

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



June! We are once again entering into the season after Pentecost; otherwise known as “ordinary time”. Of course, I could go on and on about how completely Unordinary any of this time has been and how strange it might be to speak of “ordinary time” at all, but I will spare you what you already know so well. Instead, I would like to focus on some very good developments that began right before I got sick with Covid. Yes, for those of you who do not know, since early May I have been sick with Covid. But I hope to add a personal note to this month's newsletter, and I will talk more about my Covid experience there. Now, I want to pick up on the wonderfully good developments that began right before I got sick. As I have thought about this, a word keeps coming to my mind – “familiar”. Just like many of you, I am tired of hearing about “normal” and I've already mentioned how strange “ordinary time” sounds. What I have found my heart and mind turning to is the wonderful word and concept “familiar”. Yeah, yeah, “familiarity breeds contempt” blah, blah, blah. In my humble opinion, familiarity is something we have been sorely lacking for an exceptionally long time. But we are on the verge of regaining some familiar aspects of our worship! Just before I got sick, I started working with some folks brainstorming how to return wine to our Communion service (all fully approved by Bishop DeDe, of course) and I think we have got a good plan; I just cannot wait to begin practicing it!

And just last week, the Bishop's office has come out with guidance on having singing back in church! We will go over the details as we begin meeting and gathering again, but these are wonderfully familiar things we have missed for so long. Which brings me to another aspect of “familiar” that I think is appropriate. When something is familiar, that does not mean it's an exact copy. The sense of something being familiar is something that appeals to both our hearts and our minds. My dear friends, we have been wandering in a strange, strange land for almost a year and a half now. In just a matter of a few weeks, we will be able to gather some long-missed and wonderfully familiar aspects of our worship.

So, “lift up your hearts!” Lift them up to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE**

**The 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays are In-Church Services with HC. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays are Morning Prayer. Every service is available via "ZOOM" except June 6. If you are not currently receiving email Zoom invites, then please send your email address and you will be added to the parish listing. [Bettom415@aol.com](mailto: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 B)						
		Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel	
Jun 6		1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)	Psalm 138	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	Mark 3:20-35	
Jun 13		1 Samuel 15:34-16:13	Psalm 20 2 Corinthians 5:6-10,[11-13],14-17 Mark 4:26-34	2 Corinthians 5:6-10,[11-13],14-17 Mark 4:26-34	Mark 4:26-34	
Jun 20		1 Samuel 17: (1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49	Psalm 9:9-20 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41	2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41	Mark 4:35-41	
Jun 27		2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27	Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-43	2 Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-43	Mark 5:21-43	
Jul 4		2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10	Psalm 48 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Mark 6:1-13	2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Mark 6:1-13	Mark 6:1-13	



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

**June 2021 Church Service Schedule**

- June 6 – In church service, Holy Eucharist, 9:15 a.m.
- June 13 – In church service, Morning Prayer, 9:15 a.m.
- June 20 – In church service, Holy Eucharist, 9:15 a.m.
- June 27 - In church service, Morning Prayer, 9:15 a.m.
- July 4 - In church service, Holy Eucharist, 9:15 a.m.

## St. Ann's Prayer List for June 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 Matthews  
Jason  
Pat  
Ralph  
Tracey

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    Anonymous    Bob  
Bill        Dakota  
Bonnie    Hailey    Katy  
Tyler



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**

**Anniversaries**

*6/01 Mya Boston*

*6/23 Alan & Jane Seacat*

*6/09 Stephanie Proffitt*

*6/22 Mike DeBetta*

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



**CHURCH TERMS: Trinity Sunday** – Introduces the Trinity Season and is the first Sunday after Pentecost. Liturgical color: white.

**TRINITY SEASON** – The longest season of the Church Year, lasting twenty-two to twenty-seven Sundays, depending on the date of Easter. This is the second half of the Church Year and emphasizes the Christian life. It is followed by Advent. Liturgical color: green



**Vestry Hi-lites for May 2021**

**No meeting in May 2021**

**Next meeting In Person June 20,2021**

**Please try to attend as we have a few things to discuss.**

***TRUST in a GOOD TOMORROW***  
**Blessed is he who trusts in the Lord.**

Sometimes the future seems bright, and sometimes it does not. Yet even when we cannot see the possibilities of tomorrow, God can. Our challenge is to trust God to do the best for us, in spite of our failures.

When we trust God, we should trust Him without reservation. We should steel ourselves against the inevitable disappointments of the day, secure in the knowledge that our heavenly Father has a plan for the future that is brighter than we can imagine.

Are you willing to look to the future with trust and confidence? Hopefully so, because the future is not to be feared; it should be embraced.

