



# The Methodist *Memo*

SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST AND  
SHARING OUR FAITH WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

September 2023



*From the Pastor's* 

**Let's Come Together!**

**Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 AM outdoor worship on the church front lawn

**We will**

**SHARE OUR WORSHIP - SHOW OUR FAITH -  
JOIN TOGETHER IN FELLOWSHIP**

Bring a friend or relative to service, and stay for  
fellowship and our



*Ice Cream*

*& Pie Social*



# **Rally Day**

## PASTOR MARK'S SERMON SERIES

### September 3—Holy Communion Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon: "The Expectation of  
Suffering"

Scripture: Matthew 16:21-28

### September 17 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

#### **RALLY DAY!**

Sermon: "A Stupid Question?!"

Scripture: Matthew 18:21-35

### September 10

### Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon: "Rule of Christ"

Scripture: Matthew 18:15-20



### September 24—Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon: "Kingdom Laborers:  
Gracious & Grateful"

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16



### *Let's Celebrate*

#### *September Birthdays*

Robert Bettenhausen —6  
Rae Egan-Smith—8  
Helen Krucek—21  
Carl Nilsen—21  
Cheri Bonow—28  
Jenny Pedraza—30



#### *September Anniversary*

Bill & Cheri Bonow—Sept. 2



"I love the kind of hugs where you  
can physically feel the sadness leaving  
your body."

~Charles Schultz

(Lessons Learned in Life)



## *Model of Repentance*

### *Legends developed about a fourth-century woman known only as Mary of Egypt .*

Born about 344, she was a twelve-year-old “wild child” when she ran away from her home in Alexandria, Egypt. For the next seventeen years, she supported herself as a prostitute, dancer, and actress.

One day, seeking new adventures, she accompanied a group of pilgrims going to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast of the Holy Cross. When the group entered the church where the relic of the cross was said to be kept, Mary felt forcibly restrained from entering by some invisible force. In the church’s courtyard was a statue of the Mother of Jesus. Before entering the church, Mary walked in to the courtyard and promised to repent, then went into the church to kiss the relic.

From that day on, Mary lived as a hermit in the Jordanian desert. Forty-seven years later, she met a monk in the desert. She asked him to meet her on Holy Thursday at a place along the Jordan River, and to bring Holy Communion. The monk did as Mary asked. After receiving Communion, she asked him to do the same the next year on Holy Thursday.

A year later, the monk went to meet Mary and instead found her corpse. Beside it was message written in the sand asking that he bury her, and saying that she had died the evening he gave her Holy Communion.

*Source: The Little Black Book: Six-Minute Medications on the Parables of Jesus. (2021).*

*The* venerable Henriette Delille was born in 1813 in New Orleans. She was born into one of the oldest families of free people of color. The exact date of her birth is unknown, but March 11 is often celebrated as her birthday.

Henriette was educated, taught music and French literature, and attended balls. One day she met a French nun who impressed the young Henriette with her dedication to God and her charitable work.

Henriette then began to transform her life. She taught religion to slaves, baptized them and encouraged marriage at a time when Louisiana law prohibited educating slaves and free people of color under the penalty of death or life imprisonment.

Unable to find a religious community that would accept a Black woman, in 1885 she sold all of her property in order to found a religious community of Black slaves. In 1842, after several setbacks, she and friends Juliette Gaudlin and Josephine Charles, established the Sisters of the Holy Family.

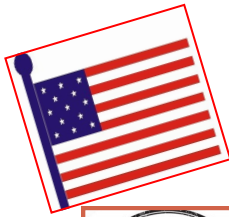
Besides educating and evangelizing slaves and free people of color, Henriette also encouraged the order to build a home for the sick, aged, and poor Black residents of the city. Henriette Delille died November 16, 1862.

*Source: The Little Black Book: Six-Minute Medications on the Parables of Jesus. (2022).*



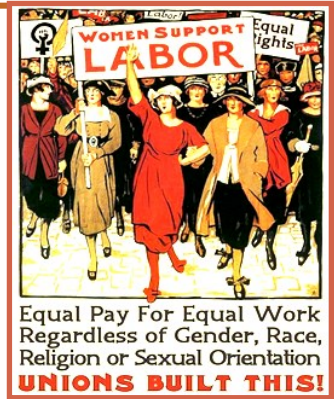
*Henriette Delille  
Servant of Slaves*





## *For All Who Labor*

*“Nothing will work unless you do.”  
Maya Angelou*



By Nancy Conner

**a**utumn is almost here, but warm weather usually lingers in the Midwest. Nonetheless, we can't stop Mother Nature from doing her job. Soon, the leaves will turn various colors of gold, red, and burgundy, and it will be time for apple-picking and hayrides. But first we must welcome and celebrate Labor Day with a cookout and invite family and friends. Many look to Labor Day as the close of summer—children are in school; the beaches will soon close, and the weather will change. Let's take a moment to review the history of this great day that celebrates the American worker.

