

## 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](http://www.stannsaftonny.org)

The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

**Clergy: The Reverend Fr. David A. Hanselman Cell: 761-4601 Office: 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 can't be reached, please contact one of the wardens.**

**Wardens: Betty Vail: 639-1201 Tracey Tallmadge: 343-1301**



Thanks be to God, October is here! I say that just because, thanks be to God for every day we're given life in His amazing world! Certainly some days are easier than others, but every day is an amazing gift because life itself is an amazing gift.

Well, part of my life as the District Dean is to meet regularly with the other Deans and Bishop DeDe. We share information, updates, perspectives, hopes and fears. It is a blessed time.

Well, this last Deans meeting, Bishop DeDe said something that I think is crucially important to share with you all because, not just in our district but throughout most all of our diocese, many folks have the sense that we are in the midst of an unstoppable decline - sort of a slow motion avalanche of folks leaving.

Now, Bishop DeDe is amazing for many reasons, not the least of which is having a "big picture" view and sharing it with others. And so it was, that the point the Bishop made was that whatever anyone thinks about the cause of global warming and sea level rise, they are documented facts and the disruption they cause will have a very important impact on us in Central New York.

There are rock solid indicators that in the next 10, 20, 30+ years more and more people will be moving into our area. The mass population loss we've seen of the past couple decades is going to reverse and more people will be settling here. They'll have to because we have the abundant land and clean water that will become so scarce.

And the point the Bishop made about this (at least, one of her points that settled firmly in my heart) is that our churches should plan now and work toward being healthy and welcoming communities for folks to find as they seek to make their lives among us. We have an excellent opportunity now to strengthen our good habits of truly caring for one another and our communities, and to work to eliminate our bad habits of pessimism, gossip and grumbling.

In other words, the work we have to do is the work we've always had to do - continually walk in love as Christ loved us - strengthen our bonds of true friendship and see visitors and strangers as angels in disguise. Amen.

## 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!

<b>Service Schedule</b>						
<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>OT Reader</b>	<b>Epistle Reader</b>	<b>CS</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>
Oct 7	HC	D.Weiber	C.Tarvin	TV	JR	B.Vail/D.Weiber
Oct 14	MP	D.Vail	T.Tallmadge	DV	----	D.Vail
Oct 21	HC	P.Tucker	J.Rettberg	BV	JR	T.Tallmadge/B.Vail
Oct 28	MP	M.Harding	J.Rettberg	MH	----	B.Vail
Nov 4	HC	C.Cimini	A.Cimini	AC	CC	A.Cimini/B.Vail
<b>Church School</b>						
<b>Church School</b>			<b>Morning Prayer</b>		<b>Food Pantry</b>	
Oct. 7	TV			Oct 8	Al & Pat Tucker	
Oct 14	KV	J.Rettberg	T.Tallmadge	Oct 10	J.Rettberg & J.Seacat	
Oct 21	BV					
Oct 28		B.Vail				
Nov 4						
<b>Lectionary (Year A)</b>						
<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>OT Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Epistle Reading</b>	<b>Gospel Reading</b>	
<b>Oct 7</b>		Job 1:1-1; 2:1-10	Psalm 26	Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12	Mark 10:2-16	
<b>Oct 14</b>		Job 23:1-9, 16-17	Psalm 22:1-15	Hebrews 4:12-16	Mark 10:17-31	
<b>Oct 21</b>		Job 38:1-7, (34-41)	Psalm 104:1-9, 25, 37c	Hebrews 5:1-10	Mark 10:35-45	
<b>Oct 28</b>		Job 42:1-6, 10-17	Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22)	Hebrews 7:23-28	Mark 10:46-52	
<b>Nov 4</b>		Wisdom 3:1-9	Psalm 24	Revelation 21:1-6a	John 11:32-44	

**Altar Duty** for the month of October is Judy Rettberg, 208-4023. If you are giving flowers in memory a loved one, please notify Peter Vail 607-639-1444 no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that he can include a notice in the bulletin.

**St. Ann's Prayer List for October 2018**

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. **Please note: Long term names will be left on the list indefinitely, short term names for two months unless updated.**

**Short Term**

Raevin  
Marion  
Dawn  
Ben  
Billy  
John  
Pat  
Chuck  
Henry

**Long Term**

Fr. David Hanselman  
Fr. Steven White  
Deacon Kay  
Pastor Becky  
Fr. Geoff Doolittle  
Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe  
Bishop Michael Curry  
The Revs Ralph & Liz Groskoph  
Emmanuel Church  
Epiphany Church  
Zion Church  
St. Paul's Church  
St. Andrew's Church  
St. Matthew's Church  
St. Peter's Church  
Carol  
Peter  
Joyce  
Mya  
Holly  
Cindy  
Lois  
Clifford  
Richard  
Bill  
Kevin  
Dakota  
Nate  
Hailey  
Eli



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, sooth the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake. Amen.*



**Short VESTRY MEETING** will be held on Sunday, October 21, 2018.

Some 60 people attended a Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. for laughter, remembering and yes, our remembrance of a man that thanked God for passing people prayed that there will continue helping others.



“Celebration of Life” service on Duane Kane. There was a lot of some tears as we told our stories of we all loved. In the end we all like Duane through our lives and to be people who are examples of

**CHURCH SCHOOL** has begun. Even though our numbers are small, it is important that our children receive Christian education. This year we are trying a new method of teaching, Christian video on the new TV system. We do need additional teachers. It is our hope that using this method of teaching will make it easier to work with the children. Please speak to Tom Vail if you can help.



