



# THE ONSET VINE

Community of Christ Onset Branch  
Pastor: Bill Brousseau 508-291-7825

Year: 2020 April Issue



We are greatly saddened to report the unexpected passing of Andy Bankson on March 30, 2020, at the age of 54. Andrew Webb Bankson, the son of Lou Ann Hasselbeck Bankson and Nicholas Webb Bankson, was born May 19, 1965 in Kansas City, Missouri. He was raised in Overland Park Kansas, Topeka, Kansas, Rockville, Maryland, and primarily Winchester, MA. He summered his entire life here at Onset and many fondly remember him driving his Moped and Boston Whaler. He will be remembered for his warmth, energy, and love of people. Andy is survived by his son Michael, sisters Sally Gandiaga and Suzy Smyth and wonderful family.

Andy's emotions were always easy to read. They showed through his smile and his eyes, and reflected in his face. Whether love, distress, concern or worry about others close to him, he, more than anyone I have known, wore his heart on his sleeve. As the above picture shows, Andy is happy, content and relaxed. If you know his family, you know the reason why. Andy throughout his life has had a family who loved and supported him unconditionally.

Just as in the above photograph, I see Andy smiling at all of us. He had a great love and concern for all those around him. Andy was the person who would give anything and everything to people in need. He had a gentleness and kindness with him that is all too rare. Rick

---

## FOUR CORNER'S CORNER

---



Everyone misses Rachael and Keith and look forward to having them back and listening to stories of their world wide adventures. Luckily we have just heard from them and have an update: Rachael and Keith want to assure us that they are safe, happy, and healthy in London. They planned to be there for just 3 days and then travelling to Miami to perform with Kirk & Marilyn.

Unfortunately due to the Coronavirus, the show was cancelled. In three weeks they plan, (emphasis on plan) traveling to Toronto for a two months stay. Keith reports that Rachael has essentially been sitting “on telephone hold” for the past 3 weeks. This certainly is a tough time to be in the travel business. Although this is a Black Swan event— Hopefully once in a lifetime— she's had remarkable success with refunds, rescheduling, and generally alleviating her clients' heartbreak about their vacations being axed.

He reports that his remote copywriting business has not been affected but that no matter what how long they may have to quarantine together, his incredible love of Rachael makes staying inside with her a true blessing.

(Keith didn't really say that but it will get him lots of brownie points so we'll say that he did). ***-Keith please be sure to white this disclosure out before Rachael reads it.***

Keith and Rachel send their best and hope we are all well. As all time optimists they say that at least this situation gives us all time to sit down, let the dust settle, and spend some quality (albeit forced!) time with one another. We just thank our lucky stars we are on a different continent than Rick.

They send hugs for all and maybe a good, old-fashioned Irish "Eyebrow Raise" for social distancing purposes.

**\*\*\*\* NOTE: We will have little to write about in the next couple of months. Please send or email stories of old, photos, funny happenings on the grounds, etc. to Jackie [Frederickmoulton@yahoo.com](mailto:Frederickmoulton@yahoo.com)**

*(Yes my full name is Frederick and if you send enough stories for the Vine, I will write the story of how and why my name changed from Fred to Rick in my late 40's.)*

# Ongoing Response to COVID-19 Virus

13 March 2020

After considering many factors, the First Presidency advises congregations and mission centers to suspend church gatherings such as worship services, meals, conferences, funerals, and other group activities in response to the projected spread of the COVID-19 virus. The anticipated duration of this recommended suspension of group activities is three weeks.

The church's response should emphasize "protecting the most vulnerable" (Doctrine and Covenants 164:6a) in our congregations, cities, towns, and villages. This includes our senior members and those already affected by other health challenges.

All World Church sites now are closed to the public, and World Church-sponsored events are canceled through at least Monday, 13 April 2020. This includes the Temple Complex, Peace Pavilion, and all historic sites. International Headquarters staff will continue to support operations while the sites are closed to the public. Reopening the sites to the public will continue to be evaluated as the situation unfolds.

