

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: 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

Welcome June!

In one of my sermons in May, I read a passage (pp. 15-119) from *The Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions*. A wonderful book co-authored by Marcus J. Borg and N.T. Wright.

I think, like most people, from time to time I get to wondering "Why am I doing the things I do?". Now, I don't mean the eye-rolling, throwing my hands up sort of questioning (Why am I doing the things I do?" (though, honestly, from time to time that happens, too).

What I mean is the sort of wondering that comes when you feel like you're working hard at a thing and you are somewhat certain that you're making some sort of progress, but it's not at all clear exactly what progress you may (or may not) be making.

Another way to put it – or a closely related question - is "What are we as Christians doing with our regular worship and study of our faith?" The fancy word the church has for what we do is "liturgy" and it means "the work of the people". This is also part of what's known as "spiritual discipline" and "Rule of life".

Now, as this question was floating around in my head, I was also participating in a clergy group that meets regularly a couple times a month to pray Morning Prayer and study *The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21st Century* by Joan Chittister.

Lo! And Behold! In one of our meetings, we read in Chittister's commentary on the passage of the day from St Benedict's Rule a short story that speaks directly to the question I had rolling around in my head. Chittister writes:

"The ancients say that once upon a time a disciple asked the elder, 'Holy One, is there anything I can do to make myself enlightened?' And the Holy One answered, 'As little as you can do to make the sun rise in the morning.' 'Then of what use, ' the surprised disciple asked, 'are the spiritual exercises you prescribe?' 'To make sure,' the elder said, 'you are not asleep when the sun begins to rise.'"

Now, to me, and hopefully to you too, that really seems to make a lot of good sense. Blessing upon blessing to you all!



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!

Service Schedule						
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	CS	EM	Acolytes
June 2	HC	B.Vail	C.Tarvin	TV	JR	A.Cimini/B.Vail
June 9	HC	M.Harding	C.Cimini	AC	---	CHUCH PICNIC 10A.M.
June 16	MP	R.Felldin	J.Rettberg	RF	_____	D.Vail
June 23	MP	P.Tucker	C.Tarvin	BV	----	B.Vail
June 30	MP	M.Harding	J.Rettberg	DV	----	A.Vail
July 7	HC	C.Tarvin	T.Vail	TV	JR	B.Vail
Church School						
Church School		Morning Prayer		Food Pantry		
June 2	Kerri Vail			June 10	Kerri & Kids	
		June 16	T.Vail/R.Felldin	June 12	J.Rettberg & R.Felldin	
		June 23	B.Vail			
		June 30	D.Vail/B.Vail			
Lectionary (Year C)						
Date	Service	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle Reading	Gospel Reading	
June 2		Acts 1:1-11	Psalm 47	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53	
June 9		Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b	Romans 8:14-17	John 14:8-17, (25-27)	
June 16		Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	Psalm 8	Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15	
June 23		1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a	Psalm 22:19-28	Galatians 3:23-2	Luke 8:26-39	
June 30		2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14	Psalm 16	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62	
July 7		2 Kings 5:1-14	Psalm 30	Galatians 6:(1-6)7-16	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	



Altar Duty for the month of June, Betty Vail 639-1201. If you are giving flowers in memory of 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 June 2019

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

Aggie

Tina

Adelaide

Linda

Long Term

Fr. David Hanselman

Fr. Steven White

Deacon Kay

Pastor Becky

Rev. Elizabeth Gillett

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

Hailey

Clifford

Richard

Bill

Kevin

Dakota

Nate

Marion

Amaya

Bonnie



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 eep. 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** will meet on June 16th.
- The **annual church picnic** will be held at Kellystone Park on June 9th beginning at 10a.m. If you plan to attend, please bring a dish to pass and your place settings. There is a signup sheet for the gathering on the kitchen counter.
- **Church School** will end for the summer after the June 2nd church service. It is hoped that our families with children will continue to join St. Ann's for services and be involved with the weekly Children's Sermons. Everyone is wished a wonderful and safe summer and look forward to resuming church school on September 8th.



The Chenango County Board of Elections is recruiting poll workers

For full and half day shifts on Primary and General Elections.

Duties are: Prepare polling sites on the days of election.

Guide voters on how to mark ballots and answer questions they might have.

Communicate with the CCBOE staff about poll site issues.

Attend yearly certification training.

Be paid for your time.

If you are interested or have any questions please call us at

(607) 337-1760 or (607) 337-1761 or email us at boe@co.chenango.ny.us

Church Terms:

UNLEAVENED BREAD – Bread made without yeast. The wafer used at Communion.

VENITE – Latin, “O come.” An invitation to worship sung at the Main Service (Morning Prayer service). Words are from Psalm 95.





