



# FINANCIAL CONNECTION

It is the goal of the OroNaz Finance Team to keep this church family updated on our financial blessings and challenges. Through this expanded Financial Connection we share biblical teachings that direct the decisions made by the CLT and we hope you can find application to your life as well.

As Thanksgiving quickly approaches, it seems appropriate that we contemplate Paul's words in 2 Corinthians chapters eight and nine.

In these chapters, the apostle Paul is writing to the Corinthians encouraging them to give in support of the ministry to God's holy people, believers in Jerusalem. Paul encourages the readers *"But since you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you - see that you also excel in this grace of giving."* (2 Corinthians 8:7) Paul continues to give guidance to the new church by explaining that gifts should be *"...according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable to what one has, not according to what one does not have."* (2 Corinthians 8:11b-12)

Throughout God's Word, we discover God is seeking our hearts, not a specific number that will buy us His grace or entrance into the "pearly gates." He simply wants us and our full devotion.

Paul continues, *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."* (2 Corinthians 9:7) In response to this verse, Pastor Robert Morris writes, "God isn't looking for tithes, offerings, and gifts that are given because we feel forced or obligated. He wants you to give from a place of love. You are the only person on earth who knows what God has called you to give. So how do you learn to give cheerfully? There's only one way: God must do a work in your heart."

When being called to give, we may ask ourselves, ‘What am I willing to give?’ or ‘What am I willing to part with?’ or ‘What am I willing to sacrifice?’ As we reflect on these questions, let us be reminded of one of the first verses many new Christians memorize; *John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”* What God was willing to give shows the depth of his commitment to each one of us. May His sacrifice, His gift, melt our selfish hearts and create new space for us to be a more cheerfully generous people.

Thank you Oronaz family for your continued faithfulness in your financial giving. We are a truly blessed congregation. As our hearts turn to God and we give from a place of love and not obligation, “...*God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*” (2 Corinthians 9:8).

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**October** is the 8th month of the annual budget year that runs March 2023 - February 2024. Your continued financial commitment is a testament to what God is doing in us and through us.

Our Pastor, CLT, Treasurer (Joey McCoy) and Finance Team welcome your questions and feedback. Please email the Finance Team at [finance@oronaz.org](mailto:finance@oronaz.org) to start a conversation.

Projected budget March 2023-February 2024 (adjusted):	\$711,650
Needed for Essentials—October 2023	\$51,710
Needed for Other Exp.—October 2023	\$ 7,595
Giving for October 2023	\$49,684
Expenses paid in October 2023	\$55,015
<b>Needed Year to Date</b>	<b>\$474,433</b>
<b>Giving Year to Date</b>	<b>\$506,701</b>
<b>Expenses Paid Year to Date</b>	<b>\$471,966</b>

Shares for Others Paid Year to Date	
World Evangelism Fund	\$27,059
Pensions & Benefits	\$11,070
Education	\$11,070
District Ministries	\$19,680