

# The Parish News

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, ND

Member of the Chenango District

April 2013

Clergy: The Reverend David A. Hanselman

761-4601 (e)

656-9502 (o)

Wardens:

-Tracey Tallmadge  
343-1301

-Judy Rettberg  
208-4084

In an emergency, please  
contact one of the wardens



## Make a Note

-April 21st—Vestry  
meets following fellowship  
time after worship.

-May 1st—Art Walk in  
Greene includes tours of  
Zion Episcopal Church  
including the stained  
glass windows and tours  
of the Sherwood Hotel.  
Space is available in  
Zion's Parish Hall if  
interested in showing. For  
more info contact Ruthie  
Koertz

RuthieK10@aol.com  
-May 3: Ecumenical May  
Breakfast. Info coming.  
-May 12: St. Ann's  
Mothers' Day brunch.

From Fr. Dave

I pray the Lord finds you well.

As I'm writing this (in late March), I can't help but look out the window and wonder if Spring will ever arrive. The calendar says it did, but the snow flurries beg otherwise.

At this point, it's hard to imagine the earth will put forth its blossoms again. But, it has to. Spring is unavoidable. Whatever sort of Spring it might be, it is certain to come sooner or later.

Until that happens, we're still in the grip of winter. I have to beg your pardon, but it seems an occupational hazard of mine is that I often cannot help but draw parallels between the things that are going on in the life all around me and the faith that we all share. That is, the faith that we all practice together, from time to time helps me understand my experience of life.

And so it is, that I cannot help but compare winter with "the world". Mostly because there's been more than a few moments recently in which winter really has started to wear me out. And there's been plenty of times in which the world has worn me out, too.

Sometimes the coldness of wind and human apathy blows so hard it chills you to the bone. When that happens, it seems to me that the best thing to do is to get moving and find some shelter.

During our worship services this April, we will be reading about that glorious "in-between" time when the Risen Christ walked and talked and ate with his friends. So many of the stories begin with the group being frightened or confused, and then Jesus appears among them and they know they have shelter.

And then an amazing thing happened as they gained more and more experience of the Risen Christ, as they came to know more and more that Jesus was indeed always with them - their fear and confusion was replaced by confidence and direction. It may not come as quickly as we'd like, but we can be certain that God will eventually replace our fear and confusion with confidence and direction. As surely as Spring will come and become Summer, Jesus will be with us - today and always. Amen.

Fr. Dave +

## Service Schedule

<u>Svc.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>OT Reader</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>CS</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
HC	Apr. 7	J.Proffitt	C.Johnson	C.J.	J.Rettberg	J. Proffitt/S. Proffitt
MP	Apr 14	J.Rettberg	T.Tallmadge	PV	----	B.Vail
HC	Apr 21	R.Felldin	T.Vail	---	J.Rettberg	B.Vail/J. Proffitt
MP	Apr 28	C.Johnson	J.Rettberg	JP	----	J. Proffitt
HC	May 5	D.Becker	C.Johnson	TV	D.Becker	J. Proffitt/ B.Vail

MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO READ, EM and ACOLYTE. YOUR SERVICE TO ST. ANN'S IS APPRECIATED.

### Morning Prayer Leaders

April 14 – D. Becker & M. Harding  
April 28 – B. Vail & D. Vail

### Church School Leaders

April 7 - Melrose Kelly  
April 14 – Tracey Tallmadge  
April 21 - Kerri Vail  
April 28 - Tom Vail  
May 5 - Betty Vail

**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 C)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Apr. 7 Easter 2	118:14-29	Acts 5:27-32	Revelation 1:4-8	John 20:19—31
Apr. 14 Easter 3	30	Acts 9:1—6, (7—20)	Revelation 5:11—14	John 21:1—19
Apr. 21 Easter 4	23	Acts 9:36—43	Revelation 7:9—17	John 10:22—30
Apr. 28 Easter 5	148	Acts 11:1—18	Revelation 21:1—6	John 13:31—35
May 5 Easter 6	67	Acts 16:9—15	Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5	John 14:23—29

## Altar Guild

**Altar Guild Duty**—Grace Affuso (639-2961.) If you wish to purchase or provide flowers for the altar on a particular Sunday, call Grace. If you are giving flowers in memory of a loved one, sign up on the bulletin board in the parish hall and please notify Pete Vail (639-1444) by no later than the Wednesday before the designated Sunday so that he can include a notice in the Sunday bulletin.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sandy and Jody Proffitt as they celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary (3/5) by renewing their marriage vows on March 3rd.

