

THE PENNSYLVANIA MAYFLOWER

www.sail1620.org

Fall/Winter 2020

VOLUME XXXII ISSUE NO 2

SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER
DESCENDANTS IN THE
COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA (SMDPA)

Find us on Facebook



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MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR BY REED KNEALE

10.17.1620, Four hundred years ago today, our ancestors were more than halfway to the new country as pilgrims. Crowded quarters and seasickness were the first of many challenges ahead.

As fall enters Pennsylvania, leaves show bright color as they dance through the wind. To date, all 2020 events have been canceled due to Covid-19.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) recently met virtually using Zoom on June 20th. A virtual Congress was held September 26th lasting over 7 hours. The resolution to increase fees from \$15 per member to \$35 as costs to maintain services was approved. This is a catch up as fees have remained the same for many years.

Our current yearly membership rate is \$40 per adult member of which we pay GSMD \$15 and have paid our two colonies, historically \$10 per member. The expenses of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Pennsylvania (SMDPA) are paid for from the residual and earnings from our market funds. Previous BOA's made wise decisions over the decades to insure we are in a solid financial position, regardless of what GSMD decides on fees. It is our intention to ramp up the increases slowly.

I have personally contacted the new Governor General, Jane Hurt, to advocate for a capital expense budget focusing on technology to streamline our processes. This is something only the GSMD can do as the cost upfront would be significant, but the saving and capacity increase, promise to be more than offsetting. Reaching our younger potential members with "APPS" is a game changer for communication in ways that are modern and expected. The data bases we use can also be moved to searchable formats removing some of the clutter in the Historian's application processes.

Our historians have been hard at work adding over 53 new members, and over 100 more are in process! May I wish the warmest of welcomes to all!

As we hoped to celebrate the landing this year, we expect to celebrate the First Thanksgiving in 2021 and I look forward to seeing everyone in person at one of our events.

Our newsletter is on the way with plenty of interesting articles and sporting the freshly minted Mayflower USPS stamps. It costs a little more but will arrive quicker and will provide a small keepsake in the stamps.

We have an incredibly talented team of leaders volunteering thousands of hours yearly. You are welcome to join in the 400-year celebration of the landing and First Thanksgiving next year.

Thank you for your membership, our BOA is striving to give you value in a year that is so unusual.

May God bless you and your family, keeping all healthy and in faith during this very unique time!

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New Governor General of GSMD, Jane Hurt

Compiled by Co-editor Pamela Palchowski



Due to Covid-19 and the meeting restrictions, Mayflower General Congress met online for the first time and it was a Zoom meeting. During this online gathering, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) elected Jane Hurt as Governor General for the 2020 – 2023 term. During her term, General Governor Hurt pledges to work with the Society’s Executive Committee and General Board of Assistants to govern the Society’s Plymouth, MA international headquarters and serve our 30,000 plus members.

Governor General Hurt’s Mayflower ancestors include William White, Susanna White, Peregrine White, Francis Cooke, John Cooke, and Richard Warren. She is a member of the Kansas Society where she has served as Governor, Historian, and Webmaster. Governor General Hurt has most recently completed a term at GSMD as Secretary General.

“I am both honored and humbled to be elected as Governor General of the venerable Society,” said Governor General Jane Hurt. “Telling the Mayflower story is an important part of the American story and I look forward to leading the Society as it continues the mission.”

The first General Congress was held on September 6, 1897. This date was chosen in honor of the anniversary of the departure of the Mayflower from Plymouth, England. The General Congress is held every three years in Plymouth, even during pandemics. Since 1897, Jane Hurt is the 35th Governor General. She is the fifth woman to hold this position. SMDPA congratulates Jane Hurt as our 35th Governor General.

Presenting our 2020-2021 SMDPA Officers and Board of Assistants

By former PA Mayflower Society Governor, Joan C. Miller

Governor Reed Kneale
Deputy Governor Deborah Yingst
Secretary Laura L. Tyndall
Assistant Secretary Pam Palchowski
Treasurer and Finance Chair Scott Bond
Assistant Treasurer Judi Biederman
Lead State Historian Virginia “Ginny” Fossa
State Historian (Co-Historian) Cinda Hartman
State Historian (Co-Historian) Christine M. Remley, Ph.D.
Registrar Pamela Kolyer
Assistant Registrar Susan Henning
Membership Officer Nancy Larsen, Ph.D.
Elder James Buckner
Captain Keith Kammenzind
Counselor Thomas Kellogg, Esq.
Surgeon Ronald W. Simonsen, M.D.

Board of Assistants – Term Expires 2023

Brian S. Atwood BOA
Lauren Klein BOA

Adam Biedrzycki BOA

Board of Assistants – Term Expires 2022

Cynthia Jordan BOA
Debbie Markowitz BOA
Melanie Lynagh BOA

Board of Assistants – Term Expires 2021

Sharyn Davis BOA
Todd Geissinger BOA
Lois Morris Howanec BOA

Susquehanna Colony Governor Michael Saunders
Western Colony Governor Patricia Hill

Committee Chairs

Audit – Lauren Klein
Parliamentarian – Thomas Kellogg, Esq.
Archivists – vacant
Photographer – James Buckner
Bylaws Committee – Thomas Kellogg, Esq.
Publicity/Community Relations – Brian Atwood
Education and Scholarship – James Buckner
Social Events – Debbie Markowitz
Finance Committee – Scott Bond
Social Media – Adam Biedrzycki
Junior Membership – Debbie Markowitz
TIS Coordinator – Debra G. Miller
Elder & Thanksgiving Service – James Buckner
Website Sail 1620 – Laura Tyndall & Scott Bond
Sales Chair – Bruce Miller
Pennsylvania Newsletter Editors – P. Palchowski & S. Davis

Meet Your New Deputy Governor, Deborah Yingst

Hello, my name is Deb Yingst and I was recently asked to return to the SMDPA Board of Assistants and I am now serving as your Deputy Governor and GSMD AG.



I remember my paternal grandmother, Kathryn (Fuller) Hoffman, who was a member of the NJ Mayflower Society, telling me that I was a Pilgrim even before I was a teenager. My father, John Hoffman, was also a member of the NJ Mayflower Society. We all joined through Edward Fuller. I have supplemental lines to Mrs. Edward Fuller, Samuel Fuller, Richard Warren, Isaac Allerton, and Mary Norris Allerton.

