

## 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**



Dear People of God; brothers and sisters in Christ,

Like many, if not all of you, my heart and spirit have been heavily weighed down since the shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde (and whatever others might happen before you read this).

I continue in my daily devotions, prayers, and conversations with other Christians, as well as nonbelievers, seeking some sort of guidance from God. Surely there is something God is calling us to do. And then, yesterday (May 24) in the daily

lectionary reading was a passage from Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> letter to Timothy and one thing became completely clear to me – something that we most certainly should NOT be doing. 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 2:1-3 has Paul writing that our desire is to live quiet and peaceable lives. How can we possibly enjoy quiet and peaceable lives when so many innocents are being murdered? Well, it must be said that as mostly white people living in mostly white communities, it's quite easy for us to insulate ourselves from the world around us, firmly secure our blinders and go ahead and live "quiet and peaceable" as the world burns around us. It's a wonderful luxury for white folks. One prime example of white privilege. And I readily admit that I own 5 acres in McDonough which I treasure as a place to go and find peace and quiet. But I also admit that it's a luxury so very many people don't have. And to seek to live quiet and peaceable lives is fundamentally different from finding a place of rest and refreshment. "But it's in Scripture!" someone will say. Yes. It is. But Paul was writing in a world in which Christians had zero political power.

We, on the other hand, bear the burden of being people who claim to follow Christ while living in a representative democracy. How we vote determines the world around us. Choosing not to vote or voting without consideration of your faith commitment is precisely choosing to eliminate God from God's creation. The Roman Empire was built and maintained by a system of violence – much like the US Empire and its use of slavery. But the first Christians stood as people of peace, proclaiming a loving Creator God; willing to pray FOR the Emperor but NOT TO the Emperor.

Today, many Christians loudly and proudly cast their votes in support of violent rhetoric and dehumanizing policies; in effect, worshiping the domination of others. What will become of Christianity if those of us who have chosen to follow the Way of Love continue to stand idly by? But, if we choose to act, what should we do? One good first step is to educate ourselves. Educate ourselves about white privilege and the black experience. The Episcopal Church has a very well-done course called Sacred Ground that does this. And the Bishop encourages us to work through the course by offering an interesting incentive.

When Presiding Bishop Curry visits our Diocese in Dec 2023, Bishop DeDe is setting aside time in which Sacred Ground participants can meet with and speak with PB Curry.

**JUNE 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. [Bottom415@aol.com](mailto:Bottom415@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	
June 5	MP Pentecost	Artie Sabanos	Artie Sabanos	B. Vail	
June 12	HC Trinity	Carol Tarvin	Carol Tarvin	B. Vail	
June 19	HC	Denise Wieber	D. Wieber	D. Wieber	
June 26	MP	Judy Rettberg	Judy Rettberg	B. Vail	
July 3	HC	Carol Cimini	Carol Cimini	B. Vail	
READINGS BELOW					
		Old Testament	Psalms	New Testament	Gospel
June 5	MP Pentecost	<a href="#">Acts 2:1-21</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 104:25-35, 37</a>	<a href="#">Romans 8:14-17</a>	<a href="#">John 14:8-17, (25-27)</a>
June 12	HC Trinity	<a href="#">Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 8</a>	<a href="#">Romans 5:1-5</a>	<a href="#">John 16:12-15</a>
June 19	HC	<a href="#">1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 42 and 43</a>	<a href="#">Galatians 3:23-29</a>	<a href="#">Luke 8:26-39</a>
June 26	MP	<a href="#">2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20</a>	<a href="#">Galatians 5:1,13-25</a>	<a href="#">Luke 9:51-62</a>
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>
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 June is Betty Vail 607-639-1201. If you desire flowers on the Altar in memory of loved ones, please call her at the above number.

**MORNING PRAYER LEADERS:**

**June 5** C.Cimini/J.Rettberg

**June 26** B.Vail/A.Sabanos

Please note the change of service for June 5 and June 12. Morning Prayer will be conducted on June 5 and Holy Communion will be conducted on June 12. Beginning June 19, we will return to St. Ann's normal schedule.