We CONGRATULATE Breanna Felldin on being named to the 2012 Fall Dean's List at LeMoyne College in Syracuse. Proud parents are Robin and Larry Felldin.

### **Vestry Highlights 03/17/2013**

1. Outreach: Decided to donate \$400 to Epiphany in Sherburne toward repair of steeple and work to resolve pigeon problem.
2. April outreach will go to Afton Food Pantry.
3. A mutual ministry review between clergy and wardens is scheduled for 4/27/13. Mission statements will be discussed.
4. Authorized sending a \$25 check and a thank-you note to Art Jones for keeping our sidewalk plowed.
5. All Vestry picnic is planned on May 18th and Dave Emerson's home in Oxford. Bring a dish to pass.
6. Authorized purchase of a shopping cart to replace the broken one used by Georgia Mann. This will be an outreach item.
7. Treasurer reported that income is keeping up with expenditures.

### **Ways of Dealing with the Burdens of Life**

1. Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue.
2. Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
3. Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
4. Drive carefully. It's not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.
5. If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
6. If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
7. It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
8. Never buy a car you can't push.
9. Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
10. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
11. Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.
12. The second mouse gets the cheese.
13. When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14. Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
15. You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.
16. Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.
17. A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

### **Kudos**



**Thanks!** to March Morning Prayer leaders: Carol & Mado Cimini.. Many **Thanks!** to March Church School leaders: Robin Felldin, Marissa Harding and Betty Vail. **Thanks!** to Grace A., Melrose K., Judy R., Betty V. and Tom V. for a great job of cleaning brass and more **Thanks!** to Sandy P., Judy R. and Betty V. for making the palm crosses and also to Betty for coordinating the purchase of Easter lilies. The church looked great for the Easter Vigil and the Easter Morning Eucharist.. **Thanks!** to Fr. David for his gift to St. Ann's of a framed copy of his Letter of Installation and to Duane K. and Tom V. for hanging it in the hallway between the church and the parish hall..

### **A Hymn To Coffee Hour**

This hymn is sung to the tune of: "Holy, Holy, Holy" Its composer is unknown. It extols the virtues of the church coffee hour.

Coffee, coffee, coffee,  
Praise the strength of coffee,  
Early in the morn we rise with thoughts of only thee,  
Served fresh or reheated,  
Dark by thee defeated,  
Brewed black by perk or drip or instantly.

Though all else we scoff we,  
Come to church for coffee:  
If we're late to congregate,  
We come in time for thee,  
Coffee our one ritual,  
Drinking it habitual,  
Brewed black by perk or drip or instantly.

Coffee the communion,  
Of our blessed Union,  
Symbol of our sacred ground,  
Our one necessity.  
Feel the holy power,  
At our coffee hour,  
Brewed black by perk or drip or instantly.

## Unwavering Love

In truth, life is full of transitions, that is the nature of living. We grow, change, and adapt or we die. We are creatures of routine, we long for stability, we like to be able to control what happens to us. Yet we constantly find ourselves having to adjust to new situations in our lives. What is true for us as individuals and families is also true for us as a church. The church is a living organism—people coming and leaving, people changing and growing older. Why then do we long for stability and constancy? If life is ever-changing and the only alternative to living is dying, why do we desire a home, a haven? I do not have the full answer, but I think this is how we are made. We are made to long for home, we are made to long for stability, we are made to desire that which never changes—we are made, of course, for God—or perhaps more accurately, God’s love.

Life happens. Things change. We grow. We diminish. What never changes is God’s unconditional love, God’s desire for us, God’s dream of our full humanity. Life changes, we change, the people around us change, institutions change, our community changes, the church changes....But God’s love never wavers. God’s love is always there. God’s love is a constant source of strength, encouragement, and hope, no matter what happens—and happen it will. All we need do is pray. All we need do is worship. All we need do is turn to the scriptures. All we need do is care for each other and we find that love is there, always there.

“God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them...There is no fear in love.” May we all live in love more deeply each day.