This situation is fluid. Church-related COVID-19 updates will be provided at [www.CofChrist.org/covid-19](http://www.CofChrist.org/covid-19). In addition to church-initiated preventative measures and recommendations, we are upholding all nations and congregations impacted by this pandemic in prayerful concern, love, and hope. Our faith assures us that "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1–2 NRSV).

The First Presidency



It is a blessing to live in a community where we all take care of one another and at times like this, it is even more so. We have volunteers available to help members who need assistance. Volunteers will pick up needed grocery items, medications, mail and do regular wellness checks, etc. Please don't hesitate to call Bill Brousseau if you need assistance or have suggestions.



---

## CORN BEEF AND CABBAGE FOR ALL

---



What a team. As most of you know there are no more church services or classes, etc. for the next three weeks. Everyone was disappointed so Bill suggested we deliver St. Patrick's Day Dinners to all. Bill cooked and corrected all who dared call the pork shoulder, ham. Charlotte and Jackie took on the roles of Assistant Cheff's, and Carolyn and I ran the 36 meals around the campgrounds. Before receiving the meal, members were subjected to the vocal rendition of "The Corned Beef Song". There were lots of smiles

and laughs. Everyone wants Bill know that The "Ham" was great and it was a good day for all.



Given the great toilet paper value these days, Carolyn put together the perfect bouquet. You don't see one of these every day. Truly a utilitarian gift for all.

---

## FIRST EVER ON-LINE ONSET CHURCH SERVICE

---

Bill Walton hit a homerun arranging the first ever Onset Life Church Service. He sent out invitations, provided technical assistance to many and at 11:00 Sunday the service started without a hitch. Bill W. presided, Bobbie gave the sermon, and Matt, Carolyn and Rick spoke. He did a really nice job putting that service together. The below members enjoyed the service.

Bill and Roberta Walton  
Rick and Carolyn Moulton  
Matt Booth  
Ralph Pratt  
Randal Pratt  
Robert and Roberta Cook  
Crystal and Fred (Munson?)  
Greg Prymak  
Laura King  
Peter Cook

There were a couple challenges. Try as we might, we were unable to pass the generous response contributions through the computer. Members are either putting donations in their personal collection plates for when we all gather in church again or are giving their donations to Bill B. Another challenge was singing the hymns. Each persons's internet connection speeds varied resulting in each person singing different timings from one another. The combination of that was less than harmful. Next time, we probably will listen to the music, enjoy the lyrics, and for those who wish to sing, mute their microphones.

To join the Sunday service go to Zoom.com and click on "Join Meeting" and follow instructions. (it is free). Once completed please email Bill Walton [billandcharlotte@comcast.net](mailto:billandcharlotte@comcast.net) to let him know. Before the service he will email you the Meeting ID and the PW. On Sunday at 10:30 go to Zoom, click on "Join Meeting" enter the ID/PW. See you there.

Contact Bill Walton if you need assistance.

---

## NEWSLETTER REVIEWS

---

When we started the newsletter in August our expectations were modest. Our goal was to help keep the connections between all of our Onset Community when together and when not. Based upon the wonderful responses we have been receiving, we feel to be on the right track:

Nancy Cornish: Wonderful production as always. You have me crying and mourning and experiencing great warm memories, smiling and laughing, and being amazed at some of the stories and nature-finds. Great job.

Robert Kyser: Will look forward to reading every word.

Randall Pratt: Nice to get back to my roots via the Onset Vine!

Deb Cook: This is to commend whoever wrote the article about the homeless couple that was cared for on the campground. The article hit a perfect tone and showed how much thoughtfulness and compassion went into the campground's response to the situation. I also liked that it is a work in progress and there is a lot to learn. We are all learning as we go along. I also enjoyed that humorous articles were side by side with serious articles. Well done team! You pulled it off with style!

Nick Bankson: Enjoyed the vine, its creativity, color and verve.

*What is a verve? -Ray reports it is a cross between a vole and a mole that looks like a shrew. (It might be time for a new wild life reporter. Applications are being accepted)*

Louise Whipple: The work on the newsletter is amazing. My niece was so impressed that she made copies and took it back to Ca. to show to her family about the news from Onset.