My husband and I live in a 100+ year old farmhouse outside of Boiling Springs, PA. In June 2003, we named our homestead ‘Mayflower Meadows’ dedicating it to the perseverance of the pilgrims. John has always supported my “pilgrim” time. He loves to travel around the U.S. with me, going to GSMD and Member Society meetings. I am retired from PHEAA, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency, where I worked for twenty-eight years.

Since I live in PA, I became a dual member. I served on the SMDPA Board of Assistants as Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer,

Deputy Governor, and GSMD DGG. I left the SMDPA Board in 2009 after my father passed away suddenly and I was asked to serve on the SMDNJ Board in his place. I am currently serving as the SMDNJ Deputy Governor.

I believe that we must actively preserve our country's history, as well as our own family history. We must teach the past so that future generations are able to know the values of our ancestors and perpetuate them. The determination and faith of my pilgrim ancestors will always be a positive influence in my life. In 2002, while on a trip to England, as I walked through the Castle Gateway in Southampton I couldn't deny the feeling that I was walking in my ancestor's footsteps!

I am so happy to be back! It is an honor and privilege to once again serve the PA Society of Mayflower Descendants.

New Susquehanna Colony Governor, Michael Saunders

Michael Saunders is an eleventh generation descendant of Edward Fuller. Born in Elmira, NY, he married the lovely Sharon Jaquay (12th generation from William Brewster) 50+ years ago. They have two grown children, Laura Ann, an elementary school teacher, now retired, living in North Myrtle Beach, SC and Anthony, an active duty Navy Captain/pilot currently stationed in Japan. Mike and Sharon have five grandsons. Mike served in the Navy for 25 years. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in Electronics Engineering, Healthcare Administration and Management/Business Admin. Following his Navy career, Mike worked as the Chief Engineer in the White House Computer Center for 5 years. Following his stint at the White House, he was a VP for Northrop Grumman for 15 years and finally a Senior VP for Dream-Hammer Corporation. Mike and Sharon currently reside in Gettysburg. In addition to being a member of the Pennsylvania Mayflower Society, Mike is also a member of the Order of Founders and Patriots and is a member and Past President of the Gen. Smallwood Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution in Maryland. Mike is a 50+ year volunteer leader in the Boy Scouts of America. Mike's son Anthony and so far, two of his grandsons have attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Mike was awarded the Silver Beaver by the National Capital Area Scout Council in 2018 and is a Vigil Honor member in the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's Honor Society. He is currently transferring his scout membership to the local council. Mike's hobbies include genealogy, camping, photography, riding his Harley, amateur radio, and skiing.



SMDPA Member Spotlight Debra Georgantis-Miller

Just in time for the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower landing on November 11, 1620, an exciting



new limited-edition book is available from the SMDPA store.

Mayflower Compact Signers, 1620-2020 400th Anniversary Edition provides detailed biographies for each of the signers and offers links to living descendants, making it a valuable library reference and great gift for any Mayflower descendant, student, or history buff.

Authored by our Debra Georgantis-Miller, M.Ed., the new book is a compilation of her highly popular biographical mini-booklets about each of the signers, also at the store.

While the new limited-edition book remains available, it may be purchased on the SMDPA website at www.sail1620.org (store) for \$21.00, which includes shipping. The book is lightweight and portable, 5.5" x 8.5" in size with 102 pages and a soft cover binding.

A portion of the sales of the new book will benefit the SMDPA Education Fund.

Congratulations Deb on a job well done.

Book Review – As soon as **Mayflower Compact Signers** arrived in my mailbox, I sat down and read about my ancestor, Stephen Hopkins. Then I read the entire book. This was a great book to read for a minute or read the entire book page by page. Debra included artwork and photographs for each signer. It was nice to see family trees of fellow SMDPA members. Debra compiled the perfect book, from the colorful cover to the inside facts. I give this book five stars. *****

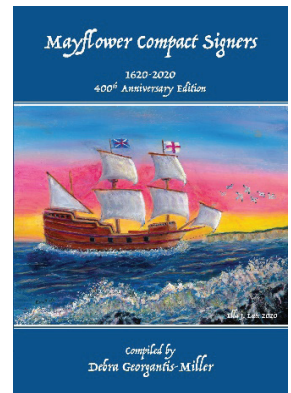
- Assistant Secretary Pam Palchowski

Education vs. Covid-19 Reported by Jim Buckner

Elder Jim Buckner has spent many hours volunteering as a pilgrim reenactor in the local elementary schools, parades, and festivals. This year, Jim has not been able to get into the schools, Crafton Celebrates was canceled, and Haverford Heritage Festival was canceled too. Jim was able to talk to his church's Senior Saints Picnic about the pilgrims. Jim is hoping for a better spring and summer.

There will not be a 2020 SMDPA scholarship offered this year. Applications were due July 1. Jim reported that there were no applications received.

Our SMDPA Thanksgiving service will not take place this year. Jim has secured the date for next year. Please save the date to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving which will be at St. David's Episcopal Church, Radnor, PA on Saturday, November 20, 2021. Please note the day change.



History in the Making Reported by Ginny Fossa

The Historian team has been busy working on applications during this period starting March 13th.

We received 59 approvals from Plymouth and four Junior applications. Of those 59 approvals from Plymouth, 49 were new members and ten Supplemental applications.

We currently have 38 at Plymouth in the queue to be approved. Twenty new applications and 18 Supplemental applications.

A huge “Thank you!” to the Historian team who has helped with all the new applications.

Planning for Bigger and Better Reported by Brian Atwood

Brian is the newly inducted Chair of Publicity/Public Relations. Brian reported that due to Covid-19, there has not been any activity since March to October. Going forward, Brian is redirecting our Public Relations efforts towards the “First Thanksgiving” 400th anniversary in 2021.

Website and Social Media Report Reported by Adam Biedrzycki

SMDPA has seen continued growth in social media outlets. Facebook continues to out perform Instagram, Our page views are up 23% as of 10/2020. Our Average reach of posts equal 1,139 people and our highest reached post achieved 3.3K views. Obstacles for expansion include age/demographic of members vs embracing new technology and lack of “in person” events due to Covid-19.

