

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



Hey folks! After hearing about Tom T. Hall's passing, I can't help but reflect upon what he's meant to my spiritual development. Some of you, no doubt, may be wondering who Tom T. Hall was. He was an American Country singer (Christian poet extraordinaire, in my opinion) who was particularly successful in the 70s. I've said before how I was never taken to church as a child. Well, thanks to Tom T. Hall, I was still able to learn about Jesus. Above and beyond just mentioning Jesus, though, he sang songs of simple goodness. His poetry wove wonderful images of life simply lived with care and concern for others. He presented life humbly and non-

judgmentally lived in all its multifaceted magnificence. So, I'd like to share some verses that helped my spiritual development and I hope you can find some value in reflecting upon them too:

From ***I Washed My Face In The Morning Dew*** – after a couple verses depicting towns in which residents don't care about a condemned criminal or a poor, crippled man, he reflects upon a town that is "settled, peaceful and nice". However, in this town, "The rich got richer, and the poor get poorer, and to me it didn't seem right." The final verse says, "Someday things are bound to change, it can't be very far. And each injustice I have seen with come before the bar. Then I'll wash my face in the morning dew, bathe my soul in the sun. Wash my face in the morning dew and my journey will be done."

There's so much more but let me also offer some verses from ***One Hundred Children***. One hundred children sing a song "Don't blow up the world, don't kill all the flowers. Today this is your world, tomorrow it's ours. Leave us pure water and forests uncut. Think of tomorrow, leave something for us. Your god may be dead, but ours is alive. We think without him we cannot survive. Punish all the bad men, praise all the good. Talk to your neighbors about brotherhood."

Thanks be to God for the life, witness, poetry, and spiritual guidance from Tom T. Hall. The Holy Spirit continually offers God's love to us all.

SEPTEMBER 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. Bottom415@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
Sep 5	HC	B.Vail				
Sep 12	MP	C.Cimini				
Sep 19	HC	P.Tucker				
Sep 26	MP	C.Tarvin				

Church School		Morning Prayer	Food Pantry			
		Sep 12	D.Weiber/B.Vail			
		Sep 26	C.Cimini/T.Vail			

Lectionary (Year B)

	Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
Sep 5	Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23	Psalm 125	James 2:1-10, [11-13], 14-17	Mark 7:24-37
Sep 12	Proverbs 1:20-33	Psalm 19	James 3:1-12	Mark 8:27-38
Sep 19	Proverbs 31:10-31	Psalm 1	James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	Mark 9:30-37
Sep 26	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22	Psalm 124	James 5:13-20	Mark 9:38-50
Oct 3	Job 1:1; 2:1-10	Psalm 26	Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12	Mark 10:2-16



Altar Duty for the month of September is Pat Tucker 639-1984. 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

The flowers on the Altar September 5th are in loving memory of Frank and Gladys Rettberg from their daughter Judy Rettberg and family.



St. Ann's Prayer List for **September 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
Eileen
Anne
Pat
Logan

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 Cindy
Marion Katy
Rachel Jason
Burdette Bob
Bill Dakota
Bonnie Hailey
Tyler Bobbi



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

Birthdays

9/13 TONI WELLER
9/15 FATHER RALPH
9/16 CINDY TRICK
9/19 CALVIN TALLMADGE
9/26 DENISE WIEBER



Anniversaries

9/22 MILTON&MARISA HARDING
9/30 TOM & BETTY VAIL

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

- Labor Day — September 6, 2021,



Patriot Day — September 11, 2021

National Grandparents Day — September 12,

If you have Grandparents, please extend an invitation church services on that date. This is an exciting day when celebrate your Grandparents.



2021
to join you for
you can



First day of Autumn — September 22, 2021



CHURCH TERMS: CHURCH TERMS: Postulant – A candidate serving a probationary period of several months to establish his suitability for admission to holy orders in the Episcopal Church.

The Delta Variant is upon us and currently in preparing the September newsletter, we do not know what direction we are going. In the meantime, we will proceed with “in church” services until further notice. We will begin Church School on Sunday, September 12th and continue every 2nd and 4th Sunday, twice a month on Morning Prayer Sundays. If you know of a family who have young children and are not affiliated with a church, please invite them. We have the room. We are required to wear masks at St. Ann’s and social distance from one another. “When two or three are gathered together” we will continue services. We hope to see many of you return for worship at the house of our Lord.



Vestry Hi-lites for July/August 2021.

Nothing to report as no meeting were held.

Our next Vestry meeting will be Sunday September 19th during coffee hour. Please try to attend in person or via Zoom as we may have a few things to discuss. Please be thinking of our outreach for September.

God Is Here***Fear thou not; for I am with thee.***

Isaiah 41:10 KJV

Since God is everywhere, we are free to enjoy His presence whenever we take the time to quiet our souls and turn our prayers toward Him. But sometimes, amid the incessant demands of life, we allow our thoughts to stray far from God. And when we do, we suffer.

