

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: 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



Hey folks! I pray this short letter finds you well. November will bring an important change – after many wonderful months of our Wednesday Evening Bible Study, we're going to take a break from it in order to focus on a program called Sacred Ground.

Sacred Ground is basically an antiracist program put together by the Episcopal Church. It is also so much more than that. It's an opportunity to open our eyes to so many things that we were never taught in school. It's an opportunity to open our eyes to learn about the experiences of people of color.

As the website <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/> puts it: "*Sacred Ground* is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 11-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories."

Now, there's so much more to say about this amazing program, but not much space here to say it. So, please go to the website and learn more about the program. Then, if you want to participate, contact me at dhanselm@gmail.com and I'll make sure you have the passwords to access the online material.

The plan is to meet over Zoom every other week so it will be a commitment of about 22 weeks. If you miss a week or two, that's not a problem. If we begin Nov 16, then we'll avoid being too close to the holidays. 22 weeks means that our last meeting will be April 5th. God's grace and blessings be with every one of you!

NOVEMBER 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, Yes, the “zoom” service is different, but change is what life is all about.

Service Schedule					
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	Acolytes	
Nov 6	HC	Tom Vail	Tom Vail	Betty Vail	
Nov 13	MP	Judy Rettberg	Judy Rettberg	Betty Vail	
Nov 20	HC	Denise Wieber	Denise Wieber	Tracey Tallmadge/Betty Vail	
Nov 27	MP	Tracey Tallmadge	Tracey Tallmadge	Betty Vail	
Dec 4	HC	Judy Rettberg	Judy Rettberg	Betty Vail	
READINGS BELOW					
		Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
Nov 6	HC	Haggai 1:15b-2:9	Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17	Luke 20:27-38
Nov 13	MP	Isaiah 65:17-25	Canticle 9	Isaiah 65:17-25 Canticle 9 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Luke 21:5-19
Nov 20	HC	Jeremiah 23:1-6	Canticle 16	Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:33-43
Nov 27	MP	Isaiah 2:1-5	Psalm 122	Romans 13:11-14	Matthew 24:36-44
Dec 4	HC	Isaiah 11:1-10	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12
If you are looking at the above on a computer device, then each reading is a link directly to the reading.					

MORNING PRAYER LEADERS:

November 13: Betty Vail/Artie Sabanos

November 27: Judy Rettberg/Carol Cimini



Altar Duty for the month of November is Carol Cimini, 607-693-2907 and Betty Vail, 607-639-1201. If you desire flowers on the Altar on a given Sunday, please contact Betty a week in advance.

St. Ann's Prayer List for **NOVEMBER 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. *"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, 607-639-1201. Please note long term names will be left on the list indefinitely, short term names for two/three months unless updated.

Short Term		Long Term			
Marge	Diane	Carol	Peter	Fr. David Hanselman	St. Paul's Church
Anne	Dorothy	Bobbi	Joyce	Fr. Steven White	St. Andrews's Church
Dorothy	Fran	Mya	Marsha	Pastor Becky	St. Matthews's Church
		Jason	Holly	Fr. Geoff Doolittle	St. Peter's Church
		Cindy	Richard	The Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe	Zion Church
		David	Bonnie	Bishop Michael Curry	Message Ministries
		Terra	Hailey	The Revs Ralph & Liz Groskoph	The General Theological Seminary
		Doc	Arthur	Emanuel Church	The Episcopal Divinity School
		Peter		Epiphany Church	

Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins –
Pete and Carol Vail, Joyce Whitney, Grace Affuso,
and 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.*

Anniversaries

11/15 Ron & Cindy Sherman
11/24 Al & Pat Tucker



Birthdays

11/ 6 Robin Felldin
11/15 Sophia Hanselman

Please let me know if I am missing a Birthday or Anniversary
cttallmadg@aol.com or 607-343-1301



CHURCH TERMS

CHURCH TERMS: THANKSGIVING – (1) The offering of praise to God for His goodness and mercy. (2) A National Day of Thanksgiving. In the United States, the fourth Thursday in November; in Canada, the second Monday in October. Liturgical color: **RED**



The flowers on the Altar October 9 were given in loving memory of Donald Weller from his wife Toni and son Dana. Don was a church Warden and Lay Reader for many years. He was a blessing to St. Ann's as he stopped in every day to make sure everything was operating properly. He loved helping others. If he could not, he knew God could and would. Don was a deeply spiritual man and 25 years later, we who knew him, still think of him, and miss him. Thank you, Don, for being a good friend and for continuing to watch over St. Ann's.



The Thanksgiving Ecumenical Church Service will be held at the United Methodist Church on Spring Street, Afton, NY

7:00p.m. on Tuesday, November 22nd.

We all need to be thankful, and we can do this by gathering in prayer.



The Community Thanksgiving dinner will be held at the United Methodist Church on Thursday, November 24th from 12 to 2p.m. (eat in) Takeout is 1:30-2:00p.m.

