

The Parish News

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY
<http://www.stannsafortny.org>

Member of the Chenango District

October 2014

Clergy The Reverend

From Fr. Dave

Fr. David A. Hanselman
761-4601 cell
656-9502 office

Wardens:

-Betty Vail
639-1201

-Tracey Tallmadge
343-1301

In an emergency and Fr. David can't be reached, please contact one of the wardens.

Greetings! I've got to tell you all a little story: Way back when I was a chaplain at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, I had opportunities to minister to many different folks in many different situations. Among the most incredible moments were the ones spent with folks in hospice/palliative care. Years before I was at Strong, I sat with my mom during her last hours. They've all been very powerful experiences, as I'm sure you can imagine.

But, one day I walked into the gift shop at Strong and I saw a t-shirt that instantly captured my attention. It was a shirt which listed all the things that cancer cannot do. It reads:

"WHAT CANCER CANNOT DO - Cancer is so limited...it cannot cripple love; it cannot shatter hope; it cannot kill friendship; it cannot destroy confidence; it cannot shut out memories; it cannot eat away peace; it cannot silence courage; it cannot corrode faith; it cannot reduce eternal life; it cannot quench the Spirit."

I've had this t-shirt for about 6 years now and though I've had friends and family who've battled cancer, it never seemed quite right to give the shirt to any of them.

Then, one day recently, a parishioner was nearing the end of her physical life among us; cancer had beaten her body down. I wanted to ask her if the shirt was true, but I never got the chance. But, at the same time, I also came to realize how badly I want the shirt to be true. Now, I'm wise enough to know that as much as I may want something, having it is a much different reality. Still, as much as I hope it's true, I so desperately want it to be true.

But, as I prepared for the parishioner's memorial service and as I considered how very badly I want that shirt's slogans to be true, I came to realize that it's up to each and every one of us to make sure those slogans are true. It's up to us to make sure cancer - and death - is so weak. Whatever we may face in our life, we don't have to face it alone. That doesn't mean that there's one right way to show caring and love for a person who's passing (and, in all reality, which one of us isn't at some point in passing?). It's a matter of knowing each other and caring for each other and finding ways to let each other know that we do, in fact, care. Amen.

Father Dave ✝

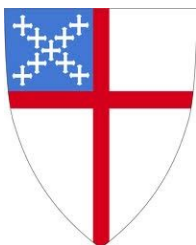
If you desire Father David to visit you or give you a call, please contact him at: (607) 761-4601 or (607) 656-9502.



Make a Note

St. Ann's Annual Meeting will be held after the church service on October 5, 2014.

Sunday, 10/5, we are having a folk mass with guitar accompanied by Christopher Vail and his dad, Pete.



Service Schedule

	<u>Date</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>CS</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
HC	Oct 5	S.Proffitt	D.Becker	PV	SP	J.Proffitt/B.Vail
MP	Oct 12	B.Wright	R.Felldin	RF	---	J.Proffitt
HC	Oct 19	S.Proffitt	C.Cimini	JP	CC	J.Proffitt/Mado
MP	Oct 26	B.Vail	B.Wright	DV	---	B.Vail
HC	Nov 2	T.Tallmadge	S.Proffitt	TV	SP	Tracey/Betty

Morning Prayer:

Oct. 12 - Denise/Marissa

Oct. 26 - Sandy/Jody

Church School:

Oct. 5 - M. Kelly

Oct. 12 - S. Proffitt

Oct. 19 - R.Felldin

Oct. 26 - K.Vail

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 co-operation!

Lectionary (Year A)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>OT Reading</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Oct 5	17 Pent Psalm 19	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46
Oct 12	18 Pent Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23	Exodus 32:1-14	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14
Oct 19	19 Pent Psalm 99	Exodus 33:12-23	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
Oct 26	20 Pent Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17	Deuteronomy 34:1-12	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Matthew 22:34-46
Nov 2	21 Pent Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37	Joshua 3:7-17	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12

Altar Guild

Altar Guild Duty – Grace Affuso (607) 639-2961 and Betty Vail. If you wish to purchase or provide flowers for the Altar on a particular Sunday, call Betty Vail (607) 639-1201. If you are giving flowers in memory of a loved one, please notify Pete 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 Brochure

The best way to bring someone to church is a personal invitation. The brochure provides an "icebreaker" when given to a friend or neighbor you ask to come to church with you. Copies are located at the back of the church and in the hallway between the church and the parish hall. Please feel free to take one or as many as you need for this purpose. Please give one to visitors and when you invite someone to come to church with you!

