

The Parish News

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY

<http://www.stannsafortny.org>

Member of the Chenango District

October 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 

October.

Wow. October. Anyhow, September is over and the main work of the Bishop Search subcommittee which is devoted to information gathering has pretty much wrapped up its work and now the profile subcommittee is really ramping up its work. The other subcommittees are working hard, too, but since I'm on the info gathering and profile subcommittees, I know more about what they're doing.

Thanks to everyone for participating in the information gathering! If you didn't participate, well, I hope not to sound like a jerk, but you had your chance to have your voice heard - if you didn't take it, it's your own fault. That little bit of jerkiness out of the way, the fact is there seems to be remarkable consistency in what folks in the diocese are looking for. Of course, there has been quite a range of responses, but a few are pretty popular. Just what they are, though, will have to wait until the profile committee has finished its work.

Around the time of convention (Nov 13-14), the profile committee should have its work done. As its put together, you can check the diocesan website and the bishop search site for updates. Once the profile is done, I highly recommend each of you take some time to look through it.

One important thing I really want to leave with all of you this month, though, is something I've already told several folks. One thing that's turned up in the profile writing research that I think is fundamental for us (that is, our three parishes) to keep in mind - we represent most of the parishes in our diocese. Average Sunday attendance of 40 and under accounts for 50% of parishes in the Central New York diocese. When we look at parishes whose average Sunday attendance is 80 and under, then we account for 80% of our parishes.

What I want you to know is that we're not alone. Of course, as long as we continue to serve our Lord and Savior we are certainly never alone, that much all of us should know and trust in. But, for what it's worth, most of our fellow Episcopalians are in the same boat we are. By cooperating, we're able to pay our bills, support a priest and remain the Anglican presence in our communities. We may not be able to grow much in numbers, but we are always able to grow in faith and service. 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.



BOX TOPS AND SOUP LABELS.

Please save box tops for education and Campbell soup labels for the children to take to school. Maya will be making a box for the labels to go in. Maybe you could put see Maya or Tracey for more info.

Service Schedule

	<u>Date</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>CS</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
HC	Oct 4	T.Vail	C.Tarvin	TV	DB	D.Becker/B.Vail
MP	Oct 11	P.Tucker	A.Wieber	BV	----	J.Proffitt
HC	Oct 18	B.Wright	D.Becker	MH	DB	D.Becker/B.Vail
MP	Oct 25	R..Felldin	M.Harding	RF	----	T.Tallmadge
HC	Nov 1	C.Cimini	A.Cimini	AC	CC	A.Cimini/B.Vail

Morning Prayer:

Oct. 11 – Denise & Marissa
Oct. 25 - B.Vail/D.Vail

Church School:

Oct. 4 - No Church School
Oct. 11 – B.Vail
Oct. 18 – K. Vail
Oct. 25 – J. Rettberg

Food Pantry:

Oct. 14 – M. Kelly & J. Rettberg

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>
Oct 4 19 Pent	26	Job 1:1; 2:1-10	Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12	Mark 10:2-16
Oct 11 20 Pent	22:1-15	Amos 5:6-7,10-15	Hebrews 4:12-16	Mark 10:17-31
Oct 18 21 Pent	104:1-9, 25, 37b	Job 38:1-7, (34-41)	Hebrews 5:1-10	Mark 10:35-45
Oct 25 22 Pent	34:1-8, (19-22)	Job 42:1-6, 10-17	Hebrews 7:23-28	Mark 10:46-52
Nov 1 All Saints Day	24	Isaiah 25:6-9	Revelation 21:1-6a	John 11:32-44

Altar Guild

Altar Guild Duty – Altar Guild Altar Duty for the month of October is Judy Rettberg 607-208-4023 . 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 Joyce Mya Holly Cindy Lou Toni Lois Sally Clifford Richard
Pastor Sue Andrea Adrianna Diane Judy Fr. Chuck Taylor Fr. David Hanselman
Fr. Bruce MacDuffie Bishop "Skip" Adams Bishop Michael Curry Pope Francis Zion Church St. Paul's
Church The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church The vestry of St. Ann's The Bishop Search
Committee

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.

