



CHRIST AND THE EPIPHANY

VOLUME 30

August/September 2026



The Secret Religious History of Labor Day

themonastery.org

Thousands of workers attended early Labor Day parades in New York City. On September 7th, millions of Americans will celebrate Labor Day, the federal holiday that gifts American workers a well-earned three-day weekend of rest and relaxation. Picnics, parades, and backyard barbecues mark this unofficial end of summer, which became a national holiday in 1894. But did you know: while Labor Day is mostly a secular affair today, it has some fascinating faith origins.

How Did Labor Day Begin?

By the mid-1800s, America's workforce was being ground down by the gears of the Industrial Revolution. Men, women, and even children labored 12 hours a day, 7 days a week and on-the-job deaths and injuries were common.

Unions rose in righteous protest. Their victories were the 8-hour day, 5-day week,

child labor laws, minimum wages, and safety regulations.

To celebrate these victories, on September 5, 1882, some 10,000 workers marched through New York City and by 1894 President Cleveland finally declared it a federal holiday.

Labor Day Religious Themes

Religious themes were woven throughout the labor movement. Organizers often referenced scripture to back their arguments for better working conditions. Among the most-cited passages were: Jeremiah 22:13 -

"Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness, and his upper rooms by injustice, who makes his neighbor serve him for nothing and does not give him his wages"

and James 5:4 -

"Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts"

Faith Leader Involvement

As worker unrest stirred around the world, Pope Leo XIII issued the *Rerum Novarum* in 1891- a pro-labor document that affirmed laborers' rights to form unions, called for just wages sufficient to support a family, and framed workplace dignity as a moral imperative grounded in Christian teaching.

Worship Services

Every Sunday, 9:00 a.m., in-person and via Zoom

Sunday Sept 13th, 9:00 a.m., Baptism of Emilia Judith Arcuri

Sunday Oct 4th, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Blessing of the Animals

(Zoom connection information at the end of newsletter.)

Events

Monday, Sept 7th, Labor Day

Saturday, Sept 12th, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 pm., East Haven Fall Festival and C&E Harvest Fair

Episcopal leaders (along with Congregationalists and Catholics) also joined the cause. In 1887, Bishop Henry C. Potter helped establish the Church Association for the Advancement of the Interests of Labor (CAIL), whose pro-labor members preached from pulpits, wrote op-eds, and organized forums that linked Christian teaching to economic justice.

Today, few Americans see Labor Day as anything more than the last long weekend of summer. While it may not technically be a religious holiday, Labor Day's origins are inextricably tied to religious beliefs about dignity - in one's life, and one's labor.

Fall Festival and Harvest Fair

Saturday September 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. is the East Haven Fall Festival and our own Harvest Fair.

The Thrift Store and Garage will both be open as well as the usual Bake Sale tent in front of the church. We can use all hands to help that day. Also please consider making some baked goods to sell in the tent. Please see Kristina Langlan for more information.

Good Shepherd Thrift Store News

Seasonal Changeover week of Sept. 27

Our thrift store continues to be a blessing to many - not only providing quality goods at a good price but also being a place people can see faith in action and connect to our community.

Following our **half-price clothing sale** from Thursday September 17 through Saturday September 26 will be our "all hands on deck" seasonal changeover effort.

If you can spare even a short time, your help will be greatly appreciated in helping us store the spring/summer clothing and put out the cold weather clothing. Contact Barbara Parsons to volunteer.

Note that much work can also be done prior to the actual changeover to sort and size the new winter inventory in the off-season room.

Around the Church

Our church bell rung by Ken D. on July 4



Signs of the Times



Vestry

Note: There was no Vestry meeting in July or August.

Next Meeting - The next Vestry meeting will be Sunday, September 20th after the 9:00 a.m. service in the library and via Zoom.



August 5 - Evelyn Conant
August 12 - Elise Nacca
August 17 - Ricky Alexander
August 28 - Stephanie Reynolds
August 30 - Janet Nolan
Sept 18 - Sweetie Kamano
Sept 22 - Jill Lamberti
Sept 23 - Jesse Osmun
Sept 23 - Seth Osmun
Sept 28 - Lee Hubbard



Season of Creation

The Season of Creation starts on September 1st and runs through October 4th (our Blessing of the Animals day!).

Expect special prayers and liturgy during this season to reflect the great web of life that surrounds us.