Our web site is www.sail1620. To reach us on Facebook go to @pennsylvaniamayflower and on Instagram @sail1620. Over the past six months, there has been some major accomplishments. First, the initiation of “Forum Tool” to post discussion threads among members. To date, there have been four discussion threads in 2020. Second, one new article was posted in the “Features” section. There has also been one song posted about the Mayflower. There is an audio file for “Mayflower Sets Sail”. Keeping with the times, ZOOM teleconference subscription was initiated late in 2019. Zoom has been used for training sessions, book promotion meetings, and Executive Board meetings.

Note – All members with email will receive a pdf version of newsletter. Also, newsletters can be found on the public SMDPA website.

Western Colony Report Reported by Governor Patricia Hill

Our 2020 planning committee spent considerable time and effort creating a special calendar of events for our 400th anniversary. As each event approached, it was not meant to be. In fact, all of the

Western Colony events for 2020 have been canceled. That includes our Thanksgiving celebration. I am deeply sorry to end the year in this way.

Looking forward, most of the events that were scheduled for 2020 will be rescheduled for 2021.

The Western Colony Board has continued to work during the shutdown. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of our governing board: Brewster Cockrell, Sara Drodody, Billie Gailey, Gwen Glasbergen, Keith Kammenzind, Lois Lang, Diane McVicker, Lois Puglisi, Elizabeth Ruh, Linda Ruh, and Reverend Charles Smith. Thanks to the board, we are still solvent, have plans, and look forward to welcoming new members when we hold our spring meeting in May of 2021.

We have also attended to other business of the board. Our Recording Secretary, Sara Drodody had resigned. Billie Gailey, a long-time membership volunteer for several groups asked for a change. I was required to fill vacancies in offices with the board’s approval. Billie is taking the Recording Secretary position. That will leave a vacancy in the Colony Historian’s position. Keith Kammenzind, a talented member who has knowledge and energy has answered the call. Keith will assume the office of Colony Historian. These changes took effect on October 10th.

For those of you that wish to become more involved in the Western Colony, I would mention that committee chairs continue to be needed and officers will be elected again in the fall of 2021.

Our Mayflower ancestors left Plymouth with faith, hope, ambition, energy, and brimming with optimism for the future. I see those same qualities in our Western Colony membership as we share the Pilgrim story and honor the values that made the Mayflower passengers an inspiration for the last 400 years.

Susquehanna Colony Report Reported by Governor Michael Saunders

Let me introduce myself. I am Mike Saunders, the new governor of the Susquehanna Colony. In this article I would like to convey information on what is going on with the Colony in this time of reduced activity due to the pandemic. As you are probably aware, we are three quarters of the way through 2020 and all 2020 previously planned events have been canceled. So instead of getting together for a meal and a meeting and fellowship, this newsletter should help a little.

Before we go much farther, I should give a shout out to my predecessor. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank our previous Governor Dan Lute. He has served the Colony extremely well and I hope I can come up to the standard he set for the Colony Governor’s position.

This year, assisting me in the Susquehanna Colony leadership are Cinda Hartman as Assistant Colony Governor. Sharon Saunders is our Colony Secretary; Dotty Lees is our Treasurer and backs up Sharon as Assistant Secretary. Doing double duty as Colony Historian is Cinda Hartman. Dot Snyder is our Archivist and Jim Buckner rounds out the leadership team as our Elder.

I recently sent out a survey to our colony membership via email. Thanks to all of the folks who took the time to respond. Your choices and recommendations are going to manage our actions during this time of Covid-19. The results of the survey questions show that a majority the colony members indicated that we should

not have an in-person meeting before the spring of 2021 (30%) at the earliest if we can hold it safely or no meetings until the Covid-19 pandemic is behind us (39%).

A majority would be in favor of an electronic get-together on the internet (54% yes to 45% no). When the situation for in-person meetings becomes safe, a majority would like to get together for a traditional meeting (54% yes to 45% no).

I'm presently looking into the most efficient way of holding an on-line meeting using internet video conferencing software that is readily available to all members with minimal or no additional software and at no cost to the members. More to come on that at a later time.

We would like to welcome new members of Susquehanna Colony this year. They include Sharon Kay Zegda, Diane Elaine Laucks, Pamela Ann Sparta-Panarese, Kelley Jean Hottle, Douglas Morrell Cook, Lisa Straitiff, Janet Lynn Panning, Maryanne Slabik-Haffner, Donald M. Chapman, Brett Michael Cole, Bonnie Jean Yuscavage, Kathleen Joanne McGarry, Melanie Adele Hull, Gretchen Louise Milliman Hathaway, Ann Way, John Elwyn Simons, Margaret Edwards, Meredith Kelly Hottle, Susan Ann Hackett, and Joseph Robert Gifford. I look forward to meeting each of you when we can.

Courage to Stay the Course **By Surgeon Ronald W. Simonsen** **(William Brewster descendant)**

My last report was written from Providence in February of this year. After spending most of the winter in Rhode Island, I left there on March 20, earlier than planned, and came to Warren. By then, several clusters of Covid-19 were spreading in schools and workplaces there, and new hot spots were popping up all over. Prompted by reports and public announcements released by state officials throughout the northeast that restriction of interstate travel could be imposed, I was relieved to be home.

I had read journal articles that had reported the outbreak of SARS in 2002 and of MERS later. Both were caused by types of coronavirus that had never caused human disease before. Like Covid-19, these diseases ravaged the body's systems and caused alarming mortality. Although smothered quickly, they were not eliminated, and everyone knew that they would be back. Covid-19, caused by their sibling, SARS-CoV-2, is slightly less dangerous but more contagious.

Viruses have existed and reproduced much longer than humans have walked the earth. Their effects have been seen on both plants and animals and they are stubborn survivors. Until 1952, viruses remained invisible, even under the best optical microscope, and undetectable by any other direct method. Experiments had been taking place prior to 1952 and by the time that the first virus was seen with the new electron microscope, the U.S. Department of Defense had warehouses filled with what they had been calling Filterable Particles. During World War II, large outbreaks of illness occurred in the immense and crowded training camps. The usual methods of diagnosis for infectious diseases caused by the known bacteria, protozoa, or fungi, frequently failed to find a definitive cause. By straining out these larger organisms using an ultrafine filter, a clear solution of the patients' secretion was obtained. These

samples, by the millions, were freeze-dried and carefully stored along with a detailed report of each patient until this powerful new instrument came on stream and mankind could see the myriad shapes of this tiny life-form. Progress was exponential after that and within 5 years hundreds of human infectious viruses had been described. I must add that the first virus seen did not come as a total surprise. Other studies during the war, using human volunteers had confirmed that inoculating a healthy person with a filtrate caused that person to come down with an illness very similar to that of the sick donor.

