



## The Second Church of Plymouth, Manomet, MA

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### The Bell

Office Hours: M 9am-5pm

Available by appointment M-F 9am-5pm

Food Pantry Hours: M - 10am - 12pm

November 2023

Volume 17, Issue 11

### From Pastor Bruce

#### The Continental Congress

*Today, we are not unlike those [first] Pilgrims -  
we have settled in uncharted territory;  
we have lost many family and friends;  
we need to band together to get through these challenges.*

*-Rev. Dr. Shawn Stapleton*

When the representatives of our fledgling colonies met in Philadelphia as the First Continental Congress, there was much disagreement as to what should come next. All they could agree upon during their first meeting in 1774 was the need to unite in prayer for our country. Early Congressional records show they were unified in the words of Psalm 35:28: "And my tongue shall speak of Thy righteousness and of Thy praise all the day long."

At Thanksgiving, the celebration of being God's people joins the humbling gratitude that comes from so many blessings. It was once common to hear the term "melting pot" when referring to our country. That vision of America was as a big cauldron of stew into which we threw any and all who came here to live. This conglomeration eventually boils itself down to an essence that is, supposedly, truly American.

I wonder If anyone still thinks that. Rather than a "melting pot" we are a rainbow, a collage, a patch-work quilt of difference, uniqueness, and exciting diversity. A rabbi friend of mine says, "All over the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Canadian to the Mexican border, Scandinavian Americans, Russian, German, Italian, Irish, Black, French, Hispanic, Asian, and Eastern European Americans will feel the same warmth and pride . . . which is felt by those descended from the passengers of the Mayflower." And then there are the native, Indigenous peoples.

This Thanksgiving I want to enjoy my turkey - but not be a turkey. Before filling up on food, let's all thank God for who we are, where we are, and all that the Lord provides for us. One way is prayer. The 1774 Continental Congress could only agree on one thing. But it was the right thing - Prayer. Another way to thank God is to share through phone calls, emails and even the quaint communiques called snail mail. Practice giving out smiles that can be identified in your eyes even with mouths that are covered with masks. Remember the hungry, the lonely, the frustrated. Remember, too, that we are each a carefully designed and stitched piece of a single quilt. The likes of which the world has never seen before.

Great God, You are the Spirit of love and peace in our world.

This week, we lay before you so many things for which to give you thanks.

Inspire as we reflect together on what it means to be your people.

Then inspire us to reveal to others what that vision and promise look like.

Unite us in a sincere desire to know you and love you and to be witnesses of kindness and grace - in hearts, homes, in neighborhoods and the entire world.

Grant us a time of inner stillness that we might hear what you would have us hear and learn what you would have us learn.

And then, Lord, encourage us to be and do what you have envisioned what we can become.  
Amen!

**Daylight Savings time ends on November 5<sup>th</sup>!**



**CHRISTMAS FAIR**  
**December 2, 2023**

The Christmas is fast approaching!! We are asking for volunteers to help us with the Christmas Fair and the Gift Basket Raffle and we would be delighted to have you join us!!

- The gift basket raffle needs 2-3 people to collect items, assemble the baskets and make the raffle tickets. Anyone who wishes to help out with the raffle, there is an easy step by step guide available on how to organize the raffle (please ask Sherri Dyer for a copy). There are also copies of the raffle tickets, brochures and a donation request letter that has been used the last several years that can be used this year.
- If you have gently used or new items you can donate to the Regifting room, you can leave them in the Sunday School room downstairs. It would be very helpful if you can price the items ahead of time!
- We will also have the annual Christmas Wreath decorating!

Please keep an eye out for the sign-up sheets that will be located in the sanctuary!

Please see Laurie Savery or Sandra Locke for more information.

[Beaker1958@hotmail.com](mailto:Beaker1958@hotmail.com) or [mamalocke@gmail.com](mailto:mamalocke@gmail.com)

## Christmas Fair Re-Gifting Table

Have you received gifts that you can't use?  
Do you have new or gently used items at home that you want to part with?  
If so, please donate those items to the Re-Gifting Table!

Items can be dropped off and left in the Sunday School room downstairs.

- *Please make sure items are in good condition*
  - *Please price your items if possible*

Thank you!



From your Life Deacon, Deborah LaBreck

God has wonderful blessings in store for you today!

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.



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!

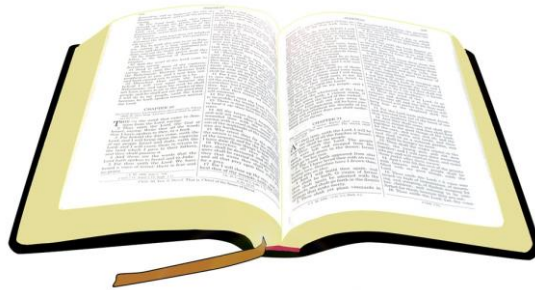
If you have any problem getting set up, please feel free to contact the office.



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



In the New Testament the word "parakaleu" is mentioned 108 times.

In English, the word means "to console, comfort, and strengthen."

From: *All My Friends Have Issues* by Amanda Anderson



Harry Truman was the first president to pardon the turkey.

Then he ate it for dinner.



There are four towns in the USA named "Turkey".

They are located in Arizona, Louisiana, Texas, and North Carolina.



### Birthdays

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

November 15 - Susan Montanari  
November 21 - Richard Roquemore  
November 22 - Scott Johnson  
November 23 - Owen Luke  
November 25 - Jim English  
December 7 - Roy Zahreciyan

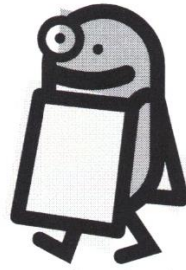
*Happy  
Anniversary*

November 7 - David & Kristen Walsh - 25 years!



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





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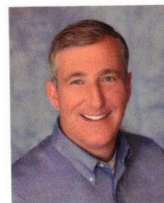
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# November 2023

Second Church of  
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518 State Road  
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6pm TOPS 7pm AA	2 7pm AA	3 7pm AA	4 9am AA
5 10am Church Service 7pm AA	6 10am Food Pantry 7pm Trustees	7 6pm Band Practice 7pm AA	8 6pm TOPS 7pm AA	9 7pm Church Council 7pm AA	10 7pm AA	11 9am AA
12 10am Church Service 7pm AA	13 10am Food Pantry	14 6pm Band Practice 7pm AA	15 6pm TOPS 7pm AA	16 7pm AA	17 7pm AA	18 9am AA
19 10am Church Service 7pm AA	20 10am Food Pantry	21 6pm Band Practice 7pm AA	22 6pm TOPS 7pm AA	23 Thanksgiving 7pm AA	24 7pm AA	25 9am AA
26 10am Church Service 7pm AA	27 10am Food Pantry	28 6pm Band Practice 7pm AA	29	30	