## **September Edition: Constitution Day**



### **Constitution Day**

Happy Constitution Day!

Were we the first to greet you in such a manner? Well, if so or if not, it is something to celebrate. Here's why:

On this day in 1787, thirty-nine Founding Fathers signed this important document. It's the longest lasting Constitution in the world. Without this important document, our lives would be very, very different today. Obviously, this monumental day should be celebrated. Hence, America calls September 17 Constitution Day.



When was the last time that you read the Constitution? We encourage you to read it this week. (<u>Click here</u> to read our Constitution.) It's important that we Americans know what is in the Constitution because it's important to know our rights. We also encourage you to learn about the background of the Constitution.

The Founding Fathers provided detailed information about the original intent of the Constitution and the meaning behind it. We know through documents (such as the Federalist Papers) what the Founding Fathers had in mind. Today secular leaders and judges try to erase our very well-documented Christian history and they attempt to secularize the original intent of the Founding Fathers. However, freedom is a deeply held Christian value. Of course, certain amendments were absolutely necessary (e.g. removing racism and improving women's rights, both of which are Christian values), the astounding applicability and resilience of the Constitution should be considered outstanding and a true blessing to cherish.

It's up to us to educate ourselves and fellow younger Americans about the truth. (There are many excellent resources available from historians David Barton and Rick Green of <u>Wallbuilders</u>. Their web site has a lot of free resources, too.)

Today we hope you will enjoy this very special edition of Unite the USA and learn all about the Constitution. By learning how our freedoms were preserved, we can help to preserve the freedoms of future generations.

# Protect the Constitution by voting for people who respect it. With God's help, we'll celebrate Constitution Day for years to come. Let's celebrate today!

God bless you, Carrie Stoelting and Stacie Stoelting Founders of Unite the USA

### Happy Birthday to Senator Chuck Grassley!



Happy Birthday to our friend and amazing American, Senator Chuck Grassley! God bless him on his birthday and every day. How perfect that he was born on Constitution Day. Remember to pray for him as he serves.

### **This Month's Bible Verse**

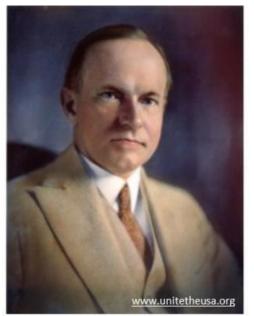


"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." **Proverbs 3:5-6** 

### Featured Quote and Meme to Share

"[T]he more I study [the Constitution], the more I have come to admire it, realizing that no other document devised by the hand of man ever brought so much progress and happiness to humanity. . . . To live under the American Constitution is the greatest political privilege that has ever occurred to the human race."

-Calvin Coolidge



### This Month's Historical Video



President Reagan's Remarks at the Bicentennial Celebration of the U.S. Constitution

This month's historical video features footage from the bicentennial celebration of the U.S. Constitution in 1987. It includes remarks from President Ronald Reagan and Chief Justice William Rehnquist.

## **David Barton on Constitution Day**



Enjoy this short video by David Barton of Wallbuilders.com as he explains the meaning of Constitution Day.

## **Celebrating the Constitution**

By www.wallbuilders.com

The Convention of 1787 was the capstone in a <u>chain of events</u> that led to the creation of the U.S. Constitution.

America's first attempt at a national governing document was in 1777 with the <u>Articles of</u> <u>Confederation</u>. It went into effect in 1781, but its <u>deficiencies</u> were quickly <u>apparent</u>, so in 1786, the <u>Annapolis Convention</u> called for a body to assemble to address its many weaknesses. What is known as the <u>Constitutional Convention</u> then gathered in Philadelphia in 1787.



The debates on the Constitution did not go smoothly at first. In fact, Benjamin Franklin <u>recommended</u> they begin daily prayers to help the process along. Eventually they came together to produce the Constitution - the most successful governing document in world history. It was signed on <u>September 17, 1787</u>, a day we now celebrate as "Constitution Day." Many delegates expressed their belief that writing the Constitution would not have been possible without the Divine aid they personally witnessed and openly acknowledged.

Alexander Hamilton <u>said</u>: "For my own part, I sincerely esteem it a system which without the finger of God never could have been suggested and agreed upon by such a diversity of interests."

