

Onarga Christian Church
721 W Seminary Ave. PO Box 47
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December Highlights...

On December 8th we celebrated Ken Hanford at a benefit held at the church. There was a tremendous turnout to show love and support as Ken continues his battle with cancer.

December 9th we enjoyed another fantastic potluck! It was also camouflage Sunday in honor of our hunters and our military friends.

The Ladies Christian Fellowship's Christmas Party hosted by Mary Bork on December 13th was a great time for all the ladies of OCC!

Pastor Chuck & Lana opened their home for an open house on the 16th. Everyone was pleased with the finished Parsonage after all the remodeling. Special thanks to Mary Bork for overseeing all the remodeling. It looks great!

The Christmas Eve Service was a big success as usual! Thanks to all who helped make this evening a special time for our families!

Looking Forward...

Welcome to 2019! It's going to be a great year! In January we will have OCC's annual business meeting... Spring is right around the corner and time to begin thinking about the 2019 camp season... Later in the summer we will host our 2nd annual Mega Sports Camp VBS... The 4th of July Parade will be another fun OCC family event... and more! It was a great 2018 and 2019 has a lot to look forward to!

Please continue praying this month for...

Ken Hanford (cancer), Lana Jones (Fibromyalgia), Bob Lyons (heart), Dave (transplant list), Sarah Link (family), missionaries, and for the lost in the world.

Let's Play Ball!

It may not be the right season, but I like playing softball. I have played a few seasons as an adult on some church leagues and my wife, Lana has joined me in some of those seasons in the co-ed leagues. It wasn't really her game, but I remember when she started playing and got her first couple of hits. She was so excited, and I was so proud of her. We have even had the joy of playing softball with our kids on our teams.

My primary position has been second base with some first base play time as well. I have never been a real fast runner, so outfield wasn't my strength. I've also had an obstacle to snatching grounders (my over-sized abs) so shortstop was never my position either.



We were scheduled for a late evening game at the local park and I was anticipating the challenge as well as the fun we would have that night. As always, we gathered in the dugout for our position assignments. The captain of our team called out my name and announced I would be playing the position of shortstop in that first inning. I was concerned for our chances of winning.

I spoke with the captain and was told that our regular shortstop couldn't make it for the game. I shared my concerns with our captain regarding our chances of winning and that someone else might be better suited for that position. I reluctantly walked out to the position between second and third base to do my best. As I did so I looked at our catcher and I must have had a concerned look on my face because Lana smiled at me and said, "you will do fine".

I wish this were a story of triumph and overcoming obstacles to press on to success, but it's not. My "obstacle" was there in every play. I did my best and managed to stop a few balls hit my way, but we lost the game by several runs. I really missed our shortstop that night.

It's almost impossible to win without all your players in the positions they are supposed to play. It's the same in a church. God has a position for everyone to play and when players don't show up or insist on warming the bench, the game is more difficult for those trying to fill the gap.

What position at the OCC are you playing? If you're not filling a position, where is the gap? Are you the missing shortstop?

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

If you are not serving, I encourage you to pray about 2019 and where God will use you this year.



God's very best blessings...

Chuck Jones, OCC Pastor