

The *intention* In Church and Community



From the Senior Pastor Which Race Are You Running?



"...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus..." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Fact: Life can very easily become a rat race. We're doing the things

we're supposed to be doing, and probably a few more, but we don't seem to be getting anywhere. It feels like each day, though full of activity, isn't necessarily filled with meaning or purpose. Sometimes, it makes us stop and wonder, "What am I even doing this for? Wasn't I created for more than this?"

The book of Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament is the personal reflection of "the Teacher," an elder who is looking back over his life and reflecting on the many things he has learned. Most notably, he has found that chasing after things that, in the moment, seem so important—things like riches, pleasure, success, and even wisdom—is like chasing after the wind, an exercise in futility. Such striving brings only frustration rather than fulfillment and purpose.

The Greek word from which "futility" derives literally means "void of meaning." Futility is when something looks meaningful but at its core means little or nothing. When you look around and wonder what is it all for—this is the frustration of futility. In those moments, sin has crept in and found a way to get us to focus on things that do not matter. Our priorities are misaligned and we end up feeling like the Teacher: "All is vanity." (Ecclesiastes 1:2)

But, dear friends, we were not made for futility. We were made for kingdom living, living a life that is shaped by our baptismal identity and the call to serve God and neighbor. So how do we move from futility to future? How do we make sure we're running the right race? The pastor and author Josh Baird suggests these three helpful tips for tired Christians:

Create Margin in Your Life

Richard Swenson, the author of *Margin*, describes margin as "the space between our load and our limits." Most of us don't live with margin. We don't have time to nurture that which feeds our souls—our relationships with God, ourselves, and each other.

At the core of those relationships is love. As Swenson says, "Love is the currency of the relational life." The more you spend, the richer you become. In fact, spending and receiving love is the best part of kingdom living. But love needs margin to exist and thrive.

Run the Right Race

The rat race is the wrong race. There is nothing wrong with having a job and providing for your family. There is nothing wrong with busyness. The problem arises when we run toward the wrong finish line.

What race are you running? What are you doing it for? Hebrews 12:1 tells us that there is already a race for us to run—a race God has set before us. What is God calling you to do? What purpose has God put on your life?

Live with a Kingdom Perspective

When we look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2), we not only see what perfect love is and what it can accomplish, but we are also drawn into a life of love for the sake of the kingdom of God. And this is the secret to escaping the futility of the rat race.

As a new school year begins and the demands of daily living put us at risk of living a margin-less life, ask yourself, "Is running the rat race the reason God put me on this earth?" If you're honest, you'll be reminded of a higher calling, a higher purpose, and when you choose to pursue that race that God has put before you, you will unlock the key to living the abundant life God intends for each of us.

Be well and love deeply.

Randy
Pr. Randy Gehring



Memorials and Honoraria May, June, July 2018

In Memory of Loren Amundson
Judy Dedrickson

In Memory of Joan Bakke
Shirly Hillgren

In Memory of Jim Dedrickson
Carol Nielsen
Betty Pfeifle
Mark and Marilyn Schemp

In Memory of Clarice Eitrheim
Judy Dedrickson

In Memory of Bessie Engstrom (Mother of Sarah Abbas)
Shirly Hillgren

In Memory of Judy Johnson
Lester and Alice Brue
Floyd Florey
Beverly Hallstrom
Willis and Phyllis Hanson
Carol Nielsen
Joyce Olson
Floyd and Carol Prouty
Arlen Viste
Don and Coryill Weeg

In Memory of Dr. Harry Krueger
Dick and Jan Boe
Eloise Elmen
Eldon and Pauline Nelson
Margaret Novak
Curt and Shirley Schafer
Carol Weisz
Roger White
Arlen Viste

In Memory of Alyce Scott
Barry and Judith Bauer
Todd and Joanne Egge
Cynthia Engels
Steve and Kathleen Geis
Joyce Hoefert
Leo and Rogene Lorang
Richard and Cindy Oyen
Beverly Remme
Alvin and Connie Scholten

In Memory of Ellen Unzicker
Don and Coryill Weeg
Arlen Viste

In Memory of Jim Westby
Charles and Judy Berdahl
Alfred Borgen
Judy Dedrickson
Thomas and James Ersland
Phil and Kiki Hegg
Thomas and Dorothy Lemonds
Ronald and Barbara Thomas
Craig Thompson

In Memory of Maxine Wilson
LuAnn Decker

Congregational Life

Mikah Meyer in Concert

Our Savior's and Augustana University Campus Ministry are proud to host Mikah Meyer in concert on September 16, at 6:30 P.M., in the Celebrate Center.



