

## Sharing God's Love in Our Community Through Prayer, Study and Action



St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY  
(Member of the Broome/Chenango District)

### **The Parish News**

[www.stannsaftonny.org](http://www.stannsaftonny.org)

The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

Clergy: Currently Supply Priests

If you desire a visit from a priest or give you a call, please contact one of the wardens below.

Wardens: Dan Vail: 607-240-9264 Betty Vail 607-639-1201

### **THE JOYS OF FRIENDSHIP**

*As iron sharpens iron, a friend sharpens a friend.*

*Proverbs 27:17 NLT*

*What is a friend? The dictionary defines friend as "a person who is attached to another by feelings of affection or personal regard." That's accurate as far as it goes, but when we examine the deeper meaning of friendship, many more descriptors come to mind: **trustworthiness, loyalty, helpfulness, kindness, understanding forgiveness, encouragement, humor, and cheerfulness**, to mention but a few. Friends are good for each other. They not only encourage but also challenge and sharpen each other.*

*Genuine friendship is something to be treasured and nourished. One way we do that is by treating others as we wish to be treated. When we treat others with kindness, courtesy, and respect, we build friendships that can last a lifetime.*

*Some people come into our lives and quickly go.  
Some people stay for a while and leave footprints  
on our hearts, and we are never the same.*

*Author Unknown*

### **Prayer for the selection of a Rector**

**Almighty God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on your church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

If you desire communion more than once or twice a month, Rev. Geoff Doolittle conducts Holy Eucharist at Zion Greene on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Saturday nights at 5:00 p.m. He conducts Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's in Oxford the 2nd and 4th Saturday nights at 5:00 p.m.

**AUG SEPT 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](mailto:Bottom415@aol.com), Yes, the “zoom” service is different, but change is what life is all about.

Service Schedule						
Date	Service	MP/RSC Leader	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	Acolytes	RSC Information
Aug 3	MP	B. Vail	J. Rettberg	J. Rettberg	B. Vail	
Aug 10	MP	D. Wieber	S. Botski	S. Botski	T. Tallmadge	
Aug 17	RSC	B. Vail	J. Rettberg	J. Rettberg	T. Botzki	See Table below
Aug 24	MP	C. Cimini	T. Botski	T. Botski	B. Vail	
Aug 31	MP	T. Tallmadge	C. Cimini	C. Cimini	B. Vail	
Sep 7	MP	C. Cimini	B. Vail	B. Vail	B. Vail	
Sep 14	MP	B. Vail	D. Wieber	D. Wieber	B. Vail	
Sep 21	RSC	B. Vail	T. Botski	T. Botski	B. Vail	See Table below
Sep 28	MP	T. Tallmadge	C. Cimini	C. Cimini	B. Vail	
Oct 5	MP		S. Botski	S. Botski	B. Vail	
READINGS BELOW						
Aug 3	MP		<a href="#">Hosea 11:1-11</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 107:1-9, 43</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 3:1-11</a>	<a href="#">Luke 12:13-21</a>
Aug 10	MP		<a href="#">Isaiah 1:1, 10-20</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16</a>	<a href="#">Luke 12:32-40</a>
Aug 17	RSC		<a href="#">Isaiah 5:1-7</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 11:29-12:2</a>	<a href="#">Luke 12:49-56</a>
Aug 24	MP		<a href="#">Jeremiah 1:4-10</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 71:1-6</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 12:18-29</a>	<a href="#">Luke 13:10-17</a>
Aug 31	MP		<a href="#">Jeremiah 2:4-13</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 81:1, 10-16</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16</a>	<a href="#">Luke 14:1, 7-14</a>
Sep 7	MP		<a href="#">Jeremiah 18:1-11</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17</a>	<a href="#">Philemon 1-21</a>	<a href="#">Luke 14:25-33</a>
Sep 14	MP		<a href="#">Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 14</a>	<a href="#">1 Timothy 1:12-17</a>	<a href="#">Luke 15:1-10</a>
Sep 21	RSC		<a href="#">Jeremiah 8:18-9:1</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 79:1-9</a>	<a href="#">1 Timothy 2:1-7</a>	<a href="#">Luke 16:1-13</a>
Sep 28	MP		<a href="#">Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16</a>	<a href="#">1 Timothy 6:6-19</a>	<a href="#">Luke 16:19-31</a>
Oct 5	MP		<a href="#">Lamentations 1:1-6</a>	<a href="#">Lamentations 3:19-26</a>	<a href="#">2 Timothy 1:1-14</a>	<a href="#">Luke 17:5-10</a>
If you are looking at the above table on a computer device, then each reading is a link directly to the reading.						

