

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



YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!!

DID I GET YOUR ATTENTION? I HOPE SO. BUT I ALSO HOPE THAT WHEN I SAY "CHURCH" YOU UNDERSTAND THAT AS MORE THAN JUST OUR INDIVIDUAL PARISHES. INDEED, BY SUPPORTING OUR INDIVIDUAL PARISHES, WE'RE ALSO SUPPORTING THE LARGER CHURCH, BUT THESE LAST COUPLE WEEKS I'VE BEEN SHOCKED TO FIND OUT THERE'S NO WHERE NEAR ENOUGH CLERGY TO SERVE THE CHURCH.

NOW, FOR AT LEAST A DECADE OR MORE CHURCH LEADERS HAVE BEEN WARNING ABOUT SHORTAGE OF PRIESTS. IN FACT, AROUND 2007 I FIRST BEGAN DISCERNING WHETHER TO BECOME A PRIEST AFTER MY HOME PRIEST PREACHED MORE THAN A FEW SERMONS ABOUT THE COMING SHORTAGE. IT TOOK A FEW MONTHS OF HIS SERMONS BEFORE THE IDEA TOOK ROOT IN MY HEART THAT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO SERVE THE CHURCH AS A PRIEST. TO BE SPECIFIC, THOUGH, I FOUND IT HEARTBREAKING TO IMAGINE PARISHES NOT BEING ABLE TO CELEBRATE COMMUNION.

UNTIL THAT POINT, I HAD ONLY EVER DONE READINGS AND LED A FEW MORNING PRAYER SERVICES. ON MY OWN I HAD LEARNED SOME THEOLOGY, BUT I HAD NO IDEA WHAT IT REALLY MEANT TO BE A PRIEST OR IF THE CHURCH WOULD EVEN ACCEPT ME. ALL I KNEW WAS THAT IT BROKE MY HEART TO THINK OF CONGREGATIONS THAT WEREN'T ABLE TO CELEBRATE COMMUNION.

SO, I OFFERED TO START THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS TO SEE WHERE THE CHURCH THOUGHT GOD MIGHT BE CALLING ME. THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS ITSELF WAS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE – BEING ABLE TO TALK WITH OTHER FAITHFUL PEOPLE AND REFLECT ON HOW GOD HAS WORKED IN MY LIFE.

ONE BIG CONCERN FOLKS HAVE IS WITH THE EDUCATION REQUIREMENT. WHILE IT IS SOMETHING THAT HAS TO BE DONE (AND IT'S SIMPLY AMAZING TO LEARN ABOUT THE FAITH!), IT'S ALSO SOMETHING THAT'S BECOME REALLY FLEXIBLE THE LAST FEW YEARS. SO, PLEASE CONSIDER DISCERNING WHETHER GOD MIGHT BE CALLING YOU TO SERVE THE CHURCH IN OTHER WAYS. AND GOD BLESS EVERY ONE OF YOU AND THE WORK YOU DO FOR OUR PARISHES!

FR. DAVID

OCTOBER 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	
Oct 2	HC	Judy Rettberg	Judy Rettberg	Denise Weiber	
Oct 9	MP	Carol Tarvin	Carol Tarvin	Betty Vail	
Oct 16	HC	Pat Tucker	Pat Tucker	Betty Vail	
Oct 23	MP	Betty Vail	Betty Vail	Betty Vail	
Oct 30	HC	Carol Cimini	Carol Cimini	Betty Vail	
Nov 6	HC	Tom Vail	Tom Vail	Betty Vail	
READINGS BELOW					
		Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
Oct 2	HC	Lamentations 1:1-6	Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14:25-33
Oct 9	MP	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7	Psalm 66:1-11	2 Timothy 2:8-15	Luke 17:11-19
Oct 16	HC	Jeremiah 31:27-34	Psalm 119:97-104	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5	Luke 18:1-8
Oct 23	MP	Joel 2:23-32	Psalm 65	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18	Luke 18:9-14
Oct 30	HC	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4	Psalm 119:137-144	2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12	Luke 19:1-10
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
If you are looking at the above on a computer device, then each reading is a link directly to the reading.					