Mikah is the son of ELCA pastor Larry Meyer, who served in Brookings at SDSU Campus Ministry in the mid-to-late 1980s before heading to the University of Nebraska Lutheran Student Center. Mikah was recently featured on *The Today Show* for the Christian advocacy he is doing as part of his world record road trip to all 417 National Park Service sites. He is using his journey as a way of honoring his late father.

Along the way, he performs a religiously themed "National Parks Cabaret" during which he shares stories and songs from the road and talks about how God is using his parks journey to be a light in the darkness for LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) Christians. He performs music from his days as a professional countertenor at Washington National Cathedral, and he talks about his journey as a pastor's openly gay son to help put a personal face to a larger church topic.

The concert is free, but a freewill offering will be received to help fund the remainder of Mikah's project and ministry.

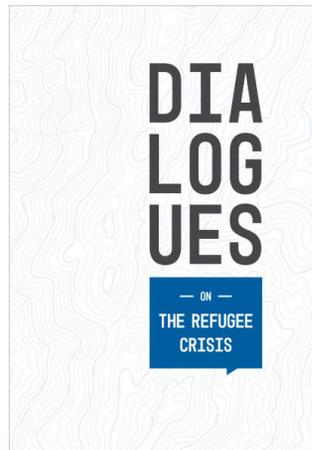
Connecting Faith and Life

Pr. Randy will begin another year of Connecting Faith and Life (CFL), an adult learning opportunity for those who are interested in exploring the life of faith and going deeper in their experience of the faith, on Wednesday, September 12. The group will meet weekly on Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M., in the Conference Room. All are welcome.

This year's first CFL course will be a seven-week focus on the refugee crisis. Through weekly

readings, a brief documentary-style video, guided discussion, and group activities, participants will learn to engage and navigate respectfully what can be a difficult subject, while reflecting on how our Christian faith leads us to respond to the plight of our neighbor in need.

Participant books are available in the Church Office during the week or at the Information Center on Sundays; a \$10 donation will help defray the cost of resources.



August 5, 2018

Telecasts are sponsored in honor of Dorothy Kruse on her 90th birthday, by her husband, Al, and her children.



August 19, 2018

Flowers are given in honor of Harold and Phyllis Krueger on what would have been their 68th wedding anniversary (August 20), by their family.



August 19, 2018

Hailey Lynn Appl, the daughter of Jason and Tracy Appl.
Lincoln Adam Seefeldt, the son of Cedric and Alexis Seefeldt.

“Treasures of Darkness”: 2018 Advent Devotional

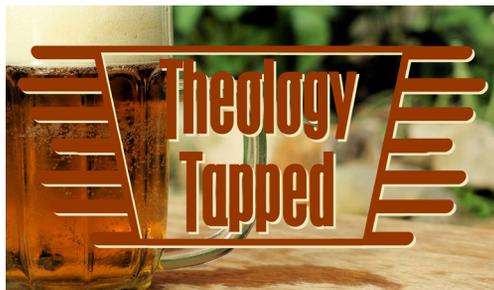
Once again OSL members are invited to submit brief devotional writings for the upcoming Advent Devotional booklet, which will focus on the theme “Treasures of Darkness.”

A summary of this year’s theme and a guide for writers may be found at the Information Center or online at oslchurch.com.

The deadline for submitting devotionals is October 31; send contributions to Bill Reynolds, breyolds@oslchurch.com, preferably as a Word document attached to an email message.



Photo by Joanna Kosinska on Unsplash



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, September 27, from 8:00 to 9:30 P.M., at Monk’s House of Ale Repute, 420 E. 8th St.

