

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



Three years ago, I made the decision to change careers and started going to school part-time to study clinical social work. It seemed a bold step to leave a good paying job, but I felt called to more closely align my professional life with my calling as a deacon. Still, I wasn't sure where my path would lead me. It was both a challenging and exciting time. I often wondered if I had done the right thing. Would I be successful in working with clients, and would I like the work? Would I find a job when I finished school? How would this impact our retirement plans?

As discernment usually goes, my new path led me in ways I couldn't have imagined. Now after completing two wonderful internships and finally graduating, I have landed a counseling position at a community residence program that serves those who are in early recovery from chemical dependencies. I love the work, even though it is often challenging. Indeed, I feel privileged to work with this courageous group of people. Seems to me that the Holy Spirit guided me to this place. It feels right. It is the place where my life experiences, skills and training met one of the greatest needs of our times. I felt all of this most fully the first time I was on-call on a weekend and my phone buzzed during worship. I politely left, answered the call, and returned at the end of the Eucharist to silently hold a client in prayer. Mother Elizabeth had explained my exit, and later I found out that they had all prayed for the individual I was assisting. The Body of Christ, the church, in action.

Addictions, especially opioid addictions, are at epidemic proportions in upstate New York. It is estimated that 10% of the population has been negatively impacted by the active addiction or death of a loved one. Perhaps this resonates with you, or you know how difficult this has been for your friends and neighbors. And our schools also feel it as children struggle to learn and grow without parents. And our community feels as it jobs go unfilled and the need for prevention and treatment services continues to expand.

It seems like such a big problem. But, there is hope. People do sustain recovery, Narcan has saved the lives of many of those who have overdosed, and treatment programs are expanding. However, it takes a community to heal those recovering from an addiction, and it takes time. Medical and mental health professionals to heal both body and minds. Social workers to teach new skills and coordinate services. Peers to teach, support and encourage. Families and friends to advocate, understand and support. And our churches to make all of them feel welcomed and loved.

A new group has been started to better serve those in the addiction and recovery continuum, and their families, in the Afton, Bainbridge and Guilford area. It is ecumenical in nature, and we are looking for additional supports throughout these communities. We are based on the Truth Pharm model as established by Alexis Pleus in the Binghamton area. We don't have a name just yet, but we have begun to assess how we can best serve our communities. If your heart is stirring to do something to overcome this epidemic you will be gladly welcomed into our group! Our next meeting is July 31st at 6:30pm at St. Peter's in Bainbridge.

Meanwhile, you can join me in praying the prayer below from our prayer book. August 31st is Overdose Awareness Day, so it would be appropriate to include it in your worship services on Sunday Aug. 26th. If you have lost a loved one due to overdose, or wish to support those who have, there is an event in Binghamton on August 23rd that you are welcome to attend. You can find more details at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/221176938658141/>

Prayer for those with Addictions, Their Families, and Caregivers

O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you: Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom.

Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. Amen.

Peace and Love to all of you,
Deacon Kay

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
Aug 5	HC	C.Tarvin	A.Wieber	TV	JR	D.Wieber/B.Vail
Aug 12	MP	D.Vail	C.Tarvin	---	---	D.Vail
Aug 19	HC	B.Vail	J.Rettberg	BV	JR	B.Vail/M.Boston
Aug 26	MP	B.Vail	C.Tarvin	---	---	B.Vail
Sept 2	HC	C.Cimini	A.Cimini	AC	CC	A.Cimini/B.Vail
Church School		Morning Prayer		Food Pantry		
		Aug 12	J.Rettberg/B.Vail	Aug 13	B.Vail/T.Tallmadge	
		Aug 26	B.Vail	Aug 15	K. Vail, A.Vail, G.Vail	
Lectionary (Year A)						
Date	Service	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle Reading	Gospel Reading	
Aug 5		2 nd Sam. 11:26-12:13a	Psalm 51:1-13	Ephesians 4:1-16	John 24-35	
Aug 12		2 nd Sam. 18:5-9, 15, 31-33	Psalm 130	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	John 6:35, 41-51	
Aug 19		1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14	Psalm 111	Ephesians 5:15-20	John 6:51-58	
Aug 26		1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11) 22-30, 41-43	Ps. 84	Ephesians 6:10-20	John 6: 56-69	
Sept 2		Song of Sol. 2:8-13	Ps. 45:1-2, 7-10	James 1:17-27	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	



Altar Duty for the month of August is Betty Vail, 639-1201 and Grace Affuso, 639-2961. 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.

