



# The Mayflower Pilgrims

# The Separatists



- The people we commonly refer to as Pilgrims or Puritans did not refer to themselves as such. They referred to themselves as Separatists. The term **'Pilgrim' was not used until about 1800.**
- The people who subjected themselves to the Atlantic crossing were religious Separatists inspired by the Protestant Reformation of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century.
- They saw the Anglican Church (Church of England) as too closely aligned with the Roman Catholic Church.

# Their Beliefs

- **The Separatists' religion included only two sacraments**
  - infant baptism (wiping away of Original Sin) and the **Lord's Supper.**
- They rejected the sacraments of the Catholic and Anglican Churches of confession, penances, confirmation, ordination, marriage and last rites.
- They believed that God predestined or chose who would go to heaven or hell before the creation of the world.
- Organ music or choral music had no part in worship services.

# Their Beliefs

- They believed that the Geneva Bible was the true Word of God – it included the Old Testament, New Testament and Apocrypha.
- They did not recognize any religious holidays such as Christmas or Easter. The Sabbath was the only holy day.
- They rejected idolatry, including crosses, stained glass windows, and elaborate church architecture.
- They believed that the church had five officers: pastor, teacher, elder, deacon and deaconess.
- Each church was independent and relied only on its own governance.

# Religious Persecution

- Because of their beliefs and perceived disloyalty to the Crown, the Separatists were persecuted and often arrested.
- In 1606, a group of approximately 100 Separatists left Scrooby in northern England and, in self-exile, emigrated to Leiden, Netherlands.



# Two Ships

- The Separatists in the Netherlands sold their personal belongings in order to purchase a ship named the *Speedwell*.
- In August 1620, they sailed away from Delfshaven to England where they had arranged to meet the *Mayflower*.
- A small part of the group remained in Leiden.



# Two Ships

- There were some concerns about the *Speedwell*, as it had sustained damage and was taking on water.
- However, the *Speedwell* was repaired and on 15 August, the two ships weighed their anchors and hoisted the sails.



# One Ship



- Soon after the two ships had set sail, the *Speedwell* started to take on water again.
- They diverted their course to Dartmouth in Devon. Here, it took the harbor laborers approximately one week to repair the damage.
- Unfortunately, the second attempt proved equally unsuccessful.
- The *Speedwell* continued to take on water, and sailing on was deemed too risky.
- A number of Separatists gave up, and the remaining ones crowded onto the *Mayflower* and set sail.