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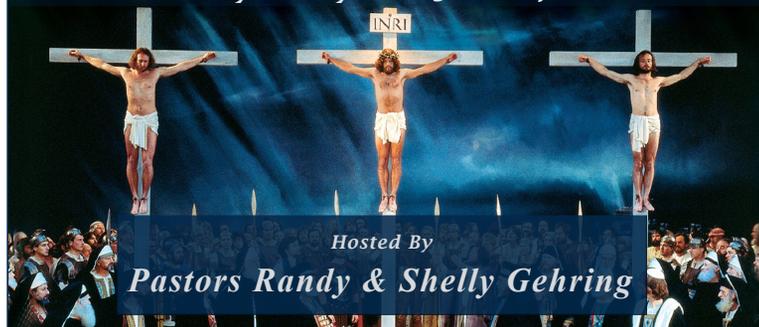
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FOR A BROCHURE WITH FULL DETAILS, CONTACT OR DETACH & MAIL TO:

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Email: rgehring@oslchurch.com
gehringshell@gmail.com

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NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INC.

Service—A Core Value

Once again, OSL members turned out in force to help neighbors who could use a hand: on August 9, some 30 volunteers from Our Savior's rolled out early to help serve breakfast at the Banquet.

Looking for opportunities to serve? Keep an eye on bulletin announcements, *Coming up at OSL* email, and the Ministry tab at oslchurch.com!



Photos by Kris Breitag



Meet Matthew Tylutki

Matthew Tylutki, a recent graduate of St. Olaf College, will begin as OSL's new Principal Organist on Tuesday, September 4.

A native of Austin, Minnesota, Matthew has a degree in Instrumental Music Education. He studied trumpet with Dr. Martin Hodel, and served as the trumpet section leader of the St. Olaf Band. Matthew also studies organ and is a student of Dr. Catherine Rodland, which led to many musical opportunities around the Twin Cities. Notably, he held the position of Music/Organ Intern at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, last summer, and has performed recitals in Northfield, Plymouth, and St. Paul.

Matthew also sang with the St. Olaf Cantorei, led by Prof. James Bobb, and has accompanied, conducted, and worked as a manager for the group. At Our Savior's he hopes to be able to use these experiences to facilitate the powerful intertwining of the faith and song of God's children. He has always loved making and sharing music with others, and is looking forward to meeting and serving all members of the church and community. Kick-Off Weekend, September 8 and 9, will be Matthew's kick-off weekend at the OSL keyboards.



Worship and Arts

Something New

Chorus-pondence from Gene LeVasseur

When is the last time you did something for the first time? As I get older there seems to be less frequency in my new adventures. A couple of years ago I had complete shoulder surgery and after a year of therapy and exercise I still had not recovered as much as I'd hoped for. My surgeon suggested that I add Yoga to my regimen. I'd never tried this before. I sheepishly entered a class at the last minute and stayed in the back. I followed the instructor religiously and then exited right away. After the class I thought, "This was just breathing and stretching and didn't do anything for me," but later that day I felt sore in a few places. I decided to do yoga for three months and test my strength and range of motion. I made more progress during those three months than I did the previous six months, and have been hooked on yoga ever since. One of my instructors is OSL member Melissa Nelson, who once called yoga "medicine for your body," and I agree with her 100%!

I snore when I sleep and Toni, my wife of 36 years, has endured my "evening concerts" for our entire marriage. I've been nudged and kicked thousands of times during the night. A couple of weeks ago she gave me a box of Breathe Right strips. Large. It seems I have a big nose. They have greatly reduced my snoring and I'm sleeping better too! Why didn't you get these for me years ago, honey?

Obviously, trying something new can be a very good thing. Perhaps you're ready to try something new in your worship life. If so, be sure to come to OSL's Worship Summit on Wednesday, September 5! The purpose of the summit is to give people a quick introduction to the various worship ministries, so everyone, young and old, who is not currently involved in OSL ministries will consider serving in a new way this fall.

The Worship Summit will begin at 6:00 P.M. Ministry leaders representing musicians, sound techs, media techs, TV techs, greeters, ushers, communion assistants, readers, nursery helpers, food service volunteers, bulletin support, and Information Center workers will conduct 15-minute sessions to give an overview of these ministries and sign up to give one (or more) a try. Pr. Randy will begin the summit with a greeting in the Celebrate Center, then you may explore as many ministry areas as you like.

By involving yourself in one of the many opportunities, you will find a new and deeper connection to God and the people of Our Savior's. You will grow in your faith and be even more excited to attend worship knowing that you are entrusted with an important responsibility to support worship services.