United Thank Offering (UTO)

The UTO Fall Ingathering will take place November 1st. The information below includes thoughts taken from a letter by the Diocesan UTO Chairperson.

"As usual I must press upon you to inform your parish that the UTO is NOT a fund raiser. We exist mainly as a mechanism to help people develop a healthy prayer life. A day consists of 24 hours. That is 1,440 minutes. Can you afford to use one of them for a prayer? Try it!"

That having been said, the **United Thank Offering** is a great reminder for us to offer prayers of thanksgiving for God's daily blessings in our lives. Even a few coins offered in thanksgiving each day can add up to a significant amount over 6 months. And when these individual offerings are gathered together, great things can be done.

Please be sure that your offering is identified as **UTO** by using the UTO envelope, the UTO Blue Box or write "UTO" on the memo line of your check.

In Memoriam

Toni Weller, now a resident of 1031 Sea Hawk Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, 32082-1668, reports that Wesley James Weller died on February 23, 2015 at the VA Hospital in Clearwater, FL. of Tuberculosis. Wesley was 49 years old and would have been 50 on July 12, 2015. Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, Wesley with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Flowers on the Altar

The flowers on the Altar September 13 were in celebration of Toni Weller's 85th birthday, given by her son Dana.

The flowers on the Altar October 4 are given in loving memory of Don Weller who passed away eighteen years ago. The flowers are given by his wife Toni and son Dana.

From Your Treasurer

St. Ann's remains financially sound. Bills are paid on time and we continue to carry out our mission: ***Sharing God's Love in Our Community Through Prayer, Study and Action.*** Thanks to a committed core group of parishioners, our building and grounds are attractive and well maintained. We have some modest investments which help us meet our income needs and our Vestry exercises good judgment in its stewardship of our resources. Our outreach for 2014 amounted to \$3,241 and for the year to date (2015) it is \$3,141. We should feel good about this.

At the request of the diocese we had a financial risk assessment carried out by an outside accounting firm. They identified some practices having to do with our handling of receipts and disbursements that, if their recommendations were implemented, would reduce our financial risk. We are implementing their suggestions where our size makes it practical.

A more complete Treasurer's Report including the 2016 budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting and monthly reports are posted on the bulletin board following each Vestry Meeting. Please direct questions or comments to me.

Pete Vail

Vestry Highlights



The following is from a group of stories sent in by Toni Weller:

Sunday after Church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt."

Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed.

Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about.

He said, "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."

Father Dave marries Stephanie Proffitt and Anthony Ruberto in Montague, NJ.



Kudos



THANKS! - Thank you to the following individuals who helped with the "clean up/clean out" at the church and parish hall on Tuesday, September 22nd. A particular thank you to Mado who climbed into the steeple and checked and oiled the bell.

- Pat & Al Tucker
- Mado Cimini
- Carol Tarvin
- Melrose Kelly
- Duane Kane
- Grace Affuso
- Heather Cottell
- Tom & Betty Vail

***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!*

BISHOP SEARCH COMMITTEE

Father David has been asked to be on the Bishop search committee. Please keep Fr. David and the other search committee members in your prayers

A History of St. Ann's Church

(Continued from September 2015, A History of St. Ann's)

Final installment of History of St. Ann's

A printed program for Tuesday, July 18, 1905, tells of the consecration of a Communion Set as a memorial to the Rt. Rev. Frederic Dan Huntington, S.T.D., L.L.D., First Bishop of Central New York.

An Afton Enterprise of May 31, 1906 announced that "on Tuesday, June 5 at 3:00 p.m., the Rt. Rev. Charles Tyler Olmsted, Bishop of Central New York, will visit Afton to consecrate the new bell and pulpit, and to administer the Apostolic Rite of Confirmation. The pulpit is a massive piece in quartered oak, hand carved, sacred to the memory of the late Rector of St. Ann's, the Rev. Edwin Lee Tanner. The design was found among his papers, being the last work which he completed for the Church in Afton. Members of the congregation and friends of the late Priest have contributed more than enough to meet the cost of this, the finest article of furniture in the Parish. It is a fitting monument to one whose godly influence and saintly life have contributed so much to the betterment of our people."