Additionally, ECCT is offering Creation Daily Devotion emails designed to open our eyes to some of the "created ones" with whom we share common ground. Each day highlights a local species including a photo, a brief description, and how the species reflects our image of God. Sign up here: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/OXmcMht>

Encouraging Words

Isadora Wilkenfeld

I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me out of all my terror.

-- Psalm 34:4

"Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

-- Matthew 28:20

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. ...The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

-- James 5:13-14,16

In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. To you they cried out and were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

-- Psalm 22:4-5

May the Lord answer you when you are in distress;

May the name of the God of Jacob protect you.

May he send you help from the sanctuary and grant you support from Zion.

May he remember all your sacrifices and accept your burnt offerings.

May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.

-- Psalm 20:1-4

See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.

-- Isaiah 28:16



August 7 - James & Stephanie Reynolds

August 18 - Richard Schiavone & Judith Randall

August 20 - Tom & Susan Shultz

August 24 - Fred & Pat Walters

August 31 - Andrew & Terry Osmun

Sept 11 - Ken & Kathy Dougherty

Sept 27 - Ray & Audrey Sundwall



Intercessory Prayers

Aiden & the Guida Family, Alexis, Amanda, Amy, Andrew, Audrey Sundwall, Barbuschak Family, Beth Flynn, Brandon, Carol Ude, Cathy Topping, Charlie & Kris Langlan, Chris, Dana, David & Irene, Dawn, Diana, Diane Link, Debbie, Debbie Potrepka, Donna Hodge & Family, Dot Logan, Ed, Elaine, Elizabeth Mary Lalor, Erick Villano, Family in Ukraine, Francesca, Gail & Marnie, Geneva O'Donnell, Hal Levi, Holly Chickos, Holly, James Mancini, Jan McDonald, Jim R. & Family, Joan Shaffner, John & Nate & Typer McDonald, Judy C., Judy Herzman, Kathy, Kathy Guida, Kira, Korey Mollor, Kris, Larry L., Lauren, Levi-Verderame Family, Lucas Sundwall, Matt R., Maureen McPherson, Michael McPherson, Mike, Mila, Minogue Family, Fr. Moses Aderibole, Nicole C., Pat Walters, Paul Pera, Rachael, Regina Schwall, Richard Testa, Sallie Alexander, Sam W., Tricia Clearwater, Turiano Family, Vinny

To submit names for the Intercessory Prayers list please call or email the church office. Names will be kept on the list for three months unless longer time is requested.



ECW CT *Spotlight*

Sharing Inspiring Stories and Connecting Our Parishes

Thursday, September 3, 2026

Via Zoom

6:30pm - 7:30pm

Host:

Dr. Paulette Blythe Russell

President of Episcopal Church Women In Connecticut

Featured Guest:

A Sacred Place -

Programs of Hope for Incarcerated Women

Presented By Allison Fresher of
St. John's Episcopal Church, Essex



Link to join - <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81399416871?pwd=2P3D0aC3Xdkkho9Vs3ClOKyVxIJCnV.1>

Memorial Minute

We have so many interesting things around the church that have been given in memorial to the church or as a donation, that we thought it would be fun to share some of them here.

Offering plate

The large gold-rimmed offering plate kept on the credence table is used by the Acolyte to accept the sanctuary donation collection plates each Sunday. It was a special donation to the church. The inscription reads:

*Presented to The Church of the Epiphany, New Haven Conn.
by the Girls Friendly Branch of the Parish - June 1925*



!! SCAM ALERT !!

Please note: If you ever receive an email from our clergy or member of the parish requesting a favor or money... - **Check** the email address of the sender! Block the sender and **Delete** the email. Donation requests will only come from the Parish Office (christ.epiphany39@att.net or christandtheepiphany@gmail.com)

Always check any requests by calling or sending an email to your own contact email to confirm. **Never** reply to the email you received.

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING SCHEDULE

Safe Church Certification is a requirement of The Episcopal Church for all persons serving in these roles/areas: Acolyte, Altar Guild, Bible Study, Communications, Crucifer, Fund Raising, Hospitality, Lay Reader, Music, Officiant, Pastoral Visitor, Property Management, Technology, Thrift Store, Treasurer, Usher, Warden, or Worship Committee. Comprehensive trainings take about five hours to complete and are done once. Recertification training is done every three years after the comprehensive training is completed.