During the last two weeks of August we recog-

nized the hundreds of people already enjoying these wonderful ministries. Musicians, sound techs, media techs, TV techs, greeters, ushers, communion assistants, readers, nursery helpers, food ministry volunteers, bulletin support helpers, and Information Center volunteers—these ministries all enable the congregation to fully focus on God and worship without distractions. And there's plenty of room for you to be involved too!

Here are a few Bible verses using "new":

- ♦ "Be reNEWed in the spirit of your minds, and clothe yourselves with the NEW self." (Ephesians 4)
- ♦ "Get yourselves a NEW heart and a NEW spirit." (Ezekiel 18)
- ♦ "He put a NEW song in my mouth." (Psalm 40)
- ♦ "We have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the NEW and living way that He opened for us." (Hebrews 10)

Again, when was the last time that you did something for the first time?

Sing-cerely,
Gene



Dear OSL members,

Thank you so much for your kind words and the many gifts upon my retirement as your organist. I was overwhelmed by your generosity!

Even though I will miss playing on a weekly basis for services, you will probably still see me around subbing occasionally. It would be difficult to completely stop playing all at once. There

just comes a point in life when it is time to start slowing down in order to have more time for family, and with four grandchildren—two here in Sioux Falls and two in Chicago—I look forward to spending more time with those little ones.

God bless you all richly!

Marilyn Schempp

A Note of Thanks

Editor's note: This comes to OSL from the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.

Dear Pr. Gehring and People of Our Savior's Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for hosting the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians Hearts, Hands, Voices workshop on July 21. Your support and encouragement for the work of the greater church is much appreciated. Thanks for our partnership in ministry.

Blessings,

Jim Rindelaub
Executive Director

Opportunity to Serve by Jodie Nielsen

We have two WELCA Board positions opening in January: Secretary and Mission Action Chair. It is not too early to prayerfully consider putting your name in for these positions. Let me know (jodie.nielsen@gmail.com) if you have any questions regarding these openings.

September Bible Study. “Turn, Turn, Turn: A Time for Faithful Repentance” by Meghan Johnston Aelabouni. (Source: gather-magazine.org.)



Session One: “Turning to God, Time after Time.” Focus Verse: “Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and he relents from punishing.” Joel 2:13b



Caring Ministries

Globalization of Stephen Ministry By Margot Nelson

Stephen Ministries has been serving individuals and congregations internationally since 1980, with programs in all 50 U.S. states, ten Canadian provinces and 29 other countries. Most recent additions to the global network have been China and Japan. Japan initiated connection with



stephen
MINISTRY

Dr. Kenneth Haugk, the founder and Executive Director of Stephen Ministries, through the Japan Evangelical Lutheran

Church in Tokyo; and the Thanksgiving English Fellowship (TEF) and Abundant Grace International Fellowship (AGIF) in Shanghai, China, followed soon after.

While they were in Japan, Haugk and his group they were able to attend a performance of Boxi Rocks, a rock band that began in 2013. The band consists of pastors, performing in their clerical collars and using their secular music as a way to reach out to a broad audience. “Boxi” comes from the word *bokushi*, meaning pastor. Look them up on YouTube for a taste of their music.

Now Hear This

The next OSL Hearing Screening and Educational Opportunity will be on Wednesday, October 10, from 4:00 to 6:30 P.M., in the Caring Ministries area. Dr. Kristen Kaufman of Audiology Specialty Clinic will conduct screenings from 4:00 to 6:00 (all ages welcome), followed by a time of questions and answers regarding the newest technological interventions, till 6:30. Sign up at the Information Center for your 15-minute hearing evaluation. Questions? Contact Michelle Anderson, 336-2942, ext. 28, or mianderson@oslchurch.com.

Unit Wide Mission Project for 2018 is #kidsareGod’sgift, focusing on children. Email me (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.

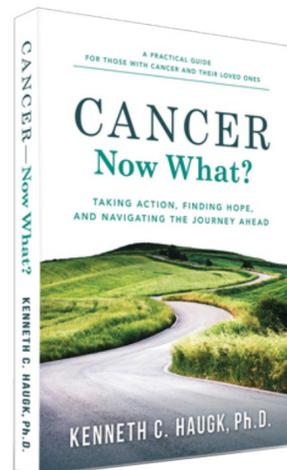
Upcoming Events:

- ♦ WELCA Fall Luncheon – Saturday, September 29, 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M., in The Gathering Place, with speaker Rebel Hurd from Church on the Street
- ♦ Annual Pie & Lefsa Sale – November 18. Watch for details!

