

The Parish News

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY

<http://www.stannsaftonny.org>

Member of the Chenango District



June 2015

Clergy The Reverend

Fr. David A. Hanselman

761-4601 cell

656-9502 office

Wardens:

-Betty Vail

639-1201

-Tracey Tallmadge

343-1301

In an emergency and Fr. David can't be reached, please contact one of the wardens.

From Fr. Dave

Greetings!

File this under "Old dogs learning new tricks".

At the risk of jinxing things, and hoping I don't sound too proud of myself (because I know for sure, I've got no reason to be too proud), I have to tell you all about a small victory of mine - it seems I am able to develop some spiritual discipline. Yes! Really! Me!

The fact of the matter is, spiritual discipline has never been my strong suit. Some physical discipline, yes. Some intellectual discipline, yes, too.

I won't claim any professional discipline because I know my poor newsletter editors know all too well how frequently I turn these letters in late! But, I promise, I am working on that discipline, too.

But, back to today's point - for the past couple months, I've been able to keep daily morning and afternoon readings of psalms. I've been able to follow our Prayer Book's guide to reading through the entire psalter in a month. And, I have to say, it's been a beautiful thing. I highly recommend it. But, this discipline has also helped me pursue another spiritual discipline - the daily study of Joan Chittister's "The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21st Century".

By this point, you might be wondering, "Fr Dave, why in the devil are you telling us all this?" Just this - I understand discipline is difficult. Developing self-discipline can be quite elusive at times and for some things (I really am trying to get the newsletter submission out on time!). But, self-discipline in all different areas is really and truly worth the effort.

Not immediately, though. And there's the rub. Self-discipline is not an immediate thing. But it is a good thing. It challenges. It develops. It reaffirms and strengthens. To borrow an image from Advent - self-discipline raises up the valleys and lowers the hills as we prepare the way of the Lord.

Let us continue to work hard at preparing the way of the Lord and preparing ourselves as the people of God. Blessings to you all!

If you desire Father David to visit you or give you a call, please contact him at: (607) 761-4601 or (607) 656-9502.



June 21 @ 10:00 am

Annual 3 Parish

Picnic at Kellystone

Bring a dish to pass and your table setting.

Service Schedule

	<u>Date</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>CS</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
MP	June 7	J.Proffitt	B.Wright	BV	---	J.Proffitt
MP	June 14	R.Felldin	D.Becker	RF	-----	B.Vail
HC	June 21	P.Tucker	C.Tarvin	(Picnic at Kellystone Park 10am)		
MP	June 28	A.Vail	M.Becker	DV	-----	D.Vail
HC	July 5	T.Vail	C.Tarvin	TV	-----	B.Vail

Morning Prayer:

June 7 Tracey/Judy
 June 14 Robin/Tracey
 June 28 Betty/Allyson

Church School:

June 7 - Kerri Vail
 June 14 – Tom Vail

Food Pantry:

Mon. June 8, 5 - 7p.m. - Pat & Al Tucker
 Wed. June 10, 9 - 11a.m.– J.Rettberg & H.Cottell

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!

Lectionary (Year B)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Jun 7 2 Pent	138	1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	Mark 3:20-35
Jun 14 3 Pent	92:1-4,11-14	Ezekiel 17:22-24	2 Corinthians 5:6-10, [11-13],14-17	Mark 4:26-34
Jun 21 4 Pent	107:1-3, 23-32	Job 38:1-11	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Mark 4:35-41
Jun 28 5 Pent	130	2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27	2 Corinthians 8:7-15	Mark 5:21-43
July 5 8 Pent	48	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10	2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Mark 6:1-13

Altar Guild

Altar Guild Duty – Altar Guild for the month of June is Pat Tucker 639-1984. If you wish to purchase or provide flowers for the Altar on a particular Sunday, call Betty Vail at 639-1201. If you are giving flowers in memory of a loved one, please notify Pete Vail (607)639-1444 no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that he can include a notice in the bulletin.

In Need of Prayer

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.