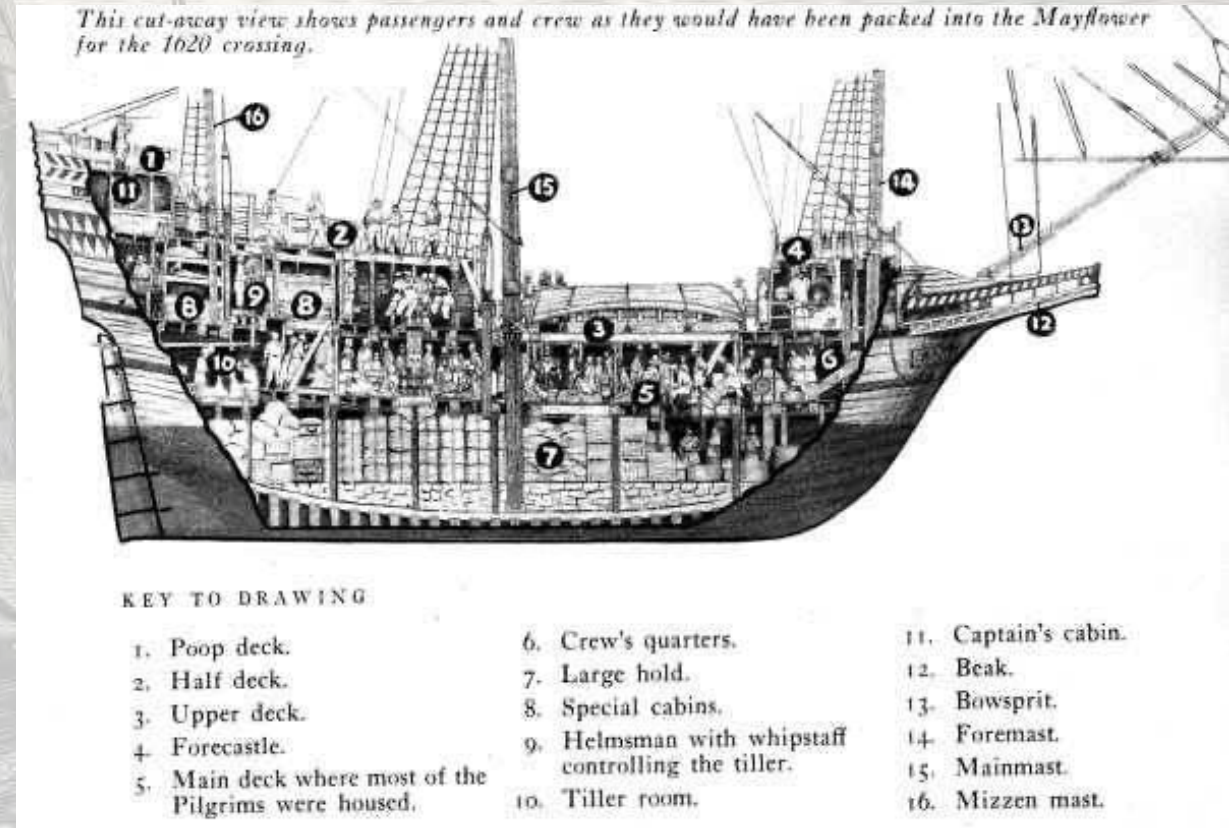
# The Mayflower

- A type of cargo ship known as a carrack
  - Three masts with square-rigged sails on the main and foremast and a triangular sail on the mizzenmast
  - Three decks – upper, gun and cargo
  - Measured roughly 100 feet long and 25 feet wide



# Passengers on the Mayflower

- The Mayflower launched with 102 passengers, 74 male and 28 female, and a crew of approximately 30 members headed by Master Christopher Jones. One crewmember and one passenger died during the journey.



# Passengers on the Mayflower



- John Alden
- \*Isaac and Mary (Norris) Allerton, and children Bartholomew, Remember, and Mary
- John Allerton
- John and Eleanor Billington, and sons John and Francis.
- \*William and Dorothy (May) Bradford
- \*William and Mary Brewster, and children Love and Wrestling
- Richard Britteridge
- Peter Browne
- William Butten
- Robert Carter
- \*John and Katherine (White) Carver
- \*James and Mrs. Chilton, and daughter Mary
- Richard Clarke
- \*Francis Cooke and son John
- \*Humility Cooper