“Pray without ceasing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:17

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

Although the trip was originally focused on Stephen Ministry, it became apparent early on that there was also a lot of interest in Haugk’s book *Cancer—Now What?* As a result, he gave a number of presentations about *Cancer—Now What?* to Stephen Ministry groups, pastors, congregation members, and others. “Care for people dealing with cancer is a need all over the world, and many people we met were cancer survivors or had loved ones diagnosed,” Haugk said. “People in China and Japan told us there’s no book like *Cancer—Now What?* in either country, so it will make a big difference when it’s available there.”



The book, which is now in preparation for translation into Chinese and Japanese, is available (in English) from the OSL Library.

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.

Footcare Clinic

Cost is \$25 per person. Wednesday, September 5, 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.

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, September 12 and 26, 9:30 A.M., Sunshine Room.

Recent Loss Group

Wednesdays, from 5:30 to 6:30 P.M., in the Chapel, beginning September 12. Contact Michelle Anderson, 336-2942, ext. 28, or mianderson@oslchurch.com, to preregister. OSL Community Supper is available before the meeting, at 5:00 in The Gathering Place.

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

Woodshop Open House

As part of Kick-Off Weekend, the OSL Woodshop will host an open house all morning on September 9, to highlight this important ministry in the OSL congregation. Projects and tools will be on display (see photos), and members of the woodshop team will be there to answer questions and demonstrate some woodworking techniques. Coffee and treats will be on hand, and information on how you too can become part of the woodshop team will be available.

The shop is located in the southwest corner of lower level, next to the display of antique tools. Come and help celebrate this hands-on, one-of-a-kind, creative ministry!



Caring Ministries Open House

Our Savior's Caring Ministries will host an open house on September 9 in celebration of updates done to the Caring Ministries suite. Through a generous grant from the OSL Foundation, Caring Ministries was able to make many additions to enhance its ministry programs. Some of these additions include:

- A room for mothers who wish to nurse their children in a quiet place, equipped with a comfortable rocker and refrigerator for storing their milk while at worship.
- TV, computer, and DVR system for Caring Ministries and Faith Community Nurse conferences and classes.
- Comfortable chairs for group meetings.
- Pictures depicting various activities related to the Caring Ministries program, shelving for materials, and displays of quilting and prayer shawl projects.
- New paint, signage, and stenciling to enhance the area.

Stop by any time on the morning of September 9 to celebrate and give thanks for our shared ministry!



OSL's Friendship Club will kick off its fall schedule with a bus trip to the Heritage Hall Museum in Freeman, S.D. The group will meet at OSL at 8:30 A.M. for departure at 9:00, then enjoy a guided tour of a number of restored and furnished buildings that house many antiques. Follow that with a walk through the native trees and grasses of the neighboring Prairie Arboretum, then enjoy a picnic lunch before returning to OSL by mid-afternoon.

Cost is \$25 per person, which includes transportation, lunch, and museum entrance fee. Sign up at the Information Center on Sundays or in the Church Office during the week. Questions? Contact Pr. Tim Lemme, 336-2942, ext. 19, or tlemme@oslchurch.com. Bring a friend!



OSL Youth and Family

Youth Ministry Notes

Confirmation Orientation

Sixth- through eight-grade confirmation students are invited to learn about this year's confirmation program on Wednesday, September 5, from 6:00 to 7:15 P.M. The majority of this orientation will be going around the church building to learn from ministry leaders and seeing different ways you may serve at OSL, especially on Sunday mornings. Students are required to serve four times each year: this is your best chance to see all the options and learn the basics. Have you ever wondered what the tech team does, if you can be in a band, how to be a greeter, or any number of other fun opportunities at OSL on a Sunday morning? This is your chance to find out!

Ninth-graders will be welcomed to High School Youth Group on Wednesday, September 5, at 7:00 P.M., and will start getting ready for the last seven weeks of confirmation. High School Servant Leaders are encouraged to attend and help to welcome the new arrivals.