In this trying time, we must continue to shelter the frightened and comfort the suffering. Our corps of scientists have never before had such advanced knowledge and technology to guide our course and I trust they are led by the altruism we have always honored. Humans are capable of insight and empathy. Prejudice, greed, anger, and injustice are the seeds of self-destruction. The American Experiment has always been about striving to make the imperfect better. This beacon of light can still be seen after 400 years, and "must never perish", as Lincoln reminded the nation in another dark time. The path to a vaccine is found through knowledge, as are solutions for most of the existential threats humanity now recognizes. Guarding our light from foreign and domestic threats sometimes requires a renewal of our purpose---the common good.

Erasmus, a scholar, and traveler, created colonies of scholarship wherever he sojourned, including Cambridge and Leiden. He said, "Pain is the root of knowledge." Remembering our ancestors and what they endured will give us the courage to stay the course.

P.S. Don't forget your flu shot.

New Members and Their Ancestors **Submitted by Lead State** **Historian Ginny Fossa**

Beers, Alverta	J Tilley 13 th
Kightlinger, Kimberlyn	J Tilley 14 th
Shilling, Angela	J Tilley 14 th
Swank, Andrea	J Tilley 14 th
Straitiff, Lisa	Fuller 14 th
Barone, Deirdre	C Hopkins 12 th
Panning, Janet	F Billington 11 th
Sorokacs, Carol	Howland 11 th
Slabik-Haffner, Mary Ann	Soule 11 th
O'Brien, Todd	Bradford 12 th
Finch, Christopher	Cooke 12 th
Miller, Christopher	Howland 13 th
Miller, Eric	Howland 13 th
Laws, Theodore	Fuller 13 th
Houck, Talbot Reed	Allerton 12 th
Rutherford, Phyllis Corbin	Brewster 12 th
Cole, Brett Michael	Warren 13 th
Reemtsen, Jeffrey	Brewster 15 th

Chapman, Donald
 Esposito, Holly
 Hull, Melanie
 Kircher, Leon
 Masalehdan, Audrey
 McGarry, Kathleen
 Woods, Roger
 Yuscavage, Bonnie
 Martin, Celia
 Howell, Peter
 Gill, Alan
 Gill, Michael
 Hathaway, Gretchen
 Jankov, Meredith
 Biedrzycki, Adam
 Oesterle, Rebecca
 Boff, Janet Boyd
 Nickol, Lawrence
 Wiesner, Victoria
 Wingerter, Judith
 Birkmeyer, Kim
 Simons, John
 Way, Ann
 Bucks, Cathryn
 Martin, Virginia

Brewster 13th
 Cooke 13th
 Bradford 11th
 Soule 12th
 Hopkins 12th
 Hopkins 13th
 Warren 12th
 E Tilley 12th
 Bradford 13th
 Brewster 12th
 Cooke 14th
 Cooke 14th
 Warren 13th
 Brewster 13th
 Brewster 13th
 Chilton 13th
 Standish 12th
 Warren 11th
 Hopkins 12th
 Hopkins 12th
 Brewster 13th
 Brewster 13th
 Brewster 13th
 White 11th
 Warren 13th

Approved Supplemental Applications

Horton, Heather
 Horton, Heather
 Horton, Heather
 Schmidt, Barbara
 Davis, Sharyn
 Harns, Susanne
 Clark, David
 Clark, John
 Biederman, Judi
 Biederman, Judi
 Woods, Roger
 Woods, Roger
 Woods, Roger
 Knudsen, Kathryn

John Howland
 Elizabeth Tilley
 Joan Hurst
 Thomas Rogers
 John Howland
 Samuel Eaton
 Richard Warren
 Richard Warren
 James Chilton
 Edward Doty
 John Alden
 Pricilla Mullins
 William Mullins
 Constance Hopkins

Approved Junior Applications

Hottle, Lauren
 Robbins, Jonathan
 Robbins, Thomas
 Mentzer, Oliver

John Howland
 Francis Billington
 Francis Billington
 Francis Billington

Supplemental Application Directions By Lead State Historian Ginny Fossa

Does your family tree go back to other passengers who sailed on the Mayflower? If so, a Supplemental application can be prepared for those passengers.

There are two ways this can be completed. A “Silver Supplemental” application can be used when you have a previously approved application and now want to complete an application for the spouse or child of that passenger. So, if you have a John Howland approved application and now you want one through Elizabeth Tilley, John Tilley, or Joan (Hurst) Tilley and the original application was approved after January 1, 2016 and the General Society number is greater than 89,310, the Silver Supplemental application can be used. It can also be used if the lineage connects in the first five generations and is documented in the “Silver Books”.

The advantage to preparing a Silver Supplemental application is that they are approved within weeks, not months.

If the lineage does not fit the “Silver Supplemental” guidelines, a regular application will be prepared and any additional documentation that is necessary will need to be provided.

If you would like to begin the process of preparing a Supplemental application, please feel free to contact me, Ginny Fossa, at SMDPA-Historian@sail1620.org.

It’s All Relative By Sharyn Davis

Eatonville, PA--An unseasonably warm October afternoon gave these three cousins a chance to honor their common ancestor, Christopher Minor, and his military service. A few years ago, while the cousins were researching their respective Miner/Minor families they found each other and a Mayflower connection to John Howland, Elizabeth Tilley, and her parents John and Joan (Hurst) Tilley.

Christopher Minor, the 4th, 3rd, and 5th great grandfather of the cousins respectively is a veteran of the War of 1812. The cousins discovered his gravesite was marked with a GAR Civil War Veteran’s marker instead of the appropriate marker for his service. Rebecca Moyer, wife of Eugene Moyer and Recording Secretary of the Maryland State Society of the United States Daughters of 1812 procured the proper marker.

Shown are cousins Bonnie Yuscavage, a GSMD member through Elizabeth Tilley; Eugene Moyer, the Maryland State SAR Society President and prospective GSMD member through John Howland; and Sharyn Davis, GSMD member through Richard Warren, Edward Doty, and John Howland.