- \*John Crackstone and son John
- Edward Doty
- Francis and Sarah Eaton, and son Samuel
- Thomas English
- \*Moses Fletcher
- \*Edward and Mrs. Fuller, and son Samuel
- \*Samuel Fuller
- Richard Gardiner
- \*John Goodman
- William Holbeck
- John Hooke

# Passengers on the Mayflower



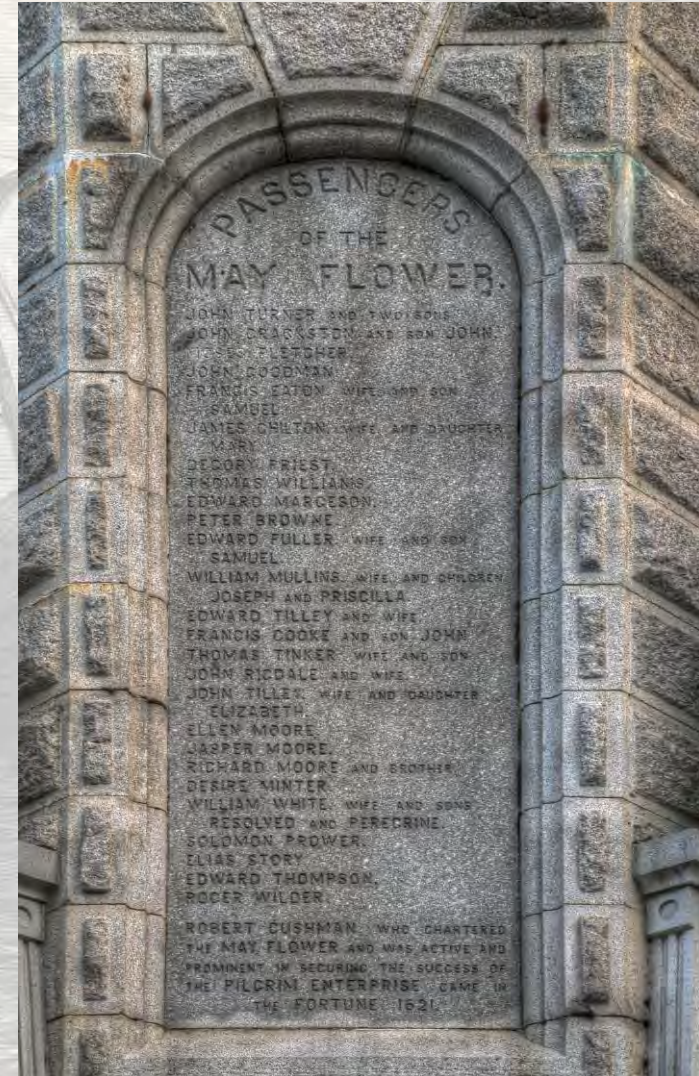
- Stephen and Elizabeth (Fisher) Hopkins and children Constance, Giles and Damaris; son Oceanus was born during the voyage.
- John Howland
- John Langmore
- William Latham
- Edward Leister
- Edmund Margesson
- Christopher and Mary (Prower) Martin
- Desire Minter
- Ellen, Jasper, Richard, and Mary More
- William and Alice Mullins and children Priscilla and Joseph
- \*Degory Priest
- Solomon Prower
- John and Alice Rigsdale
- \*Thomas Rogers and son Joseph
- \*Henry Samson
- George Soule
- Myles and Rose Standish
- Elias Story
- Edward Thompson
- Edward and Agnes (Cooper) Tilley
- John and Joan (Hurst) Tilley and daughter Elizabeth
- \*Thomas and Mrs. Tinker, and a son
- William Trevore
- \*John Turner, and two sons
- Richard Warren