St. Ann's Prayer List for **JUNE 2022**

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. *"We are trying to be sure that our prayer list is as updated as possible and don't want to remove someone that should be on it."* 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  
Melrose  
Dorothy  
Kathy

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**

6/01 Mya Boston  
6/09 Stephanie Proffitt  
6/22 Mike DeBetta



**Anniversaries**

6/23 Alan & Jane Seacat

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: PENTECOST – Greek, “fiftieth.” Also called Whitsunday, Pentecost is the fiftieth day after Easter, the seventh Sunday. It is observed in commemoration of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples in the form of cloven tongues of fire. Peter was the preacher on that day and three thousand were baptized. Liturgical color: **Red**

On Sunday, July 3rd, Mother Liz Groskoph will be conducting Holy Communion at our 9:15 service. We all welcome her to St. Ann’s, and she is looking forward to being with us. Father David will be on vacation.



**May 15, 2022**

The May outreach was designated for the Afton Glenwood Cemetery.  
It was approved to continue the St. Ann’s exceptional student award this year.

*Making the Choice to Forgive*

***Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions.*** *Mark 11:25 NASB*

Forgiveness is a choice. We can choose to forgive those who have injured us, or we can choose not to. When we follow God's teachings by offering forgiveness to His Children, we will be blessed. But when we allow bitterness and resentment to poison our hearts, we suffer from our own shortsightedness.

Do you harbor resentment against anyone? If so, you're faced with an important decision: whether to forgive the person who has hurt you. God's instructions are clear: He wants you to forgive. Period.

To forgive or not to forgive: that is the question. The answer should be obvious. The time to forgive is now.... always now.

*May I forget what ought to be forgotten and recall unfailingly all that ought to be recalled.*

**Humor for these times**

**The Marry Month of June**

A couple was arranging for their wedding and asked a local baker to inscribe the wedding cake with: "1st. John 4:18" which reads: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." The baker evidently lost, smudged, or otherwise misread the noted scripture reference, and beautifully inscribed on the cake: "John 4:18": "For you have had five husbands, and the man you have now is not your husband."

Young Woman: "When we get married, I want to share all your worries and troubles and lighten your burden."

Young Man: "That's very kind of you, dear, but I don't have any worries or troubles."

Young Woman: "That's because we aren't married yet."

"For every woman who makes a fool out of a man there is another woman who makes a man out of a fool."

Jim Reed

When asked how she and her husband managed to stay together for 65 years, an elderly woman replied, "We were born in a time when if something was broke, you fixed it – not throw it away."

"Remember when the Lone Ranger was the only man who wore a mask?"

Sign outside St. Anne's by the Fields Episcopal Church, Ankeny, IA; "Missing something in your life? Lost and found inside."

Sign outside a Lititz (PA) Moravian Congregation: "Lord, is there someone I can love for you today?"

Sign on the lawn of a Florida house: "Life is short. If you can't laugh at yourself, call me, I will."

### Some thoughts for Father's Day



Pastor Jeff Mutton knew that Father's Day was coming, when he would get to take everyone out to dinner after church and pay for a meal that would let him a new shirt and tie from the teens, who had no idea what he was getting, even as he opened it, because they would be checking their cell phones. Then, his afternoon nap would be delayed until after the obligatory drive over to the former family farm, where they would visit his father's grave under the old oak, there next to his mother and grandparents Mutton. He didn't mind, obviously, hoping that, like a good sermon, at least something would sink in or rub off, depending on the metaphor. He thought of his father, now gone 25 years -- a quarter century -- and yet his voice was still heard in Jeff's ears. "Bet you won't do that again." "You don't have to roll the car to change the oil." "So, who exactly is this everyone that is doing it?" "Does your mother know about this?" "You are not going out of the house looking like that." "Because I said so." "Comb your hair, I can't even see your eyes." "My house, my rules." "Go ask your mother."

