



-The Second Church of Plymouth, Manomet, MA

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Office Hours: M 9am-5pm

Available by appointment M-F 9am-5pm

Food Pantry Hours: M - 10am - 12pm

**The Bell**

**September 2023**

**Volume 17, Issue 9**

**From Pastor Bruce**

Labor Day

*If all the cars in the United States were placed end to end...  
it would probably be Labor Day Weekend.*

*Doug Larson*

I had the chance to meet Robert Schuller once. I was part of a group who went to the Crystal Cathedral. Dr. Schuller insisted on having the chance to meet each one of us individually. He was near the end of his life, but his grip was firm, and his eyes didn't make contact with my eyes, he looked into my soul. This was before all of the huge problems that came about in his family's transition power struggle for his ministry. It was messy. It was raw. It was human. Anyway, he asked a couple of questions about me, and my family and about the church I was serving. There was a "handler" who was in charge of keeping the receiving line in motion and the guy was trying to move me along. But Schuller wouldn't let him. With that huge smile, he asked, "What can I do for you today?" I could only think of him saying his benediction, "So I said, could you share your blessing with me?" He just nodded, made the sign of the cross on my forehead with his thumb, as he said, "And now may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. And may God give you His peace in your going out and in your coming in, in your lying down and in your rising up, in your labor and in your leisure, in your laughter and in your tears. Until you come to stand before Jesus in that day in which there is no sunset and no dawning. Amen." That's it. We live a life of going out and coming in, lying down and rising up, labor and leisure, laughter and tears.

As Frederick Buechner put it, "Vocation is the place where our deep gladness meets the world's deep need," which might explain a lot if you find yourself dissatisfied with life. On the one hand, you might be ignoring what would bring you gladness deep inside your skin, but, on the other hand, you might not see how what you spend your life doing meets any deep need that exists in the world. No matter what the cause, it seems to me that dissatisfaction with your life is a sign that, perhaps, you need to engage in some self-reflection. What about life, what

about the world gnaws at you? And how are you spending your life doing something about that which gnaws at you? This Labor Day, you could well spend some time reflecting on your life, the work you do, the way you spend the life that you have been given.

Labor Day commemorates well, it commemorates work. We have the idea, a very secular view, of Labor Day as the holiday to end the summer. And it is. Still, I wonder, does God care about my daily work? I hope so. Sure, he does, because after all, I work for Him. He's the CEO of the multinational enterprise I serve. So, if God doesn't care about what I do, what you do, what we do, we're spending a lot of time and energy on something that doesn't matter.

Lord, help us work as hard at our spiritual lives as we do at our physical well-being. May we rejoice in all of life, glad for the gift of each day and the work we accomplish in it. Lord, keep our eyes on building a world where all work and all workers are valued.

May there come a day, in our world:

where those who clean houses are able to buy one for themselves.

where those who grow food can afford to eat what they need, all they want.

May Your kingdom come to this world where people everywhere share in the abundance that you have given us.

God, by your labor the universe was made. Help us labor with you, and for you, doing your work in your world.

For yours is the eternal kingdom and we are your children.

Amen.

*Sanctity, for the vast majority of people,  
implies sanctifying their work,  
sanctifying themselves in it  
and sanctifying others through it.  
St. Josemaria Eschiva*



From your Life Deacon, Deborah LaBreck

God will give you wisdom whenever you ask for it.

Gift of



If you want to honor or memorialize someone and aren't sure what to do, why not consider a Gift of Love. A Gift of Love is a donation made in someone's name, to the church. A letter is sent to the giver (these gifts are tax deductible) and an acknowledgement is sent to the honoree (or the family in the case of a memorial). If you are interested, please pick up a form in the narthex or contact the office.

The altar flowers on August 6<sup>th</sup>  
were placed by the Bennett family in memory of baby Victoria Louise

The altar flowers in August 20<sup>th</sup>  
were placed by Debbie LaBreck in memory of her Billy.



