

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



Summertime!

As I write this, Covid cases are exceptionally low, and I am finally feeling much, much better from my battle with Covid. Again, thank you everyone for keeping me in your prayers!

Another wonderful blessing (aside from being able to gather more safely in person!) has been being able to bring wine and song back to our Communion services.

The touchstones of our faith that we have had to do without for so long – gathering in person, singing, sharing bread and wine with some confidence that we are not endangering our lives or those we care about – are returning and it rightfully fills our hearts with joy.

While the trials and tribulations of Covid are still not completely past us (please, get vaccinated if you have not already and encourage others to do so, too and continue to be mindful of the Delta variant and pray for those who are still suffering from Covid's terrible effects), we can begin to remember the joys of gathering. We have a very great deal to be thankful for and to look forward to!

Best of all, we have learned how to reach out virtually through Zoom and Facebook Livestream and connect and reconnect with so many folks we have not been able to before. So many new and re-newed friendships!

Summertime is also the time for vacations. As many of us do some traveling this summer, please remember to feed your soul by taking the opportunity to gather and give thanks and praise to God. We do not know what the future will bring, but we can take the opportunity to gather anew in thankfulness, hope and love – strengthening the bonds of our common faith that God so loved the world that He gave His Son that we might know and share in His love. How joyous it is when we gather in prayer, song and sharing the bread and wine, the body and blood! Alleluia! Alleluia!

JULY SERVICE SCHEDULE

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE

The 1st & 3rd Sundays are In-Church Services with HC. 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays are Morning Prayer. Every service is available via "ZOOM". If you are not currently receiving email Zoom invites, then please send your email address and you will be added to the parish listing. Betton415@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
Jul 4	HC	P.Tucker	P.Tucker			
Jul 11	MP	D.Wieber	D.Weiber			
Jul 18	HC	P.Tucker	P.Tucker			
Jul 25	MP	C.Cimini	C.Cimini			
Aug 1	HC	P.Tucker	P.Tucker			
Church School		Morning Prayer		Food Pantry		
Jul 4						
Jul 11		C.Cimini	M.Cimini			
Jul 18						
Jul 25		B.Vail	J.Rettberg			
Aug 1						
Lectionary (Year B)						
		Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel	
Jul 4		2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10	Psalm 48	2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Mark 6:1-13	
Jul 11		2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19	Psalm 24	Ephesians 1:3-14	Mark 6:14-29	
Jul 18		2 Samuel 7:1-14a	Psalm 89:20-37	Ephesians 2:11-22	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	
Jul 25		2 Samuel 11:1-15	Psalm 14	Ephesians 3:14-21	John 6:1-21	
Aug 1		2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a	Psalm 51:1-13	Ephesians 4:1-16	John 6:24-35	



Altar Duty for the month of July 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.

AUGUST SERVICE SCHEDULE

Service Schedule						
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	CS	EM	Acolytes
Aug 1	HC	P.Tucker	P.Tucker			
Aug 8	MP	C.Tarvin	C.Tarvin			
Aug 15	HC	C.Tarvin	C.Tarvin			
Aug 22	MP	C.Cimini	C.Cimini			
Aug 29	MP	K.Ryan	K.Ryan			
Sep 5	HC	B.Vail	B.Vail			
Church School		Morning Prayer		Food Pantry		
Aug 1						
Aug 8		D.Wieber	B.Vail			
Aug 15						
Aug 22		C.Cimini	B.Vail			
Aug 29		J.Rettberg	B.Vail			
Lectionary (Year B)						
		Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel	
Aug 1		2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a	Psalm 51:1-13	Ephesians 4:1-16	John 6:24-35	
Aug 8		2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33	Psalm 130	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	John 6:35, 41-51	
Aug 15		1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14	Psalm 111	Ephesians 5:15-20	John 6:51-58	
Aug 22		1 Kings 8: [1, 6, 10-11], 22-30, 41-43	Psalm 84	Ephesians 6:10-20	John 6:56-69	
Aug 29		Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10	James 1:17-27	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	
Sep 5		Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23	Psalm 125	James 2:1-10, [11-13], 14-17	Mark 7:24-37	

Altar Duty for the month of August is **Betty Vail 639-1201**.