Carol Peter Michele Joyce Pat Mya Holly Cindy Lou Toni Lois Sally Clifford
 Deb Mary Bonnie C. Kathy Richard Don Norma Danny Mike Michael Elaine Andrea
 Adrianna All graduates Fr. Chuck Taylor Fr. David Hanselman Fr. Bruce MacDuffie Bishop "Skip"
 Adams Pope Francis Zion Church St. Paul's Church The General Theological Seminary of the Episco-
 pal Church The vestry of St. Ann's

The following prayer is suggested by Bishop Skip. It 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

1. Agreed to send a donation to Episcopal Relief and Development for Nepal earthquake victims.
2. Diocese convention will be November 13 & 14. Delegates are Marissa Harding and Dan Vail with Denise Becker and Tom Vail as alternates.
3. Fr. David has been looking into a support group for people who are experiencing a crisis in their lives, for whatever reason. Vestry to look into further.
4. Wardens of the three churches, Zion, St. Paul's and St. Ann's to meet with Fr. David on a ministry review.
5. St. Ann's scholarship to a graduating Afton High School senior was increased to \$200 and will be given to a student in the special ed program.
6. Letter of resignation from vestry was received from Sandy Proffitt, due to moving from area, and was accepted with regret and thanks to Sandy for all her contributions to St. Ann's. Marion Diehl was appointed to fill the unexpired portion of Sandy's term.
7. Church picnic will be held June 21st. at Kellystone Park. Covered dish.
8. St. Ann's Clothes closet will be open June 6th. from 9 to 12. Many thanks to all who have helped with this outreach program.
9. Several individuals will be meeting with Garry Root to investigate the use of additional "multi-media" resources in our worship services.
10. Discussion on the publishing of the newsletter when Jody Proffitt leaves the area. Many thanks were extended to Jody for all that he has done for St. Ann's.
11. Financial report indicated that our cash flow is positive. It was noted that everyone needs to remember that the expenses of the Parish continue during the summer and we need to continue to keep up with our financial pledges, whether or not we are in church.

Just a couple of additions:

The annual church picnic will be held at Kellystone Park on June 21st beginning at 10a.m. Father David will conduct Holy Eucharist. People are asked to bring a dish to pass and their own place settings.

There has been a good response to UTO and it is not too late to support this important outreach by the church. Envelopes are in the Parish Hall or put UTO on the memo part of your check. Thank you to everyone who has supported the UTO project.

Thank you to the people who taught church school this past year. Everyone did a wonderful job and even though our numbers are small, your contribution to their Christian lives is invaluable. Our last day for the summer is June 14.

Kudos



THANKS! - To the men for catering the Mother's Day breakfast.

THANKS! - Many thanks to those who read, EM, and Acolyte. Your service is Appreciated.

THANKS! - To all who lead us in Morning Prayer

THANKS! - To Pete and Tom Vail for setting up the Synthia Hymn Player for our music each week.



Note: *If you know of one or more people who we should thank in this column, please pass that information on to Pete Vail or Jody Proffitt. We don't want to miss anyone!*



Editor of the Episcopal Café retires

After 7 ½ years as editor of the Episcopal Café, Jim Naughton has turned the leadership of the site over to a new editor. As he was leaving the role of editor, he wrote the following parting thoughts:

That the people of the church must seek out their neighbors in ways that may be uncomfortable to them, and that they must find ways to draw these neighbors into conversation, preferably by listening before we speak. We cannot be Christ to people whom we do not know, or with whom we have only superficial relationships.

That the church lacks the human and financial resources to do much of the work it wants to do. We lack capacity at every level from parishes through dioceses up to the church center staff. We need to acknowledge this reality, acknowledge that it is no one's fault, and set to work doing something about it. Combining dioceses and merging parishes would cut overhead. Making lay training at the grassroots level the top priority of diocesan staff members would increase our skill levels. We are able to ignore this widespread reality in part because some of our parishes and dioceses are immune from it. We can't succeed as the Consortium of Affluent Episcopal Parishes-but that is the direction in which we are heading.

That diocesan bishops in their local role are, at the moment, the people most strategically placed in the church. Bishops and the rectors of large parishes are among the few people in our system who have the resources to make significant changes in the way that the church does business. But the rectors of large parishes often preside over communities that are flourishing and have little impetus to change. Not so for bishops. They know that in most dioceses a handful of parishes are thriving, another handful or two are holding their own, and the remainder are struggling. Bishops have both the resources, relatively speaking, and the sense of urgency to make changes. (Now, if we would only reward more candidates with the courage to articulate a strategic vision when they stand for election as bishops)

That the leaders of the church must trust the people of the church to do the work of the church.

