

Good Shepherd Anglican Church

LABOR DAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2013

We celebrate Labor Day, a federal holiday, on the first Monday in September. It is a day of leisure with picnics, parades, barbecues, fun and fireworks and used to signal the “last fling of summer” before children returned to school. However, it was born of revolutionary ideas and violence. It began as a result of the Central Labor Union (CLU) of New York, the nation’s first integrated major trade union. It is generally agreed that a “labor day” was proposed as early as 1882. It became a federal holiday in 1894 following the deaths of a number of workers during the Pulman Railroad Strike and the Haymarket Square Massacre in 1886. President Grover Cleveland made the reconciliation with the labor unions a top political priority because he feared further labor unrest and disruptions. Legislation was rushed through Congress with unanimous consent and signed into law six days after the Pulman Strike. Although Labor Day has been thought of as a “celebration of Unions”, it has come to be recognized as a day for all those who labor whether in a union or not. And so, it is a day to honor those who labor - either for wages or not - for wives, volunteers and all who do meaningful work.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

It is now twelve years since the tragic, senseless events of 2001. It seems that periodically our nation is reminded that neither freedom nor our unique way of life is free. From the beginning days of the Revolutionary War through the Civil War which nearly ruined us, to two World Wars, Korea, Viet Nam, Iraq, Afghanistan and the cowardly acts of 911, we have repeatedly been tried, tested and have, by the Grace of God, overcome those who would defeat us and our way of life. During these trials our nation has been transformed significantly and permanently and we will never be the same. On this day, please set aside time to honor those who have given their lives in the past and continue to do so today for our safety and freedom.

THE AUTUMNAL EMBER DAYS SEPTEMBER 18, 20 & 21

The Old Testament documents in Zechariah 8:19 the observance of Ember Days as a “fast of the fourth month, a fast of the fifth and a fast of the seventh and a fast of the tenth”. Each fast recognize a significant event in the life of God’s People; e.g., the fast of the fourth month lamented the breaching of the wall of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar (2 Kings 25:3-4 and Jer. 39:2). The Jewish custom at the time of Jesus was to fast every Tuesday and Thursday. However, the early Christians changed this custom to a fast on Wednesday and Friday. Wednesday was chosen because that was the day He was betrayed and Friday was the day He was crucified. In later centuries Christians added their own customs to include commemorating the four seasons with existing pagan rituals especially in Europe and the British Isles.

Ember Days give us an opportunity to focus our daily prayers on specific subjects or areas. In the world in which Christians find themselves today the number of areas requiring prayer are seemingly inexhaustible. Some chose to focus on one subject for the three day period; for example, World Peace or the elimination of hunger. Others select a new subject for prayer each day; for example, the strengthening of our families, the safety and protection of our Armed Forces and Canadian Allies, and the success of research for the cure for cancer. Is there a “right way” to do it? I believe that whatever you chose to pray about is a personal decision and is therefore, “right”. As well as petitioning God for his protection against the world, the flesh and the devil, please remember to praise, glorify and thank God for all his blessings.

**SAINT MATTHEW
APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST**

The Feast of Saint Matthew is celebrated on the 21st of September (Book Of Common Prayer, page 250). The first mention of Matthew is when Jesus tells him "Follow me" (Matthew 9:9). He is further mentioned four times in the list of the Apostles. Matthew was a Galilean Jew and was a tax collector for Herod Antipas at Carpharnaum. As a tax collector he was doubly despised: First as an agent of the Roman Government and second as a Jew who had gone over to the Roman "enemy". Tax collectors were thought to be, and most were, dishonest. Since they were unsalaried, they "earned" their living by cheating the taxed.



When called by Jesus, Matthew followed Him and brought Jesus to his house for a feast. It was attended by tax collectors, sinners, Apostles and Pharisees. The Pharisees protested the attendance of the "sinners" and Jesus rebuked them by saying: "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners" (Mark 2:17).

The New Testament records that as a disciple Matthew followed Jesus and he was one of the witnesses of the Resurrection and the Ascension. He preached in Judea for fifteen years and his Gospel was written to convince the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah sent by God to fulfill Old Testament prophecy.

