

## 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](http://www.stannsaftonny.org)

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

Clergy: The Reverend Fr. David A. Hanselman Cell: 607-761-4601 Office: 607-656-9502

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 cannot be reached, please contact one of the wardens.

Wardens: Dan Vail: 607-240-9264 Tracey Tallmadge: 607-343-1301



As June draws to a close, a quote from Tom Stoppard's **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead** keeps coming to my mind - "Generally speaking, things have gone about as far as they can possibly go, when things have gotten about as bad as they can reasonably get."

Tragically, that only seems to hold true for literature. In reality, things can go horribly wrong and beyond all reasonableness. Scripture is filled with very bad things happening. Our faith's founding moment, however, came when God took the horror of Good Friday and demonstrated His will by raising Jesus on Easter.

However hopeless things may get, Scripture continues to give us hope that God's will, God's justice will be known on earth. The problem we're faced with, however, is that Christianity is publicly slandered by supposedly Christian Supreme Court justices, politicians and "faithful" voters who support them. Can the good name of Christianity recover from the blatant, intentional lies the justices told while under oath in their lustful grab for power? They swore on the Bible and in the name of God to tell the truth and then immediately proceeded to lie knowingly and intentionally - all so that they could grab the power of a lifetime appointment to the Supreme Court. Non-Christians see clearly how far Christians will go to seize power and impose their blighted notion of faith on everyone. And that's not even accounting for Justice Thomas' wife promoting insurrection and Justice Thomas not recusing himself in matters concerning her actions and all the "Christian" politicians who support it. A complete lack of integrity, evil, flourishes and is even rewarded. The abuses of power fly in the face of all historic norms and they've been done in the name of Jesus Christ. Perhaps worst of all, though, so many Christian voters support all of it; sadly, among them are some I've known since childhood. I'd like to think things won't get any worse, but since the highest court in the U.S. has the power and demonstrated the will to impose their false notion of Christianity on every American, I'm afraid it will take an act of God to bring them to justice. As so many become drunk on power and blasphemous victory, those of us who remain faithful must work together to find our way forward so that God's love and justice may be known. God help us. Amen.

**JULY/AUGUST SERVICE SCHEDULE \ SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE**

If you are not currently receiving email Zoom invites, then please send your email address and you will be added to the parish listing. [Bettom415@aol.com](mailto:Bettom415@aol.com), Yes, the “zoom” service is different, but change is what life is all about.

Service Schedule					
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	Acolytes	
July 3	HC	Pat Tucker	Pat Tucker	Betty Vail	
July 10	MP	Judy Rettberg	Judy Rettberg	Denise Wieber	
July 17	HC	Carol Tarvin	Carol Tarvin	Betty Vail	
July 24	MP	Judy Rettberg	Judy Rettberg	Betty Vail	
July 31	MP	Pat Tucker	Pat Tucker	Betty Vail	
Aug 7	HC	Artie Sabanos	Artie Sabanos	Betty Vail	
Aug 14	MP	Judy Rettberg	Judy Rettberg	Betty Vail	
Aug 21	HC	Carol Tarvin	Carol Tarvin	Betty Vail	
Aug 28	MP	Tom Vail	Tom Vail	Betty Vail	
Sept 4	HC	Carol Cimini	Carol Cimini	Betty Vail	
READINGS BELOW					
		Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
July 3	HC	<a href="#">2 Kings 5:1-14</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 30</a>	<a href="#">Galatians 6:(1-6)7-16</a>	<a href="#">Luke 10:1-11, 16-20</a>
July 10	MP	<a href="#">Amos 7:7-17</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 82</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 1:1-14</a>	<a href="#">Luke 10:25-37</a>
July 17	HC	<a href="#">Amos 8:1-12</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 52</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 1:15-28</a>	<a href="#">Luke 10:38-42</a>
July 24	MP	<a href="#">Hosea 1:2-10</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 85</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)</a>	<a href="#">Luke 11:1-13</a>
July 31	MP	<a href="#">Hosea 11:1-11</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 107:1-9, 43</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 3:1-11</a>	<a href="#">Luke 12:13-21</a>
Aug 7	HC	<a href="#">Isaiah 1:1, 10-20</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16</a>	<a href="#">Luke 12:32-40</a>
Aug 14	MP	<a href="#">Isaiah 5:1-7</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 11:29-12:2</a>	<a href="#">Luke 12:49-56</a>
Aug 21	HC	<a href="#">Jeremiah 1:4-10</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 71:1-6</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 12:18-29</a>	<a href="#">Luke 13:10-17</a>
Aug 28	MP	<a href="#">Jeremiah 2:4-13</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 81:1, 10-16</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16</a>	<a href="#">Luke 14:1, 7-14</a>
Sept 4	HC	<a href="#">Jeremiah 18:1-11</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17</a>	<a href="#">Philemon 1-21</a>	<a href="#">Luke 14:25-33</a>
If you are looking at the above on a computer device, then each reading is a link directly to the reading.					