# Passengers on the Mayflower

- \*William and Susanna (Jackson) White, and son Resolved (son Peregrine was born shipboard in Provincetown Harbor after arrival).
- Roger Wilder
- \*Thomas Williams
- \*Edward and Elizabeth (Barker) Winslow
- Gilbert Winslow
- "Mr. Ely"
- Dorothy (John Carver's maidservant)

*from the handwritten manuscript of Gov. William Bradford, written up about 1651*

*\* - indicates members of the Leiden Separatist Church*





*The Channel courses  
of the MAY-FLOWER  
and SPEEDWELL*

# The Voyage



- Time was of the essence.
- Midsummer was already approaching, and the Separatists needed to leave before the late summer storms began.
- They also needed to reach America by autumn to ensure sufficient time to build shelter before winter set in.
- The Mayflower finally set off from Plymouth, England, on September 6, 1620, more than a month behind schedule.

# The Voyage



- The voyage was plagued by rough seas and storms.
- The foul weather forced the Separatists to huddle in the crowded holds. The rain leaked in through the creaky deck boards, making their lives cold and damp.
- For the most part, the *Pilgrims* kept to themselves and stuck together, spending their days and nights below deck praying, reading the Bible, singing songs, and sleeping.
- In the mornings and evenings, the 20 adult women prepared the meals, which consisted of salted meats, dried peas & beans, hard cheese, water, and beer.



# The Voyage



- During one particularly bad storm, a 25-year-old Separatist named John Howland went up on deck to try to assist the crew, but when the *Mayflower* listed heavily, he fell overboard and was nearly lost in the North Atlantic.
- He was able to grab a rope hanging down from one of the masts right before the current pulled him under.
- If Howland had been a little slower, or if the crew had not been on hand to haul him in, America might be different **today, because two of Howland's descendants would** become presidents of his new homeland: George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush.

# The Voyage

- The Separatists didn't land on "Plymouth Rock." They didn't land on any rock at all. They didn't even land at Plymouth.



# The Voyage



- **Their original destination was “Northern Virginia”** - In the 1600s, many maps referred to the entire eastern seaboard as Virginia, because the Virginia Company laid claim to it.
- Their actual destination was the Hudson River area in what is now New York, where they had been granted a land claim from the Virginia Company.

# The Voyage

- As the *Mayflower* headed for the Hudson, yet another squall tossed and turned the ship, forcing it off course.
- When land was sighted, William Bradford, leader of the Separatists, employed Master **Jones**, the ship's leader to make landfall.
- On November 11, 1620, after more than two months at sea, the *Mayflower* dropped anchor off the sandy tip of Cape Cod, near what is now Provincetown, Massachusetts.



