

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: 607-761-4601 Office: 607-656-9502

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 cannot be reached, please contact one of the wardens.

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



Happiest of New Years and continuing Christmas blessings! (Remember, Christmas is 12 days!)

This year, in preparing for Christmas, I spent some time pondering the importance of the Incarnation. The Creator God of the universe freely deciding to become a flesh and blood human being. Historically, it has been a bit of stumbling block in our relations with Jews and Muslims. I believe we should certainly work to overcome that stumbling block, but we should also consider what belief in the Incarnation is asking us to focus our hearts and minds on.

Other religions believe their gods took human form for short periods of time, but none that I am aware of did so for the reasons we see our God becoming human. One thing the Incarnation means is that God seeks communion with God's creation: especially humanity. In love, God seeks to bridge the difference between us.

God came to live among us, to be born as one of us, in a time and in a place of fear and hopelessness. At a time when the Jews were ruthlessly oppressed, Jesus Christ was born a Jew. At a time when the haves and have-nots led completely different lives, Jesus Christ was born among the have-nots - poor and helpless.

When we wonder about this world, our answer needs to be based on the fact that God so loved it that he came to live in it.

When we wonder about humanity, our answer needs to be based on the fact that God so loved humanity that he came to live among us and rather than pick and choose who he would feed, heal and forgive, he **freely** fed, **freely** healed and **freely** forgave **all** who came to him.

When we wonder about ourselves and what God asks of us, our answer needs to be based on the fact that God came to serve and **not** be served, and he asks us to love one another as he has loved us.

Just a few thoughts on the Incarnation. Blessings to you all!

PLEASE NOTE!!

SERVICES FOR JAN & FEB. STARTS @ 9AM SUNDAY
WILL BE "ZOOM" ONLY.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO "TUNE IN" BY GOING TO OUR WEBSITE:

<https://stannsaftonny.org/>

ALL LOWER CASE AND CLICK ON
"ZOOM CONNECTION" UNDERLINED & IN BLUE
YOU ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

ALSO PLEASE NOTE!!

On February 22nd at 7:00p.m., there will be an Ash Wednesday
service "IN PERSON"
at St. Ann's.

JAN/FEB SERVICE SCHEDULE \ SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE

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.

| Service Schedule | | | | |
|--------------------|---------|-----------|----------------|------------|
| Date | Service | OT Reader | Epistle Reader | Acolytes |
| Jan 1 - Zoom | HC | | | None |
| Jan 8 - Zoom | MP | | | None |
| Jan 15 - Zoom | HC | | | None |
| Jan 22 - Zoom | MP | | | None |
| Jan 29 - Zoom | MP | | | None |
| Feb 5 - Zoom | HC | | | None |
| Feb 12 - Zoom | MP | | | None |
| Feb 19 - Zoom | HC | | | None |
| Feb 22 – In Person | HC | | | TBD |
| Feb 26 - Zoom | MP | | | None |
| Mar 5 – In Person | HC | | | Betty Vail |

READINGS BELOW

| | | Old Testament | Psalms | New Testament | Gospel |
|--|----|---|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Jan 1 - Zoom | HC | Numbers 6:22-27 | Psalm 8 | Galatians 4:4-7 | Luke 2:15-21 |
| Jan 8 - Zoom | MP | Isaiah 42:1-9 | Psalm 29 | Acts 10:34-43 | Matthew 3:13-17 |
| Jan 15 - Zoom | HC | Isaiah 49:1-7 | Psalm 40:1-12 | 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 | John 1:29-42 |
| Jan 22 - Zoom | MP | Isaiah 9:1-4 | Psalm 27:1, 5-13 | 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 | Matthew 4:12-23 |
| Jan 29 - Zoom | MP | Micah 6:1-8 | Psalm 15 | 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 | Matthew 5:1-12 |
| Feb 5 - Zoom | HC | Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12] | Psalm 112:1-9, (10) | 1 Corinthians 2:1-12, [13-16] | Matthew 5:13-20 |
| Feb 12 - Zoom | MP | Deuteronomy 30:15-20 | Psalm 119:1-8 | 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 | Matthew 5:21-37 |
| Feb 19 - Zoom | HC | Exodus 24:12-18 | Psalm 2 | 2 Peter 1:16-21 | Matthew 17:1-9 |
| Feb 22 - In Person | HC | Joel 2:1-2,12-17 | Psalm 103 or 103:8-14 | 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 | Matthew 6:1-6,16-21 |
| Feb 26 - Zoom | MP | Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 | Psalm 32 | Romans 5:12-19 | Matthew 4:1-11 |
| Mar 5 - In Person | HC | Genesis 12:1-4a | Psalm 121 | Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 | John 3:1-17 |
| If you are looking at the above on a computer device, then each reading is a link directly to the reading. | | | | | |

MORNING PRAYER LEADERS: Fr. David will be Zooming for January and February. Amedeo Cimini is hosting Zoom and Fr. David will be co-hosting for January and February.