"Dear God, do something with this child." Suddenly, Jeff knew why he heard his father's voice so often; it was coming out of Jeff's mouth.

This article was printed a few years ago, but in these times of so much hate and anger, it can stand repeating.

### A McDonald's Breakfast story

I am a mother of three (ages 14, 12, 3) and have recently completed my college degree. The last class I had to take was Sociology. The teacher was absolutely inspiring with the qualities that I wish every human being had been graced with. Her last project of the term was called "Smile." The class was asked to go out and smile at three people and document their reactions. I am a very friendly person and always smile at everyone and say hello anyway, so, I thought this would be a piece of cake. Soon after we were assigned the project, my husband, youngest son, and I went out to McDonald's one crisp March morning. It was just our way of sharing special playtime with our son. We were standing in line, waiting to be served, when all of a sudden everyone around us began to back away, and then even my husband did. I did not move an inch. An overwhelming feeling of panic welled up inside of me as I turned to see why they had moved. As I turned around, I smelled a horrible "dirty body" smell, and there standing behind me were two poor homeless men. As I looked down at the short gentleman close to me, he was "smiling". His beautiful sky-blue eyes were full of God's Light as he searched for acceptance. He said, "Good day" as he counted the few coins he had been clutching. The second man fumbled with his hands as he stood behind his friend. I realized the second man was mentally challenged and the blue-eyed gentleman was his salvation. I held my tears as I stood there with them. The young lady at the counter asked him what they wanted. He said, "Coffee is all Miss" because that was all they could afford. If they wanted to sit in the restaurant and warm up, they had to buy something. He just wanted to be warm. Then I really felt it - the compulsion was so great I almost reached out and embraced the little man with the blue eyes. That is when I noticed all eyes in the restaurant were set on me, judging my every action. I smiled and asked the young lady behind the counter to give me two more breakfast meals on a separate tray. I then walked around the corner to the table that the men had chosen as a resting spot. I put the tray on the table and laid my hand on the blue-eyed gentleman's cold hand. He looked up at me, with tears in his eyes, and said, "Thank you." I leaned over, began to pat his hand, and said, "I did not do this for you. God is here working through me to give you hope." I started to cry as I walked away to join my husband and son. When I sat down my husband smiled at me and said, "That is why God gave you to me, Honey, to give me hope." We held hands for a moment and at that time, we knew that only because of the Grace that we had been given were we able to give. That day showed me the pure Light of God's sweet love. I returned to college, on the last evening of class, with this story in hand. I turned in "my project" and the instructor read it. Then she looked up at me and said, "Can I share this?" I slowly nodded as she got the attention of the class. She began to read and that is when I knew that we as human beings and being part of God share this need to heal people and to be healed. In my own way, I had touched the people at McDonald's, my husband, son, instructor, and every soul that shared the classroom on the last night I spent as a college student. I graduated with one of the biggest lessons I would ever learn: UNCONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE

Much love and compassion are sent to each and every person who may read this and learn how to LOVE PEOPLE AND USE THINGS - NOT LOVE THINGS AND USE PEOPLE.

To handle yourself, use your head.

To handle others, use your heart. God gives every bird its food, but He does not throw it into its nest.





The Final Word

**Loyalty: Ruth 1:14-16** – *“I will go wherever you go and live wherever you live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God...”*

Ruth’s loyalty to her mother-in-law went beyond the cultural expectations. The two women had become friends. True friendship requires loyalty during all kinds of times.

What kind of friend are you? There is a vast difference between knowing someone well and being a true friend. The greatest evidence of genuine friendship is loyalty, being available to help in times of distress or personal struggle. Too many people (and relatives!) are fair-weather friends. They stick around when the friendship helps them and leave when they’re not getting anything out of it. Think of your friends and assess your loyalty to them. Be the kind of true friend that Ruth was to Naomi. 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

Address Label Here

