

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

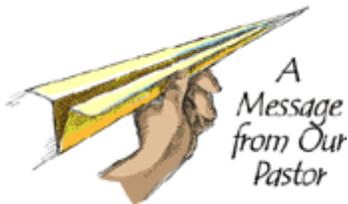
The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

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: Dan Vail: 607-240-9264 Tracey Tallmadge: 607-343-1301



Hello folks! And blessings to you all!

October promises to be quite a transitional month. We've spent the last several months developing the technical skills to worship online and those are skills we shouldn't just let fall away. We've been able to connect and communicate in an entirely new way and we've been able to see and pray with folks we haven't seen in quite a long while. What a blessing it has been! But, it's also been quite a blessing that Covid-19 has been held at bay in our communities and infections have remained low. As I write this, we're about 2 weeks into the new school year and still it seems that cases haven't spiked. What a blessing! Please, please, please continue to observe the recommended safety guidelines.

This month we are transitioning to worshipping in person indoors. But we're not just going back to the way things used to be; for one thing, our indoor Communion services will be considerable shorter than usual (about 30 minutes long). This month's worship schedule is complicated, so I'm going to spend the rest of my space here laying it out.

October 4th – I plan on doing my usual “solo” Morning Prayer service with PowerPoint that I record and post on our Facebook pages. At 9am, St Ann's will have in person, indoor Communion service (followed by Annual Meeting) that I will also “broadcast” on Zoom and Facebook Live. Zion and St Paul's folks are welcome to attend that service or Zion can do a 9am Morning Prayer service (but so far no one has volunteered to lead it). St Paul's will have an 11am in person, indoor Morning Prayer service.

October 11th – I'm taking a vacation day, so I probably won't do a "solo" Morning Prayer service. Mado Cimini will lead 9am Zoom Morning Prayer. The parishes are welcome to have in person, indoor Morning Prayer services.

October 18th – Bishop's virtual visitation day! There will be no in person, indoor worship. The Bishop will lead a 9am Zoom service.

October 25th – I will do the "solo" Morning Prayer service that I record and post on our Facebook pages. At 9am there will be in person, indoor Communion at Zion. I hope to have an internet connection so I can Zoom and Livestream the service just as I plan to do on October 4th from St Ann's. If St Ann's has a volunteer, there will be in person, indoor Morning Prayer at St Ann's. At 11am there will be in person, indoor Communion at St Paul's.

NOTE: for folks who aren't yet comfortable with indoor Communion yet, I would like to visit you at your home for a short Communion from Reserved Sacrament. Contact me to make the arrangements.

UNANSWERED QUESTION: What are we to do with the community we've created on Zoom? Well, first of all, thanks to all the folks who have offered suggestions! I've thought about them and this is what I propose – Wednesday October 7th and 21st at 8am, let's do Dwelling in the Word type Bible Study. We'll spend some time together chatting, of course, but we'll also begin to pray over one of the readings for the Sunday that will follow.

As we continue to find our way through this unprecedented time period, let us continue to care for one another not only by following recommended safety guidelines but also simply by recognizing that this is, indeed, an unprecedented event and there is an incredible amount of stress we're all facing.

Blessings to each one of you and may you be a blessing to others.

LEAVE ROOM FOR JESUS



Please sit 6 ft. apart



SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE

The SERVICE SCHEDULE is not available due to the COVID-19 and absence of parishioners in July to fill it in. Once regular services begin again, Lay Readers in attendance will be asked to read the lessons for that particular Sunday. The readings for each Sunday in July are listed below. Please take the time to read the lessons and Gospel for each Sunday.

The corona virus is causing more than its share of problems but it hasn't stopped us from having a Sunday worship service. Holding a service via the "zoom" software is a little strange but seems to be working okay.

If you haven't tried tuning in for a "zoom" service, why not try it next Sunday. Everyone who has their E-mail address on file should be receiving a forward of Fr. David's instruction letter for each service. If you have not been receiving that letter, please advise Tom Vail of your E-mail address and you will be added to the parish listing. Bettom415@aol.com

Yes, the "zoom" service is different, but change is what life is all about. Services are also available through the Diocese via their website.

Service Schedule						
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	CS	EM	Acolytes
Lectionary (Year A)						
		Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel	
Oct 4		Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20	Psalm 19	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46	
Oct 11		Exodus 32:1-14	Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14	
Oct 18		Exodus 33:12-23	Psalm 99	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22	
Oct 25		Deuteronomy 34:1-12	Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Matthew 22:34-46	
Nov 1		Revelation 7:9-17	Psalm 34:1-10, 22	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12	



Altar Duty for the month of October is Judy Rettberg 208-4023. If you are giving flowers in memory of a loved one, please notify Tracey Tallmadge 343-1301 no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that she can include a notice in the bulletin.

St. Ann's Prayer List for October 2020

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.

<u>Short Term</u>
Raevin
Thomas
George
Eileen
Anne
Anonymous

<u>Long Term</u>	
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	Dakota
Mya	Nate
Holly	Marion
Hailey	Amaya
Clifford	Rachel
Richard	Burdette



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.