Altar Duty for the month of **July** is Judy Rettberg 607-208-4023.

Altar Duty for the month of **August** is Betty Vail 607-639-1201

If you desire flowers on the Altar in memory of loved ones, please call either of them at the above number.

**MORNING PRAYER LEADERS:**

July 10 - J.Rettberg/T.Vail; July 24 - D.Wieber/J.Rettberg

July 31 - A.Sabanos/B.Vail

August 14 - C.Cimini/D.Wieber; August 28 - B.Vail/A.Sabanos

St. Ann's Prayer List for **JULY/AUGUST 2022**

We are trying to keep our prayer list updated the best way possible. To do that, please review the lists below and contact us with changes. Our lists are only as good as the information provided to us. 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/three months unless updated.

SHORT TERM

Raevin  
Anne  
Dorothy  
Sarah  
Eva

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. Matthews Church  
St. Peter's Church  
Carol Cindy  
Peter David  
Joyce Jason  
Mya Dakota  
Bonnie Hailey  
Richard Joan  
Tyler Bobbi  
Thurston Marsha  
Terra



Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins –  
Pete and Carol Vail  
Joyce Whitney  
Grace Affuso  
Bonnie MacPherson

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

**BIRTHDAYS**

7/7 LOGAN TALLMADGE  
 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 BONSELL

**BIRTHDAYS**

8/01 Joey Parsons  
 8/02 Hailey Tallmadge  
 8/04 Milton Harding  
 8/09 Al Tucker  
 8/13 Grayson Harding  
 8/14 Judy Rettberg  
 8/22 Amy Wieber

**ANNIVERSARIES**

8/28 Ken & Connie Beames



Please let me know if I am missing a Birthday or Anniversary  
[cttallmadg@aol.com](mailto:cttallmadg@aol.com) or 607-343-1301

**CHURCH TERMS**

CHURCH TERMS: JULY 22 – SAINT MARY MAGDALENE – A feast day commemorating one of our Lord's disciples who had richly received His grace. It is commemorated on July 22.

JULY 25 – JAMES THE ELDER – An Apostle and brother of John. The first of the disciples to be martyred and the only one whose death is recorded in the New Testament. Acts 12:1. With Peter and John, he was one of the inner circles of disciples closest to Jesus. His symbol is three shells, representing the journeys to undertake for the Lord. He is commemorated on July 25.  
 Liturgical color: **RED**

AUGUST 6 – THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST – The events that took place on the Mount of Transfiguration are commemorated on August 6. Mark 9:2-8. Liturgical color: white.

AUGUST 15 – SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN, MOTHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

AUGUST 24 – SAINTS' DAY – St. Bartholomew



No JUNE meeting.

There will be a Vestry meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup> during Coffee Hour.

*A funeral will be held at St. Ann's on  
Saturday, July 16th at 11 a.m. for*

*Marion Diehl.*

*A Committal service will take place at Riverview Cemetery in  
Nineveh, NY following the Church Service.*

**A Prayer for Our Children**

**I assure you: Whoever does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will  
never enter it.**

**Luke 18:17 HCSB**

**Our children are our most precious earthly resource. As responsible adults we must create homes and a homeland in which the next generation can live in safety and in freedom.**

**Our youngsters have hopes and dreams—most of our children are, by nature, optimists. And it's our responsibility to ensure that they remain optimistic. How can we do that? By creating secure environments in which our children can mature into thoughtful, confident adults.**

**We inhabit a world that can be a confusing and fearful place. It's a world filled with pressures, temptations, and distractions that pose grave threats to our young people. Today let's make certain we do the important work of caring for our children—all our children. No work is more important.**

***Every child born into the world is a new thought of God, an ever fresh and radiant possibility.* (Kate Douglas Wiggin)**

**Watch Your Words!!**

**The Rev'd Mark H. Crumpler**

**Grace Church, Bethlehem, PA.**

***Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths. (Ephesians 4:29)***

Talking can be a problem. We have all uttered words that we wish we could get back. We have all said one thing but managed to convey something else. With our words we have been careless, thoughtless, and heartless. We have spoken when we should have kept our mouths shut. We have sat mute when we should have had the courage to speak up. Simply put, we've said things that we regret.