St. Ann's Prayer List for August 2018

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.**

Short Term

Duane
Marion
Pat
Noah
Chuck
Raevin
Dawn
Bill
Henry
Ben
John

Long Term

Fr. David Hanselman
Fr. Steven White
Deacon Kay
Pastor Becky
Fr. Geoff Doolittle
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
Carol
Peter
Joyce
Mya
Holly
Cindy
Lois
Clifford
Richard
Bill
Kevin
Dakota
Nate
Hailey



The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Divinity School. The Learning Communities Initiative of the Diocese.

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, sooth the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake. Amen.

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS



- Outreach was directed to go to SPCA of Broome County. Noted that we still have some \$3000 of the tithe from the Todd Estate bequest, to distribute.
- Afton Sidewalk Days will be August 25th. St. Ann's will have a "prayer booth" in line with a suggestion by the Learning Communities Initiative of the Diocese. Prayer requests will be encouraged, free water and gifts distributed.
- The purchase of a smart TV and DVD player for the Parish Hall was approved. It is anticipated that this will be used for Christian Education and bible study. The Diocese has sent several names as references.
- The "Socks for Soldiers" program was discussed and will be considered at next month's meeting.
- This was Fr. Geoff's last Sunday of covering for Fr. David's sabbatical. He was thanked for his service with our very best wishes. Treasurer's report shows that we are solvent.

Life Just Isn't

By Katie Leicht, age 17

Throughout my junior year in high school I had been looking forward to the Junior Overnight, a retreat that was offered to the junior girls at my high school. The purpose was to talk about how our lives were going and to discuss our problems, concerns and worries about school, friends, guys, or whatever. We had some great discussions.

I went home from the retreat with a great feeling. I had learned a lot about people that I could put to good use. I decided to put the papers and notes I had received on the retreat in my journal, which is where I keep some of my most treasured items. I set the journal on top of my dresser and finished unpacking.

I was feeling so great from the retreat that I went into the next week with high hopes. However, the week turned out to be an emotional disaster. A friend of mine really hurt my feelings, I had a fight with my mom, and I was worrying about my grades, particularly in English. To top it all off, I was worrying about the upcoming prom. I literally cried myself to sleep almost every night. I work up on Friday morning with a heavy heart and a bad attitude. I was also running late. I dressed quickly, grabbing a pair of socks out of my dresser drawer. As I slammed the drawer shut, my journal fell off the top of the dresser and its contents spilled all over the floor. As I knelt down to pick it up, one of the sheets of paper that had fallen out caught my eye. My retreat leader had given it to me. I opened the folded sheet and read it:

"Life isn't about keeping score. It's not about how many people call you and it's not about who you've dated, are dating or haven't dated at all. It isn't about who you've kissed, what sport you plan, or which guy or girl likes you. It's not about your shoes or your hair or the color of your skin or where you live or go to school. In fact, it's not about grades, money, clothes, or colleges that accept you or not. Life isn't about having lots of friends, or if you are alone, and it's not about how accepted or unaccepted you are. Life just isn't about that.

But life is about who you love and who you hurt. It's about how you feel about yourself. It's about trust, happiness and compassion. It's about sticking up for your friends and replacing inner hate with love. Life is about avoiding jealousy, overcoming ignorance and building confidence. It's about what you say and what you mean. It's about seeing people for who they are and not what they have. Most of all, it is about choosing to use your life to touch someone else's in a way that could never have been achieved otherwise. It is about faith in a higher power. These choices are what life's about."

I aced my next English test that day. I had a fun time with my friend that weekend and got the courage to talk to the boy that I liked. I spent more time with my family and made an effort to listen to my mom. I even found a great dress for the prom and had a wonderful time. And it wasn't luck or a miracle. It was a change in heart and a change in attitude on my part. I realized that sometimes I just need to sit back and remember the things in life that really matter—like the things I learned on my Junior Overnight.

I am a senior this year and preparing to go on my Senior Retreat. But that piece of paper is still in my journal, so that I can look at it whenever I need to remember what life is really about.



8/2 Hailey Tallmadge
8/4 Milton Harding
8/9 Al Tucker
8/13 Grayson Harding
8/14 Judy Rettberg
8/20 Maxwell Harding
8/22 Amy Weiber



8/28 Ken & Connie Beames

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

grat·i·tude

[grat i tood]

noun

the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness

Many thanks to Ron Sherman for his hard work on a hot humid day in sprucing up the garden in front of the church.

Calvin Tallmadge at Wagner Lumber donated the mulch and Ron did the weeding, and getting the mulch into place. He also edged the sidewalks and it all looks great!!