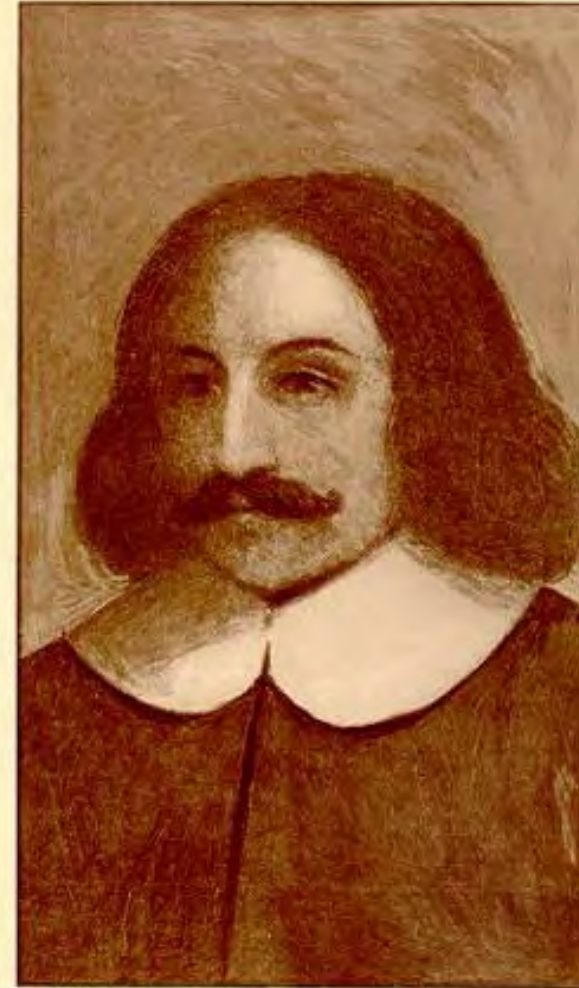
# The Mayflower Compact

- Before the travelers disembarked from the ship, 41 Separatists signed the Mayflower Compact- the first set of written laws in America.



# Governor William Bradford

- In the hopes of creating a **“city upon a hill”** that would serve as a beacon to the rest of the world, the Separatists elected the most learned and respected member of the group, William Bradford, to be governor.



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GOVERNOR WILLIAM BRADFORD

# Land

- William Bradford described the landing in his journal:
- *Being thus arrived in a good harbor and brought safe to land, they fell upon their knees and blessed the God of heaven, who had brought them over the vast and furious ocean, and delivered them from the perils and miseries thereof, again to set their feet on the firm and stable earth, their proper element.*



# The First Winter

- Because of the delays the Separatists encountered leaving England, it was already winter when they arrived in America.
- They had to find a home -a place with reliable food and shelter-fast.
- The Pilgrims spent the first few weeks exploring the sandy beaches and inlets around cape Cod, and then the *Mayflower* took up anchor and sailed farther north up the coast until they found an inviting harbor.





# Plymouth Colony

- According to a surveying map, the harbor had been visited by Captain John Smith seven years earlier. He named it Plymouth, the same name as the town in England from which the Separatists had set sail more than three months earlier.
- Plymouth Harbor, it was agreed, would be their new home. They landed there on December 21, 1620---the first day of winter.



# Plymouth Colony



- The *Mayflower's* crew dropped anchor off-shore, judging that a return trip to England in winter would be too dangerous, and they spent that winter with the Colonists.
- Neither group fared well. Food supplies ran perilously low and more than half of those who arrived - including Oceanus Hopkins, the baby boy who was born on the *Mayflower* - did not survive to spring.

# Plymouth Colony



- The Colonists were befriended by a Native American of the Patuxet Tribe known as Tisquantum (Squanto).
- Squanto had spent several years in England and spoke **the Colonists' language.**
- He became an interpreter for the Colony, helping them negotiate with the two other area tribes -the Nauset and the Wampanoag.

# Plymouth Colony

- Also aiding the Colonists was a professional soldier named **Myles Standish**. **The Colonists weren't fighters, but, because** they were going into unknown lands, Pastor John Robinson thought it prudent to hire a military captain.
- **The decision turned out to be crucial to the Colonists'** survival. Although Standish lost his wife that first winter, he remained loyal to protecting those who named him their captain.
- Standish also impressed the neighboring tribes with his wisdom and prowess as a warrior, and even fought **alongside them when another tribe attacked... a tribe who** had vowed to wipe out the English next.

