



# The Pulpit Rock

The Nahant Village Church ~ 27 Cliff Street, Nahant, MA 01908

June 2017

## June 2017

2nd 8:00 am - Breakfast

### 4th Pentecost Sunday

Communion Sunday

10:30 am - Worship/CE

11:30 am - Fellowship

### 11th Appreciation Sunday

10:30 am - Worship/CE  
with Bell Choir

11:30 am - Fellowship

13th 7:00 pm - Trustee's Mtg.

### 18th Second Sunday/Pentecost

Father's Day

10:30 am - Worship/CE

11:30 am - Fellowship

24th Spring Flea Market

### 25th Third Sunday/Pentecost

10:30 am - Worship/CE

11:30 am - Fellowship

## July 2017

### 2nd Fourth Sunday/Pentecost

Guest Preacher

Communion Sunday

10:30 am - Worship/CE

11:30 am - Fellowship

7th 8:00 am - Breakfast



Father's Day  
Sunday, June 18th

### A Spiritual Journey by Wendell Berry

And the world cannot be discovered by a journey of miles, no matter how long,  
but only by a spiritual journey, a journey of one inch,  
very arduous and humbling and joyful,  
by which we arrive at the ground at our feet, and learn to be at home.

Dear NVC Friends and Neighbors,

Our conversation on May 21st was an invigorating beginning to a new spiritual journey. Questions about who we are and who we are becoming focused our attention in exciting ways. Some of the dialogue included the following sentiments and experiences of NVC:

**We are:** Important in the Nahant community, Open and Affirming, welcoming, a place where service and prayer are powerful tools for community outreach, a place to find pastoral care, guidance, and inspiring worship, a spiritual pillar and guide for the community, a sanctuary for the vulnerable and lonely, a Christian presence for people of varied nationalities, languages, and levels of education, a place to learn, praise, question, and interpret the world through a Christian lens, rich in story, music and art, curious about God, a unifying center for Christian values, a place where people feel like they belong...

**We offer:** safe haven, spiritual home, sermons that bring God's word to life and are evidence of hope, love, and transcendency, care and compassion, acceptance of different faiths, beliefs, ages, and backgrounds, supporting relationships across ages, Bible studies that deepen our relationship with God, the power of prayer, music and bells that enhance worship by being fun and sacred, comfort in times of crisis, education, fellowship, food...

**We need to:** encourage more involvement with younger families and individuals, use social media to connect with young people, find creative ways to use the building as a sanctuary church and a programatic place for young families, create avenues for new small team ministries, "remember the church in your Will," foster relationships between young and older people, let people know we are here!, increase the means to keep in touch with each other, consider new focus groups that help people stay connected, be more welcoming of visitors, provide more opportunities for learning, serving, and outreach...

PLEASE ADD YOUR THOUGHTS AND SHARE THEM WITH THE TRANSITION TEAM THROUGH THE SURVEY (AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE)

June 4th is Pentecost Sunday! Ute Gfrerer will join me as worship leader. Our theme is "Pray Together, Stay Together."

All of June will focus on the power of the Holy Spirit!

Sincerely yours, *Rev. Laura*

## Worship Themes for June

### June 4th

Pentecost Sunday

Communion Sunday

"Pray Together, Stay Together"

Acts 2:1-21

### June 11th

Trinity Sunday ~ Appreciation Sunday

"Gratitude"

Matt 28:16-20

### June 18th

Second Sunday after Pentecost

"The Trinity"

Genesis 18:1-15

### June 25th

Second Sunday after Pentecost

"Wherever you go, there you are"

Genesis 21:8-21

## Nahant Community Breakfast The Tall Ships Are Coming!

June 2nd @ 8:00am

Paraphrasing the warning that Revere, Dawes and Prescott gave that famous night of April 18, 1775, The Tall Ships Are Coming, The Tall Ships Are Coming! Yes they are on June 16 and 17. So plan on coming to the June 2nd breakfast to get an update on the events. The presentation will be given by Captain Claudia C. Gelzer of the US Coast Guard, Commander of Sector Boston and Captain of the Port of Boston.

The free breakfast starts at 8. All are welcome and please feel free to bring a family member or friend. We offer a hearty breakfast, an informative presentation and wonderful camaraderie. Arrangements for the transportation of elders to and from the breakfast may be made by calling the Tiffany Room a few days in advance of the breakfast at 781-581-7557.



### If Music Be the Food of Love

This was another benefit concert for NVC, this time to benefit the NVC music program. Marsha Johnson and Herman Weiss gave a concert on Thursday, May 25 with songs of life and love by Purcell, Mollicone, Schumann, Wolf and Berlin.



There has been a date change for the Flea Market because the Tall Ships will be in Boston on the 17th. Donations may be dropped off at the Church beginning June 12. Drop off times are every morning except Wednesday and Saturday from 9:30 to noon or by arranging alternate drop off by calling Marrit Hastings at 781-581-5691.

The Flea market will start at 9 and close at 2 PM. Volunteers are needed to help sort, set up, price, sell and take down. Call the Church at 781-581-1202 for more information.

Things we cannot accept as donations are: books, used bedding & linens, computers, TVs and other electronic devices.

Thanks in advance for helping out with this important fundraiser for the Church.

**See attached flyer for more information**

## Another CD Recording

Flutist Robert Stallman once again has chosen the Church to do a CD recording, this time of music for flute, cello and harpsicord.

The recording sessions will occur in the Sanctuary in the evenings of June 29 and 30 and with back up dates of July 2 and 3. There will be no access to the Church by anyone after dusk on those dates when the recordings take place.