Do you schedule a regular meeting each day with the Creator? You should. During these moments of stillness, you will gain direction, perspective, and peace—God’s peace. You’ll sense the loving presence of your heavenly Father and be comforted by the certain knowledge that God is not far away. He isn’t even nearby. He is, quite literally, here.

What a comfort to know that God is present there in your life, available to meet every situation with you, that you are never left to face any problem alone.

Vonette Bright



St. Ann’s Annual Meeting will be October 3rd. Just as a brief refresher, The Annual Meeting is held yearly as provided for in the “Canons” (think by-laws) of the Church and is primarily for the election of vestry persons. (Wardens and vestry persons). These are the individuals that govern the operation of the Parish. The terms of vestry persons are staggered and typically we elect one warden and two vestry persons at each yearly Annual Meeting. The elections begin with nominations at the worship service. There are also brief reports from the rector and various organizations within the Parish. The actual “meeting” is held in the Parish Hall after the worship service and is typically very short. Please try to attend.

The Annual Meeting is one of the privileges (think freedoms) that we enjoy and just like the freedoms that we enjoy in this Country, once we stop practicing and supporting them, we start down the slippery slope to losing them. In many ways, the Episcopal Church is unique in the way that it is governed.

As we all know, these past 18 months have been a difficult time for many organizations, including churches. St. Ann’s has not been exempted from these difficulties. If St. Ann’s is to continue as a Parish, it will require the support of all parishioners. One way that we can support our Parish is to attend the Annual Meeting.

Thoughts for these times

A Pearl of Wisdom

Pearl Bailey's singing career spanned six decades, and she received a Presidential Medal of Freedom. This notable woman said, "A person without ambition is dead. A person with ambition but no love is dead. But a person with ambition and love for his blessings here on earth is ever so alive."

Today you'll do yourself a favor if you put Pearl Bailey's pearl of wisdom into practice: be ambitious and count your blessings.

When you're willing to work for your blessings—and count them—there's no limit on how far you can go, and no limit on the fun you'll have getting there.

Hugs in the Here and Now

Do you know someone who needs a hug (or a smile, or a kind word) right now? If so, it's up to you to do something right now—not tomorrow, not next week—now. True, you may be a busy person whose calendar is full. You may have many obligations, a long to-do list, and many people to care for. No matter. You should share love today, not wait until some point in the distant future.

When it comes to planting God's seeds in the soil of eternity, the only certain time we have is now. And when it comes to sharing hugs with our family and friends, there's simply no time like the present.

Destiny's Child

At eighteen, Clara Fowler performed on an Oklahoma radio show sponsored by the Page Milk Company. In honor of her sponsor, Clara changed her stage name to Patti Page and began a singing career that led to fifteen gold records. Her biggest hit came in 1951 when she recorded "The Tennessee Waltz," a ballad that was the number one song in America for three solid months.

Looking back on her career, Patti said, "I really do believe in fate, and I think that there was something planned for me to do." The same can be said for you.

If you haven't yet discovered your own life's work, it's not too late to take a page from Patti's book. Keep searching for the role you're destined to play in God's grand plan. When you find it, you'll be a star, wherever you happen to shine.

You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free

The truth has not always made me free. The truth of learning that a loved one has been terribly injured or has contracted an incurable disease, or that one has lost his or her job hurts me as I grieve the capriciousness of life. Things break. People die. As Leonard Cohen sings about sufferings, "There is a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in." The truth cracks us.

But there is a larger truth waiting behind the curtain of human drama, and that is the resurrection. Yes, we all die. Even the Son of God was lifted up on the cross and died. But that cross is also where God gathers in every truth and every misery of our lives and administers a higher truth: resurrection. We are born again and set free. Give thanks today for the things that are cracked and broken in your life. Those are the places where resurrection and new life will occur.

Growing Up

God doesn't intend for any of us to be stagnant. Far from it! God's plan for us includes a lifetime of personal and spiritual growth—a lifetime of learning from our experiences and sharing what we've learned.

We can and should continue to grow throughout every stage of life. If we cease to grow, either emotionally or spiritually, we do ourselves and our loved ones a profound disservice.

It's a familiar saying, and it's true: "You aren't getting older, you're getting better." And it's up to you to keep getting better every day you live. When you do, you'll continue to shine your light on a world that needs all the maturity and wisdom it can get.

The Final Word

Friendship: 1 Samuel 18:1-4 –*After David had finished talking with Saul, he met Jonathan, the king's son. There was an immediate bond of love between them, and they became the best of friends. From that day on Saul kept David with him at the palace and wouldn't let him return home. And Jonathan made a special vow to be David's friend, and he sealed the pact by giving him his robe, tunic, sword, bow and belt.*

When David and Jonathan met, they became close friends at once. Although Jonathan was probably somewhat older than David, their friendship is one of the deepest and closest recorded in the Bible because they (1) based their friendship on commitment to God, not just to each other, (2) let nothing come between them, not even career or family problems, (3) drew closer together when their friendship was tested, and (4) were able to remain friends to the end. NLT-GEZ

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

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

Address Label Here