Sep 14, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Recertification via Zoom

Sep 19, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Comprehensive via In Person at St. Peter's, Milford

Sep 26, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Comprehensive via Zoom

Oct 5, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Recertification via Zoom

Oct 17, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Comprehensive via In Person at St. James', New London

Oct 29, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Recertification via Zoom

Register online at <https://www.episcopalct.org/safe-church/>

ECCT 2025-2026 Prayer Cycle



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

September 6	Parishes: Trinity, Southport; Grace Church, Stafford Springs; Iglesia Betania, Stamford Additionally: Those involved in the ministry of Christian Formation in parishes. For church school & youth group directors, teachers & mentors. For adult education leaders Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria
September 13	Parishes: L'Eglise de L'Epiphanie, Stamford; St. Andrew's, Stamford; St. Francis', Stamford Additionally: Province 1: the Dioceses of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont & Western Massachusetts. For Provincial Synod & all Provincial Networks Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia
September 20	Parishes: St. John's, Stamford; Calvary, Stonington; St. Mark's, Storrs Additionally: Children & children's ministries. Rhythms of Grace & ministries for children with special needs Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Australia
September 27	Parishes: Christ Church, Stratford; Trinity, Tariffville; St. Peter's-Trinity, Thomaston Additionally: Youth & youth ministries, J2A, Confirm Not Conform & all preparing for confirmation Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of Bangladesh

Treasurer Report

Susan Shultz

	JUL	(UNDER)/OVER BUDGET	YTD	(UNDER)/OVER YTD BUDGET
INCOME	\$ 7,666.38	\$ 421.38	\$ 74,726.86	\$ 10,721.86
EXPENSES	\$ 7,111.27	(\$ 7,802.17)	\$ 85,614.73	(\$ 956.61)
NET	\$ 555.11	\$ 8,223.55	(\$ 10,887.87)	\$ 11,678.47

Notes: While it looks like we were \$7,000 beneath budgeted expenses, this is misleading. This is primarily because of a disconnect between when we paid our building insurance and when we budgeted it. If you look at the Expense Year-to-Date, you will see that we are holding close to our overall expense numbers.

Next Issue The deadline for the October issue is September 25th. Submissions can be sent to newsletter.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com. For an update to the Intercessory Prayers, Birthday or Anniversary lists, please call the church office at 203-467-2310 or email christandtheepiphany@gmail.com.

Worship Schedule 9:00 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)

	September 6	September 13	September 20	September 27
Service	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist	Morning Prayer
Presider/ Officiant	Terry Osmun	Rev. Charles Kamano	Rev. Charles Kamano	Audrey Sundwall
Crucifer		Kristina Langlan	George Coulombe	
Acolyte		Audrey Sundwall	Kristina Langlan	
Lay Reader	Brad Conant	Judy Herzman	Pat Walters	Ray Clearwater
Usher	Pat Walters	Barbara Parsons	Diane Villano	Kristina Langlan
Zoom Tech	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Anthony Reckart	Susan Shultz
Lead Counter	Susan Shultz	Astrid Swanson	George Coulombe	Pat Walters
Asst Counter	Audrey Sundwall	Judy Herzman	Barbara Coulombe	Ray Clearwater

Clergy, Vestry and Staff

Priest-in-charge	Rev. Charles L. Kamano
Senior Warden	Diane Villano (& Safe Church)
Junior Warden	Barbara Parsons (& Outreach)
Treasurer	Susan Shultz (& Technology)
Clerk	Isadora Wilkenfeld
Vestry Member	Ray Clearwater
Vestry Member	Astrid Swanson
Vestry Member	Pat Walters
Vestry Member	Brad Conant
Vestry Member	Beverly Yurgiewicz
Music Director	Barbara Coulombe
Parish Administrator	Diane Rowley
Worship Committee Chair	George Coulombe
Altar Guild Directress	Carol Link-Ude
Communications Chair	Audrey Sundwall
Hospitality Chair	Kristina Langlan

To connect by computer, enter: <https://tinyurl.com/3kbvnbb4>, or click on the link on our webpage:
www.ChristandTheEpiphany.org

To join by phone call: 929-436-2866, Meeting ID = 993 303 0663, Password = 39

Weekly bulletins are emailed out on Fridays. Zoom is opened around 8:45 a.m. on Sunday.

If you are not receiving the email bulletin, please contact Diane Rowley in the office at 203-467-2310 or christandtheepiphany@gmail.com. If you want or need any help getting connected on Zoom please reach out any time to Susan Shultz at 203-589-1142 or sbshultz@gmail.com.

Christ and The Epiphany Church

39 Park Place
East Haven, CT 06512

Phone: 203-467-2310

Email: christandtheepiphany@gmail.com

Website: www.christandtheepiphany.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday 9:00 a.m. In-Person & Online Zoom Worship