-The Rev. Simon C. Justice, Church of the Good Samaritan, Corvallis, Oregon

### Easter Flowers – 2013

**Given By:**

**In Memory Of:**

Carol Tarvin  
Tracey & Calvin Tallmadge  
Judy Rettberg  
Sandy & Jody Proffitt  
Melrose Kelly  
Woodie Robins  
Robin Felldin  
  
Cindy Johnson  
  
Cindy Johnson

Clyde Tarvin  
All Our Loved Ones  
Departed Loved Ones  
Our Loved Ones  
Our Loved Ones  
Loved Ones  
Robert, Scott, Jennie  
    Fredenburg  
Harold & Sue Trick  
Loren & Sue Guy  
Mike Sickler

**Given By:**

**In Memory Of:**

Denise Becker  
  
Joyce Whitney  
Hailey Tallmadge  
  
Lori Stevens  
  
Duane Kane  
Betty & Tom Vail  
Ron & Cindy Sherman  
Pete & Carol Vail

Sola Hurst  
Genevieve Wieber  
My Loved Ones  
    In Loving Memory  
        of Noel K. Pike  
Holden Robert  
    Tallmadge  
Family  
Our Loved Ones  
All Our Loved Ones  
Our Loved Ones

### **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 for whom we have been asked to pray. The clergy of the Chenango District have been included. Please remember these people in your personal prayers. Send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 639-1201.

Kaitlin	Sally	Beverly	Cindy
Carol	Darin	Pat	Tony Moran
Peter	Mary	Mya	Fr. Chuck Taylor
Jeri & John	Joyce	Holly	Fr. David Hanselman
Michele	Charles	Jim	Fr. Bruce MacDuffie
Jane	Kody	Sharlene	Bishop “Skip” Adams
Evelyn	Helen	Eleanor	Candon
Ken	Chuck	Cheryl	
Lou	Gloria	St. Peter’s in their search for a rector	

### **Afton Food Pantry**

During the months of March and April, all monies donated to the Afton Food Pantry will be used to determine matching funds to be donated by the Alan Feinstein Foundation. This is an annual challenge through which this foundation helps to alleviate the hunger problem in the United States. For the 16th consecutive year, Alan Shawn Feinstein will divide \$1 million among hunger fighting agencies nationwide, using it to help them raise funds during March and April 2013.

Donations to the Afton Food Pantry will be tallied and submitted to the Feinstein Foundation so that our local food pantry can receive a proportionate amount of the \$1 million dollars.

This year it is setting aside \$1 Million to be distributed proportionately among all participating food pantries. Please do what you can so that the Afton Food Pantry can again receive a part of this generous donation of matching funds. Donations can be:

-Checks: payable to Afton Interchurch Council,  
mailed to Diane Gardner, Treasurer, 1038 Co. Rt. 30, Afton, NY 13730  
memoed "Afton Food Pantry Feinstein Challenge,"  
dated between March 1 and April 30 and  
received by May 1, 2013, will count for the challenge.

-Canned and boxed food items may be brought to the Food Pantry, located at the Afton United Methodist Church, 36 Spring St., Afton, NY, during the months of March and April and will count toward the challenge, with a value of \$1 per item. Only currently dated, staple food items in undamaged original containers can be accepted.

The Afton Food Pantry is open on Mondays from 5 pm—7 pm, and on Wednesdays from 9 am to 11 am. The Food Pantry continues to serve a substantial number of families, the elderly and individuals in the Afton community. Local support is appreciated. The Pantry is staffed by volunteers, and all funds and food received are used exclusively by the Food Pantry to help local people in need.

### **Getting a Start on Holy Humor Sunday**

#### **UNANSWERED PRAYER**

The preacher's 5 year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon.

One day, she asked him why.

"Well, Honey," he began, proud that his daughter was so observant of his messages.

"I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon."

"How come He doesn't answer it?" she asked.

#### **A GOLDEN OLDIE**

Little John was so bothered with a question that he had to ask his Sunday School teacher. "Miss Davis, are there any animals in heaven?"

'I'm not sure, Johnny,' his teacher responded.

'Well, I just wanted to know, 'cause last Sunday we sang about 'Gladly the Cross-Eyed Bear.'

-From a Holy Week church bulletin describing the Maundy Thursday service:

"We will strip the altar and sanctuary of all color and symbol. Together, we will leave the church bare and in silence."

#### **-Heavenly Messages**

- 1) The best vitamin for a Christian is B1.
- 2) You can give without loving but you cannot love without giving.
- 3) Seven days without prayer makes one weak.
- 4) Exercise daily — walk with the Lord.

Bumper Sticker: "Are you following Jesus this closely?"

**Note: This year we will celebrate Holy Humor Sunday on April 21st, not April 7th as would usually be the case.**