St. Ann's Prayer List for July/August 2021

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. *"We are trying to be sure that our prayer list is as updated as possible and don't want to remove someone that should be on it."* 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/three months unless updated.

SHORT TERM

Raevin
Thomas
George
Eileen
Anne
Riley
Nancy
Jerry
Pat

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. Matthews Church
St. Peter's Church
Carol
Peter
Joyce
Mya
Holly
Clifford
Richard
Nate
Marion
Rachel
Burdette Bob
Bill Dakota
Bonnie Hailey
Tyler Bobbi
Jason Katy



Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins –
Pete and Carol Vail
Joyce Whitney
Marion Diehl
Grace Affuso
Bonnie MacPherson

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.*



Birthdays

7/7 LOGAN TALLMADGE
 7/11 MADO CIMINI
 7/12 SONJA & NOAH HANSELMAN
 7/17 GARRETT VAIL & CAROL VAIL
 7/23 MARISSA HARDING
 7/28 DAVID HANSELMAN
 7/29 GINA BONSELL

Anniversaries

NONE ON FILE PLEASE ADVISE ME IF
 I AM MISSING SOMEONE



Birthdays

8/01 Joey Parsons
 8/02 Hailey Tallmadge
 8/04 Milton Harding
 8/09 Al Tucker
 8/13 Grayson Harding
 8/14 Judy Rettberg
 8/22 Amy Weiber

Anniversaries

8/28 Ken & Connie Beames

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



CHURCH TERMS: MENSA – Latin, “table” top of the Altar covered by the Fair Linen. The missal is placed on the mensa, and from here the Holy Communion (Sacrament of the Altar) is administered.



Vestry Hi-lites for June 2021

Vestry Highlights

June 2021 meeting

1. The Afton Driving Park (Afton Fair) was chosen for the May outreach. Life Choices was chosen for our June outreach. Food for the Poor was the choice for our July outreach.
2. Delegates are needed for this year's convention. Dan Vail volunteered. We still need another delegate and two alternates. The use of the new "zoom" equipment was discussed. Several possibilities were reviewed. Approved the purchase of a new "zoom" account for the Church.
3. The Annual Meeting will be October 3rd. Terms expiring this year are Dan Vail as warden, Denise Wieber and Woodie Robins as vestrypersons.
4. Approved to support the Afton Youth Sports organization by the purchase of a sign to be displayed on the outfield fence.
5. Fr. David's vacation dates reviewed. Mother Liz Groskoph has agreed to cover for him in July 18th.and October 3rd.
6. A thank you letter from General Seminary was read.
7. It was decided to not have vestry meetings in July and August. The August outreach recipient will be selected at the September meeting.
8. Discussion on Sunday School and alternatives to "Church as Usual." We all agree that we need to do things differently in the future, but no one has any suggestions. Everyone, including parishioners, asked to think about possible changes in the way services are conducted.
9. Financial report presented by Gary Zurn. We are holding our own financially.

Good Pressure, Bad Pressure

He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.

Proverbs 13:20 NIV

Our world is filled with pressures: some good, some bad. The pressures we feel to behave responsibly are positive ones. God places these pressures on our hearts, and He intends that we act according to them. But we also face different pressures, ones that are not from God. Society seeks to mold us into more worldly beings; God seeks to mold us into new beings, more spiritual beings, beings that are not conformed to this world. If we desire to lead responsible lives—and if we seek to please God—we must resist the pressures some people seek to impose upon us. We must resist the temptation to do the popular thing—what others think we should do or what other people are doing—and insist instead on doing the right thing. Finding wise friends will help you stay the course.

Be decent and fair. But ultimately you must know how to get the work done, whether or not people like you for it.