That lay people must a) get past the notion that the church exists primarily as an oasis in their hectic lives; b) understand that excellence in a particular ministry (liturgy, music, buildings and grounds, even outreach) is as likely to be a product of a congregation's budget as of its fidelity; c) stop treating clergy with either absolute deference or profound suspicion; d) similarly, accept that a gifted bishop or rector is not personally the answer to all that ails your church, and that much of this burden is ours to bear.

That sorting wheat from chaff on the issue of young people and their relationship to the church is among the toughest jobs in Christendom.

That tens of thousands of great, many gifted, loving, God-hungry people have dedicated their lives, or slivers of their lives, to this church because they believe that it is the truest expression of the faith to which God calls us.



Do you go to church?

A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

The Pastor said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

My friend replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor."

Pastor questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."

<http://www.ahajokes.com>

The marry month of June

June is known as the month to marry. In honor of that tradition, we are printing some humor having to do with marriage and other topics:

“To keep a fire burning brightly, keep two logs together, near enough to keep each other warm, and far enough apart for breathing room. The same rule holds for a good marriage.”

“Some people use the church for just three occasions—baptism, marriage and burial. That means that two out of three times they have to be carried in.”

“Life was much simpler when what we honored was father and mother rather than all major credit cards!”

“Enjoy life, it has an expiration date.”

“Everything is changing. People are taking their comedians seriously and the politicians as a joke.”
Will Rogers

“Kindness and a generous spirit go a long way. And a sense of humor. It’s like medicine—very healing.”

Father’s Day—June 21st

May we remember in our prayers and meditations to be thankful and grateful for the father figures in our lives.

Father's Day gives us a special opportunity to make this a time to do something to show appreciation for the past and present men in our lives.

Here is a special prayer to include in your meditations -

Fathers everywhere -
We honor you and wish to say
*May God’s blessings be with you
In a special way today!*

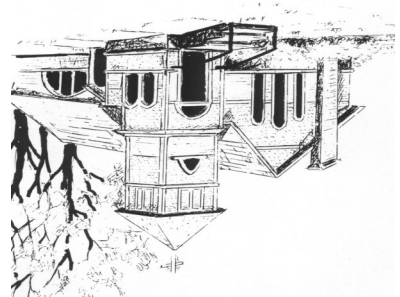
From a father’s strength
We learn so we may teach
Our children to be kind and caring
With everyone they meet.

When times are rough
Your guiding hand points the way to go
May we follow in your footsteps
Right from wrong our actions show.

Now, on this Father’s Day
Our tributes go to you
***Fathers, grandpas, uncles, brothers
All our dear friends, too.***

Susan Kramer

ST. ANN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Address label here

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Tracey Tallmadge

Wardens: Betty Vail

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR
COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY
AND ACTION

Afton, New York 13730

P. O. Box 22

St. Ann's Episcopal Church

The Final Word



For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ... When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Romans 8:14—17

In the above excerpt from the Epistle lesson for Trinity Sunday, Paul claims that having the Spirit of the risen Christ is the key to Christian discipleship. The Spirit enables us to live as the people of God rather than as slaves to the value system of the world around us.

Speaking of living as the people of God, I was blessed last Saturday, May 30th, to be able, with my wife and son, to attend a gathering of people from around our diocese who have experienced a Cursillo weekend. One of the objectives of the

Cursillo weekend is to give participants a glimpse of what life could be like if everyone lived as people of God. The purpose of the Cursillo movement is to bring Christians to a deeper relationship with God and to help them understand their individual callings to be Christian leaders and to encourage them to spread the "Good News!" It proposes one possible method of living a Christian life and after the weekend it provides a support system to help Christians as they continue their spiritual journey.

If my description leads you to conclude that a Cursillo weekend is just another stuffy, boring church gathering, let me assure you that it is not. In addition to worship and talks, there are jokes, singing, lots of good food and even some time for contemplation. If you think you might be interested in attending a Cursillo weekend in the future, please speak to me.

Pete Vail