Think back to high school social studies class. (I realize that was a long time ago for us, but do try). The Industrial Revolution began in the 1800s in Great Britain. Remember reading Charles Dickens' *Bleak House* and other works that depicted life for those who lived in the East End of London. Their lives were indeed *bleak*. By the end of the 19th century, the United State moved into the Second Industrial Revolution whereby the country transitioned from a primarily agrarian to an industrial society. This transition brought an influx of immigrants to America in search of a better life for themselves and their families. The steel mills and garment factories were prime employers at the time as factory work was a common job for unskilled labor.

***“It is only through labor and painful effort, and grim energy and resolute courage that we move on to better things. ~Theodore Roosevelt***

Change brings both good and challenging circumstances. While industry provided economic growth, it also brought danger, injury, and despair to American workers. The garment workers' strike in Lawrence, Massachusetts, is an example. The power looms that roared through the Everett Textile Mill came to an abrupt halt when workers opened their pay envelopes and discovered their wages had been reduced. Every penny was precious to these workers, most of whom were immigrant women and children. The people who worked in these factories welcomed the opportunity to earn a living in their new country, but they also wanted to be recognized as human beings and treated with dignity. The pay was poor, and the environment was unsanitary. After workers opened their pay envelopes and discovered the pay decrease, they walked off the job. This is known as The Bread and Roses Strike that began January 11 and ended March 14, 1912.

***“Take rest. A field that has rested gives a bountiful crop” ~ Ovid***

*For All Who Labor (continued)*

Another traumatic incident occurred on March 25, 1911 at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in New York. The factory took up the 8th, 9th and 10th floors of the Asch Building in Manhattan where employees toiled away for twelve hours a day for low pay. As the work-day was ending on March 25, a fire started on the eighth floor, and it spread quickly because boxes of fabric were placed around the floor and shirts were hanging from the ceiling. Flames spread quickly and trapped workers on the ninth and tenth floors, who were unable to escape the fire. Some jumped from the windows to the street below. "That day, 146 garment workers, 123 women and girls and 23 men died. Most of the victims were recent Italian or Jewish immigrants.

Prior to this fire, "garment workers across the city went on strike to improve workplace conditions and wages. While many factories reached a union agreement with workers to improve conditions, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory did not." This tragedy marked a turning point in labor history and helped to establish modern-day, improved working conditions.

Decades that followed witnessed the creation of labor unions, child labor laws, and public health regulations to improve conditions for working class people and the poor who had suffered the consequences of the industrial revolution in Britain and the United States.

As we prepare potato salad and light the grill, let's take a moment to stop and say a prayer for those who paved the way for our modern relations between employer and employee. *Have a safe Labor Day!*

Source: [history.com](http://history.com)

***"Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, do not sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy." ~ Dale Carnegie***

It's September! It's the fullness and the ripeness of the year;  
All the work of earth is finished, or the final tasks are near,  
But there is no doleful wailing; every living thing that grows,  
For the end that is approaching wears the finest garb it knows.  
And I pray that I may proudly hold my head up high and smile  
When I come to my September in the golden afterwhile.

By Edgar A. Guest. "It's September."

The first American  
Labor Day Parade was  
held in  
New York City on  
September 5, 1882.





## Quarterly Financial Report



### Financial Status at July 31, 2023

**Our cash balance at July 31, 2023 was \$18,114.**

Actual “total revenue” for seven months ended July 31, 2023, and was \$78,091, compared to a budgeted revenue of \$76,576. The primary components of “total revenue” are weekly congregational giving, holiday giving, and rent.

Actual congregational giving for the seven months ending July 31, 2023, was \$48,074 compared to budgeted giving of \$46,667.

Actual expenses for the seven month period were \$87,858 compared to a budget of \$86,160.