For takeout reservations, call Eileen Tallmadge at 607-639-2476.

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to all the ladies and one gentleman who assisted with the brass cleaning on October 16th. It went quickly, the cleanup was quick, and we all needed our sunglasses after the cleaning was done. A ministry completed with joy!

BLESSINGS from ABOVE

The Lord is my strength and my song: He has become my salvation.

Exodus 15:2 HCSB

Sometimes life here on earth can be complicated, demanding, and busy. When the demands of life leave us rushing from place to place with scarcely a moment to spare, we may fail to pause and say a word of thanks for all the good things we've received. But when we fail to count our blessings, we rob ourselves of the happiness, the peace, and the gratitude that should rightfully be ours.

Today, even if you're busily engaged in life, slow down long enough to start counting your blessings. You won't be able to count them all but take a few moments to jot down as many as you can. Then give thanks to the Giver of all good things: God. His love for you is eternal, and His gifts are plentiful. It's never too soon—or to late—to offer Him thanks.

So much has been given me, I have no time to ponder over that which has been denied. – Helen Keller--



Vestry Hi-lights for October

- 1. Outreach:** Discussed our outreach program and it was decided to increase the monthly contribution that we make to non-profits starting with January 2023.
- 2. Christmas gifts for Fr. David, groundskeeper and sexton** were discussed and approved.
- 3. Vestrypersons** asked to be alert to individuals who need assistance this coming Christmas season.

Food for thought in these confusing timesA Religious writer and what she has to say about the Church

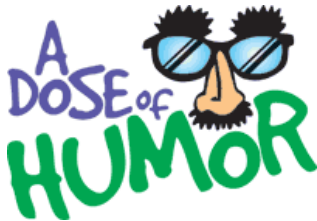
Phyllis Tickle, in her book, *The Great Emergence*, uses the image of a rummage sale to describe the church's current situation. Every 500 years, she says, the church must have a rummage sale. The changes in the world have been so significant that the traditions that long held the church together and enables people to keep the faith are no longer meaningful. The church needs to sort through all that it has accumulated in the way of structure, practice, theology, and language to decide what to keep and what to get rid of two ministers faithfully and effectively, in order to be the church for the new time in which it finds itself. Tickle believes that we live in such a time. That is why ministerial leadership today is so difficult, why answers are hard to come by why hard work is not producing the results we are accustomed to, why tension and blame abound.

If we work our way backward in the history of the faith, we discover that this need for a rummage sale happens just about every 500 years. Five hundred years ago the rummage sale occurred during the Reformation. Five hundred years before that it was during the split between Eastern and Western Christianity. Five hundred years before that it was during the development of the monastery to contend with the collapse of the Roman Empire with which the church had so clearly identified itself. Five hundred years before that it was during the emergence of Christianity and the synagogue within Judaism when the temple was destroyed. Five hundred years before that it was during the Exile and the Return. And five hundred years before that it was during the kingship in Israel.

In each of these times common understandings and ways of looking at the world had become out of sync with reality, common ground had disappeared. So, it was a time of upheaval and change, of the disintegration of old patterns, ways of being and institutions.

In her more recent book, *Emergence Christianity*, Tickle describes our current situation this way: "Intellectually, politically, economically, culturally, sociologically, psychologically---every part of us and how we are and how we live has, to some greater or lesser degree, been reconfiguring over the last century and a half, and those changes are now becoming a genuine maelstrom around us." The sorting, deciding, saving, and unloading the rummage sale involves a lot to deal with. No wonder we feel overwhelmed at times. The good news in all of this, according to Tickle, is that each time we undergo one of these traumatic times of change three things happen: "1) A new, more vital form of Christianity emerges, 2) the traditional organized expression of Christianity that had been dominant is reconstituted into a more pure, less ossified (having become fixed in attitude or position) expression of its former self and 3) the faith is spread into new geographic and demographic areas."

From: Finding Hope, by Jeffrey D. Jones



A country preacher in Georgia came to the pulpit Sunday morning and declared, "My job it to preach and your job is to listen. If you get finished before I do, please raise your hand. When he died recently, a Cleveland man, who was a longtime fan of the, at that time, struggling Cleveland Browns football team, requested in his will that six Cleveland Browns players be his pallbearers, because he "wanted the Cleveland

Browns to let him down one last time."



Giving: Numbers 18:25-26 – “The Lord also told Moses, say this to the Levites: When you receive the tithes from the Israelites, give a tenth of the tithes you receive—a tithe of the tithe—to the Lord as a gift.”

Giving to God never ends. As Levites received money to support themselves for God’s work, so they also were to give money to God. “Tithe of the tithe” is a powerful concept. We give as we have received; we share as others have shared with us. Think of the strength that lies in such a chain of continuous giving. In practicing this principle, everyone is included in giving as well as in receiving.

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St. Ann’s Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 22
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AND ACTION

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