So, we have two extremes when it comes to our words and the things we say. On one hand, we could simply decide to stop talking. Period. On the other hand, you can throw your words around without really thinking about their impact, and then you can live your days feeling embarrassed about what you said.

Or maybe there's a better way -- a way that truly reflects why our God, a speaking God, created us to be speaking beings, and why our speaking matters for our life together as followers of Jesus.

**Our Guidelines for Talkers:** Our words are possibly the single most effective way we can give encouragement to other people. And the simple gift of an encouraging word is a practical way for us to "love one another."

That's not the only way, of course. Sometimes people can be encouraged by your example. They watch the way you live, see the way you handle yourself and handle what life throws at you, and they are encouraged by what they see. Your example shows them what's possible. It gives them hope.

But there's an immediate impact, a game – changing power hidden within our words. Words allow you to provide encouragement by direct deposit. The things you say can go straight to another person's soul. The words you use can build them up, or just as easily tear them down.

In a single verse of Paul's *Letter to the Ephesians* we get a few simple guidelines for using our words in a way that will encourage others. We don't hide this gift by taking a vow of silence; we don't squander the gift by speaking without a filter. The guidelines are straightforward, and you can put them into practice today.

First, determine to build others up. Say something that will leave a person better off than they were before they encountered you. You don't have to be profound, just be positive.

Second, speak words that are fitting to where that person is and what they're dealing with in their life. Speak according to their needs. It's nice to tell someone that "everything will be ok" – but there may be times when they can't hear that. So, say what fits the moment.

Finally, let your words be beneficial to any who might hear them. Sometimes your words are not just heard, they are overheard. Make sure being overheard isn't a source of regret for you. The writer of *Ecclesiastes* was exactly right when he wrote that "there is a time to keep silence and a time to speak" Silence can be good for your soul, but speaking can be good for someone else's soul. Giving encouragement is at the heart of Christian community – and the best way to do this is with your words. How will you use words to encourage and build up someone today?

A Prayer: Lord, let my words be filled with your grace today. Help me to speak in such a way that those who hear are encouraged, and those who overhear are glad they did. I ask you to be at work in someone else's life through things that I say, speaking life into others just as Jesus did, the one through whom we pray. Amen

### Ukrainian Days Weekend Festival—Be Ukrainian for a Day

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox Church will be holding its 93<sup>rd</sup>. annual festival on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. 11am to 7pm, St. John's Parkway off Harry L. Drive in Johnson City. Ukrainian Food and Baked Goods. Gift shop. Website: [stjohnuoc.org](http://stjohnuoc.org)

### Humor for the times:

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk. "Only the Ten Commandments," answered the lady.



## The Final Word



**Hospitality: Luke 10:41-42** – “But the Lord said to her, “my dear Martha, you are so upset over all these details! There is really only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary had discovered it—and I won’t take it away from her.”

Jesus wasn’t saying that we should skip all the chores and just talk the day away. But if we spend so much of our effort on cleaning and food preparation and miss time with our guests (or are too exhausted to enjoy them), we have missed the point of it all. On the other hand, if we spend all our time in talk, we have missed the privilege of serving our guests and enjoying a meal together.

Another issue here was Martha’s timing. It seems that as soon as Jesus arrived, she immediately left to prepare the food, virtually ignoring Jesus. What if Mary and Martha had both spent quality time talking with Jesus, and then the two of them had spent some time with the practical matters? Evaluate your hospitality in terms of priorities and the impact of your behavior on your guests.

NLT - GEZ

**St. Ann’s Episcopal Church**  
**P. O. Box 22**  
**Afton, New York 13730**

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 AND ACTION

**Clergy:** The Rev. David A. Hanselman  
 Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

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