Vestry Highlights - March 2014

1. Outreach funds were approved to three organizations and community needs.
2. Annual meeting will be October 5th. Tracey has agreed to succeed herself as warden. Amy and Jody have agreed to succeed themselves as vestry persons.
3. St. Ann's agreed to sponsor the "A Place at the Table" lunch at the Presbyterian Church for the month of May.
4. It was approved by the vestry to provide "scholarships" to parishioners attending church events that have a cost involved. Any questions, check with a vestry person.
5. Stewardship Sunday was approved to be held November 9th. this year.
6. UTO Sunday was approved for November 2nd.
7. Treasurer's report was presented. Income is running slightly ahead of expenses, going into the heating season. tcv

Kudos



THANKS! - Grace for all the help with coffee hours kitchen supplies.

THANKS! - Gary Zurn for the posting the newsletter on the Website

THANKS! - Jody and Betty for Morning Prayer Sept. 14 –

THANKS! - Tracey and Betty for Morning Prayer on Sept. 28



***Note:** If you know of one or more people who we should thank in this column, please pass that information on to Pete Vail or Jody Proffitt. We don't want to miss anyone!*

Annual Meeting

St. Ann's Annual Meeting will be held after the church service on October 5, 2014. The Episcopal Church "canons" (or bylaws) provide for the Annual Meeting at which time reports are presented and vestry positions filled. Even though we are a small Parish, it is important to support your parish by your attendance. The elections and reports are the only business to come before this meeting and it is typically short. Please do your best to attend.

United Thank Offering (UTO)

The UTO Fall Ingathering will take place November 2nd. The information below includes thoughts taken from a letter by the Diocesan UTO Chairperson.

"As usual I must press upon you to inform your parish that the UTO is NOT a fund raiser. We exist mainly (as a mechanism to help people develop) a healthy prayer life. A day consists of 24 hours. That is 1,440 minutes. Can you afford to use one of them for a prayer? Try it!"

That having been said, the **United Thank Offering** is a great reminder for us to offer prayers of thanksgiving for God's daily blessings in our lives. Even a few coins offered in thanksgiving each day can add up to a significant amount over 6 months. And when these individual offerings are gathered together, great things can be done.

Please be sure that your offering is identified as **UTO** by using the UTO envelope, the UTO Blue Box or write "UTO" on the memo line of your check.

In Need of Prayer

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.

Carol Peter Michele Joyce Pat Mya Holly Cindy Lou Toni Beverly Lois Vern Sally
 Clifford Ed Hromada Judy Elliott Joe Steve Julia Richard Elizabeth Matt Doug
 Danny Don Wieber Norma Ryan Rayne Pike John Pierce Fr. Chuck Taylor
 Fr. David Hanselman Fr. Bruce MacDuffie Bishop "Skip" Adams Pope Francis The
 General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church The vestry of St. Ann's

The following prayer is suggested by Bishop Skip. It 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.

St. Ann's Treasurer's Report To 2014 Annual Meeting

St. Ann's ended 2013 with an overall positive cash flow of about \$9,108 based on all income versus 2013 expenses and outreach. Our 2013 outreach apart from diocesan payments totaled \$3,056.60, about \$656 over what was planned. Pledge income and loose plate offerings exceeded expectations and investment income was also over expectations. We received Chenango District Mission Grant money totaling \$4,417.63. Given our improving cash flow, your vestry decided to return to donating the recommended pledge to the diocese. We appreciate the generosity of all who give to support St. Ann's as we strive to discern and carry out what God would have us do in our community and the world.

We had no capital improvements in 2013 which in our case indicates that your leaders are exercising good stewardship over St. Ann's physical plant.

To date in 2014, our outreach amounts to \$2,152.63 Your Vestry considers monthly where best to spend our outreach dollars. This is the first item on the agenda for each Vestry meeting to remind us of its importance. If you have any suggestions, please let one of your wardens or vestry-people know. Once again, we have been blessed with a reasonably good financial condition. It seems only fitting that we should share our blessings with others less fortunate. To date in 2014, our income exceeds our expenditures by approximately \$1385. This will likely shrink once Zion gets a treasurer on board and we get up to date with Fr. Dave's support.

God continues to provide us with blessings. We are blessed to have Fr. David Hanselman serving us on a shared basis with Zion, Greene and St. Paul's, Oxford. Since Fr. Dave cannot serve in four places at the same time, St. Ann's has lay-led Morning Prayer services approximately every other Sunday. It has been gratifying to see an increasing number of St. Ann's parishioners step up to the challenge of leading Morning Prayer. As a result our expenditure for clergy support has been reduced. Not having an organist has also reduced our outlay and we appreciate that the congregation tolerates Synthia's occasional foibles.

