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# THE MARYLAND *Mayflower Log*

VOL. XLVIII | SPRING | 2024

## CALENDAR

- | **April 7, 2024**  
12:00 p.m., Sunday  
**Spring Dinner**  
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
Annapolis, MD
- | **April 10, 2024**  
Wednesday  
**Hereditary Fortnight Breakfast**  
Army Navy Club Ballroom  
Washington, D.C.
- | **May 18, 2024**  
Saturday  
**Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Tour**  
St. Michaels, MD
- | **September 5-8, 2024**  
Thursday to Sunday  
**2024 GSMD BOA Meeting**  
Asheville, NC
- | **November 24, 2024**  
12:00 p.m., Sunday  
**Compact Day Dinner**  
TBD

## Religious Liberty in Plymouth Colony

The Importance of Plymouth in the Story of Liberty

The Guest Speaker for our Spring Dinner will be Dr. John Turner, Professor of Religious Studies at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.

Understanding themselves to be spiritual pilgrims, separatists from the Church of England set sail across the Atlantic in 1620 aboard the *Mayflower*. These brave men and women left their homes to preserve their liberty to worship God in accordance with their convictions.

The legacy of the Pilgrims is complicated. Dr. Turner will review the complex history of the Pilgrims and Plymouth Colony based upon his research. He will re-examine the story of the courageous group of religious refugees struggling to define the meaning of liberty with that of invaders who betrayed their Native American allies. He will also compare them to other, more progressive colonies, such as Rhode Island.

According to Mr. Turner, the Pilgrims' definition of liberty was, in practice, very narrow. By 1687, the Colony founded by the Pilgrims in 1620 no longer existed in the same fashion. Much good had been accomplished, but destruction also laid in its wake.

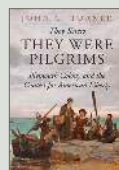
Dr. Turner has authored several books and articles on evangelicalism, Mormonism, and the Pilgrims. In 2009, he won *Christianity Today's* prize for best history/biography. His writings have been published in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Christian Century*, *National Review Online*, *Huffington Post*, and *The Washington Post*. He blogs regularly at "The Anxious Bench".



Dr. John Turner, Professor of Religious Studies at George Mason, teaches and writes about the history of religion in the U.S.

Dr. Turner earned a B.A. in History and German from Middlebury College, a Ph.D. in American History from the University of Notre Dame, and a Masters of Divinity from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

We look forward to Dr. Turner's historical and educational presentation. *See page 20 for details.*



### They Knew They Were Pilgrims:

**Plymouth Colony and the Contest for American Liberty**

By John G. Turner  
Yale University Press, 2020 (464 pages)

A limited supply of Dr. Turner's book will be available for sale at the Spring Dinner. Please plan to arrive early and have your book personally autographed!