Youth Ministry Kick-Off

Middle-school students are invited to kick off the new year on Sunday, September 9, at 10:00 A.M., with new Youth Director John Schomberg. Spend the morning getting to know each other, talking about Jesus, playing games, learning about upcoming Middle School Youth Group opportunities, and having a whole lot of fun.

Middle School Confirmation program will get into full swing on Wednesday, September 12, from 6:00 to 7:15 P.M. That means it's time for mentor groups, learning about God with Pr. Sami and John, and having a lot of fun with friends. Remember to register your sixth-through eighth-grade students online (<http://oslchurch.com/ministry/youth-family/middle-school-high-school/>), or contact Pr. Sami or John (sjohnson@oslchurch.com or jschomberg@oslchurch.com; 336-2942) to find out how.

New year, new Youth Director, and new opportunities to grow in faith while having a lot of fun. **High school students** are invited to come by on Wednesday, September 12, from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M., for a night of getting to know each other, hearing from some friends about the life-changing message they heard at the National Youth Gathering in

September Calendar

- 5 – Orientation training for sixth- through eighth-graders, 6:00–7:15 P.M.
- 5 – Orientation training for ninth graders, 7:00–8:00 P.M.
- 5 – Servant Leader meeting, 7:00–9:00 P.M.
- 9 – Middle School Youth Group Kick-Off, 10:00–10:50 A.M.
- 12 – Confirmation Kick-Off, 6:00–7:15 P.M.
- 12 – High School Youth Ministry Kick-Off, 7:00–9:00 P.M.
- 14 – Football Night with John at Howard Wood Field
- 16 – Middle School Youth Group, 10:00–10:50 A.M.
- 16 – Ninth-Grade Confirmation Mini-Retreat, 3:00–6:00 P.M.
- 19 – Confirmation, 6:00–7:15 P.M.
- 19 – High School Youth Ministry, 7:00–9:00 P.M.
- 23 – Middle School Youth Group, 10:00–10:50 A.M.
- 26 – Confirmation, 6:00–7:15 P.M.
- 26 – High School Youth Ministry, 7:00–9:00 P.M.
- 28 – Middle School Lock-In at OSL, 8:00 P.M.–Saturday, 7:00 A.M.
- 30 – Middle School Youth Group 10:00–10:50 A.M.

Houston, playing group-building games, and having some campfire fun by the GaGa Ball pit. All high school youth are invited, and, yes, you are always welcome to bring a friend.



Youth Events

Football Night with John. High school youth are invited to join John on September 14 and October 5 as he attends Lincoln Patriot football games and checks out the world-famous Sioux Falls Lincoln High School Patriot Marching Band. Come

out and enjoy the fun atmosphere while cheering on your fellow youth group members playing in (and leading) the band.

Ninth-Grade Confirmation Mini-Retreat, on Sunday, September 16, from 3:00 to 6:00 P.M., will be a fun afternoon with Pr. Sami, John, and all your friends as we prepare for what comes after confirmation, paint mugs, and enjoy time together as a ninth-grade class.

Middle-School Lock-In at OSL will be on Friday, September 28, from 8:00 P.M. to 7:00 Saturday morning. Come for games, food, worship, and fun, all while learning about God while locked in the church all night long. See the latest Youth Happenings email or oslchurch.com for more information. The cost for this event will be \$5.

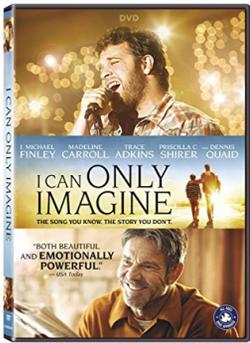
“We ‘FALL’ow Jesus” Fall Reading Program

The OSL Library’s fall reading program, “We ‘FALL’ow Jesus,” will start on September 9 and run through October 28. Each day they check out items, children, youth, and adults will receive a treat and have their book receipt submitted for a chance to win a weekly \$5 drawing.

As the program continues, the Library’s Tree of Life display will show the beauty of God’s creation by its leaves of green turning to brilliant golds and reds, representing the ways God richly blesses and transforms us.



Second Saturday Movies Resume!