# The First Thanksgiving



- Without the aid of Squanto and Captain Standish, the Colonists would not have been safe in their new home. But, thanks to their protection, they lived in peace with the Native Tribes for nearly 75 years, until the **Wampanoag challenged the Colonists' claim to the land.**

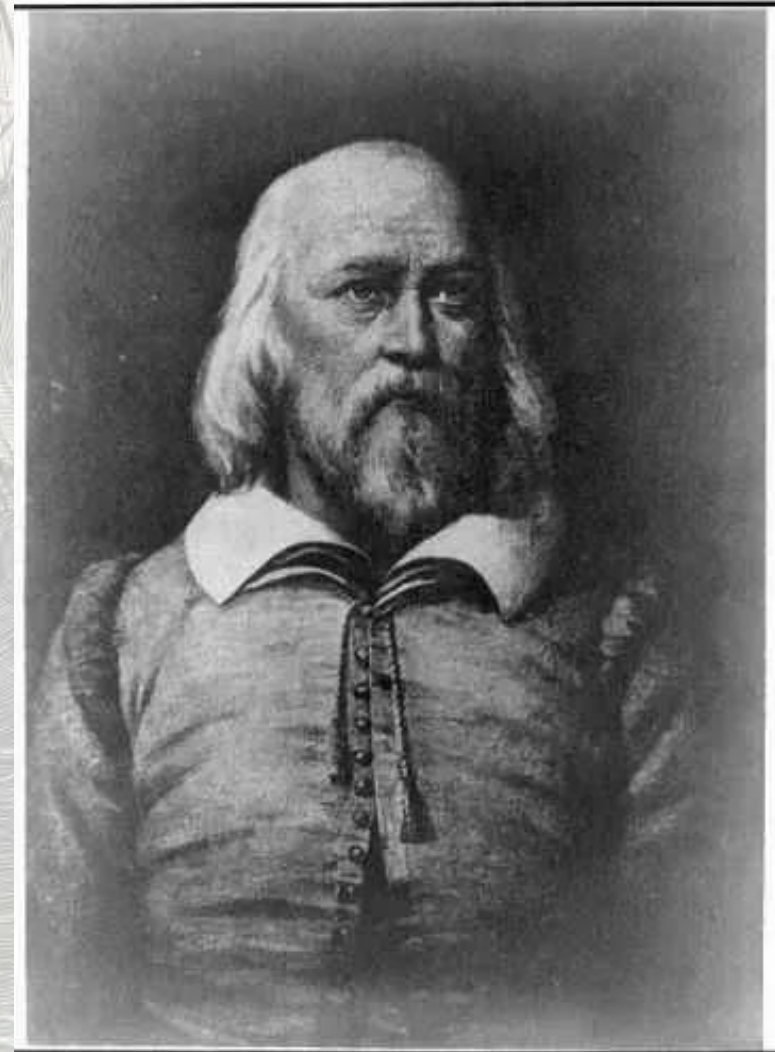
# The first Thanksgiving

- They coexisted, traded goods and services, and in 1621 they celebrated their first (and only) Thanksgiving together.
- **It wasn't a solemn religious** affair, it was a lively, three-day harvest feast.
- The Colonists, having survived the journey over the ocean and the harsh winter that followed, were very thankful for their new home -and new friends- in Plymouth.



