

One Shepherd's Thoughts...



Have you ever wondered why we celebrate Father's Day? The nation's first Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, in the state of Washington. However, it was not until 1972–58 years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day official-that the day honoring fathers became a nationwide holiday in the United States. Father's Day 2020 occurs on Sunday, June 21—today!

Mother's Day was the inspiration for Father's Day. The campaign to celebrate the nation's fathers did not meet with the same enthusiasm-perhaps because, as one florist

asm-perhaps because, as one florist explained, "fathers haven't the same sentimental appeal that mothers have."

On July 5, 1908, a West Virginia church sponsored the nation's first event explicitly in honor of fathers, a Sunday sermon in memory of the 362 men who had died in the previous December's explosions at the Fairmont Coal Company mines in Monongah, but it was a onetime commemoration and not an annual holiday.



The next year, a Spokane, Washington , woman named Sonora Smart Dodd, one of six children raised by a widower, tried to establish an official equivalent to Mother's Day for male parents. She went to local churches, the YMCA, shopkeepers and government officials to drum up support for her idea, and she was successful: Washington State celebrated the nation's first statewide Father's Day on June 19, 1910.



Slowly, the holiday spread. In 1916, President Wilson honored the day by using telegraph signals to unfurl a flag in Spokane when he pressed a button in Washington, D.C. In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge urged state governments to observe Father's Day. Today, the day honoring fathers is celebrated in the United States on the third Sunday of June. And now you know!

God is with us, **Rev Day**

The Annual Meeting of the Brandon Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be taking place <u>this Sunday, June 21, 2020</u> immediately following worship, on Zoom. The details on how to access the meeting with Zoom are included below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86816983044? pwd=Z2EwUFVjekZ6eUxoZkdybzZJMUVJZz09 Meeting ID: 868 1698 3044

Password: 913383

One tap mobile +13017158592,,86816983044#,,1#,913383# US (Germantown +13126266799,,86816983044#,,1#,913383# US (Chicago) Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/u/</u> <u>kbOdw66BGN</u>



June is LGBTQ Pride Month. It is interesting that the current protests are happening full force in June. LGBTQ Pride also has it's roots in resistance to police harassment and violence perpetrated upon the LGBTQ community, particularly in New York.

The Stonewall Inn is an LGBTQ bar in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan. In 1969 it was a bar run by the mafia, which offered a safe space for LGBTQ expression, but was frequented most by the poorest and most marginalized in an already marginalized community—"effeminate" men, drag queens, prostitutes, and the homeless among them. These facts made it a frequent target of police raids, un-

constitutional arrests, and harassment of the LGBTQ patrons. At closing in the early morning hours of June 28, 1969 during one of these raids the situation finally exploded and people fought back. Soon patrons of other establishments in the neighborhood were joining in. There were a series of these encounters between June 28 and July 3, 1969—these have come to be known as the Stonewall Riots or the Stonewall Uprising, and they are the spark that ignited the LGBTQ Civil Rights movement in America and eventually the world.

The first Pride Parades took place in NYC, LA, and San Francisco on June 28, 1970—the one year anniversary of the initial incident that sparked the revolution. That has evolved into events taking place around the world in recent years.

The flag displayed in the top left corner of this box is one of the newer designs of the Equality Flag which recognizes the role that sacrifices made by the Black and immigrant communities, as well as the Trans community, have played in advancing LGBTQ rights. This year most Pride events have been scrapped due to COVID and the current protests, which many Pride organizations are joining with in solidarity.