**TIME CHANGE:** November 4<sup>th</sup> we will be setting our clocks back one hour. A reminder to set your clocks back one hour before retiring on Saturday night.



**ANNUAL MEETING** will take place during coffee hour on October 7<sup>th</sup>. This is a brief meeting electing people for Vestry. Your input is important so please take the time to join us for coffee and the annual meeting.



**WE WILL CLEAN THE BRASS ON NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> DURING COFFEE HOUR FOR THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS. MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK..**



- 10/8 Grace Affuso**
- 10/12 Rylee Noone**
- 10/22 Carol Cimini**
- 10/31 Andrea DeBetta**

**10/6 Calvin & Tracey Tallmadge**



**Please send your birthday/anniversary dates to me @ [cttallmadg@aol.com](mailto:cttallmadg@aol.com) or advise me at church.**

Report on the LCI Prayer Flag Day held August 25<sup>th</sup>.



By Carol Cimini

My report for the LCI Prayer Flag day at Afton Sidewalk Sale - Saturday Aug 25<sup>th</sup>. First we took the plan to the Vestry for their approval and input. Vestry decided to order rubber wrist bands " God is with you" for giving out. For age 3 and under there were plush Whales " God Whaley loves you" on the tummy. Very adorable. We had cold water to hand out for free too. Each person who stopped was given a slip of paper inviting them to our Sept 16<sup>th</sup> special service. Set up the 10 x 10 canopy and 2 tables. Our young people made colorful signs that said " JOYS", "Concerns", Reflections", Sorrows", Dreams", "Hopes", and Prayers." Some of the public can be turned off by just using "Prayers" so we mixed up a lot of topics to let people know that we were wanting them to share with us as we shared with them on our own journey. We used bailing twine and strung it around the 10 x 10 canopy and had strips of fabric 2" x 18" in many colors and designs. After someone wrote on one, we had them decide where to attach it with a clothes pin. Interesting and varied reactions from young and old. One young girl wrote wishing for good grades this year in school. One young adult male wrote asking to find his way in life. Some of our own parishioners stopped by but they had mostly pre-written their prayer flags and we offered to write any messages/prayers for those who could not attend. We were well staffed by congregants - some stayed all day from 8 until 3 pm, Others stopped by for a few hours as they could. Over all we have about 55 prayer flags completed and have them strung across the ceiling of the Church inside now so we can enjoy the colors and the signs. September 16<sup>th</sup> will be a special day for us to celebrate the life of one of our dearly departed parishioners plus special prayers over the wishes and concerns people brought to us. One woman will then take her prayer flag to her daughters grave - which I find very touching. She chose a special fabric that had meaning to her for this purpose. It is interesting that some people shied away from anything CHURCH or RELIGIOUS and that others were instantly drawn in. We all heard many stories and concerns and joys as we shared or own experiences. We also had our own ambassadors who sat on a stool by the sidewalk handing out rubber band bracelets and guiding people to our table. It was Amedeo and our puppy, Ivan. They both love kids and everyone stopped to play with Ivan. The day for me was very rewarding as we were able to bond together over this activity and many ideas were combined to make the event run smoothly. It did our hearts good to be able to talk with those stepping up to open themselves up to a conversation that sometimes was not the easiest. This is what we believe the LCI is promoting - opening or doors and going out into the public. It is not easy but along the way with input and support of our wonderful parish and Father David, it was a very successful, moving experience.

Attitude—upside down

Today was the absolute worst day ever  
So don't try to convince me that  
There's something good in every day  
Because when you take a closer look,  
This world is a pretty evil place.  
Even if  
Some goodness does shine through  
once in awhile,  
Satisfaction and happiness don't last.  
And it's not true that  
It's all in the mind and heart  
Because  
True happiness can be obtained  
Only if one's surroundings are good.  
It's not true that good exists.  
I'm sure you can agree that  
The reality.  
Creates  
My attitude  
It's all beyond my control.  
And you'll never in a million years  
hear me say  
Today was a good day.

Now smile and read from bottom to top.  
Like a frown, when you turn it upside down,  
It turns into a smile.





**The Final Word**

*This high priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same temptations we do, yet he did not sin.*

**Hebrews 4:15**

Although it can be used positively in Scripture, we most often associate temptation with giving in to sin and evil. The Bible teaches that temptation to sin is Satan's main activity in our lives—although our own selfishness and appetites certainly make the Tempter's work easier.

We experience temptation every day. The above passage points out that Jesus himself was tempted in every way (Matthew 4:2-22). Yet Jesus' temptation did not lead to sin. It is not a sin to be tempted, but to prevent temptation from becoming sin, we must use all the resources God gives us to recognize, resist, and flee the situation. Since Jesus knows what it is like to be tempted, we can turn to him in all honesty when we're having a battle with temptation. Have you talked with him lately about potential situations that would be difficult for you? May God give us the grace so to do.

From The TouchPoint Bible

**St. Ann's Episcopal Church**  
**P. O. Box 22**  
**Afton, New York 13730**

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 COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY  
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Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

Wardens: Betty Vail  
 Tracey Tallmadge

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