Please email me below if you want your dates added.
cttallmadg@aol.com



A big Mother's Day thank you to the men for preparing and serving the Mother's Day Breakfast on May 12th. The chefs and wait staff consisted of: Calvin Tallmadge, Woodie Robins, Mike DeBetta, Mado Cimini and Tom Vail. As usual, the meal was most enjoyable and the service was impeccable. Thank you !!! guys for your hard work and dedication to the distaff side.



Vestry synopsis
May 19, 2019

1. Voted to support the Afton Driving Park as a community project in the amount of \$300. Also voted to send \$200 to the Rescue Mission. This brings us up to date on our \$200 per month outreach donations.
2. Thanked Woodie for his work with Economy fuel in negotiating our fuel oil price.
3. Thanked the men for putting on the Mother's Day breakfast.
4. Noted that we need to proceed with the repair of the cracked counter in the kitchen. Also would like to have the kitchen painted after the counter is repaired.
5. Delegates were designated for the Diocesan Convention, Amy and Denise Wieber as delegates, Betty Vail and Tracey Tallmadge as alternates.
6. Approved use by Sertoma of electricity and rest rooms on Afton Sidewalk/arts & crafts days. We plan to have a booth similar to last year at the Sidewalk Days.
7. Woodie to get an estimate to power wash the church building.
8. Carol Cimini to talk with school bus drivers about providing them with winter clothing for children in need.
9. Estimate reviewed for paving of the church parking lot. Additional estimates are being obtained.
10. Zion and St. Paul's churches have been invited to St. Ann's picnic which will be held at Kellystone Park on June 9th.
11. Fr. David noted that the possible mission trip has fallen through.
12. Discussion on what St. Ann's could do to help the community and/or individual needs. Fr. David to contact the Office of the Aging for Chenango County for possible suggestions. Robin & Lauren Felldin to work on a handout for identifying people in need that we might be able to assist.
13. Treasurer's report was presented. We are solvent, thanks be to God and the generosity of parishioners.
14. The new Quicken software has been installed on Pete's and Tracey's computers. Thanks to Gary Zurn for his help with this new software installation.

Father's Day reflections

Father's Day has come and gone many times over the years, but these reflections from the Joyful Noiseletter are worth reading:

"Dads are most ordinary men turned by love into heroes, adventurers, story-tellers, singers of songs."

Pam Brown

"My father didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it."

Clarence Buddington-Kelland

"No man can possibly know what life means, what the world means, until he has a child and loves it. And then the whole universe changes and nothing will ever again seem exactly as it seemed before."

Lafcadio Hearn

"I've learned that simple walks with my father around the block on summer nights when I was a child did wonders for me as an adult. I've learned that having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world."

Andy Rooney

A father's prayer

Heavenly father, make me a better parent.
Teach me to understand my children, to listen
Patiently to what they have to say,
And to answer all their questions kindly.
Keep me from interrupting them, or contradicting them.
Make me as courteous to them as I would have them be to me.
Bless me with the bigness to grant them all their reasonable requests,
And the courage to deny them privileges that I know will do them harm.
Make me fair and just and kind, and fit me, O Lord, to be loved and respected
And imitated by my children. Amen



**The Final Word**

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.
Galatians 3:28

(Reprinted from the June 2010 News)

In the Epistle reading for Pentecost 4, Paul refutes the teaching that certain requirements must be met before a person can be saved.

It seems to me that if Paul were writing to us in our time, he might have said, there is no longer Methodist or Presbyterian, there is no longer Baptist or Roman Catholic, there is no longer Congregational or Episcopalian, and maybe even, there is no longer St. Ann's or St. Peter's or Zion! However I'm sure he would still make his point that "all of you are one in Christ Jesus!"

Are we one in Christ Jesus? As we encounter challenges and difficulties in our church are we focused on discerning what God is calling us to do and how we might be more effective in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ? Or are we concentrating on how to keep St. Ann's as we would like to see it? These are tough questions, to be sure, maybe even uncomfortable ones, but they must be addressed.

St. Ann's has always been blessed with a strong and talented laity that has weathered many a storm over the years. And it is no different now. Several among us have indicated a willingness to lead services. A few years ago, a goodly number of parishioners attended Fr. Ralph's training for Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Attendance at Chenango District meetings has been gratifying. A strong sense of being one in Christ is evident in our worship and during the laying on of hands for healing.

As we continue to seek God's will for St. Ann's, it is imperative that we encourage each other to identify strengths and talents and to use them to spread the Good News as brothers and sisters who are one in Christ. It is then that people will say, "Look how they love one another!"

PCV

St. Ann's Episcopal Church

P. O. Box 22

Afton, New York 13730

**SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR
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Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

Wardens: Betty Vail
Tracey Tallmadge

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