The Pilgrim Henry Samson Kindred (PHSK) Society

by Guy Moellendorf, PHSK newsletter editor

The Pilgrim Henry Samson Kindred (PHSK) is interested in the descent of both Pilgrim Henry Samson of the Mayflower, and the early Plymouth emigrant Abraham Sampson. They are cousins, the grandsons of John Samson of Henlow, Bedfordshire, England. We have 90 active members.

Over the last few months, the PHSK board members have been very busy meeting via Zoom. We held our official Triennial Meeting on 11 Sept 2020, as required by our Bylaws.

Much work has been accomplished, and friendships made. The entire 2020-2023 Officer List is now FULL!! Each meeting has had a quorum which allows us to vote on official business matters. The list of 2020-2023 Officers is found in our newsletter.

After extensive research using Duxbury records, Duxbury resident, local historian and PHSK member, Mr. Lamont Healy, discovered the probable Pilgrim Henry Samson homesite location. In 2017, PHSK funded the field work which included using ground penetrating radar to support the search process.

In 2018 the homesite's probable location was found to be under the garage of an existing residence. Mr. Healy authored a chapter about the discovery in the recently published book, *Duxbury Our Pilgrim Story*. On page 45 of the book there is a new map of the Great Land Division of 1627. This is a great contribution to our Pilgrim history.

Another article in the book was written by PHSK member, Muriel Cushing, about her Delano Family.

We have expanded our Education Office to a committee of four. They will work with the website masters and the newsletter Editor for articles regarding the Samson/Sampson Family.

Because of Zoom, we are now quite a vibrant Kindred, looking forward to the rest of 2020 and 2021. Our next in-person meeting is scheduled for 10 Sept 2021, at Plymouth, MA, on the Friday before the GSMD Board of Assistants meeting. After the meeting we will tour the Samson Homesite and Alden House.

Genealogical information on both Henry and Abraham is available for download on our website.

We welcome new members. Annual dues are a modest \$15. Members receive our newsletter and invitations to our meetings. To join, go to the home page of our website. Its address: www.PilgrimHenrySamsonKindred.org



Newsletter Fun: How did our Officers and BOA's spend their time during the Covid-19 pandemic?

Governor Reed Kneale - Certainly, activities went from business & social events to home repair/improvements, cleaning out closets, landscaping, and celebrating 40 years of marriage with my child bride. Also, learning how to chain saw trees down and experiencing "Zoom" meetings are two new skill sets for my resume, timber!

Deputy Governor Deborah Yingst - I did not really do anything special - just what I would have done normally which was to tend my vegetable garden. I did help my husband sell sweet corn, pumpkins and gourds from his garden.

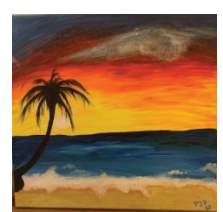
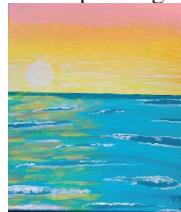
Former Deputy Governor Debra G. Miller - My Mom, Joan C. Miller, past SMDPA Governor, and I spent Covid-19 participating daily in a Bible study, cleaned out the house and took everything to an auction house. It was very sad for us in many ways because of just losing my Dad and not being able to get out and socialize. I think everyone has and continues to experience this feeling. We also learned all about curbside pick-up and we try to make it FUN!

Secretary Laura Tyndall - I sewed over 2500 masks for a community sewing group. Close to 20,000 masks were made and donated to hospitals, nursing homes, veterans' groups, and other non-profits in PA. Additionally, the group started sewing masks with clear vinyl windows for autistic children and folks that need to read lips or have smiles that shine through.



Covid-19 Masks with clear shields

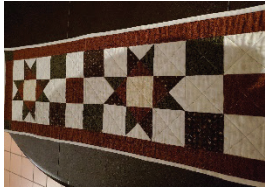
Assistant Secretary Pam Palchowski - I learned how to ZOOM! Then I became a founding member of our community's weekly craft class on Zoom. On Monday's I was engaged in an online painting class.



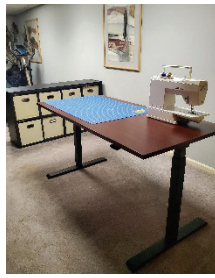
Treasurer Scott C. Bond - Home, garden and keeping moving. Helping the local grandchildren with virtual classwork. Keeping SMDPA moving along, genealogy development projects. Extended family Photo of the Day project and enrolling in an on-line "Writing from Photos" class. And producing a couple of family videos mocking the Corona Virus. But I must mention that not all has been pleasant in 2020. I am looking forward to a better 2021.

Assistant Treasurer Judi Biederman - My big pandemic project was to create a craft area. Because I gathered craft items from all

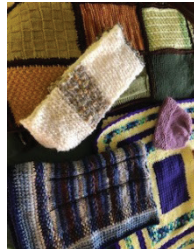
over my house, the project resulted in a lot of clean drawers and closets, which extended to a general cleaning and reorganization of the



basement. Then I set up my sewing machine and have begun to learn how to quilt, a lifelong wish.



Lead State Historian Ginny Fossa - Being in quarantine was a blessing in disguise for me as it gave me the time to work on knitting and crocheting items for a group that donates these items to local charities. We make blankets, lap robes, scarves, hats, preemie baby hats, and bereavement blankets. These are a few of the items I have recently completed.



Registrar Pamela Kolyer - Well it was crazy in we were blessed in not being furloughed or laid off, my company handles corporate travel went from 100% cancellations and processing refunds to about 65% up now in bookings -there were some slow weeks which they had us take online certification classes -I wish I could have some down time to have fun!

Elder Jim Buckner - During Covid-19, the only thing special we did was to drive to Ohio, picked up my sister, flew to Texas, flew back to Ohio a week later, stayed at my sister's a couple of days, then drove home.

Captain Keith Kammenzind - I spent my Covid-19 quarantine working on the house, doing yardwork, and doing genealogy.

Social Media Chair Adam Biedrzycki - During Covid-19, I had the unique opportunity to plan 2 weddings and marry my beautiful bride, Allison.