**RSC: RESERVED SACRAMENT COMMUNION**

Date	Leader	Reader (Readings and Psalm)	Intercessors (Prayers of the People) (2)	Distributors
Aug 17	B. Vail	J. Rettberg	From Congregation	C & A Cimini
Sep 21	B. Vail	T. Botski	From Congregation	C & A Cimini

**ALTAR GUILD for the month of August is Carol Cimini, 607-693-2907.**

**ALTAR GUILD for the month of September is Pat Tucker, 607-206-4319. If you desire to have flowers placed on the Altar in memory of a loved one, please contact Betty Vail at 607-639-1201 one week in advance.**

**St. Ann's Prayer List for Aug/Sept 2025**

It has been suggested that the names of individuals on the parish prayer list be included in the newsletter. 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. Please remember these individuals in your personal prayers. We would like to be sure that this prayer list is updated as changes occur as we do not want to remove someone that should be on it. Please send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 607-639-1201. Please note that long term names will remain on the list indefinitely, short term names will typically be left on the listing for 3 or 4 months or longer.

Short Term			Long Term		
Jeane	Richard	Dorothy		Fr. David Hanselman	St. Paul's Church
Melrose	Gary	Mya		Fr. Steven White	St. Andrews's Church
Mado	Norm	Holly		Pastor Becky	St. Ann's Church
Barbara	JoAnne	Bonnie		Fr. Geoff Doolittle	St. Peter's Church
Edward	Hudson	Bobbi		The Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe	Zion Church St. Matthew's Church
Jason	Arthur			Bishop Sean Rowe	Message Ministries
Darlene	David	Cindy		The Rev. Liz Groskoph	The General Theological Seminary
				Emanuel Church	The Episcopal Divinity School
				Epiphany Church	Berkley Divinity School



Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins – Bonnie Macpherson,  
Toni Weller, and Bobbi Zurn

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.*



### **St. Ann's Vestry meeting hi-lites**

1. Outreach for July: Binghamton Rescue Mission, \$500
  - a. Mom's House: \$500
2. Outreach for August: Life Choices Center: \$500
  - a. Afton VFW: \$250
  - b. Halos, Afton: \$250
3. Discussed the Reserved Sacrament Services that were held during June. They seemed to go well and were meaningful. As was mentioned previously, the shortage of priests in the Episcopal Church makes the prospects of our finding a priest for the three churches, St. Ann's, Zion, and St. Paul's, within the near future, seems very remote. The Reserved Sacrament Services should be able to fill the void for the time being. The Sundays that the Reserved Sacrament Service will be held will be marked as RSC in the service list in this newsletter. Why not try it, you might like it.
4. Also discussed was the possibility of helping Afton Glenwood Cemetery find someone to help with the data transfer from paper to the new software.

**The search for a Priest for St. Ann's, Zion and St. Paul's is still active, but there has been no response currently.**



**CHURCH TERMS: LUKE, THE EVANGELIST – Not an Apostle, but the devoted physician of Paul. He had studied at Antioch and probably was converted after Christ ‘ascension. He is the author of “The Gospel according to St. Luke” and “The Acts of the Apostles.: He is commemorated on October 18. His symbol is the ox. Liturgical color: *red*.**



August Birthdays

August Anniversaries

8/2 HAILEY TALLMADGE CHRISTIAN

8/21 Jay Hailey Christian

8/04 MILTON HARDING

8/28 Ken Connie Beames

8/09 AL TUCKER

8/13 GRAYSON HARDING

8/14 JUDY RETTBERG

8/22 AMY WIEBER



September Birthdays

September Anniversary

9/13 Toni Weller

9/22 Milton & Marisa Harding

9/16/ Cindy Trick

9/30 Tom & Betty Vail

9/19 Calvin Tallmadge

9/26 Denise Wieber

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

The following are used by permission from The JoyfulNoiseletter.com.