Cast on the surface of the bell, which came from the foundry of the Minelly Bell Co., is the following inscription: "To commemorate the services of the Rev. William Allen Johnson, founder of this parish in 1857. 'Praise Him upon the well-tuned cymbals; praise Him upon the loud cymbals.'"

In 1908 it became necessary to put a new roof on the Church. The minutes record a motion for the treasurer to draw a paper to solicit for subscriptions for slating the roof. However, Mrs. Charles Seely and Mrs. Erwin Gifford headed a group of ladies who made and sold aprons to pay for the slate roof, and no apron was sold for more than 50 cents.

In 1913, the Rev. Luther L. Weller was instrumental in having the Easter offering designated as the start of an endowment fund for the parish. This offering amounted to \$216 of which \$100 was given by Mrs. Elizabeth Y. McHugh. Also during this same period, through Mr. Weller's influence, a fine Estey reed organ was purchased and installed. Mr. Weller was himself an accomplished musician, and whenever the regular organist was not able to be present, Mr. Weller played the organ, led the singing and conducted the service.

For a long time the communicants of St. Ann's recognized the great need for a parish home. Finally, through a generous bequest of Mrs. Linda Seely Carpenter it was possible to make the long-dreamed-of plans materialize. Communicants and friends of St. Ann's also contributed about \$5000, and finally in the fall of 1955 the Parish House was completed. The modern kitchen equipment was all furnished by St. Ann's Women's Auxiliary.

Over the years St. Ann's has been extremely fortunate in having the services of the following capable Rectors: the Rev. William Allen Johnson, the Rev. J. A. Robinson, the Rev. M. E. Wilson, the Rev. A. W. Cornell, the Rev. J. E. Johnson, the Rev. J. W. Capen, the Rev. Vibbard, Jr., the Rev. Mr. Clark, the Rev. A. G. Singsen, the Rev. Walter E. Bentley, the Rev. H. A. Cresser, the Rev. H. M. Brown, the Rev. Edwin Lee Tanner, the Rev. Wilson E. Tanner, the Rev. Henry Sizer, the Rev. Thomas J. Collar, the Rev. Bradford H. Tite, the Rev. Sidney E. Heath and the Rev. James E. Wolfe. (This list runs only until the late 1950's)

At the present time St. Ann's has a communicant list of 120, a Church School of 38, an active Auxiliary, Altar Guild and eight boys as Acolytes. Now as in times past, the members of St. Ann's are a fellowship of faithful people, worshipping working and praying together, doing all to the glory of God.

This article is taken from the booklet "Centennial Revisited" which is a collection of articles from the Afton Enterprise newspaper for the Centennial of the Town of Afton, 1957, and was written by Florence Guy, an active and dedicated member of St. Ann's for many years.



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



...but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.

Mark 10:43b-44

These words of Jesus from the Gospel lesson for 20 Pentecost are no doubt troubling to many of us. After all, we are led to believe, from childhood on, that “success” means the accumulation of wealth and material things. And, more often than not, that leads to having more and more control of and power over others. From that often comes corruption and the exploitation of those who are less “successful.” We certainly see this in other nations of the world and we in the United States are not immune from it either. It seems to be the nature of the human condition. As I’ve heard it said:

“People would be great if they weren’t so human.”

Just before this, the disciples James and John had asked Jesus to allow them to sit at his right and left hand, an obvious attempt to gain status and power by exploiting their relationship with Jesus. This leads Jesus to set them straight.

So, what about us? Are we wishing to become great, to be first among those around us? Are we consumed with accumulating “things” at the expense of neglecting our immediate and extended families? Are we serving those who surround us, both at home and at St. Ann’s? And, more importantly, do we serve with a graceful spirit or do we serve with a spirit of resentment?

St. Ann’s needs each and every one of us to be servants, using our time, talents and treasure in support of our mission. May God grant us the grace to be effective servants as we share His love.

PCV