August 7, 2018




Learning Communities Initiative

The learning community of congregations who commit to one another in a nine-month learning experience. Through Prayer, skill-building, action, and reflection, they address pressing concerns about the future. Sections include: begin by asking questions”; learn by doing; and share our learnings. At this moment we are in the Learn by Doing - Using action to Discover God’s learning. Carol & Amedeo Cimini and Robin Felldin have made this commitment for St Ann’s and under the coaching of Father Tom Margrave, we join congregants from Sherburne and Greene in this journey.

We have decided with St Ann’s Vestry and the Wardens to hold a booth on August 25th - Afton Sidewalk Day- in front of St Ann’s- where we will be asking members of St Ann’s and passers-by to participate in sharing Hopes, Dreams, Reflections, Blessings, Joy, Sorrows, Wishes, Prayers, etc. by writing with a fabric pen onto a piece of fabric sized 2 “by 18 “. These will then be displayed on baling twine using a wooden clothes pin and hung for all to see. Next step will be to invite these folks back to St Ann’s on September 16th when Father David will be with us, so we can pray over these joys and concerns. We will be handing out free small bottles of cold water and a rubber wristband. Please feel free to write down your own prayers, concerns etc. before hand as these items are now available at St Ann’s


Next meeting for Learning Communities Initiative is at Sherburne on August 16th at 6 pm.





Just for KIDS

Bugs in the Bible



Whether at a picnic, on the beach or playing outdoors, it seems like we're always joined by uninvited guests – bugs!

Bugs and other little creatures are mentioned in the Bible.

*Fill in the blanks with the little creatures mentioned in each verse.
Circle them in the puzzle below.*

Proverbs 6:6 _____ Exodus 16:20 _____

Psalms 78:45 _____ 1 Sam. 24:14 _____

Matt. 23:24 _____ Isaiah 50:9 _____


Judges 14:8 _____ Isaiah 59:5 _____

Acts 12:23 _____ Leviticus 11:22 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____ Leviticus 11:22 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____

Deuteronomy 7:20 _____

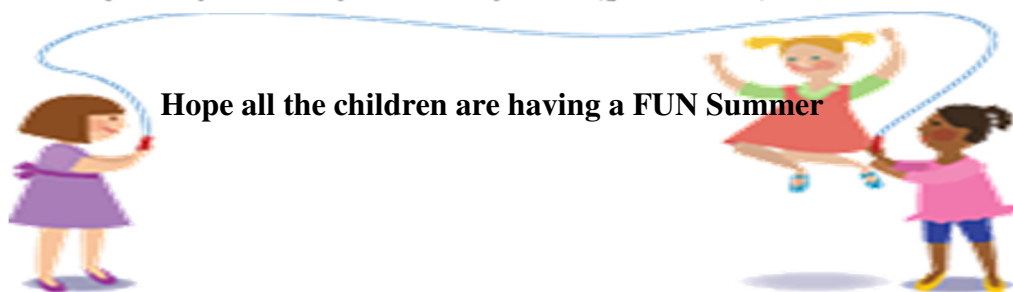


M	O	T	H	S	G	N	A	T	B	H
A	N	T	A	L	L	C	H	P	E	O
G	R	A	S	S	H	O	P	P	E	R
G	F	C	R	I	C	K	E	T	S	N
O	L	S	P	I	D	E	R	S	B	E
T	E	C	L	O	C	U	S	T	D	T
S	A	E	F	K	A	T	Y	D	I	D
G	F	L	I	E	S	W	O	R	M	S



Answer: ant, flies, gnat, bees, worms, locust, grasshopper, hornet,
maggots, flea, moths, spider, katydid, cricket

Hope all the children are having a FUN Summer



The Final Word

(Partially Reprinted from August 2015)

...let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

James 1:19—20, 22

The book of James, written by the half-brother of Jesus reads like a how-to manual on being a better Christian. The above excerpts from the Epistle lesson for 13 Pentecost are just two examples of James' wisdom.

The first could be paraphrased —Engage brain before putting mouth in gear. Too often when someone is talking to us, we are so busy thinking about what we're going to reply that we don't hear what the person is saying. Someone pointed out that God had a reason for giving us two ears and one mouth and that is we should listen twice as much as we should talk. Give it a try. You may find that you'll be looked at as an excellent conversationalist!

(The following was updated for the current month.) The second excerpt seems particularly appropriate this month. We have decided with St Ann's Vestry and the Wardens to hold a booth on August 25th - Afton Sidewalk Day- in front of St Ann's- where we will be asking members of St Ann's and passers-by to participate in sharing Hopes, Dreams, Reflections, Blessings, Joy, Sorrows, Wishes, Prayers, etc.

Note that in his letter, James addresses —everyone, not just leaders or a core group. May God grant each of us the wisdom and grace to be —doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. PCV /GZ

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