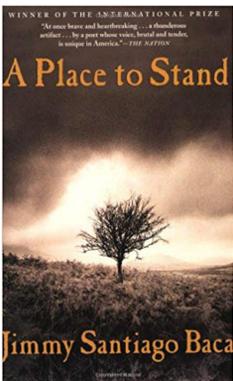


This year’s movie series will return on September 8 with *I Can Only Imagine*, the captivating movie about the bestselling single in the history of Christian music, and Bart Millard, the man who wrote it. MercyMe’s hit,

“I Can Only Imagine,” has touched millions of people around the world, but few know how God repaired a broken family, prepared Bart for ministry through music, and wrote the words on his heart that would change his life forever.

Make a day of it with the movie, followed by worship at 5:00 and dinner afterward!

Monthly Book Club for Adults

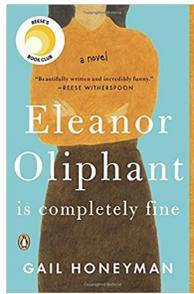


The Book Club for Adults meets at 7:00 P.M. on the fourth Thursday of each month in the OSL Library to discuss that month’s novel. The September 27 selection will be *A Place to Stand*, Jimmy Santiago Baca’s harrowing, brilliant memoir of his life before, during, and immediately after the years he spent in a maximum-security prison. *A Place to Stand* garnered tremendous critical acclaim and went on to win the 2001 International Prize.

Considered one of the best poets in America today, Baca was illiterate at the age of 21 and faced five to ten years behind bars for selling drugs. *A Place to Stand* is the remarkable tale of how he emerged after his years in the penitentiary—much of it spent in isolation—with the ability to read and a passion for writing poetry. The story is a vivid portrait of life inside a maximum-security prison and an affirmation of one man’s spirit in overcoming the most brutal adversity.

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

One Church One Read Book Discussion



Come join the discussion of *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman—the Library’ Summer One Church One Read book—on Sunday, September 23, at 10:00 A.M., in the Conference Room.

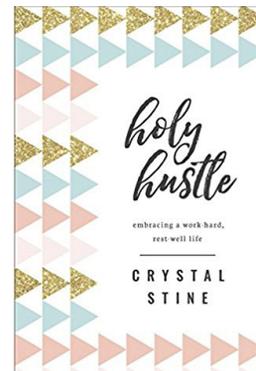
Fall Book Sale

The OSL Library will begin accepting books, movie DVDs, and music CDs on September 10 for its Fall Book Sale, and will continue accepting items through October 17. The sale will run from 10:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. on Saturday, October 20, and from 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. on Sunday, October 21, in the Friendship Room.

A large selection of children’s and adult fiction and nonfiction books will be for sale, along with music CDs and movie DVDs. Don’t miss it!

New for Adults

Holy Hustle by Crystal Stine. Balance. It’s



what we long for in our lives as we hear shouts of “work harder!” in one ear, and whispers to “rest more” in the other. What if God’s plan for us isn’t just one way or the other?

Enter the *holy hustle*.

Crystal Stine followed the path to success as she climbed the corporate ladder. Now she explores “hustle” in a new light as a self-employed, work-from-home mom. She invites you to join her in experiencing:

- renewed peace as you focus on serving, not striving;
- reawakened potential as you ditch comparison and embrace community;
- redefined purpose as you seek the roles God has for you.

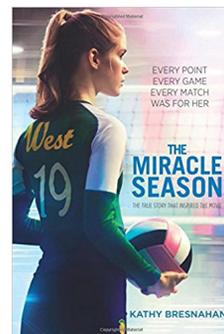
You were created to work with enthusiasm for the right reasons—and you were made with a need to rest. Discover the place where these two sides meet in a happy, holy hustle.

Additional New Titles for Adults

- *Us against You* by Fredrik Backman
- *Before and Again* by Barbara Delinsky
- *Code Girls* by Liza Mundy

New for Middle- and High-School Youth

The Miracle Season by Kathy Bresnahan is



the story of 17-year-old volleyball player Caroline Found and the inspiration for the motion picture of the same name. On August 11, 2011, Caroline “Line” Found was tragically killed in a moped accident on her way to visit her terminally

ill mother, Ellyn.

Caroline’s death and that of her mother 12 days later shocked her Iowa City community and devastated her father, Ernie Found, and siblings, Gregg and Catharine. Faced with an overwhelming grief of their own, the Iowa City West volleyball team and coach, Kathy Bresnahan, attempt-

OSL Library

ed to move forward, hoping for some type of normalcy to return to their fractured lives.