Co-Editor of the newsletter Sharyn Davis - I assisted Historian Ginny Fossa on the Mayflower applications of several prospective members and worked on two of my own supplemental applications. My love of counted cross-stitch was rekindled with a couple of Thanksgiving projects. Here is one finished piece, framed by my husband with cherry wood from my dad's property.

Lois Morris Howanec - I was in my happy place during the quarantine. I worked on my genealogy, helped Ginny with people looking to prove their Mayflower lineage, sewed some (masks, etc., including using my embroidery machine), organized some, read books, studied my Bible, and got my people fix when I did my grocery shopping.

Susquehanna Colony Governor - Mike Saunders - I'm an amateur radio operator. Over the past 6+ months, I've made hundreds of radio contacts with other ham radio operators around the globe. This weekend, I am working on the World Scouting Organization's annual "Jamboree on the Air" which occurs each October around this time. Also going on this weekend is the New York State QSO (radio contact) Party so I have made a number of radio contacts around New York State.

The Mayflower

The Mayflower set sail for the new world on September 16, 1620, from England and made its way across the Atlantic. On board were 102 men, woman, and children. Half of these passengers were the saints or Pilgrims as they are known today. They were escaping religious persecution. While the other half, the strangers, were seeking adventure and a brand new life. The mission was to create a settlement in the Virginia territory. They experienced terrible storms, and high waves, the crossing of the Atlantic must have been miserable. After 66 days the Mayflower limped into the bay to their journey's end.

~The Mayflower had design flaws. It was a merchant ship with high side walls which made it rough to sail in the strong winds. The journey across the Atlantic took more than two months but could have been done in half the time.

~ The conditions on board were extremely cramped. The journey started out with two vessels and the Speedwell could not make the journey. The extra passengers climbed onto the Mayflower for the trip. There were the 102 passengers and 18 crew that squeezed onboard. There were sheep, dogs, chickens, goats, tools, weapons, storage barrels of food, and even a cannon.

~ There were births and deaths on the Mayflower. One passenger died and Constance Hopkins gave birth to a boy who was named Oceanus.

~ They arrived at the start of a harsh winter. The Mayflower arrived on November 9th 1620. Half of the colony members died during that first winter. They had limited amounts of food, limited shelter, and disease.

~The Mayflower Compact was created by 41 men who created an agreement on November 11th. This was the United States first governing document.

The Mayflower II is owned by Plimoth Plantation. Plimoth Plantation is a living museum that tells the Pilgrim story. During the 400th year anniversary, Plimoth Plantation will be changing their name to Plimoth Patuxet. Plimoth Plantation was established in 1947 as a memorial to the Pilgrims. There are English historical reenactors and there is also a living exhibition centered on the Wampanoag Tribe. It is worth the visit.

Historical US Postal Stamp

The U.S. Postal Service honored the arrival of the *Mayflower* in Plymouth Harbor with a forever stamp on September 17, 2020. The SMDPA has used these forever Mayflower stamps to mail this newsletter to you. If you would like to secure some Mayflower stamps and your post office is sold out - contact the U. S. Postal Service at https://store.usps.com/store/product/buy-stamps/mayflower-in-plymouth-harbor-S_476704 or you can call 800-STAMP24.



Mayflower Book Nook Choices Mayflower 1620 Picture Book Project It is a Project by Heather Horton

If you have wanted a picture book about the *Mayflower* and the First Thanksgiving that you could customize to include your family story, now is the time. Shutterfly offers custom photobook printing services and I have posted a short book about the Mayflower and the First Thanksgiving as a shared project. There are classic paintings of Mayflower scenes, an engraving of their Leiden church, the cover of one of Brewster's seditious pamphlets and Bradford's transcription of the Mayflower Compact.

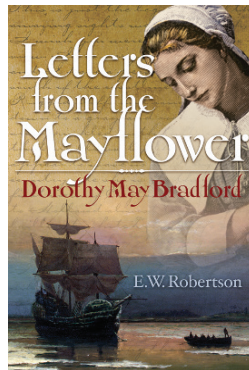
The basic book is about 20 pages, but you can add your own family history, family lineage, Mayflower society certificate or Plymouth or Thanksgiving photos in JPEG format.

To make your book, go to the link, <https://www.shutterfly.com/share-product/?shareid=d21f46fc-3c9b-47ca-8fac-9065aab734ce&cid=SHARPRDWEBGALLNK> and create an account. If the link isn't active, cut and paste it in your browser. You can publish the book as is, or add your own custom material.

At full price the books are about \$50 but they have frequent sales including half-off. There is also a \$10 option to have Shutterfly design your book (add electronically sent material). There is a small charge for each additional page.

BLOOMINGTON AUTHOR CELEBRATES MAYFLOWER 400th ANNIVERSARY WITH FICTIONAL ACCOUNT OF PASSENGER'S LIFE

Bloomington, Indiana (September 2020) — Countries around the world are celebrating the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower voyage (1620-2020): England, where the Pilgrims began their lives, the Netherlands where they sought refuge for half a generation, and the United States where the Pilgrims established a successful community in Plymouth Colony. Author, E. W. Robertson, celebrates the significant event with publication of a fictional account of the life of Dorothy May Bradford. Robertson's research for the book began after a family Thanksgiving meal where the discussion revolved around the Pilgrims and the perils of their journey. "I became curious about the legacy of my own faith and started reading about the Pilgrims. I knew the fundamentals - they sailed to the New World in 1620, they came in pursuit of religious freedom, they landed at Plymouth Rock. But I knew nothing about them as individuals. I had grown up knowing of them but had no understanding of the struggles they encountered while traveling to America." "One of my goals in writing the book was to set the record straight regarding the death of Dorothy Bradford," states Robertson. "Her life has been overshadowed by an article that was published in Harper's New Monthly in 1869. The article portrays Dorothy's death as suicide, and I don't buy that." The Mayflower anchored in Provincetown Harbor on November 11, 1620. One



month later Dorothy drowned in the harbor, after accidentally falling off the ship. "While it's feasible that anyone who endured the hardships of such a voyage could fall into a complete state of depression and hopelessness, I'm convinced that Dorothy's death was an accident; a horrible, unexplainable, complete freak accident. I found no proof, no eyewitness report to confirm the speculation that her fall from the ship was intentional; no facts, no records to suggest depression or suicide. I believe it is hurtful for historians to color her life with that sadness." Robertson is fascinated by the bravery of these 102 passengers – men, women and very young children – who put their lives on the line to follow a dream. To give life to their view, their strength, their courage and joy became one of the missions of this story. Robertson's book portrays Dorothy Bradford as an unsung hero; a bold young woman, strong in mind, strong in spirit, strong in character, laser-focused on God's promises. Letters from the Mayflower – Dorothy May Bradford is available on Etsy, Amazon and Amazon Kindle.