Our apologies for any inconvenience this poses to anyone. Robert Stallman's first recording at NVC with an all Ravel program for flute and piano was recorded in the chapel about a year ago.



### The next Baptism Quilt is ready!

Olivia Brand's newly created baby quilt for the next baptism at the NVC.

Her teacher, Margie, gave her a hand.

### Thank you for Participating!

Thank you to all who came to the worship and discussion forum on May 21st. Your presence and your sharing are so important! As a congregation we are working together during this Interim period to shape the future of NVC.

This was one of many opportunities during this Interim time for people to share their ideas and insights about the Nahant Village Church moving forward.

Those unable to attend should have received the questions posed at the forum are on the back of the letter they received, along with a questionnaire that was handed out at the end of the forum. If you did not receive one please contact the church office.

### Tides Fundraiser Update

*The Tides Fundraiser on March 23rd  
was a great success!*

- Thanks to all who donated and to everyone who
- came and had dinner, and bought raffle tickets!
- The church made \$700. on the raffles and just received
- a check from the Tides for \$300. for a total of \$1000!
- The next Tides Fundraiser will be on Thursday
- September 28th. Save the date!

## **New Conference Proposed for Southern New England:**

### ***“Together, As One”***

On January 21, 2017, following a year of discernment, the Boards of Directors of the Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island conferences unanimously approved a Resolution to form a new Conference.

Here are some of the benefits that were overwhelmingly identified:

***\*Opportunities for shared mission/outreach/witness***

***\*Facilitating connections among our churches--  
matching expertise with need***

***\*Opportunities for shared learning/spiritual growth.***

This year marks the first time that the three conferences, **Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island**, will meet together at an Annual Meeting in Hartford, CT on June 16-17, 2017. During this meeting the delegates from the three conferences will be asked to endorse a resolution to authorize the development of a detailed proposal for a new Conference, which would come back to the annual meetings for approval in 2018.

As the delegates of the Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut Conferences of the United Church of Christ prepare to meet this June, many are fearful of an unknown future. Many are fearful of losing our independence. Many are fearful of losing our distinct individual identities. Still others are asking, “what’s in it for us?” “What’s going to happen to my great-great-great grandfather’s money?” That’s understandable. I get that. It’s not unlike experiencing a church merger. Change causes anxiety.

Yet, as with any change, there is also the potential for great gains. If we are able to act boldly, we might receive the promise of new life. If we are able to cast for ourselves a vision of a more bountiful future together, we might be transformed by a new way of relating to one another. If we are able to faithfully remember that with God all things are possible, then we will find strength for the journey. And, the journey is really what it’s all about.

Between May 16 and June 8, 2017 the three Conference Ministers and Board members will host several online forums for those who would like to hear more about this proposal and ask questions. You can learn more about these proposals and register on line (MACUCC).

Submitted by: *Trudy Joyce*

NVC Delegate to the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ (MACUCC.).

It would be helpful if you could let me know how you feel about this proposed merger of the three conferences to work “Together, As One”. The Rev. Patricia Long and I will carefully consider your voices as we prepare to vote at the Annual Meeting. Remember the vote this year is just to accept or reject the proposal. It is only next year (2018) that the vote for change will happen. Thank you for the trust you place in us.

## **Benefit Concert for NVC**

On April 30, Boston Saengerfest Men’s Chorus made their debut in Nahant with a benefit concert for NVC, featuring Ute Gfrerer as the soprano soloist.

As one parishioner put it: “While musical of all sorts has prevailed at 27 Cliff Street, Sunday afternoon may possibly have reached a high note. To hear such voices rise to the rafters of the Sanctuary will be hard to forget.”

The organizers were thanked for orchestrating such an absolutely spectacular concert at the Church. Thanks to the concert sponsorship by North Shore Center for Laser, Cosmetic and Family Dentistry, advertisements, and aggressive ticket sales, the benefit concert netted close to \$6,000.

Patrons who supported the program were Carol and Bill Crawford, Lucy Grimm, Cal and Marrit Hastings, Libby Olson and the family of Sam Rogers (Chris’ dad ) who founded the Boston Saengerfest Men’s Chorus 25 years ago.

Many thanks to all who supported this fundraising concert! It was magnificent and brought smiles to many faces.

Concert organizers were Cal and Marrit Hastings, Herb Motley, and Clinton Norton who made huge contributions to the concert program, creating ads, doing layouts, and working with the printer.

## **The Gift of Hands**



The Church accepted with gratitude a beautiful set of cast bronze hands created by Isabell VanMerlin who has made many other sculptures and artistic structures in her life. The bronze hands are displayed in Rev. Laura’s office.

The outstretched hands are a symbol of what the Church is – God reaching out to all of us and the Church extending helping hands to those in need. Isabell also is the artist who created the Madonna in the Garth. Thank you, Isabell.

## **Historic NVC DVD’s**

### **Available again!**

A couple of years ago, Calantha Sears and Norma Poole were the narrators of this historic DVD of the Nahant Village Church. We have reordered this wonderful DVD so that it is available to all who want to know about our Church’s history, as well as the meaning of the stained glass windows in the Chapel.

The cost is \$15 per DVD. See Marrit or Nancy Cantelmo if you are interested in purchasing one or more.

# Giant Flea Market

Saturday June 24  
9:00am - 2:00pm  
Nahant Village Church

Donations may be dropped off at the church beginning Monday June 12th every morning except Wed. & Sat. 9:30-noon or by arranging an alternate drop off by calling Marrit Hastings at 781-581-5691.

27 Cliff Street



Volunteers are needed to help sort, set up and price. Call 781-581-1202 for more information

# Huge Bake Sale too!



Call Marrit Hastings at 781-581-5691 or Maureen Edison at 781-592-0029