St. Ann's continues to face increases in costs just as we do in our personal lives. As I've pointed out in previous years' reports, most of our expenses are "non-discretionary." That is, we cannot reduce them, at least not significantly. These are things like insurance, diocesan and personnel expenses, electricity, heat, water and telephone. We're all aware of the continuing significant rise in the cost of energy. We continue to look for opportunities to reduce our energy consumption, the most effective being to simply

lower the thermostat. We appreciate everyone's cooperating by adding layers of clothing. At year's end, most budget line items should be near or possibly under the amounts budgeted and I'm hopeful that we'll end the year on a positive note. Detailed financial data can always be found on the parish hall bulletin board.

The proposed budget for 2015 expenses is approximately the same as that for 2014. Supply clergy expenses should be nearly non-existent as many of our parishioners are stepping up to the task of leading Morning Prayer services. It's also assumed that we'll continue without an organist. It is possible that our portion of Fr. David's support may increase by a small percentage. Hopefully pledge and loose plate income will continue at current levels. The budget also reflects a more realistic (I hope) projection of investment income that has improved since the diocese converted to a new investment firm. We also received notice that St. Ann's will be receiving a generous bequest from the estate of Fay Todd. The details are not yet known. Fuel oil expense is increased by \$500 and we have returned to giving the full suggested pledge amount to the diocese. Given continued support from our parish family, we should be able to meet our expenses. We will need to continue to remain vigilant in our spending and generous in our support. St. Ann's survival depends upon each of us being doers of The Word and not hearers only! I have faith that, if we seek to do what God would have us do in our community, He will provide St. Ann's the means to do it.

Please let me know if you have questions. Your Treasurer, Pete Vail

St. Ann's Memorial Fund

Memorial activity has been nearly zero this year. (This is not a bad thing!) Apart from periodic interest deposits, we received \$35.00 in memory of Fay Todd. The Memorial Fund consists of a savings account with \$5,901.22 and a \$2500 CD, the interest from which is deposited monthly to the savings account.

Peter C. Vail, Treasurer



"If we could all turn to page 387, turn off your iPods and repeat after me..."

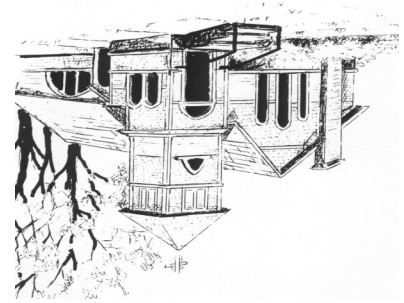
There was a preacher who fell in the ocean and he couldn't swim. When a boat came by, the captain yelled, "Do you need help, sir?" The preacher calmly said "No, God will save me." A little later, another boat came by and a fisherman asked, "Hey, do you need help?" The preacher replied again, "No God will save me." Eventually the preacher drowned & went to heaven. The preacher asked God, "Why didn't you save me?" God replied, "Fool, I sent you two



Thanks to Stephen Illich (See Genesis 6-8) 05-19-2005

WE WERE TOLD YOU WERE TAKING CREATURES
THAT CAME TO YOU IN PEARS

ST. ANN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
150 W. 11TH ST. AFTON, NY



Address label here

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Tracey Tallmadge

Wardens: Betty Vail

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

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

Afton, New York 13730

P. O. Box 22

St. Ann's Episcopal Church

The Final Word



Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything, instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7.

The above verses from the Epistle reading for Oct 12th seem particularly appropriate for this time of the year. People and organizations are preparing next year's budgets, worrying as they do whether they will have enough coming in to cover what is needed for 2015. The word "stewardship" pops up in sermons and newsletter articles along with "UTO," "pledge,"

"commitment," etc. The people who are responsible for financial planning, whether it be personal, corporate or church can find it easy to worry. Will there be enough money to cover insurance, utilities, personnel expenses, medical costs, etc. All these things are necessary but they don't bring real peace of mind and heart. We still lie awake at night wondering what would happen if the market collapses or if that spot on the X-ray turns out to be cancer. According to Paul in this passage, the primary result of prayer is not necessarily healing or miraculous provision, but peace. When you feel anxiety, fear or insecurity, remember Paul's encouragement to "pray about everything." Interestingly, last month's article on the UTO pointed out that UTO's primary mission is to improve people's prayer life. And while we pray, let us trust God to guard our heart and mind with a supernatural and inexplicable peace.

PCV