Altar Duty for the month of March is Tracey Tallmadge 607-343-1301. If you desire flowers on the Altar on a given Sunday, please contact Betty Vail 607-639-1201 a week in advance.

Did you know that Cheetah, the chimpanzee companion to all those movie Tarzans, outlived all his Tarzans by eating an organic diet of bananas and figs, and staying physically fit by climbing trees to the age of 80?

Cheetah was also a humorist. "He always loved to laugh and to make other people laugh," his sanctuary director said.

Cheetah spent his last years watching sports on TV and listening to Christian music, she said.

Cheetah never got monkey pox.

"A sense of humor is good for you. Have you ever heard of a laughing hyena with heartburn?"

— Bob Hope

"Remove processed fake foods from your diet that contain harmful and artificial additives, and replace them with healthful real foods from God's creation."

— Rita Madden
Honolulu, HI

(Rita Madden is author of *Food, Faith and Fasting: A Sacred Journey to Better Health*.)

St. Ann's Prayer List for Jan/Feb 2023

We are trying to keep our prayer list updated the best way possible. To do that, please review the lists below and contact us with changes. Our lists are only as good as the information provided to us. 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, 607-639-1201. Please note long term names will be left on the list indefinitely, short term names for two/three months unless updated.

| Short Term | | Long Term | | | | |
|------------|---------|-----------|---------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Marge | Diane | Carol | Peter | Fr. David Hanselman | St. Paul's Church | |
| Anne | Dorothy | Bobbi | Joyce | Fr. Steven White | St. Andrews's Church | |
| Dorothy | Fran | Mya | Marsha | Pastor Becky | St. Matthews's Church | |
| Ralph | | Jason | Holly | Fr. Geoff Doolittle | St. Peter's Church | |
| | | Cindy | Richard | The Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe | Zion Church | |
| | | David | Bonnie | Bishop Michael Curry | Message Ministries | |
| | | Terra | Hailey | The Revs Ralph & Liz Groskoph | The General Theological Seminary | |
| | | Doc | Arthur | Emanuel Church | The Episcopal Divinity School | |
| | | Peter | | Epiphany Church | | |

Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins –
Pete and Carol Vail, Joyce Whitney, Grace Affuso, and
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

4 Briella Harding
13 Peter Vail
15 Tyler Wright
20 Ron Sherman
27 Cindy Sherman
Bonnie MacPherson



Birthdays

2/2 Tom Vail
2/18 Carol Tarvin

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

First Things First

Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.
Matthew 6:33

Have you fervently asked God to help prioritize your life? If so, you are inviting Him to become a full-fledged partner in your endeavors.

When you make God's priorities your priorities, you will receive His abundance and His peace. When you allow God control in every aspect of your life, He will lead you along the proper path: His path. When you allow God to play a role in the organization of your day, He will honor you with spiritual blessings too numerous to count. So, as you plan for the day ahead, take a few quiet moments to gather your thoughts and consult your Creator. It is the best way to pal your day and your life.

Jesus's life was a constant demonstration that there are only two things that matter in this life: God and people. They are the only things that last forever.



CHURCH TERMS

CHURCH TERMS: –ASHES: The powdered ashes of the palms of the previous year's Palm Sunday, placed on the forehead on Ash Wednesday as a reminder of man's need for repentance.



