

Onarga Christian Church  
721 W Seminary Ave. PO Box 47  
Onarga IL 60955

## February Highlights...

The men of OCC Men met for Breakfast on Superbowl Saturday. The OCC Ladies met on Valentine’s day for the February LCF meeting.

Entries for the OCC Chili Cook-Off during the second Sunday Potluck were delicious! The winner of the 2019 OCC CHILI COOK OFF was Meg Lustfeldt. Congrats to Meg!

Lincoln Christian University hosted the annual Leadership Conference on February 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Prairie States Men’s Fellowship meeting was on February 25<sup>th</sup> in Martinton. The OCC will be hosting the March Men’s Fellowship Meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Looking Forward...

Men’s Breakfast at 8:30 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> ... Also, on the 2<sup>nd</sup>- church work day!... 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Potluck on the 10<sup>th</sup> and wear your baseball jersey!... LCF meeting at 7 on the 14<sup>th</sup>... St Patrick’s Day on the 17<sup>th</sup>... OCC will be hosting the Prairie States Men’s Fellowship on the 25<sup>th</sup>...

### Please continue praying this month for...

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

## PINCHED!

One sunny day in the spring of 1970 – something, I remember arriving at school as usual. Books in hand, hair combed just right and an excuse for why my homework was not complete, I experienced the terror of the consequences of not wearing green on St Patrick’s Day!



The pinching began in the pinch that felt like the bite of a of the day, one painful pinch my parents when I got home, I

hallway as a classmate latched on to my arm with a viper! The pinching began and continued through most after another. When I revealed my bruises and pain to was encouraged to “wear green next time!”

I struggled with this tradition, the Old Testament that can be always telling the truth, and wanting your neighbor’s stuff. Breaking those laws had come with some pretty stiff penalties. Jesus came along and fulfilled the law...

this rule, this law of the pinch. There are some laws in difficult for people too; not working on the Sabbath,

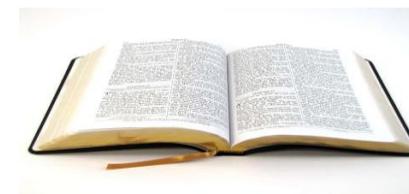
**Matthew 5: 17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.**

The Jewish leaders were enforcing the laws and even making them more demanding than what God had intended. This continued even after Jesus died for our sins, but Paul says...

**Colossians 2:13-14 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.**

My parents assured me that when you become an adult, the St Patty’s pinching would be a thing of the past; a tradition for children. I still wear green on St Patrick’s Day. Not because I am afraid of any pinching but because it is a great tradition. Similarly, believer’s do not obey God’s laws for salvation, but we obey God’ commands because we are saved. God’s commands are nicely summarized by Jesus...

**Matthew 22:37 Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”**



God’s very best blessings...

**Chuck Jones, OCC Pastor**