MORNING PRAYER LEADERS:

October 9 – D. Wieber/B. Vail

October 23 – J. Rettberg/C. Cimini

October 30 – B. Vail/A. Sabanos



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

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

St. Ann's Prayer List for **OCTOBER 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			
Raevin	Dakota	Carol	Peter	Fr. David Hanselman	St. Paul's Church
Thurston	Joan	Bobbi	Joyce	Fr. Steven White	St. Andrews's Church
Dorothy	Fran	Mya	Marsha	Pastor Becky	St. Matthews's Church
Marge	Diane	Jason	Holly	Fr. Geoff Doolittle	St. Peter's Church
Anne	Dorothy	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.*

Birthdays

10/8 Grace Affuso

10/12 Rylee Noone

10/19 Ella Parsons

10/22 Carol Cimini

10/31 Andrea DeBetta



October

Anniversaries

10/6 Calvin & Tracey

Tallmadge

Please let me know if I am missing a Birthday or Anniversary

cttallmadg@aol.com or 607-343-1301



CHURCH TERMS

CHURCH TERMS: DEACON – Greek, “servant.” The deacon’s influence has declined through the years and his main duty now is to assist with the temporal affairs of the congregation. In the Episcopal church, the deacon is an ordained clergyman.

DEACONESS – A woman consecrated to the work of the Lord. She may serve in a parish, in social work, nursing, or education.

Please mark your calendars for **CLEANING OF THE BRASS** at St. Ann's on **October 16th.**

We need about 4-5 people to help with this ministry, and it usually takes about an hour or less. Many hands make for light work and the BRASS Sparkle!!!!

Thank you to everyone who have assisted in the past.



Vestry Hi-lites for September

1. Outreach donations were approved for Chenango Co. Hospice for September and Mom's House for October. Outreach for June, July and August were Every Dog's Dream, Danielle House, and Crime Victims of Binghamton respectfully.
2. A new dehumidifier has been purchased for the sacristy.
3. St. Ann's has helped the Afton Glenwood Cemetery Association with their solicitation mailing. Many thanks to Carol Tarvin and Betty Vail for their help with this project.
4. Changes on approved deposit account signatories and Safe Deposit box access were approved.
5. November 6th. was approved as Stewardship Sunday.
6. The addition of a special heating system antifreeze in the Church system was approved. Ron Sherman & Mado Cimini have offered to install it. Woodie Robins to check on pricing through his employer.
7. Discussed possible zoom services for January and February to save on fuel oil.
8. An additional outreach project to assist an individual with health issues with yard work was approved.

Be Still
Mark Pelesh

Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; Do not fret yourself; it only leads to evil. Psalm 37:9

I'm hardly the first to notice how much anger and rage there is in our public life and how, sadly, it even creeps into our personal dealings. Imagine if the counsel of Psalm 37:9 was followed. It would undermine most campaigns for public office and destroy the business model of the cable news channels! Lest we dismiss this passage on the grounds that the more pastoral society of the Bible doesn't speak to the circumstances of our time, remember that this is from what was traditionally known as the *Psalter of David*. And David had ample reasons for fear, anger, and rage. Among other things, he had to flee into exile when King Saul turned on him, and his own son, Absalom, rose up in rebellion against him. Indeed, psalm after psalm excoriates his "evildoer" enemies and cries out to the Lord for protection. Despite all this, the psalmist realizes that worry, anger, and rage lead only to evil. What works instead? Verse 7 of Psalm 37 has the answer: "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him." But wait a minute -- be still? We're Americans. We don't sit back. We must act! If there is a sin that our society recognizes, it is inaction. Yet, a man of action like King David understood that ultimate safety lay with God, and it was crucial to salvation to be still and be patient. As we rush about, consumed with anxiety, reveling in how swamped we are, and full of self-righteous anger toward others, we need to stop, "leave rage alone," and as verse 3 of Psalm 37 advises, "put your trust in the Lord."

