

The Mustard Seed

All Saints' Episcopal Church

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Birth of our Nation- - -Independence

During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the American colonies from Great Britain occurred on July 2, 1776, when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia. After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the Declaration of Independence, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by a committee but with Thomas Jefferson as its principal author. Congress debated and revised the Declaration, finally approving it on July 4. A day earlier, John Adams had written to his wife Abigail:

"The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be cele-

brated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

Adams' prediction was off by two days. From the outset, Americans celebrated independence on July 4, the date shown on the much-publicized Declaration of Independence, rather than on July 2, the date the resolution of independence was approved in a closed session of Congress.

One of the most enduring myths about Independence Day is that Congress signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The myth had

become so firmly established that, decades after the event and nearing the end of their lives, even the elderly Thomas Jefferson and John Adams had come to believe that they and the other delegates had signed the Declaration on the fourth. Most delegates actually signed the Declaration on August 2, 1776.^[2] In a remarkable series of coincidences, both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, two founding fathers of the United States and the only two men who signed the Declaration of Independence to become president, died on the same day: July 4, 1826, which was the United States' 50th anniversary. President James Monroe died exactly five years later, on July 4, 1831, but he was not a signatory to the Declaration of Independence.

Our National Anthem was Born

During the night of September 13, 1814, the British fleet bombarded Fort McHenry in the harbor at Baltimore, Maryland. Francis Scott Key, a 34-year old lawyer-poet, watched the attack from the deck of a British prisoner-exchange ship. He had gone to seek the release of a friend but they were refused permission to go ashore until after the attack had been made. As the battle ceased on the following morning, Key turned his telescope to the fort and saw that the American flag was still waving. The sight so inspired

him that he pulled a letter from his pocket and began to write the poem which eventually was adopted as the national anthem of the United States--"The Star Spangled Banner." Key was returned to Baltimore and later that day took a room at a Baltimore tavern where he completed the poem. Years later, Key told a hometown audience in Frederick, Maryland:

"I saw the flag of my country waving over a city-the strength and pride of my native State-a city devoted to plunder and desolation by its assailants. I

witnessed the preparation for its assaults. I saw the array of its enemies as they advanced to the attack. I heard the sound of battle; the noise of the conflict fell upon my listening ear, and told me that 'the brave and the free' had met the invaders."



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Special points of interest:

- Pocket Crosses
- Cook Books
- Happy Birthday
- Happy Anniversary
- Memorial





Tid Bits

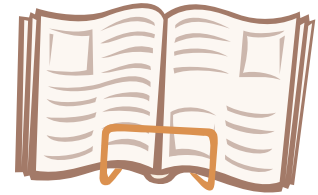
Are you green? Do your part to help save our environment. Bring in your recyclables on or before each Sunday, pick-up is on Monday.

Wednesday Gathering-Come and worship at 5:30 and bring a dish to share for a potluck at 6:00. Friends and Students eat **Free!**

ECW News- We have started on another project, making pocket crosses for our Welcome Bags. Won't you join us on the third Saturday of each month at 10:30 am.



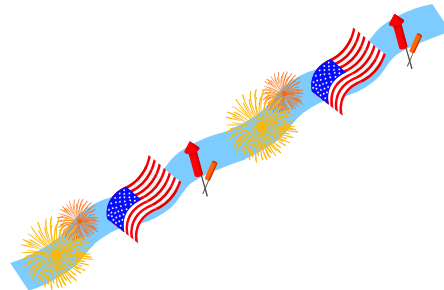
Recipes- All Saints' is putting together a cook-book but we need your help by supplying us with your favorite recipes. Hard copies can be placed in the ECW folder in the mail boxes by Mike's door or e-mail them to: anne@allsaintswestplains.com



Happy Birthday
 United States of America-4
 Tom Marhefka-7
 Allene Chapin-12
 Annie Morrison-16
 Bryan Moore-19

Celebrations

Happy Anniversary
 Dusty & Nancy Shaw-6
 Belated Happy Anniversary
 David & Amy Jett-June 30



"Do you have news, poem, article of interest, a picture that you would like to share? Call Shirley at 417-660-4480 or e-mail her at : msfig@yahoo.com

Vestry News

Most of you have probably noticed the removal of two trees next to the Church. They were old, damaged and diseased. The Vestry plans to replace these trees in the fall, which opens a wonderful opportunity to our congregation, a living memorial to a beloved family member. The cost of this

living memorial that will last for many years will be \$400.00 For more details, see Father Mike or any vestry member.

A big Thank You to our Jr. Warden, Don Fields, for his devotion in keeping the church grounds trimmed and debris free.



All Saints' Episcopal Church

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The little white
church with the
red doors



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A Newsletter for All Saints' Episcopal Church