In the Shadow of Men By Sue Allan

Hello from England!

I cannot believe that it has been six years since I was hosted by SMDPA in Lancaster in 2014 when I received the 'Katherine F Little Distinguished Achievement Award'. It was one of the proudest days in my life; the very first time that I had been officially recognized for my *Mayflower* research.

Since that time, I have been extremely busy with trying to discover the family backgrounds of the many Mayflower Pilgrims that, until now, have stubbornly remained unknown. And although I say it myself, I think our research team – comprising of myself, Caleb Johnson, aided by our archive secret weapon, Simon Neal – have made great strides with the identification of those of Dorothy May Bradford, her uncle and aunt William & Susanna (Jackson) White Winslow, Elizabeth Barker Winslow, Isaac Allerton and Governor John Carver, along with several members of the Leiden congregation along the way.

Talking of these discoveries, I do not think that I have ever explained fully how the discovery of both William White and Susanna came about, or how it relates to my current research efforts.

Recovering from a total knee replacement, I had lots of spare time on my hands. Not wanting the Devil to make work for them, I began to look into the lives of the women that came on the Mayflower. I started with Dorothy May Bradford, and soon began trying to verify her speculated origins at Wisbech in Cambridgeshire. It was then that my attention turned to the marriage of a lady name Jacomine May who married at the City Hall on 5 May 1609. The banns state that the lady in question was from Wisbech and around 30 years old, and had been assisted by her brother, Willem Hoyt.

At thirty, I knew that Jacomine could possibly be an older sister to Dorothy, who was known to be sixteen at the time of her own marriage to William Bradford just four years later. Scouring transcripts of the baptismal registers at Wisbech, I could find no



entry for a Jacomine May. However, I did find one for a 'Jemmina' May. As a matter of good practice, I ordered a copy of the original parish register entry and was thrilled to find that the transcription was wrong, and that the name of the child in question was indeed Jacomine. But she was Dorothy's aunt and not her sister.

Having confirmed the identity of Jacomine at Wisbech, my attention then turned to her brother, William Hoyt, but found that there was no such family of that name at Wisbech. Undeterred, I began to think 'out of the box' in order to try to solve this mystery.

The Dutch officials at this time of fluid spellings recorded the names of the English person before them as he had heard them phonetically. The name Jacomine was easy as it was a known given name in Holland. William was also straight forward but Hoyt did not sound like a common English surname of that time. So, I used an audio online Dutch-to-English translator and could hear the Dutch pronunciation of this word as being closer to 'Hwhite' - just the way that I knew a native Cambridge man would pronounce the word 'White'.

By working out Jacomine May's genealogy, I soon found that after her father had died, her mother, Thomasine, had married a man named Edward White and together they had a son, William baptized at Wisbech. I knew then that I had found the, for too long, elusive Mayflower Pilgrim.

Identifying William White was one thing, but getting my findings verified was quite another. In England, no one was particularly interested in helping me, so I turned to a gentleman I had met and toured just a couple of years earlier - Caleb Johnson. Caleb not only had heaps of experience researching but had well-trodden the path to getting genealogical findings published.

While Caleb undertook the painstaking task of kicking my research notes into an acceptable paper to publish in *The American Genealogist*, and Simon Neal, sought out a raft of supplementary documents to help support my findings, I pressed on with trying to identify the family roots of Susanna (Jackson) White as being at Scrooby, which I amazed even myself by doing so! The rest, as they say, is history!

The story of the Separatist women, some of whom came on the Mayflower, has for too long been over-shadowed by the story of the men, and has always been a subject close to my heart. Having now identified the fascinating back stories of these two female Mayflower Pilgrims I was riveted, so I began to investigate the background of Elizabeth Barker, the first wife of Edward Winslow, who was reputedly from Chattisham in Suffolk. Quite unexpectedly, while examining records relating to her family, the names of Pilgrim Isaac Allerton's parents popped up!

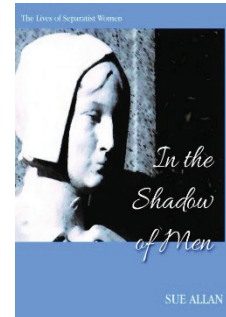
I guess what I am trying to put across is that had it not been for the fact that I had begun looking carefully at the genealogy of the women of the Mayflower, the previously unknown family roots of three male Pilgrims, Isaac Allerton, William White and afterwards, Governor John Carver, would not have come to light. And yet why, I wondered, have the women not been fully researched before?

Now, with the first real, in-depth research into these women, I have begun to uncover a whole new understanding about their role in the story of the Separatists. Along with this, previously unrealized connections between some of the Pilgrims, have begun to open up; something that without looking into the lives of the women could never have happened.

My latest book, 'In the Shadow of Men', contains my research so far into a cluster of Separatist women in Holland, that I believe serves to greatly enhance our understanding of this story of religious

struggle. All were English, most knew each other well. Some became passengers on the Mayflower, while others took a different path. All their stories are fascinating, and weave together to give the reader a solid understanding of how the Separatist movement began, and why Scrooby was by no means the major player in this story. Most of all, their stories lay to rest any long-held notion that Mayflower Pilgrim women were mere baubles hung on their husband's arm and simply along for the ride.

Included in this book is the full story of Dorothy May and William White's family at Wisbech, and with much about the curious religious leanings of Dorothy's grandfather, John May, and her grandmother, Thomasine. I also put to bed any lingering rumors surrounding Dorothy's death and Bradford's supposed reaction to that.



Also covered in depth are the lives of Elizabeth Barker, Alice Carpenter, Anna Clifton and Bridget Robinson, as well as a number of women that readers may not be familiar with, but whose stories, nonetheless, cast valuable light on the Separatist story as a whole. Other Pilgrims are also mentioned in passing.

There are also new insights into the probable family roots of Mary Brewster, as well as an in depth look at the lot of English women as a whole during this tumultuous period in history.