## "I"-Liners

I asked my daughter to give me the phone book. She laughed at me, called me a dinosaur and lent me her iPhone. So the spider is dead, the iPhone is broken, and my daughter is furious!

I didn't make it to the gym today, for the fifth straight year.

I decided to stop calling the bathroom the "John" and renamed it the "Jim." I feel so much better saying, "I'm going to the Jim this morning."

Of course, I talk to myself; sometimes I need expert advice.

The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't have to write that down; I'll remember it."

I couldn't believe it today, when I came home and was told by my wife that my 5-year-old son wasn't actually mine...

She says that I need to pay more attention when picking him up from school.

I told my boss today that three companies were after me and that I needed a raise!

He asked me which three companies?

I said Gas, Electric and Water.

My wife and I have decided we don't want kids. We are telling them tonight.

## The Lord's Laughter

"The One whose throne is in heaven sits laughing."  
Psalm 2:4

Dave's kids asked him what it was like growing up... So he grabbed their phones, and turned off the Wi-Fi, gave them some Popsicles & a bike, and told them to stay outside till the street lights came on!



A mom texts, "Hi son, what does IDK, LY and TTYL mean?"

He replies, "I Don't Know, Love You, Talk to You Later."

The mom texts back, "It's okay, don't worry about it. I'll ask your sister. Love you too!"



# Cartoons for Church Publications and Web Sites

*"The Joyful Noiseletter is packed with funny religious stories, plus a page of cartoons, that offer some of the choicest pickings for the pulpit, church bulletins, or dinner table fare."*

— George W. Cornell  
Religion Editor, *The Associated Press*

Pastors and editors who are JN subscribers may reprint any of the cartoons in JN in their local church publications, free-of-charge, and without further permission. Please include the credit lines which appear below each cartoon.



"Wow! Say a prayer that we can stay up here forever, Mom!"

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
©Ed Sullivan  
Reprinted with permission

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bill and Jeff Keane



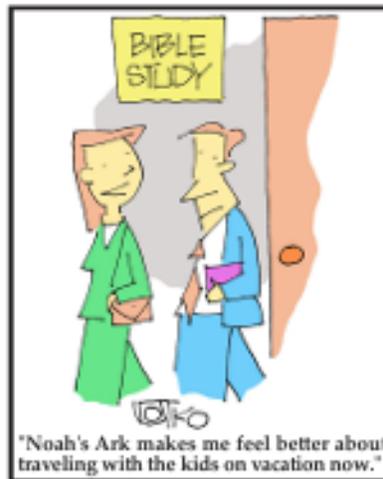
"Grandma says of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
©Bill & Jeff Keane  
Reprinted with permission



"I love being married to a veterinarian, but I wish you wouldn't keep referring to me as 'the pick of the litter.'"

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
©Ed Sullivan  
Reprinted with permission



"Noah's Ark makes me feel better about traveling with the kids on vacation now."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
©Bob Vojtko  
Reprinted with permission



"Looks like I'm going to have to get Mom to let me cross the street."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
©Martha Campbell  
Reprinted with permission



from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
©Harley L. Schwadron  
Reprinted with permission



"You wake him up. You're the one who put him to sleep."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
©Tim Oliphant  
Reprinted with permission



"We're in for a real treat now as Sister Arliss brings us our special music, 'Sweet Peace, the Gift of God's Love.'"

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
©Rev. Dennis Daniel, Brother Bloopier  
Reprinted with permission

The Final Word 

**HEALTH: 1 Timothy 4:8** *“Physical exercise has some value, but spiritual exercise is much more important, for it promises a reward both this life and the next”.*

**We live in an exercise-crazed society. Exercise equipment is sold in abundance; health clubs prosper; ski resorts are full. Many people are concerned about their physical health. This is good because God commands us to take care of our bodies (1 Cor: 3:16). But spiritual fitness, exercise for the soul, is much more important than physical fitness. What have you been doing lately to become more spiritually fit?**

**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:** Currently Supply Priests  
Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