We continue to have church in person and virtually on Sunday's at 10am. Come on in! Or check us out on Facebook via Second Church Virtual Services! If you have been watching, see you on Sunday! You can also watch the services on PACTV. Thursday at 8am and Sunday at 6pm. (Comcast channel 13 or Verizon channel 43)



You can watch services that have already happened!

It's easy to do. If you've never used YouTube, just type it in your search engine (Google, or whatever you use). Or go to youtube.com. In the search bar at the top of the screen, type in "second church of plymouth" and click on "Subscribe". Don't worry, it's free. Follow the prompts and you're in!

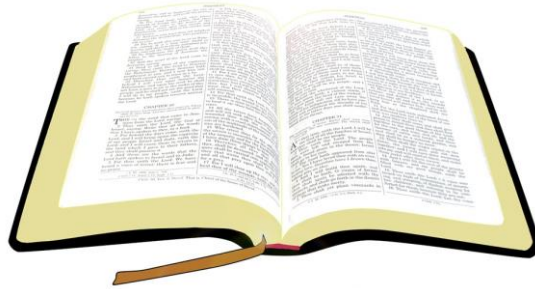
If you have any problem getting set up, please feel free to contact the office.



Visit us at [www.secondchurchofplymouth.org](http://www.secondchurchofplymouth.org) . Our goal with the website is to provide our visitors an easier way to learn about Second Church of Plymouth and what the church offers. The website contains our social media buttons for Facebook and YouTube. We are constantly updating our content with updated information on church events and announcements.

## Did you know - or ever think about?

Submitted by Ruthanne Gellar



Do you know who Beelzebub is? According to Quest Study Bible, he is the "Prince of Demons", that is, Satan.



Do you know that, if you order "murch" on the menu at an Indian Restaurant, you will be getting chicken?

# Barbie

Did you know that Totally Hair Barbie is the best selling Barbie of all time?



## Birthdays

If you don't see your birthday or anniversary, please contact the office.

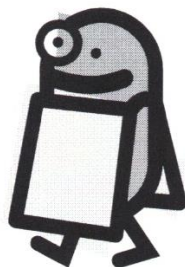
September 7 - Sean Walsh  
September 12 - Kyrie DeGrechie  
September 22 - Gail Starkey  
September 23 - Sherri Dyer  
September 27 - Susan English

*Happy  
Anniversary*

September 3 - Darryl & Deb Richters  
September 8 - Jim & Susan English  
September 26 - Steve & Ruthanne Gellar



The Food Pantry is open!  
Mondays 10am-12pm



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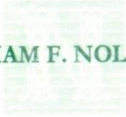



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# September 2023



Second Church of  
Plymouth  
518 State Road  
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02360

| SUNDAY                              | MONDAY                 | TUESDAY                           | WEDNESDAY                | THURSDAY                           | FRIDAY       | SATURDAY     |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 3<br>10am Church Service<br>7pm AA  | 4<br>10am Food Pantry  | 5<br>6pm Band Practice<br>7pm AA  | 6<br>6pm TOPS<br>7pm AA  | 7<br>7pm AA                        | 8<br>7pm AA  | 9<br>9am AA  |
| 10<br>10am Church Service<br>7pm AA | 11<br>10am Food Pantry | 12<br>6pm Band Practice<br>7pm AA | 13<br>6pm TOPS<br>7pm AA | 14<br>7pm Trustees<br>7pm AA       | 15<br>7pm AA | 16<br>9am AA |
| 17<br>10am Church Service<br>7pm AA | 18<br>10am Food Pantry | 19<br>6pm Band Practice<br>7pm AA | 20<br>6pm TOPS<br>7pm AA | 21<br>7pm AA                       | 22<br>7pm AA | 23<br>9am AA |
| 24<br>10am Church Service<br>7pm AA | 25<br>10am Food Pantry | 26<br>6pm Band Practice<br>7pm AA | 27<br>6pm TOPS<br>7pm AA | 28<br>7pm Church Council<br>7pm AA | 29<br>7pm AA | 30<br>9am AA |