VESTRY MEMBERS

- Rev. Tom Phifer (480) 892-4260
- Brian Simpson (480) 710-5040
- Ron Jaworski (480) 288-8282
- Marvin Blattel (480) 357-0173
- Don Cummings (480) 832-1583
- David LaMarine (602) 881-6346
- Greg Stern (480) 844-4898

Quote for September 11th

"Rejoice not over me o mine enemy, for when I fall I shall arise, and when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me.

Micah 7:8

**SAINT MICHAEL
AND ALL ANGELS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2013**

The Propers for the Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels are found in the BCP on page 251. Michael's name means "Who is like God?" and this became the battle cry of the war between Good and Evil in the Book of Revelation. It is Michael who leads God's armies against Satan's forces during the uprising (Revelation 12:7). He is also mentioned in the Book of Daniel (10:13) as "one of the chief princes" in Daniel's vision and comes to Gabriel's aid in his contest with Dobiel, the angel of Persia. He is described (Daniel 10:21 and 12:1) as the advocate of the Children of Israel and as a "great prince who stands up for your (Daniel's) people".



We are in the "home stretch" of Operation Christmas Child as we look forward to the Packing Party in November. For questions about what items are needed, please contact Annmaria Simpson either at church or at 480-357-6168.

Do Not Love The World

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For everything in the world — the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes, and the boasting of what he has and does — comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but he who does the will of the Father lives forever.

1 John 2:15-17

GOOD SHEPHERD ANGLICAN CHURCH VESTRY MEETING

AUGUST 5, 2013

The Good Shepherd Anglican Church Vestry met at the home of Reverend Thomas K. Phifer on the evening of August 5, 2013. The following members were present: Marvin Blattel, Donald Cummings, Ron Jaworski, Dave La Marine, Brian Simpson and Greg Stern. Father Phifer gave the benediction and Brian opened the meeting at 7:10 P.M.

Don reviewed the monthly financials for July and also a weekly report of collection contributions by category (Operating Fund, Altar Guild, Priest's Discretionary Fund and Building Fund) for the year through July. The average weekly collection this year is \$558.92 (\$493.17 in 2012) with an average attendance of 37 (31 in 2012). It was recognized that with the Reverend Fox as the Rector, a monthly operating expense which had not been incurred with Reverend Phifer would have to be met.

The vestry asked Marvin to pursue now an advertisement in the Superstition Springs Village Newsletter for publication as soon as possible. The newsletter reaches approximately 3,000 homes. The advertisements in the Gold Canyon/Apache Junction News and the Territorial News have proved beneficial and the new ad would reach out to prospective new members.

Brian stated that Pam Johnson has donated some storage racks for the Altar Guild Room to organize kitchen and restroom supplies used on Sundays and that Greg would install them in the room.

The Bible Study Classes on the Amazing People in the Bible has completed the first fifteen lessons and will take a break during the summer months but bible study will resume in September with a different subject and focus.

The Celebrate Anglicanism books have been well received and another ten have been ordered.

Brian noted that he had responded to Reverend Lingenfelter's e-mail and communicated with him via Facebook.

The vestry discussed two items in the Executive Session.

Ron recommended the vestry purchase another lapel microphone for use with the sound system. A discussion resulted and it was suggested that the speaker be repositioned as well as other alternatives. The recommendation was tabled pending further study.

Marvin stated that more help was needed for church set up on Sunday mornings. Reverend Phifer will make an announcement at the Sunday Service.

The next vestry meeting will be at the home of Marvin and Carol Blattel on Monday, September 9th. Ron moved and Don seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Father Phifer gave the benediction and the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
David A. La Marine
Secretary

Good Shepherd Anglican Church

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FOR YOUR INFO

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ken Helander, September 5th
Marvin Blattel, September 7th
Cindy Johnson, September 13th
Rita Helander, September 19th
Linda Nobilio, September 20th
Jo Ann Thompson, September 20th
Brian Simpson, September 21st
David Abbott, September 23rd
Darla McBride, September 23rd
Marilyn Stafford, September 27th
Greg Stern, September 29th

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Larry & Phyllis Braasch,
September 3rd
David & Marilyn Abbott,
September 4th
Philip & Sue Thompson,
September 7th
Charles & Jean Marriott,
September 12th

