



The Second Church of Plymouth, Manomet, MA

518 State Road, Plymouth, MA 02360

PO Box 1754, Manomet, MA 02345

SecondChurchPlymouth@verizon.net

508-224-7220

Office Hours: M 9am-5pm

Available by appointment M-F 9am-5pm

Food Pantry Hours: M - 10am - 12pm

The Bell

February 2024

Volume 18, Issue 1

Faith and Trust

by Rev. Bruce

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding.

6 In all your ways obey him. Then he will make your paths smooth and straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust is faith in action - the skin and bones of our faith in thoughts and deeds. It's always been far easier to have faith in God; than to exercise trust in God. Faith vs. Trust: Is faith the same thing as trust? At first blush it seems there's no difference between them. But here is. Faith is a noun; it names something we possess. The Bible says, "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Conversely, trust is a verb. Trust is something we do. Trust is faith in action! Trust is a manifestation of our faith in the world all around. While faith says, "I can," trust says, "I will." Trust is the commitment to think AND act in faith!

In the late nineteenth century there was a star performer known as "The Great Blondin." Blondin was a tightrope walker, his greatest stunt involved walking a tightrope high above the world-famous Niagara Falls. Once he even crossed high above the falls, with his manager on his back! Always looking to better his last great feat, Blondin now asked the crowd if they believed he could cross the falls on the tightrope while pushing one of them in a wheelbarrow. The crowd had no doubt "The Great Blondin" could do it! Because every one of them had seen Blondin cross the falls, balancing on a single line, they had faith. They had first-hand knowledge of his abilities. They had confidence that he could perform such a difficult stunt. Yet, when it came time to act on those beliefs, to trust him to carry them across on his back, no one volunteered. They had faith in him, but they didn't trust him enough.

We've all seen what God can do; we even believe (have faith) in Him. But do we trust God when He calls us to "ride" with him (trust)? We tend to think of it as relying on somebody or something. If you look up the meaning for trust in Hebrew it means "to lean with the full body," "to lay upon," and "to rest the full weight upon." We think trust means to rely upon or to have

confidence in. But in Hebrew it's much stronger. Like stretching yourself out across a hard surface, it means putting your full weight prostrate on something, like a subject before a king. From a human perspective that's putting yourself in the most vulnerable position that you could be in. You have no way to see what is going on. You have no way to protect yourself, and it is not easy to maneuver out of if you need to. You are putting all of yourself physically at the mercy of anyone around you. To trust in the Lord is to take away our "own control."

How about "Lean?" "Lean not to your own understanding." It means to rest on for support. Leaning is what you do when you walk with a cane or grab a walker because you're not steady. In the Old Testament you lean against a tree or a structure for rest or to catch your breath. You lean on something when you aren't strong enough to stand alone. But that's the problem. We're all born with a strong will, one that convinces us we can handle every issue under our own power. But we can't. Once we have faith in God, the next step is to "trust in the Lord, with all our heart."

*Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none.
William Shakespeare*

Lenten Study Group

There will be a three-part study group with Rev. Bruce meeting on Wednesdays (March 6, March 13, and March 20) at the church from 10:30am to 11:30am.

The topics are as follows:

March 6 - 5 events from the Old Testament

March 13 - 5 events from the Gospels

March 20 - 5 gifts given to Christians



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



From your Life Deacon, Deborah LaBreck

God is faithful to keep His promises. Just look around, and you will see.

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!

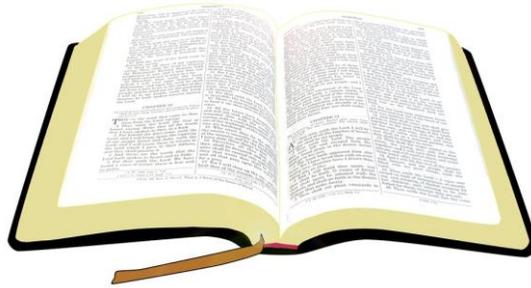
If you have any problem getting set up, please feel free to contact the office.