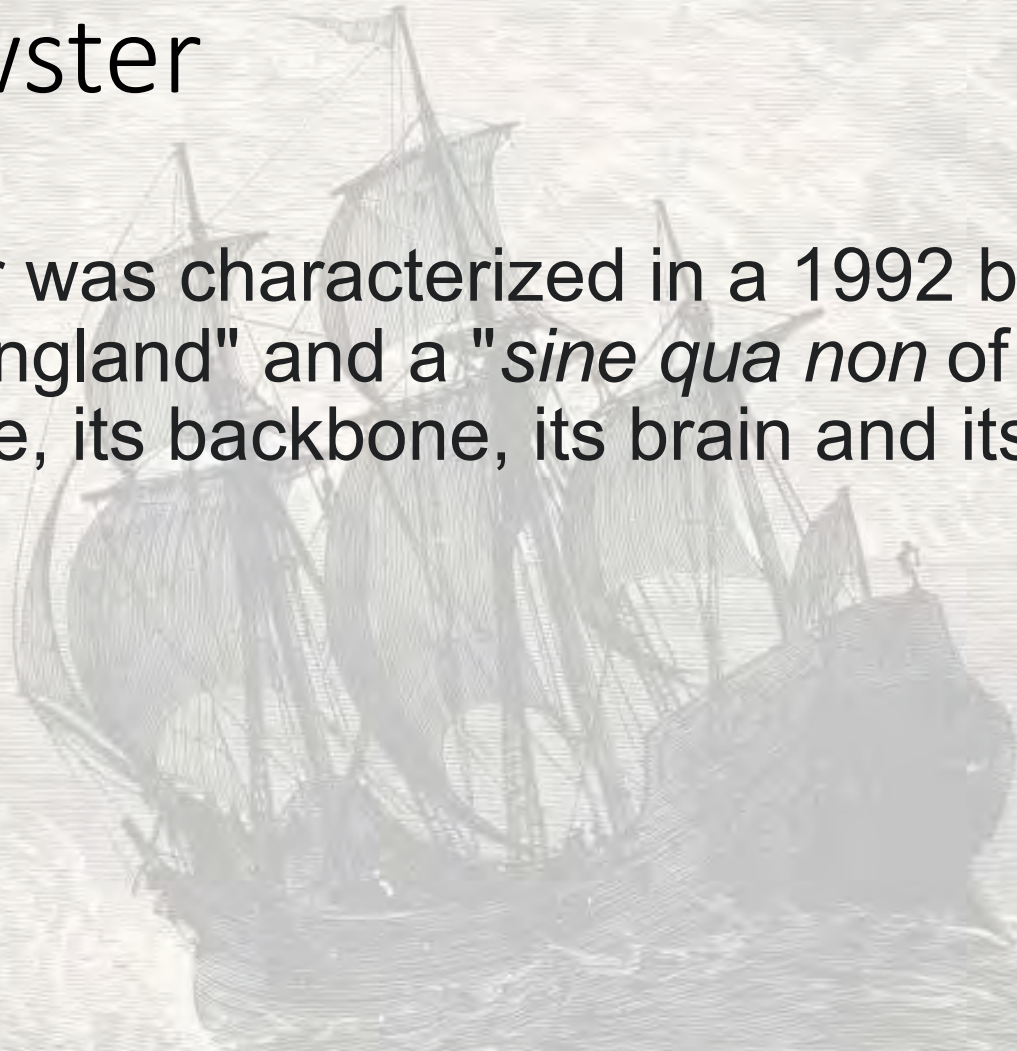
# William Brewster

- Elder William Brewster led the Colonists as they gave thanks.
- As the only university-educated member of the colony, Brewster took the part of the colony's religious leader until pastor Ralph Smith arrived in 1629.
- "He was tenderhearted and compassionate of such as were in misery," Bradford wrote, "but especially of such as had been of good estate and rank and fallen unto want and poverty."



# William Brewster

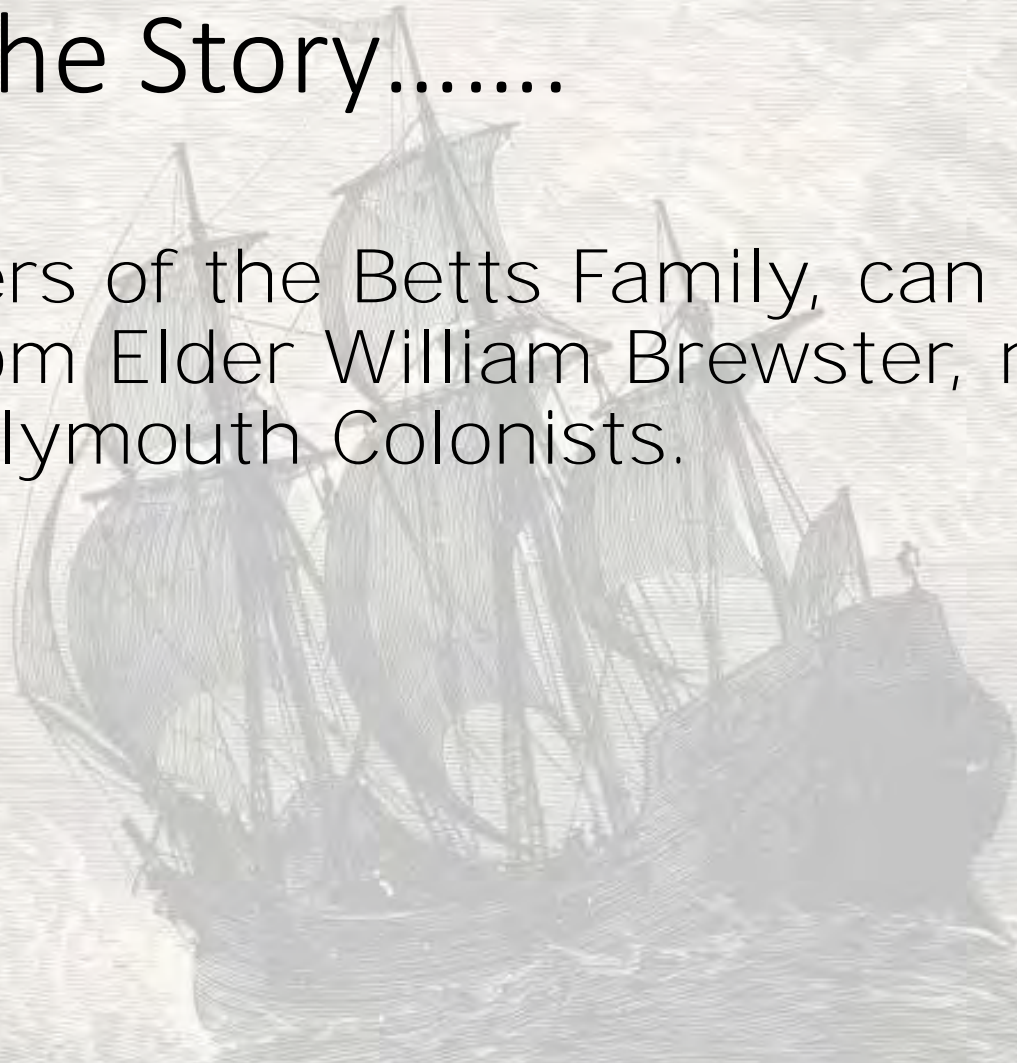
- William Brewster was characterized in a 1992 biography as the "father of New England" and a "*sine qua non* of the entire Pilgrim adventure, its backbone, its brain and its conscience."



