

Sharing God's Love in Our Community Through Prayer, Study and Action

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY
(Member of the Chenango District)

The Parish News

www.stannsaftonny.org

The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

Clergy: The Reverend Fr. David A. Hanselman Cell: 761-4601 Office: 656-9502

If you desire Father David to visit you or give you a call, please contact him at one of the numbers above.

In an emergency and Fr. David can't be reached, please contact one of the wardens.

Wardens: Betty Vail: 639-1201 Tracey Tallmadge: 343-1301



From Fr. Dave

Summertime! God's many blessings be with you this month!

And please be safe. And also, please remember to support your parish.

July is an exciting month this year. July 1st, Fr Steve White will begin serving St Andrew's, New Berlin, St Matthew's, South New Berlin, and Immanuel, Norwich as their new rector. This is a big step into the future for the parishes that Fr Chuck Taylor served for so long. No Installation service has been set yet, but we'll make sure to announce it as soon as it is set.

July also means District Work Days (July 10 and 11 in Bainbridge this year) as well as the always fun District Water Safari Day - July 12th. As usual, please contact me to let me know you want to go (email, phone, or leave a message at the church phone). Cost is \$5 per church member and \$20 for friends.

This month, I also have to ask you to please consider helping Zion, Greene with a monetary donation. While other work was being done on its roof, it was discovered that a very important piece of flashing had completely deteriorated and had allowed water into the area between the belltower and the church. A number of the slate roofing tiles need replacing as well. Worst of all, plans to apply for grants fell through because the contractors were able to start the work so quickly. The total estimate is for just over \$30,000 and has to be drawn from Zion's endowment. Any donation you can make would be greatly appreciated. Please send to Zion Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 88, Greene, NY 13778. And please include "roof repair" in the memo line.

Now, looking ahead to August, please plan on attending the District Pig Roast and worship service on August 13 at St Paul's, Oxford at 1pm. Please bring a dish to pass.

While it is undeniably true that being out in God's creation can bring our hearts to thankfulness for all God's works, it is also true that being with God's people brings us closer to Jesus by worshiping and breaking bread together. In other words, as beautiful as summertime is, I really hope to see you on Sundays! As always, may God's peace and many blessings be with each and every one of you!

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE

Note to all who serve: It would be most helpful if, when you cannot make your assigned date, you would arrange for a substitute. If you are unable to do that, please notify a warden. Thanks for your cooperation!

Service Schedule						
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	CS	EM	Acolytes
July 2	HC	C.Tarvin	T.Vail	----	JR	B.Vail
July 9	MP	A.Wieber	J.Rettberg	MH	----	D.Wieber
July 16	HC	A.Wieber	M.Harding	RF	DW	B.Vail/D.Wieber
July 23	MP	J.Rettberg	C.Tarvin	----	----	B.Vail
July 30	MP	T.Vail	C.Tarvin	----	----	M.Boston
Church School						
		Morning Prayer		Food Pantry		
<i>No Church during July</i>	<i>School August</i>	July 9	B.Vail/J.Rettberg	July 10	Pat & Al Tucker	
		July 23	Denise/Kris	July 12	Betty V. Grace A	
		July 30	B.Vail/J.Rettberg			
Lectionary (Year A)						
Date	Service	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle Reading	Gospel Reading	
July 2	HC	Genesis 22:1-14	Psalm 13	Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:40-42	
July 9	MP	Gen. 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67	Ps. 45:11-18	Romans 7:15-25a	Matt. 11:16-19, 25-30	
July 16	HC	Genesis 25:19-34	Psalm 119:105-112	Romans 8:1-11	Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23	
July 23	MP	Genesis 28:10-19a	Ps. 139:1-11, 22-23	Romans 8:12-25	Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43	
July 30	MP	Genesis 29:15-28	Ps. 105:1-11, 45b	Romans 8:26-39	Matt. 13:31-33, 44-52	
Aug 6	HC	Genesis 32:22-31	Psalm 17:1-7, 16	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21	

Altar Duty for the month of July is Judy Rettberg, 208-4023. If you are giving flowers in memory a loved one, please notify Peter Vail 607-639-1444 no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that he can include a notice in the bulletin.



July Coffee Hour Sign Ups



Lessons of the Church Year

An Episcopal Bishop by the name of Frederick Borsch has written a book that gives introductions to the Sunday scripture readings as we strive to read thoughtfully selections from the Bible, a Living Word to God. This book was written in the conviction that many individuals want to pay closer attention to readings from the Bible. The introductions in this book are meant to sharpen hearing and are, for the most part, summaries of the readings. Their main purpose is to prepare you for what you are about to read and hear. Even for those trained in the study of the Bible, it can be challenging to find yourself suddenly in the midst of a passage from Deuteronomy, a prophetic oracle, or a passage from the Letter to the Hebrews. Borsch's goal in writing these introductions is to enhance the hearing of the congregation and the skills of those reading to them. It is with these thoughts in mind that we are using these introductions, from time to time. Comments and feedback are encouraged.