James Madison <u>agreed</u>: "It is impossible for the man of pious reflection not to perceive in it the finger of the Almighty Hand which has been so frequently and signally extended to our relief in the critical stages of the Revolution."

Benjamin Franklin and George Washington also expressed similar convictions.

Many <u>delegates</u> involved with writing the Constitution were trained in theology or <u>ministry</u>, including Abraham Baldwin, James Wilson, Hugh Williamson, Oliver Ellsworth and others. The Constitution was then sent to the states to be <u>ratified</u>, and about <u>four dozen</u> clergymen were elected from among the various states as delegates to ratify the Constitution. The influence of Biblical faith on that document was apparent, and under it, <u>Americans</u> have been blessed!

As President Calvin Coolidge affirmed: "[T]he more I study [the Constitution], the more I have come to admire it, realizing that no other document devised by the hand of man ever brought so much progress and happiness to humanity. . . . To live under the American Constitution is the greatest political privilege that has ever occurred to the human race."

Because the Constitution is such a unique and remarkable document, <u>federal law</u> requires that every year on Constitution Day, all public schools must hold a special program on the Constitution; sadly, few schools follow this law. But that should not keep every citizen from celebrating that document. Each of us should read and know that document, and teach it to others. So <u>read</u> the Constitution for yourself today, and <u>here are some links</u> that can be used in public schools to teach the Constitution on Constitution Day. Share this information with schools, educators, and students around you!

Happy Constitution Day!

### Take this quiz and test your knowledge!

#### By www.wallbuilders.com

Questions:

1. What state was the first to ratify the Constitution?

2. What are the five rights guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution?

**3.** When was the Constitution ratified by the ninth state, meaning that it officially became the governing document of the US?

4. How many delegates signed the Constitution?

**5.** Six Founding Fathers signed both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Can you name them?

6. Who was the oldest delegate at the Constitutional Convention? Who was the youngest?

Answers:

**1.** <u>Delaware</u>. With a vote of 30-0, Delaware was the first to ratify the Constitution in December 1787.

**2.** The <u>First Amendment</u> prohibits Congress from making laws restricting religion, speech, the press, assembly, and the right of petition.

**3.** On June 21, 1788 New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify the Constitution.

**4.** <u>39 of the 55 delegates to the Constitutional Convention actually signed the Constitution.</u>

**5.** George Clymer, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, George Read, Roger Sherman, and James Wilson signed both <u>the Declaration</u> and <u>the Constitution</u>.

**6.** Benjamin Franklin was the <u>oldest delegate</u> to the Constitution Convention at 81 years old. Jonathan Dayton was the youngest at 26.

### **Order Now**



Unite the USA: Discover the ABCs of Patriotism is a new book by **Stacie Ruth and Carrie Beth Stoelting**. It's a book that empowers patriots to make a big difference in the land we love. With 100+ ways to make a positive difference in America, *Unite the USA* is a must-have tool for patriots. *Unite the USA* will inspire and educate Americans to defend faith and freedom. (Important Note: All proceeds go to fund the mission of UnitetheUSA.org.) <u>Order it here today!</u>

#### In God We Still Trust an inspiring album dedicated to God and veterans by Stacie and Carrie Stoelting



Per request from veterans who love patriotic and inspiring music sung by Stacie and Carrie, <u>In God</u> <u>We Still Trust</u> was recorded. From the National Anthem to "God Bless America" you will be inspired and uplifted about our God-given freedoms. All proceeds go to Unite the USA. Help promote faith and freedom in America. Your support is important and appreciated. <u>Buy or download a copy</u> <u>today.</u> God bless you as you celebrate the red, white, and blue!

#### In God We Still Trust Video

Our country needs to turn to Jesus. Listen to "In God We Still Trust" for inspiration to keep "fighting the good fight". For hope and encouragement, listen to Stacie Ruth and Carrie Beth sing "In God We Still Trust".



## Share and Sign Up

Be sure to share this edition with your friends. Sign up for Unite the USA's free monthy email <u>here</u>!

## **Booking Info**



Celebrate the true spirit of America with Carrie Beth and Stacie Ruth. Book Stacie and Carrie for concert or conference! E-mail <u>info@unitetheusa.org</u> for more information.

Unite the USA www.unitetheusa.org