Sally Field

Food for Thought: Evil as Evidence of God?

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Years ago, there was a now-famous debate between atheist Frank Zindler and Christian apologist William Lane Craig. Zindler leveled the standard challenge of the problem of evil—that evil in the world is strong evidence against the existence of the Christian God. Dr. Craig’s response was as follows and he stated: “No logical inconsistency has ever been demonstrated between the two statements ‘God exists’ and ‘evil exists.’” Besides, he added, in a deeper sense the presence of evil “actually demonstrates God’s existence, because without God there wouldn’t be any {moral} foundation for calling anything evil.”

C. S. Lewis was an atheist, convinced that because of the problem of evil there could be no God. But then Lewis realized that if there is no God, then nothing can really be considered evil—and his whole case against God fell apart. Lewis explained:

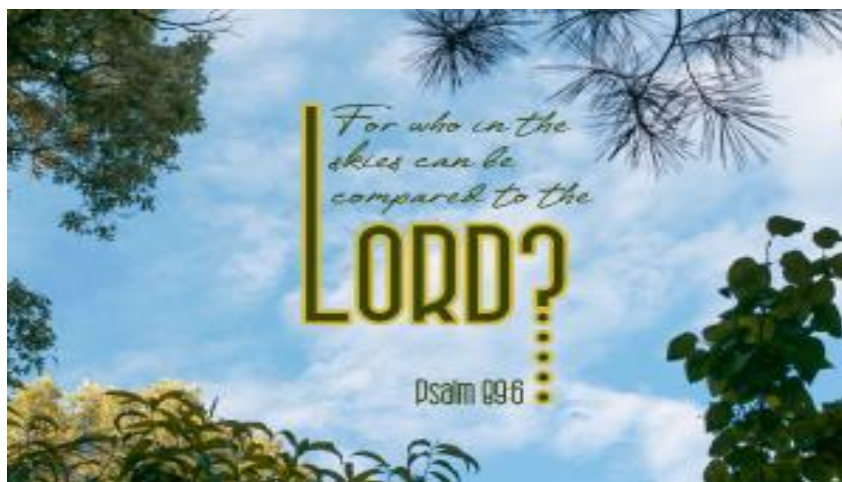
My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A person does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust? If the whole show was bad and senseless from A to Z, so to speak, why did I, who was supposed to be part of the show, find myself in such violent reaction against it?

Thus, in the very act of trying to prove that God did not exist—in other words, that the whole of reality was senseless—I found I was forced to assume that one part of reality—namely my idea of justice—was full of sense. Consequently, atheism turns out to be too simple. If the whole universe has no meaning, we should never have found out that it has no meaning: just as, if there were no light in the universe and therefore no creatures with eyes, we should never know it was dark. Dark would be without meaning.

And so, ironically, the very problem that had caused Lewis to reject God ended up changing his mind and helping him to see that there had to be a God—One who established the standard by which we inevitably know good from evil. This was a vital step in Lewis’s fascinating journey toward faith in Christ.

As Craig explained in the debate, the reality of evil, rather than being an argument against God, is yet another reason to believe *in* God!

Probably the strongest argument against God is the one based on the problem of evil. But when you see how even that argument rests on assumptions that require God’s existence, you begin to realize just how strong the case for God’s existence is. You really can have a confident faith in him!



The Final Word

Kindness: Ephesians 4:32 – **“Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another..... “**
 Kindness is the sign of a loving heart, one of the greatest of all virtues. A kind person is pleasant, good, gracious—always appreciated. There is a lot of talk these days about “random acts of kindness.” Maybe this is because we live in a society starved for good deeds. God is our model for kindness. The kindest act ever committed was God’s sending his own Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins so that we might live forever in heaven. God also showers us with kindness each day, sending sunshine and rain, food and friends, comfort and encouragement, boundless love, and wisdom.
 NLT-GEZ

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

SHARING GOD’S LOVE IN OUR
 COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY
 AND ACTION

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman
 Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