Rachael: Wow! This email absolutely made my entire day. I just read the entire newsletter out to Keith and we laughed many, many, many times. Love all the photos! It brought so much joy to our week! Thank you and can't wait for the next issue! :)

Laura Fisher: The newsletter is absolutely wonderful. We look forward to reading it every month. Sylvia: The March newsletter was so good that Kent and I read it three times. It was excellent.



Sylvia, Kent and Shanna enjoying each other's company and greeting all entering the front gate.

---

## WHERE IS GOD'S PERFECTION IN MY SON ?

---

A father was asked to speak at a fund-raising event for a school that serves special need students. His son; Shay, attends the school. The father started to speak, stopped and unexpectedly posed a question to the crowd that left them in stunned silence. "Where is the perfection in my son Shay? Everything God does is done with perfection, but my son cannot do the things that most other children can. So, I call out to you, "Where is God's perfection?" The audience was shocked by the question, pained by the father's anguish and was totally stilled by the piercing query. " Nobody knew how to answer and to their relief the father answered his own question. "When God brings a child like Shay into the world, the perfection that he seeks is in the way people treat Shay."

He proceeded to tell the following story: Shay and I walked past a park where some boys were playing baseball. Shay asked me if I thought they would let him play. I knew Shay lacked the muscle control play baseball and feared that

the boys would not want Shay to play. I realized that if they let Shay play, it would give him a much needed feeling of acceptance. I tentatively approached one of the players and asked if Shay could play. The boy looked around for guidance from his teammates. Receiving none, he took matters into his own hands and said, "We are losing by six runs and the game is in the eighth inning. I guess he can be on our team and we'll try to let him bat in the ninth inning." Upon hearing the news he could play Shay smiled broadly. Shay was loaned a glove and instructed where to stand. His team scored a few runs and was behind by three. In the ninth inning, Shay was on deck, there were two outs and the bases loaded. Shay was next up and I wondered what the boys would do. Shay was passed the bat and was shown where to stand. The pitcher moved in a few steps to lob the ball so Shay might hit it. Shay tried moving the bat toward the ball to no avail. One of Shay's team-mates came to the plate to help Shay. The pitcher took a few more steps forward and tossed the ball softly toward the bat. Shay and his teammate, swung together and hit a slow ground ball to the pitcher. The pitcher picked up the grounder, pulled back his arm and "accidentally" threw it well beyond the reach of the first baseman. Both teams and the crowd enthusiastically shouted, "Run to first. Run to first." Never in his life had Shay felt what it was like to be on an baseball team, never mind hitting the ball. He headed down the first base line wide-eyed and excited. By the time he reached first, the right fielder had the ball. Instead of throwing the ball to second base she understood the pitcher's intentions and threw the ball over the third baseman's head. Everyone yelled, "Run to second, run to second." Shay ran towards second base as the runners ahead of him circled the bases towards home. As Shay reached second base, the opposing shortstop directed him to third base. As Shay rounded third, the boys from both teams ran behind him screaming, "Shay run home."



When Shay stepped on home plate the boys lifted him on their shoulders and wildly celebrated his game winning grand slam. I openly burst into tears as those 18 children exemplified God's perfection. Mine were not the only tears that day. So many people stood drying their eyes, having witnessed the beauty of Jesus's teachings.

---

## THE ADVENTURE OF DEAN'S FORGOTTEN TUNA

---



Jaime reports that when her dad left from Onset to visit in Texas, he forgot to take the trash out of the cottage house. Despite the suggestion that he return to Onset to remove it, he could not be convinced. So inside that lovely house there sits a trash bin with fragrant tuna salad and next to that, a bag of potatoes. Jaime finds her self laughing thinking of the next person to venture inside. She worries that the decomposing tuna salad and potatoes could unite to form some kind of living, breathing, foul smelling Chthula Monster.



---

## JAIME'S ADDITIONS TO MAKE US SMILE

---



After years of wanting to thoroughly clean my house but lacking the time, this week I discovered that wasn't the reason.