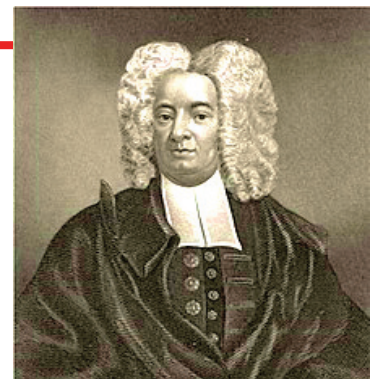
Meanwhile, with the back stories of so many of the other women of the *Mayflower* remaining untold, that research goes on.

'*In The Shadow of Men - The Lives of Separatist Women*' (September 2020) is published by Domtom Publishing and available shipped from the UK at <http://www.domtom.co.uk/non-fiction/> or in the US from NEHGS online Bookstore at https://shop.americanancestors.org/search?x=9&y=11&q_input=Sue%20Allan&q=Sue%20Allan%20-product_type:Membership%20-product_type:Single-Use&pass-through=true

In Search of Governor William Bradford By Sue Allan

Mayflower Pilgrim, William Bradford, was not just the long-serving and most influential Governor of the Plymouth Colony. His famous handwritten manuscript, *Of Plymouth Plantation*, has also preserved its history in magnificent detail.

While Bradford recorded and preserved the historical record of Plymouth and its people, he rarely wrote about himself and he failed to preserve an account of his own history and background.



While a brief biography was assembled by Rev. Cotton Mather in 1702, and a genealogical analysis of the Bradfords of Austerfield was assembled in the 19th century, there has been astonishingly little modern scholarship on Bradford's origins and development.

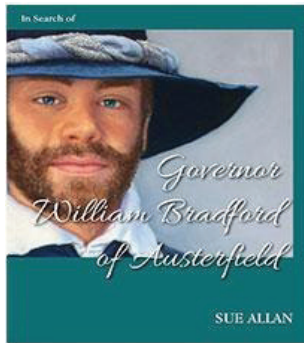
To my mind, William Bradford has been much maligned in the past, not only for his very strict religious outlook (what should one expect from a deeply devout man?) but also looked down upon by some who came later, for his apparent lack of a recorded education. Yet, one does not have to delve too deeply into Bradford's writings to quickly come to the conclusion that this man was highly learned and extremely intelligent, leaving me to always believe that young Bradford may have actually received a formal education at a grammar school. Therefore, for a number of years it had been hovering in the back of my mind that I should investigate this theory further.

Then in the summer of 2019, I was contacted by a friend, Prof. Frank Bremer of New England Beginnings, asking if I knew what the religious landscape in Austerfield was like during William Bradford's childhood there; were the people there 'unacquainted with the Bible...a most ignorant and licentious people...' as claimed by Cotton Mather in his "Magnalia Christi Americana". I did not know the answer for certain, but wanting to help, I began to look into certain records of Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, and Lincolnshire, and then to assemble those with my recent discoveries on the Jacksons, Mays, Southworths, and other local families.

Using this research, I soon began to paint not only a clear picture of the religious state of play at Austerfield, but also a plausible picture of Bradford's youth and upbringing; which uncles did he live with after his parents' and grandparents' deaths? What was his family's religious leaning? Where was he educated? How did he become associated with the Scrooby separatists?

Along the way, I discovered a previously unrecorded, much younger, half-brother of Governor Bradford's paternal grandfather, living at Austerfield in Bradford's youth; an uncle who likely took the young orphan under his wing, and away from Austerfield for a while Church records also revealed scandal in the Governor's remaining Bradford family at Austerfield; one which may easily have given credence to Cotton Mather's bleak impression of that village, and would have given just cause for Governor Bradford to want to turn his back on that place.

This new research, combined with wills and an in-depth look at the Bradford family genealogy going back some four generations from the Governor, forms the backbone of my new book.



'In Search of Governor William Bradford' (March 2020) is published by Domtom Publishing and available shipped from the UK at <http://www.domtom.co.uk/non-fiction/> or in the US from NEHGS online Bookstore at https://shop.americanancestors.org/search?x=9&y=11&q_input=Sue%20Allan&q=Sue%20Allan%20-product_type:Membership%20-product_type:Single-Use&pass-through=true

The Mayflower Guard

SMDPA Captain Keith Kammenzind (sumterto1@verizon.net) is looking for Honor Guard volunteers to participate in SMDPA ceremonies, parades and SMDPA special events throughout the Commonwealth of PA. Please forward your name and interest to Captain Kammenzind via his email.

Calling all SMDPA Members

The Organization Structure of the SMDPA is based on that found in the Plymouth Colony. It is headed by a Governor, and a Deputy Governor and a board consisting of Officers, Board of Assistants, and Committees. Current 2020-2021 SMDPA Organization Structure can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

Committees that are in need:

- Assistants to the Historian to help process applications.
- Education and Scholarship Committee,
- Junior Membership Committee,
- Parliamentarian - using Robert's Rules of Order.

Any SMDPA member with an interest in serving on a board or committee may contact the Nominating Chair, Joan C. Miller or Deb G. Miller at debgeorgantis@yahoo.com.

Most committees are in need of assistants, we hope you consider this great opportunity.

Mayflower II - She is home!



Photo credit: Michele Kaplan

**Pennsylvania Society of Mayflower Descendants
SMDPA
929 S. High Street, Suite 135
West Chester, PA 19382**



SAVE THE DATE

Due to Covid-19, all Thanksgiving Celebrations for SMDPA have been canceled.

February 17, 2021	Deadline to turn in reports and articles for the Spring/Summer newsletter		
February 20, 2021	Board of Assistants Meeting	10:30am to 12:00pm	Merion Cricket Club
March 13, 2021	Board of Assistants Meeting	10:30am to 12:00pm	Merion Cricket Club
April 3, 2021	SMDPA Annual Meeting 2021	12:00pm to 3:00pm	Merion Cricket Club
May 15, 2021	Western Colony Spring Meeting	12:00pm to 2:00pm	TBD
October 16, 2021	Board of Assistants Meeting	10:30am to 12:00pm	Merion Cricket Club
November 20, 2021	Thanksgiving Worship/Dinner	2:00pm to 5:00pm	Radnor, PA 19406