosity is making a real difference in people's lives through the mission and ministry of OSL. The pages of this newsletter tell that story in more depth. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving and your passionate commitment to God's work through this congregation. Your continued generosity helps us reach our congregational goal of fully funding our ministry of connecting faith to everyday life.

### **Ministry Support through June 30**

	Annual Giving
Pledged	\$1,849,306
Received YTD	\$967,760
Remaining	\$881,546
Projected YTD	\$907,461
Ahead/(Behind)	\$60,299