OCTOBER
Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

10/8 Grace Affuso
10/12 Rylee Noone
10/19 Ella Parsons
10/22 Carol Cimini
10/31 Andrea DeBetta

Anniversaries

10/6 Calvin & Tracey Tallmadge

*Please let me know if I am missing a Birthday or Anniversary. Call or email
607-343-1301 cttallmadg@aol.com*



CHURCH TERMS: Horns of the Altar -- The Epistle side (horn) is the right front, as the congregation faces the Altar.
The Gospel side (horn) is the left front. The Gospel and Epistle lessons may be read from these positions.





St. Ann's Vestry Synopsis
September meeting via Zoom

1. **The August & September outreach dollars were sent to The Episcopal Relief & Development organization for use in the U.S. for disaster relief. We did not hold a vestry meeting in August.**
2. **The LED lighting upgrade in the Parish Hall and Church has been completed is looks good. It is also expected to save money.**
3. **Stewardship Sunday will be held November 8th.**
4. **The landscaping has been completed and looks good.**
5. **Sadly, the Afton Presbyterian Church has announced that it will cease worship services at the Church.**
6. **Forward Day by Day booklets will be mailed to parishioners.**
7. **Our Annual Meeting will be held October 4th. following a communion service in the Church. This will be our first Church service since the March 2020 closing. (See additional information in Fr. David's letter.)**
8. **Treasurer's report shows that we are holding up well, financially. A Big thank you to everyone who has continued their financial support of the parish during these trying times.**

Humor for these times

- *My husband purchased a world map and then gave me a dart and said, "Throw this and wherever it lands—that's where I'm taking you when this pandemic ends." Turns out, we're spending two weeks behind the fridge.*
- *After years of wanting to thoroughly clean my house but lacking the time, this week I discovered that wasn't the reason.*
- *This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog—we laughed a lot.*
- *I'll tell you a coronavirus joke now, but you'll have to wait two weeks to see if you got it.*

**“My body sometimes feels sore, but it works. My wallet isn’t full, but my stomach is. I don’t have everything I want, but I have everything I need. My life isn’t perfect, but I’m happy. Thank You, God.
Via Rev. Jack F. Coffey**

When I hear people speak of their spiritual journeys, and I think of my own, a common theme is the periods of substantial doubt. I have come to believe that these moments are crucial to all persons, and rather than indicating a loss of faith I believe that doubt is an essential step toward faith. Those people who have the most vehement doubt often turn out to be people of tremendous faith. Thomas reminds us that we all doubt, but those doubts can lead us to belief. Like Thomas, we may struggle, but like Thomas, those struggles could well lead us to join him in saying of Jesus: “My Lord and my God!” And what is faith? A peaceful certainty that, no matter what, everything is going to be okay. Faith is believing that life (not simply existing, but, living, loving, learning---life!) is inherently good. It’s believing that God loves me and wants what’s best for me. It’s admitting that I’m not God and so I don’t always know what is best for me. If I look back through the Bible, I find that faith has had a lot more to do with stormy seas than it has had to do with calm waters. Sometimes we don’t get well, or we lose our job or our marriage. Sometimes life is hard: it’s a tossing and turning boat but I keep hearing this peaceful whisper: “Don’t be afraid. It’s okay.” I’m not saying that I don’t worry, or that I’m not scared or angry because I do and I am. I’m simply saying that I have moments where I know everything’s okay, life is good, God’s in charge, and I trust him. No matter what, everything’s going to be okay. Believe it.
From Forward Day by Day

The Reason Why: Why do we kneel in prayer on entering the church? For precisely the same reason that the guests at a social gathering go to the host and hostess, on entering the rooms, and greet them. Politeness demands this special mark of respect for those into whose home you have come as a guest. And in the same sense, politeness requires that at once on entering church we indicate our reverential regard for the Diving Being into whose presence we have come. Kneeling in private devotions as we reach our pew is the form of etiquette which the Church has long used to express this our bounden respect for God.

**May God bless me with discomfort at easy answers, half -truths,
superficial relationships, so that I will live deep within my heart.
May God bless me with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation
so that I will work for justice, equality, and peace.
May God bless me with tears, to shed for those who suffer
from pain, refection, starvation, and war, so that I will reach out my
hand to comfort them and change their pain into joy.
And may God bless me with the foolishness to think that I can make
a difference in the world, so that I will do the things which
others tell me cannot be done.
From Forward Day by Day**



The Final Word 

Accountability: Ecclesiastes 11:9 – “Young man, it’s wonderful to be young! Enjoy every minute of it. Do everything you want to do; take it all in. But remember that you must give an account to God for everything you do”

Enjoy life but stay within God’s guidelines. God will hold us accountable for everything we do, and who wants to explain ungodliness to a holy God on the day of judgement? NLT-GEZ

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 1, 2020, at 2:00 A.M.



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

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COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY
AND ACTION

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

