

What is Labor Sabbath?

Labor Day weekend is a good time for people to talk about labor unions. We ask people who meet together to worship God on Labor Day weekend to say the words "labor union" in a prayer, a song, a talk, a lesson, a homily, or a sermon. Most people in your congregation work, and labor unions are the tried and true way for people who work to make their workplaces safe and fair.

*How can people
of faith celebrate
Labor Day?*

_____ with a _____

Labor Sabbath

Support Unions in NC

Unions are as American as apple pie!
Find out how you can get involved by
calling 919-833-6678 or connect online:



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AFLCIONC.org

Friday - Sunday,
September 4th, 5th,
and 6th, 2015

Are you a union member?

If you're a union member, tell a leader in your faith group about Labor Sabbath! Tell them how having a union on your side has helped you at work. If you're comfortable, ask if you can lead a prayer or teach a group about your union on Labor Day weekend or ask to invite a speaker from your union. See if your faith leader will say the words "labor union" during a service. The goal is to get someone you trust to talk to the congregation about unions that weekend.

What does your faith have to do with work or unions?

Jewish, Muslim, and Christian people have spoken and written about the importance of unions. All three faiths affirm that God created people to enjoy the fruits of their labor - with dignity and without fear.

Many people of faith believe that they honor God through their work. Doing our work well is a way for us to help other people

and contribute to our neighborhoods and communities. People do their best work when they are in a place that is fair and where people cooperate to accomplish a task. Labor unions help make that possible.

Labor unions are the best way we know for people to cooperate and maintain safe, fair, and productive working conditions that help share prosperity and fight poverty.

Sample prayers:

You are the very best person to compose a prayer or story for your own faith community. These are just samples. Ask a teacher or clergyperson in your community for help also.

*God, we thank you for our ability to work together. We thank you for the courage of people who have stood up for their own dignity at work. We thank you for the **labor unions** in our community.*

*Lord, you have given your people the gift of solidarity. When we work together well, we celebrate the different gifts and abilities you have given each individual. We pray for the work of **labor unions** to help all of your people contribute and share our gifts at work.*

*God, we thank you for teachers, firefighters, postal workers, and other neighbors who work daily to help us learn or keep in touch with our families or be safe. We thank you for the **labor unions** that help people in these and other jobs receive the pay they deserve and the mutual encouragement to do their jobs well.*

*God, many people around us work in places where they are bullied or discouraged or demeaned. Hundreds more around us want to find a place to work but cannot. This Labor Day weekend, we pray for people who suffer at work or without work. We pray that the leaders in our state would recognize that **labor unions** can help change things for the better.*

Visit our website - **laborsabbath.org** - for more ideas and to share your own ideas with other people.

Will you join us?

Will you say the words "labor union" this Labor Day weekend, in your own community of faith?

Let us know you are planning a Labor Sabbath at **laborsabbath.org/commit**