These actual revenue and actual expense numbers are close to the budget. If these trends continue through the remainder of the year, our year-end cash balance would be approximately \$14,000 compared to a beginning of the year cash balance of \$30,276.

If you have any questions, please call me at 708-331-8601.

Chuck Okresik/ncc

*“Have I not commanded you?  
Be strong and courageous.  
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be  
with you wherever you go.”*

*~Joshua 1:9*



## Labor Day 2023 Monday, September 4



by Nancy Conner

In honor of the Labor Day Holiday, let's take a moment to reflect on the beginning of the AFL/CIO, the large conglomerate of international labor unions and longtime voice of American Labor.

***In 2009, 12 percent of American workers belonged to unions.  
(history.com).***

A prominent question that plagued early union organizing was whether or not union organization should be based on skilled craftsmanship or industry, e.g. the workplace. The American Federation of Labor (AFL) had long supported skilled craftsmen, and "in November 1935, representatives of eight unions announced the formation of the Committee for Industrial Organization (CIO)," which organized the basic steel, rubber, and automobile industries. The CIO reached agreements with both U.S. Steel and General Motors, both large corporations at one time.

The AFL-CIO was formed in 1955 when "the AFL (founded in 1886)...and the CIO (founded in 1935) merged. The AFL organized workers in craft unions, and the CIO organized workers by industries" (www.britannica.com). George Meany was the first president of the AFL/CIO.

***What is the biggest union today?*** *The National Education Association has about 3 million people who are members, including inactive and lifetime members. (constitutioncenter.org).*

"The Taft-Hartley Act of 1947 defined six additional unfair labor practices, reflecting Congress' perception that some union conduct also needed correction. The Act was amended to protect employees' rights from these unfair practices by unions" (NLRB.gov).

As we celebrate Labor Day by with a day barbeque with family and friends, let's take a moment to say a prayer and thank those who labored for America and paved the way for balance between capital and labor.

***"Without ambition one starts nothing. Without work one finishes nothing. The prize will not be sent to you. You have to win it."  
~Ralph Waldo Emerson***

Source: [www.britannica.com](http://www.britannica.com)

## *Women of the Bible Word Search*

A	C	I	A	A	B	A	T	H	S	H	E	B	A
D	O	R	C	U	S	E	A	R	S	D	V	R	H
A	B	I	G	A	I	L	K	I	I	A	E	A	A
B	I	L	H	A	H	I	E	T	A	M	R	G	H
R	D	A	B	L	M	Z	Z	R	V	I	R	A	A
H	E	A	R	E	J	A	I	A	A	R	T	H	H
E	B	J	O	A	H	B	A	C	S	I	N	A	N
A	O	I	A	H	M	E	H	H	H	A	L	R	O
R	R	M	M	E	A	T	A	E	T	M	Y	O	A
A	A	O	A	E	L	H	K	L	I	R	A	P	A
M	H	A	R	D	A	I	E	B	A	R	I	P	R
A	A	N	T	O	A	B	B	M	M	H	N	I	U
T	B	A	H	A	A	L	E	I	N	H	E	Z	T
H	S	M	A	N	N	A	R	L	H	R	R	E	H

SARAH  
 ELIZABETH  
 REBEKAH  
 BATHSHEBA  
 MARTHA  
 Jael  
 MARY  
 DEBORAH  
 ANNA  
 BILHAH  
 RUTH  
 VASHTI  
 TAMAR  
 HAGAR  
 LEAH  
 MIRIAM  
 RACHEL  
 ABIGAIL  
 ZIPPORAH  
 RAHAB  
 DORCUS  
 EVE  
 KEZIAH  
 NAOMI

By Edgar A. Guest



It's September, and the orchards are afire with red and gold,  
 And the nights with dew are heavy, and the morning's sharp with cold;  
 Now the garden's at its gayest with the salvia blazing red  
 And the good old-fashioned asters laughing at us from their bed;  
 Once again in shoes and stockings are the children's little feet,  
 And the dog now does his snoozing on the bright side of the street.

It's September, and the cornstalks are as high as they will go,  
 And the red cheeks of the apples everywhere begin to show;  
 Now the supper's scarcely over ere the darkness settles down  
 And the moon looms big and yellow at the edges of the town;  
 Oh, it's good to see the children, when their little prayers are said,  
 Duck beneath the patchwork covers when they tumble into bed.