*When once we are assured, that God is good,  
then there can be nothing left to fear.*

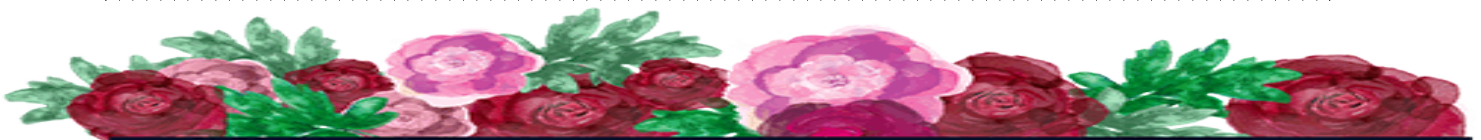


**A big “Thank you!!” to Judy Rettberg for her card ministry over many years.**



- June 2021 Special Days
- Some of the special days celebrated in June are:
- Flag Day — June 14, 2021
- Father's Day — June 20, 2021
- Summer Begins — June 21, 2021

Flowers on the Altar June 6<sup>th</sup> are in loving memory of Betty Vail's parents, Ruth & Jim Poole



### 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*

*Make me fair and just and kind, and fit me, O Lord, to be loved and*

*And imitated by my children. Amen*

### Dad through the years

When I was:

- Four years old: "My Daddy can do anything."
- Five years old: "My Daddy knows a whole lot."
- Six years old: "My Dad is smarter than your Dad."
- Eight years old: "My Dad doesn't know exactly everything."
- 10 years old: "In the olden days, when my Dad grew up, things were sure different."
- 12 years old: "Oh, well, naturally, Dad doesn't know anything about that. He's too old to remember his childhood."
- 13 years old: "Don't pay any attention to my Dad. He's so old-fashioned."
- 21 years old: "Him? My goodness he's hopelessly out of date."
- 25 years old: "Maybe we should ask Dad what he thinks. After all, he's had a lot of experience."
- 35 years old: "I'm not doing a single thing until I talk to Dad."
- 40 years old: "I wonder how Dad would have handled it. He was so wise."



*harm.  
respected*

**Happy Father's Day !!**

## Personal Note from Father David

Hey, it is me again. Let me begin by saying from the bottom of my heart how much it is meant to me knowing that you have been praying for me as I have struggled with Covid. Thankfully, I was never hospitalized or anything but there have been some exceedingly difficult moments during my sickness. And, as I write this on May 26, I still have not fully recovered. More about that in a little bit. First and foremost, I want you to know that in the darkest moments, knowing that you have been praying for me has been a bright, shining light. I want to share this reflection with you in the hope that some part of it might be of some use to you all; if not just to let you know what has been happening to me. Monday May 3rd I had a strangely running nose. I have had colds and allergies, so I have had runny noses, but this time it just seemed a little bit different. I could not quite figure out what was different, so I just took some allergy medicine. I pretty much felt fine until sometime Thursday May 6 when my stomach started feeling weird and the Covid cough began. By that afternoon I was feeling tired. Friday it was clear that I must have Covid, but I was so tired that I could not drive myself, so I waited for Sophia to get home and take me to the walk in and have it verified. Fatigue hit me hard. For days I felt my mind was trapped in a body that refused to move. Other times, so many different thoughts and images ran through my head that I could not concentrate on anything at all. With great effort, I was able to send short texts or emails. Imagine becoming exhausted just sending a couple short texts... it was so very strange. For the next week and a half (until about May 18), my body started recovering but the worst was yet to come and the main reason I want to share this with you. Good mental health can be an exceedingly difficult thing to have. For generations, it is not the sort of thing that people say we should talk about. But it is a crucially important thing to talk about. You see, on and off for years I have had to deal with anxiety issues. Eventually I found medication that really helped. But when things were going well, I went off the medication. Things were still going along well until Covid struck. With Covid, my anxiety returned as never before. This time it included regular panic attacks – exhausting, nightmarish and debilitating, it was quite a setback. It has taken me a few days to get healthy enough to get in to see the doctor, but I have begun taking anxiety medication again. It has only been a day so far, but I have begun finding the relief that I sorely need if I am to fully recover from Covid. Now, part of the point I want to make with this is that I am not alone. It turns out that many folks who have had previous trouble with anxiety, when they catch Covid they go through a great deal of fatigue and their anxiety returns in powerful ways. Another crucially important point is that sometimes we need medications to become healthy again. I continually refer to Jesus Christ as a healer. I am convinced that whenever true healing is happening, the power behind it is God's Holy Spirit as shown and delivered through Jesus Christ. I know there is some people who look down on medications – especially for mental or emotional problems - and think people should just “tough it out”. Well, to put it simply, that is not the way of Jesus Christ. Telling people to put up with more suffering rather than accepting something that heals is not at all a Christian attitude. I hope that Covid provides us with an opportunity to look at the many different facets of being healthy – mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual - all of it works together. And when we work together to understand, comfort, and support one another, we are doing nothing less than co-creating and strengthening the body of Christ. You all have been an incredible blessing for me. Continue to be a blessing for this world and do whatever you can to help bring understanding, healing, and hope.

God's many blessings to each one of you!

The Final Word

**Courage: Isaiah 41:10** – *“Don’t be afraid, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. I will help you. I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.”*

We are quite naturally afraid when we walk alone in frightening places and circumstances. But we have more courage when we walk with a friend who is strong. In walking with the Lord God, who holds the universe in his hands, we should feel free to be courageous! Consider what comforts us when we face the death of a loved one. Flowers, food, even the words of others, are appreciated, but a greater source of strength is our friends and family staying near us, giving us those gentle touches and looks that communicate their sorrow and care. When we face troubled times, we must never forget God remains close by, ready to supply us with his love and comfort. This gives us the courage to go on. 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