O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength. By the light of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Who Am I?

The Revd. Canon George Stamm

Most of my adult life has been involved with recovering alcoholics/addicts at several treatment facilities. As I got to know the people behind the addiction, I usually found scared, lonely, sad people who had come to the conclusion that they were worthless. To these people, I would tell them who they are: beautiful children of God.

They couldn't see it; probably thought I was some kind of religious nut. But, if they were willing to grapple with my description of them, they would begin to see a glimmer of hope. Then I could tell them they were just like me, and I was just like them and, if we could set aside our preconceived notions and start acting as if we were beautiful children of God, we would be amazed to discover that it is true.

Creation

The Very Revd. Dr. Douglas F. Scharf

Have you ever thought about how the act of creation was an act of grace? We did nothing to deserve or earn life, we did not assist God with the creation of the world, it is pure gift! The act of creation is an expression of God's extravagant love. Whether we are catching a glimpse of the rising sun or standing in awe of snowcapped mountains, we are witnessing grace, we are experiencing the underserved and unearned favor and blessing of God. Every step we make and every breath we take remind us -- our very existence is proof of God's grace.

The Church may seem totally obvious as a place where we encounter grace, but I believe there are times -- even in church -- when we are spiritually unreceptive. It is easy for us to grow so accustomed to the patterns of ministry and congregational life that we lose sight of the deeper spiritual rhythms that undergird what we do. Sharing bread and wine, proclaiming our faith, baptizing in Jesus' Name, reaching out with God's love to those in need -- these are sacramental actions that are ultimately expressions of grace, visible signs of God's boundless mercy. The Church is not simply another civic society or social organization; it is an icon of grace, and a visible sign that God is present and active in the world to establish justice and renew all things. It is unfortunate that it seems to proceed so slowly.

Everyone is invited to participate in bringing our newsletter to life. If you have an opinion, article, idea, event, organization, or any other relevant topic of interest, please let us know. This is everyone's newsletter; we welcome your participation. E-Mail [Tracey Tallmadge](#) or [Dan Vail](#) if you have some input, you would like printed.

Keeping Up Appearances

Man does not see what the Lord sees, for man sees what is visible, but the Lord sees the heart.

1 Samuel 16:7 HCSB

The world sees us as we appear to be God sees us as we really are. He sees our hearts, and He understands our intentions. The opinions of others should be relatively unimportant to us; however, God's view of us—His understanding of our actions, our thoughts, and our motivations—should be vitally important.

The nineteenth-century reformer Margaret Fuller warned, "Beware of over-great pleasure in being popular or even beloved." And her words still ring true.

Few things in life are more futile than keeping up appearances for the sake of impressing the neighbors. So do yourself a favor; don't even try to keep up with the Joneses. You've got better things to do—far better things—like pleasing your loved ones here on earth and your Father in heaven.

Outside appearances, things like the clothes you wear or the car you drive, are important to other people but totally unimportant to God. When in doubt, trust God. –Margaret T. Freeman-

The United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church

Please read the enclosed "facts about UTO" sheet, which describes the work of the UTO. The fall "ingathering" for the UTO, this year, will be November 6th. Please think about how we have all been blessed and consider supporting this worthy cause. Contributions may be mailed directly to St. Ann's or put in the enclosed envelope and placed in the offering on a Sunday service.



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The Final Word

Character: Proverbs 20:11 – *“Even children are known by the way they act, whether their conduct is pure and right.”*

Our conduct is a revelation of our character. When we do evil, it is a dead giveaway that we are nurturing evil within us. While conduct is not the same as character, it grows out of who we really are and is one of the best indicators of what kind of character we have. Luke 6:44 tells us that we know a tree by its fruit. The “fruit: of our character is our conduct.

NLT - GEZ

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
Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