Vestry Hi-lights for December

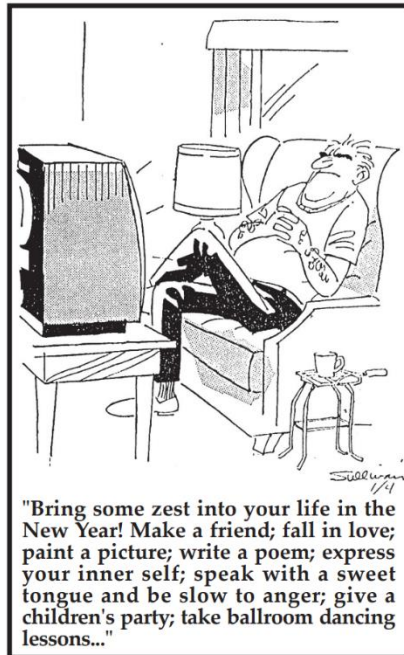
Vestry Meeting, December 18, 2022

1. Meeting called to order at 10:50 a.m. by Fr. David after prayer. Present: Fr. David, Tracey Tallmadge, Judy Rettberg, Denise Wieber, Mado Cimini. Absent: Dan & Kerri Vail, Amy Wieber, Woodie Robins.
2. The minutes of the October 16, 2022, meeting was reviewed and on a motion by Denise, and seconded by Judy, were approved as presented.
3. **Outreach:** Several suggestions, including "Roots and Wings" a food pantry in Norwich that has a need for funds. Judy noted that the Afton Food Pantry had recently given them a contribution of \$2000. Denise noted that Amy is considering starting a soup and sandwich lunch program. After discussion, a motion was made by Mado that we approve \$100 for seed money and that we support the project with up to \$100 per month for 2023. Seconded by Judy and carried. Details on the project will follow.
4. After discussion, a motion was made by Tracey that we give the \$300 for November, to the Afton VFW which is struggling financially. Seconded by Denise and carried.
5. For December, a motion was made by Judy that we support the Diocese of Jerusalem, seconded by Tracey, and carried.
6. **Unfinished business:** Decided that we will start Zoom services the first Sunday of January and continue through February. Services will be accessible through St. Ann's website. This should help conserve fuel oil and avoid travel during the winter months.
7. Also noted that we will NOT have a service on Christmas day which falls on Sunday this year.
8. Fr. David and Mado reported on convention.
9. The antifreeze has been purchased for the forced hot water furnace in the Church and will be installed by Mado and Ron Sherman.
10. We were not able to have the lawn mowed at Arthur Jones as he could not be contacted to give his permission.
11. **New Business:** UTO ingathering so far is \$247.
12. Our Wednesday bible study has a temporary hiatus to support the Diocesan program on racism. Fr. David noted that St. Ann's parish hall might be used for access to our large screen TV for the program.
13. Christmas offering was discussed. We have typically given this offering to the General Theological Seminary. After discussion, a motion was made by Tracey and seconded by Denise that we do the same this Christmas, motion carried. The General Theological Seminary publication was available, and it was noted that St. Ann's is the only church in the Diocese of Central New York that has given to the General Theological Seminary.
14. A brief report was given on the Stewardship program response. A number of cards have not been returned.

15. The Diocese has sent the figures on our 2023 assessment and suggested pledge. After discussion, a motion was made by Tracey that we return the pledge form agreeing to the figure calculated by the Diocese for our assessment of \$4125 and increasing the pledge figure to \$2490 which gives a total of \$6615.00 or \$551.25 per month. Motion seconded by Mado and carried. Fr. David will send the completed form to the Diocese.
16. There being no other business to transact, a motion was made by Judy that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Denise, and carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Vail, Clerk



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A New Year's resolution

I will try this day to live a simple, sincere and serene life, repelling promptly every thought of discontent, anxiety, discouragement, impurity, and self-seeking; cultivating cheerfulness, magnanimity, charity, and the habit of holy silence; exercising economy in expenditure, generosity in giving, carefulness in conversation, diligence in appointed service, fidelity to every trust, and a childlike faith in God.

"In particular I will try to be faithful in those habits of prayer, work, study, physical exercise, eating, and sleep which I believe the Holy Spirit has shown me to be right.

"And as I cannot in my own strength do this, nor even with a hope of success attempt it, I look to You, O Lord God my Father, in Jesus my Savior, and ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit."

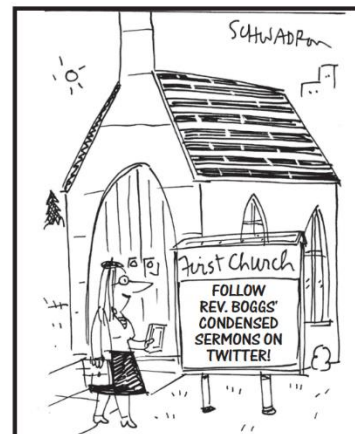
— via *The Anglican Digest*



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The Final Word

Accomplishments: Isaiah 25:1 – “O Lord, I will honor and praise your name, for you are my God. You do such wonderful things! You planned them long ago, and now you have accomplished them.”

God makes plans and then carries those plans through. Planning and accomplishment go together. Without planning, our efforts can be disorderly, frustrating us as we try to complete a task. When we plan and involve God in the process, our accomplishments take on greater meaning and significance.

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