After more than twenty years of operation, St. Ann's Vestry agreed that it was time to end the operation of St. Ann's Clothes Closet. Over these years, we have provided clothing for hundreds of individuals, however, in recent years at least two other churches have opened their own clothes closet. Patronization has been decreasing for the past several years and it seemed logical to discontinue its operation. After discussion with the Presbyterian Church in Bainbridge, the remaining clothing were sorted and usable items sent to their clothes closet with much appreciation. Many thanks to everyone who has supported this outreach and made it a success for all these years.



There will be a Vestry meeting on July 16th.



The annual Pig Roast will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Oxford on August 13th beginning at 11a.m with Father David conducting Holy Eucharist. This is a District gathering and anyone attending is asked to bring a dish to pass. This event is most enjoyable and it is hoped that many will attend from St. Ann's parish.



St. Ann's Prayer List for July 2017

It has been suggested that the names of individuals on the parish prayer list be included in the newsletter. A current listing follows. The names listed are not necessarily members of the parish and may include individuals or other requests for which we have been asked to pray. The clergy persons of the Chenango District are included. Please remember these individuals in your personal prayers. Send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 639-1201. **Please note: Long term names will be left on the list indefinitely, short term names for two months unless updated.**

Long Term

Carol
Peter
Joyce
Mya
Holly
Cindy
Lois
Clifford
Richard
Bill
Elliott

Fr. David Hanselman
Fr. Bruce MacDuffie
Deacon Kay
Pastor Becky
Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe
Bishop Michael Curry
The Revs Ralph & Liz Groskoph
Emmanuel Church
Epiphany Church
Zion Church
St. Paul's Church
St. Andrew's Church
St. Matthew's Church
St. Peter's Church

Short Term

Pastor Sue	Patrick
Marsey	Evelyn
Marion	Dakota
Dianne	Connie
Ed	Wayne
Fr. Bill Lutz	Eli

The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Divinity School. The Rector search for Emanuel, St. Andrew's & St. Matthew's churches. The following prayer is from the Evening Prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer:

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake. Amen.

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS



1. Outreach contribution for June was sent to the Bainbridge Soup Kitchen
2. Todd Estate bequest was reviewed and confirmed that the cash portion will be tithed to those less fortunate than us. The Sunday School children had selected a number of animals that may be purchased through the Episcopal Relief & Development organization. They selected 5 goats, 5 pigs, 1 donkey with cart and 5 fruit trees, for a total of \$1525. This will be sent to the Episcopal Relief & Dev.
3. It was also agreed to support the Afton Interchurch Council with a contribution of \$1000. The balance of the tithe amount will be disbursed after further consideration and discussion.
4. St. Ann's Clothes Closet has had a run of over 20 years. There are now three other churches in the Village of Afton that operate a used clothing service. In view of this, it was decided to close the Clothes Closet and give the remaining clothing to the Bainbridge Presbyterian Church for their clothes closet. Their closet is open several days a week.
5. A representative from Waldrons Carpet in Sidney has looked at the carpet in the Church. The unevenness in the floor is due to the foam backer deteriorating. It was decided to look into redoing the carpet only in the high traffic areas. The Waldrons representative will be asked about this possibility.
6. The kitchen counter needs replacement in the area between the two sinks. The present counter has an open crack and is not able to be cleaned properly. Possibly replace the sinks as well. It was decided to get Ron Sherman's input and suggestions.
7. This year's pig roast will be held at St. Paul's Oxford, August 13th. starting at 11am after a Holy Communion service. This is a district event and **there will not be a service at St. Ann's on that Sunday.**
8. The Afton Sertoma Club has decided to move their meeting location from St. Ann's to the Afton Methodist Church as they have a sound system that is helpful to them. The Sertoma Club has been meeting at St. Ann's for over 25 years and thanked the Parish for their hospitality.
9. Bishop DeDe has requested that all convention delegates and any other interested individuals read a book titled "The Agile Church." The book will be discussed at this year's convention in the fall. Vestry is ordering two copies to be shared.
10. The treasurer reported that we are operating "in the black."

7/11 MADO CIMINI
7/12 SONJA & NOAH HANSELMAN
7/17 GARRETT VAIL & CAROL VAIL
7/23 MARISSA HARDING
7/28 DAVID HANSELMAN
7/29 GINA GIURASTANTE