How do they move forward playing a game that serves as a constant reminder of their fallen leader? Anyone who has struggled to overcome life's challenges will appreciate this story of strength, faith, perseverance, and love.

Additional New Titles for Middle- and High-School

- *A Night Divided* by Jennifer A. Nielsen
- *Short* by Holly Goldberg Sloan
- *Counting Thyme* by Melanie Conklin

Fall Book and DVD displays

Explore the beauty of fall through 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.

OSLC Foundation

Giving Sharpens Financial Planning

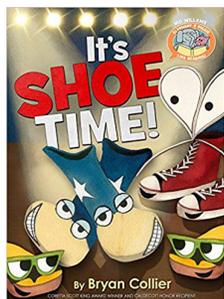
A recent article in the Minneapolis Star Tribune, "Giving Sharpens Financial Planning," by Chris Farrell, senior economics contributor for Minnesota Public Radio (Sunday, August 5), grabbed my attention. After all, one of the three main elements of the Our Savior's Foundation is financial giving.

Farrell had attended a one-day conference on Faith and Finances, presented by Thrivent. A memorable moment for him came when Thrivent Chief Executive Brad Hewitt quoted Proverbs 11:24: "The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller." The article continued, "Generosity is good for the spirit. Giving away our money is one way we express our generosity. Giving consistently also turns out to be key to managing household finances smartly over a lifetime."

Wow! Our experience of consistent giving proves

New Chapter, Picture, and Early Reader Books

It's Shoe Time! by Mo Willems and Bryan



Collier. This lyrical beginning-reader turns the closet on its heel and redefines what it means to be a pair. The shoes in a young girl's closet clamor to be selected as the girl prepares for a "Daddy-and-Me day!"

They are dismayed that she picks a boot and a flip-flop. The shoes follow her out the door to try to get her to change her mind and select a matching pair.

Additional New Early Readers

- *Paw Patrol: Pit Crew Pups!* by Kristen Depken
- *Lucky School Bus* by Melinda Melton Crow

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.–7:30 P.M.
Thursday	9:00 A.M.–noon
Friday	Closed
2 nd Saturday of the Month	10:00 A.M.–noon and 4:30–6:30 P.M.

New Picture Books

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

New Chapter Books

- *The Unlucky Lottery Winner of Classroom 13* by Honest Lee and Matthew J. Gilbert
- *The Legend of Diamond Lil* by Doreen Cronin

the statement's accuracy. It has also helped us to distinguish three timelines of giving:

- ♦ Today giving—short-term, intended for immediate use (think annual commitment).
- ♦ Tomorrow giving—medium-term, intended for use over a longer period of time (think Mission: Possible and the excellent facilities here at OSL).
- ♦ Timeless giving—long-term funds directed to the endowment, which generates earnings for spending year after year after year).

I'm sure you get the point—giving is good!

Contact me, Jon Oien, joien@sio.midco.net, and we can discuss more about the ways and whys of giving. If you wish to read the Star-Tribune article, I can arrange to get a copy to you. In the meantime, press on with your daily life full of abundant opportunities, and remember that generosity is one of the Core Values of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.



What's Coming Up?

Every week, nearly 1,500 OSL members and friends receive *Coming up at Our Savior's*, an email update of news and events for the week ahead (and a little further out). To be included in the mailing, simply scan the QR Code at right and fill out the contact form. Or, visit oslchurch.com/category/osl-news, select the latest edition of *Coming up at Our Savior's*, and click the button at the bottom of that page.



There's always a lot happening at OSL—be sure to keep up-to-date!



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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

Fall Worship Services (beginning September 9)

Saturday Evening – 5:00 P.M., Sanctuary

Sunday Morning

Festive Worship – 8:45 and 11:00 A.M., Sanctuary

Celebrate Worship – 8:45 and 11:00 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

Social Media: twitter.com/oslchurchsf · facebook.com/oslchurchsf ·
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 July 31

	Annual Giving
Pledged	\$1,849,306
Received YTD	\$1,116,591
Remaining	\$732,715
Projected YTD	\$1,047,089
Ahead/(Behind)	\$ 69,502