Visit us at www.secondchurchofplymouth.org . 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?

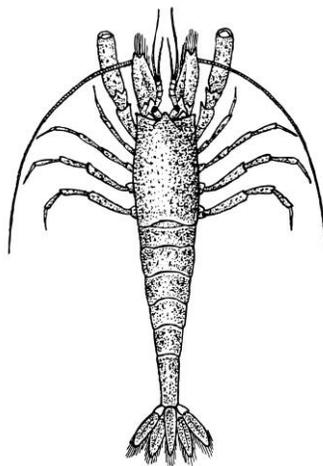
Submitted by Ruthanne Gellar



Did you know that there is a 400 year gap between the old and new testament?



Did you know that sales of plant-based products are expected to greatly increase (about 12% every year for the next 10 years)?



Did you know (or care) that a shrimp's heart is in its head?



Birthdays

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

January 3 - Dana Savery
January 4 - Jane Costa-Elliott
January 8 - Chris Giacomozzi
January 9 - Midge Concannon
January 12 - Barbara Bartlett
January 24 - Nikki Montanari
January 25 - Susan Moore
January 30 - Matthew Montanari
February 1 - Max Beaton
February 9 - Laurie Savery
February 15 - Bill Dyer and Sandi Santos
February 16 - Maggi Cassani
February 20 - Adam Montanari
February 23 - Roger Concannon
February 24 - Amber Pearson
February 25 - Lynda Whyte
February 26 - Dorothy Williamson
February 28 - Rosemary Irving
March 2 - Erin Cappolli
March 5 - Charlotte Luke

*Happy
Anniversary*

February 14 - Pete & Pam Renaud
February 27 - Bill & Barbara Bartlett

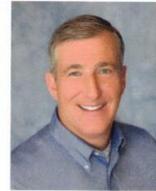


A Life Celebration Home

Funeral Directors

John J. Vincent, Jr.
Daniel H. Holland
Mary R. Aveni
Heidie L. Grant
Kathy Cartmell-Sirrico

Main Office
373 Court Street Plymouth, Ma. 02360
P: (508) 746-2162 F: (508) 747-3929
cartmelldavis@gmail.com
www.cartmelldavis.com



Dwayne Stefano
SRS, e-PRO®
Realtor®

REAL ESTATE
OPTIONS 1.5.3®
mullen & partners

Residential · Investment · Commercial

Cell: 508-783-2360
Office: 508-747-3153
Fax: 866-455-6358

85 Samoset Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

DwayneStefano@comcast.net
www.DwayneStefano.com



TOGETHER TO SERVE YOU BETTER



R. CLAYTON HOME SERVICES, LLC.

(508)224-6584

669 STATE RD
PLYMOUTH, MA

Nolan Insurance Agency, Inc.

WILLIAM F. NOLAN, Jr.

Office: (508) 224-3600

Cell: (781) 831-0250

Fax: (508) 224-3618

e-mail: BillNolanJr.@nolan-insurance.com

728 State Road • P.O. Box 938 • Manomet, MA 02345

February 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 10am Church Service Souper Bowl Collection 7pm AA	5 10am Food Pantry	6 6pm Band Practice 7pm AA	7 6pm TOPS 7pm AA	8 7pm Trustees 7pm AA	9 7pm AA	10 9am AA
11 10am Church Service 7pm AA	12 10am Food Pantry	13 6pm Band Practice 7pm AA	14 Ash Wednesday 6pm TOPS 7pm AA	15 7pm AA	16 7pm AA	17 9am AA
18 10am Church Service 11am Annual Meeting 7pm AA	19 10am Food Pantry	20 6pm Band Practice 7pm AA	21 6pm TOPS 7pm AA	22 7pm AA	23 7pm AA	24 9am AA
25 10am Church Service 7pm AA	26 10am Food Pantry	27 6pm Band Practice 7pm AA	28 6pm TOPS 7pm AA	29 7pm AA		

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Plymouth
318 State Road
Plymouth, MA
02360