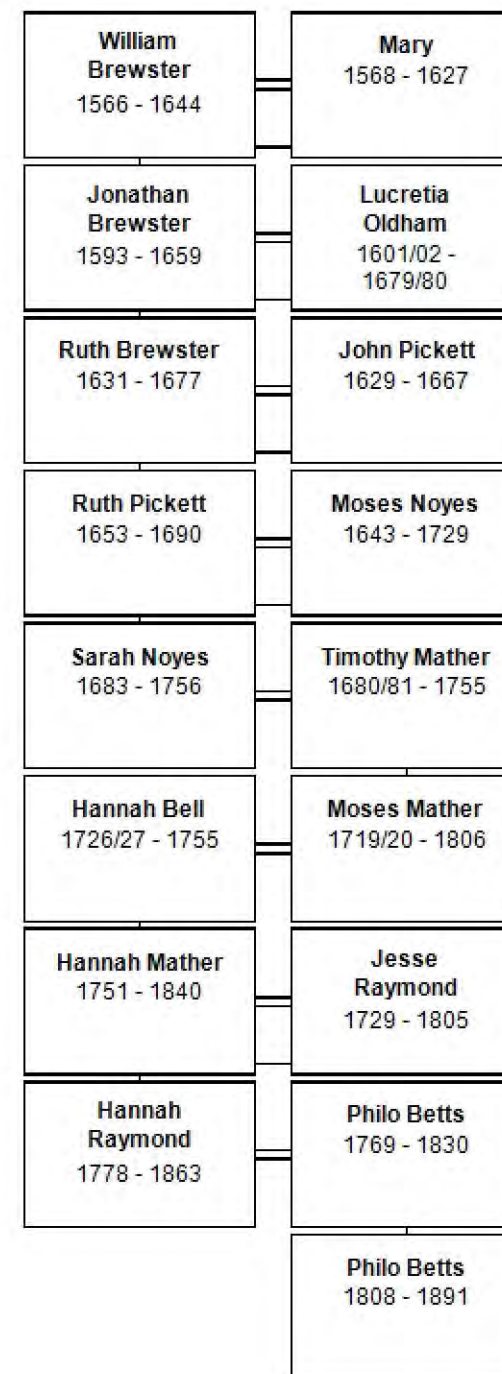


# The Rest of the Story.....

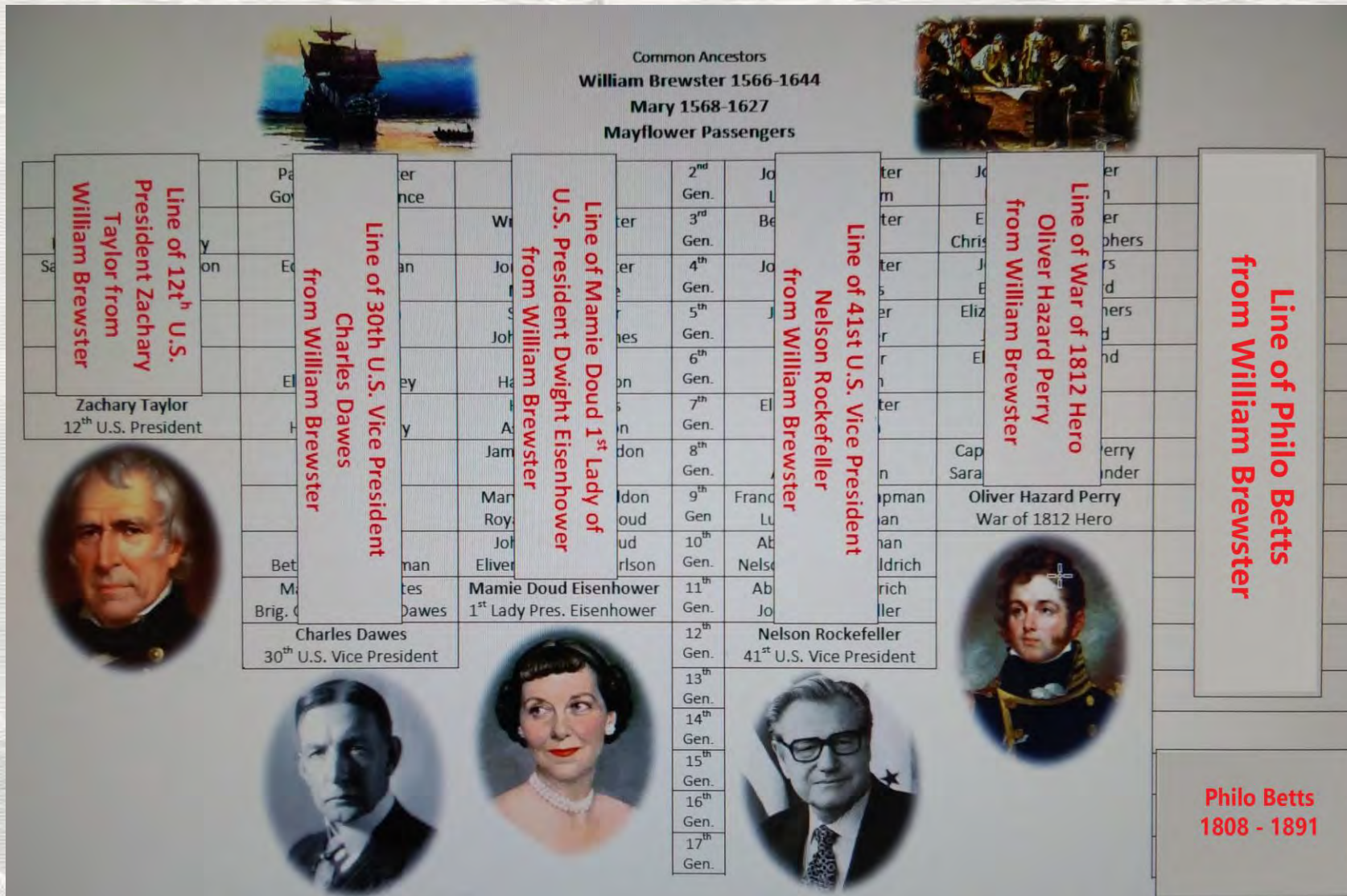
- We, as members of the Betts Family, can trace our descendant from Elder William Brewster, religious leader of the Plymouth Colonists.




# William Brewster to the Betts Family




# Famous Descendants








# Famous Descendants



Common Ancestors  
**William Brewster 1566-1644**  
**Mary 1568-1627**  
 Mayflower Passengers



Line of Singer & Movie Actor <b>Bing Crosby</b> from William Brewster			Line of TV & Movie Actor <b>Ted Danson</b> from William Brewster		Line of Movie Actress <b>Ashley Judd</b> from William Brewster	1 <sup>st</sup> Gen.	Line of Movie Actor <b>Chevy Chase</b> from William Brewster		Line of Movie Actress <b>Katharine Hepburn</b> from William Brewster		Line of Betts Family Members from <b>William Brewster</b>					
	<b>Bing Crosby</b> Singer Movie Actor					<b>Ted Danson</b> TV & Movie Actor				<b>Ashley Judd</b> Movie Actress		13 <sup>th</sup> Gen.	<b>Chevy Chase</b> Movie Actor		<b>Katharine Hepburn</b> Movie Actress	

Your Picture Here

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# Other Famous Descendants



- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- Commodore Matthew C. Perry
- John Batterson Stetson
- Bette Davis
- Julia Child
- Glenn Close
- Fanny J. Crosby
- Norman Rockwell
- Adlai Stevenson
- Tom Brokaw
- Richard Gere
- Priscilla Presley
- Sydney Biddle Barrows
- Sarah Palin
- Lindsay Wagner

# The Hard Work

- Many thanks go to Jan Butler Hurst, daughter of Janice Betts Butler, for her many hours of hard work working out and documenting our descent from William Brewster.