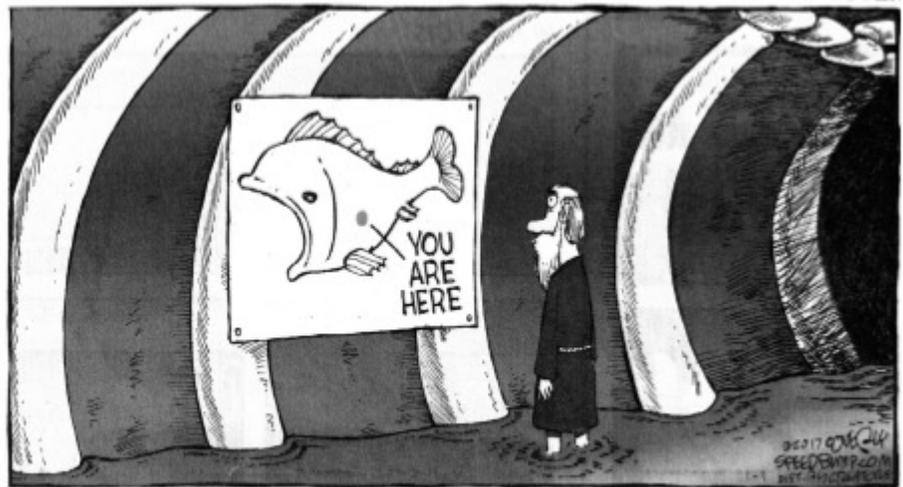
Please send your birthday/anniversary dates to me @ cttallmadg@aol.com or advise me at church.



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SPEED BUMP

by Dave Coverly



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I Love My Church

The Rev. David Meginniss,
rector of a large church, but the theme applies to all sizes of congregations
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

I passed a sign recently that said, “I love my church. You will, too.” What a great thought—not the sign, but the idea.

I love my church, too. I love the beautiful ritual, some of which is based on worship practices that existed even before Jesus was born. I love the music because I get to hear beautiful music made by voices and pipes unfiltered by anything artificial. I love the children, bursting with energy, joy, and curiosity. I love the creativity and dedication of the staff and volunteers. I love the beauty and functionality of the church architecture. I love the generosity and compassion our folks show to each other and to the outside world. I love our sense of tradition which honors our heritage without hampering our willingness to try new things. I love that we can feel and experience the presence of God.

I think others would love our church, too, if we gave them half a chance, but we don’t. Oh, I know we’re easy to find, and we try to welcome the people who do come in. But what do we do to get them here in the first place? It’s intimidating to walk into an unfamiliar church on your own, especially if it’s a liturgical church like ours and you come from a non-liturgical tradition. Most American Protestant churches are not like ours, and that makes us strange, whether we realize it or not. Like a lot of fine things, we are an acquired taste! Most folks are not comfortable just wandering in.

Unless we reach out and invite someone, we’re probably keeping them from coming. I don’t mean we need to be “in your face” with someone about coming to church: that can make us sound pushy and judgmental. We easily share enthusiasm for a favorite new restaurant, a movie, or even a new phone app. People get passionate about their favorite barbecue place. So, let’s tell people, “I love my church and I think you will, too.” In fact, let’s say, “I would love for you to come to church with me.” The Alban Institute says the number one reason people come to a particular church is because one of the members—not the clergy, but a lay member—invited them, and it’s number one by a ridiculously high margin. Signs in the yard, decals on the car, T-shirts, web pages, newspaper ads, even pithy and clever sayings on church signs—none of these are as effective as a simple invitation.

Jesus gives the great commission: “Go therefore and make disciples....” In our baptismal covenant, we promise to “proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.” In other words, we’re supposed to be engaged in evangelism. We can get all complicated about this—going on mission trips, knocking on doors, handing out pamphlets, preaching in bus stations—or we can do what we’re already good at: we can use our gift of hospitality to invite our friends to come enjoy something we enjoy. I believe there are a lot of people out there who would love our church just as much as we do, if we gave them a chance.

The Final Word

I don't understand myself at all, for I really want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do the very thing I hate. I know perfectly well that what I am doing is wrong, and my bad conscience shows that I agree that the law is good. But I can't help myself, because it is sin inside me that makes me do these evil things.

Romans 7:15-17

Many of the lectionary readings this month deal with choices and consequences. In his letter to the Christians in Rome, Paul shows remarkable insight into the conflict that results from our having these choices. . He admits that although he really wants to do what is right, he doesn't do it, behavior that he attributes to his sinful nature. Furthermore, he seems to recognize that he is unable to correct this condition on his own, thanking God through Jesus Christ for rescuing him. We Christians have given our lives to Christ, but the old nature still exists. We know the attitudes and behavior that Christ desires, but we also know how hard it is to live that way all the time. We wrestle with our desire to sin, to do what we want at the expense of others, to think more of ourselves than of others, to give in to temptation. Some suggest that we can be encouraged by this conflict reasoning that it tells us that our conscience is still sensitive to sin, that we truly desire to do what is right. On the other hand, if we are "conflict free" we may have become too comfortable and accepting of sin. Choices bombard us on a daily basis. Some involve choosing between little things such as a chocolate ice cream cone or a vanilla one. Some are between great issues, such as who is the person we will marry or the job we will take. But the most important choice we will make is this: What shall we do with Jesus? If we choose to accept him, our life both now and in the future will be radically different from what it will be if we do not accept him. May God grant us the grace to make the right choice!

--- PCV

St. Ann's Episcopal Church

P. O. Box 22

Afton, New York 13730

SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR
COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY
AND ACTION

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

Wardens: Betty Vail

Tracey Tallmadge

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

