



The Pulpit Rock

The Nahant Village Church ~ 27 Cliff Street, Nahant, MA 01908
where everybody belongs

February 2018

- 1st Bible Studies 11 am
- 2nd Community Breakfast 8 am
- 4th 5th Sunday after Epiphany**
Communion/Soup Sunday
10:30 am - Worship Service
11:30 am - **Budget Meeting**
- 11th 6th Sunday after Epiphany**
10:30 am - Worship Service
- 13th Transition Team 3:00 pm
Trustees Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 15th Worship at Jesmond 9:30 am
Bible Studies 11 am
- 18th First Sunday in Lent/Ashes**
10:30 am - Worship Service
11:30 am - Soup Sunday
- 22rd Bible Studies 11 am
- 25th Second Sunday in Lent**
9:00 am PCS
10:30 am - Worship Service
- 27th Transition Team Meeting

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## March 2018

- 1st Bible Studies 11 am
- 2nd Community Breakfast
- 4th Third Sunday in Lent**  
*Communion and Soup Sunday*  
10:30 am - Worship Service  
11:30 am - Soup Sunday
- 11th Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
10:30 am - Worship Service  
1: 00 pm Serve at MBT
- 13th Transition Team Mtg 3:00 pm  
Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm
- 15th Worship at Jesmond 9:30 am  
Bible Studies 11 am
- 18th Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
10:30 am - Worship Service
- 22rd Bible Studies 11 am
- 25th Sixth Sunday in Lent**  
9:00 am - PCS  
10:30 am - Worship Service
- 26th Tides Fundraiser 6-9:00 pm

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Some of the best love stories are the ones that occur during wartime. I find these stories compelling because I am inspired by seeing glimmers of love in the midst of human devastation. Love is always a sign that God is here and with us, no matter how difficult the situation.

“Beneath a Scarlet Sky” by Mark Sullivan is a true love story that takes place at the end of WW2 in Northern Italy. Pino Lella is an 18-year-old boy whose parents and extended family are musicians, artists, and leather makers. They have spent much of the war aware of its horrors at a distance, but uninvolved in its resistance.

When the war comes to their beautiful home of Milan, and neighbors are shot and rounded up for concentration camps right before their eyes, the Lellas willingly support their beloved children who join the resistance movement. Pino and his brother Mimo become guides over the alps for Jewish refugees, weathering every kind of blizzard and every type of calamity.

With the gift of time for listening to long dramatic books, this is my most recent. I was mesmerized by the story of love, resistance, and family devotion. The heart of the story begins when Pino meets a woman and they fall in love. Eventually, she collaborates with him in his new role as a spy.

Their love is a beautiful jewel that shines eloquently in the midst of the horror of war.

The love that Jesus offered to his community was a similar kind of love. In the midst of war, poverty, and injustice, love is sometimes sentimental, often complicated, and always fierce; but God’s promise is that love is more powerful than hate, war, or injustice. Love believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

During this month of February, may we be a community that exudes God’s love.

With love,  
Rev. Laura



## **Worship Themes for February**

### **February 4**

#### **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

Sermon: Spiritual Partners  
Scripture: Isaiah 40:21-26;  
Mark 1:29-39

### **February 11**

#### **Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27;  
Mark 9:2-9



### **February 18**

#### **First Sunday of Lent**

Theme: Ashes and Oils  
Scripture: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17;  
Mark 1:9-15

### **February 25**

#### **Second Sunday of Lent**

Theme: Must We Suffer Also?  
Scripture: Psalm 22:23-31;  
Mark 8:31-38

## A message from your Co-Moderators

The Devil may be in the details, but God is in the options...

During Reverend Laura's homily on Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, she talked about Nahant Strong. She was referring to the fact that so many of us braved the severe cold and made it to church that morning.

She stressed the importance of the church being open and the parishioners making the choice to show up, even on one of the coldest days of this winter.

*In the bleak midwinter, Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, winter like a stone,*

The importance is evident in worship, companionship and staying strong together.

We come out to support and nourish each other. We are each other's community, but mostly we are a church family. This is not just about accepting our diversity; it's about celebrating our variety.



*In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed,  
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ,*

Just as in the rest of the world, there are people in Nahant who are struggling.

Some struggles are so very apparent. Some keep their struggles to themselves.

All of these challenges hopefully met with kindness and gentleness.

*What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.*

As Rev. Laura pointed out, "God is within us and without us."

God is in the hard, the easy, the cold and the warm, in sorrow and Joy, sun and rain.

We have the option how we are to approach It; with love and compassion, or with anger and fear. God is in every single word we say, and every single word we don't.

Respectfully yours,  
Rich Stevens and Maria Welsh

## February Nahant Community Breakfast

The February breakfast will be held on **Friday, February 2nd**.



The presenter will be Town Administrator Jeff Chelgren who will be offering the "State of the Town" presentation which provides an overview of the finances of the Town, the projected budget for FY2019 (starting as of July 1, 2018), and reviews the draft warrant articles expected to appear on the April 28, 2018 Annual Town Meeting warrant. Although the information is in development, it

allows the public an opportunity to understand the challenges and successes facing our community.

The free breakfast is held at 8 a.m. Please plan to come for a hearty breakfast, an informative presentation and wonderful camaraderie. All are welcome. Spread the word and bring a family member or friend.

Arrangements for 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.

Also, mark your calendar for the **March 2<sup>nd</sup>** breakfast which will feature a presentation by the North Shore Center for Cosmetic Dentistry on the latest developments in dentistry.

The presentation by the Nahant Police Department on Scams cancelled in January due to snow has been rescheduled for the **April 6<sup>th</sup>** breakfast.

Cal and Marrit Hastings  
Community Breakfast Coordinators

## Silent Movie



The evening was a complete delight, starting with a fabulous potluck supper. The Charlie Chaplin's *Gold Rush* silent movie was the highlight of the evening, with Rob Humphreville providing live accompaniment. He considers silent movies in Nahant as "one of his favorite gigs. The audience is always so enthusiastic and appreciative."

Many thanks to those who helped make this another successful and fun event: Herb Motley for providing the larger screen and made the projector work, Chris and Margaret Alexander, Olivia Brand, and Roz and Andy Puleo for helping with the cleanup after the potluck supper.

## Fundraising

A major portion of funds needed each year to run the Church are generated through a variety of fundraisers. These include flea markets, Tides fundraisers, bake sales, the Christmas Fair and more. The Fundraising Committee, who will be meeting in the near future, is looking for fresh, new and exciting ideas for 2018. Suggestions may be sent to Marrit Hastings or Jen McCarthy.



In the meantime, you can help raise funds by promoting and selling high quality notecards or unframed prints of a recent watercolor of the Church (sample left) by Steven Foote. Those of you who made a financial pledge to the

Church for 2018 will have received a thank you note on this new stationery. The cost is \$100 for a print and \$15 for a package of five notecards.

## Contribution Statements And Offering Envelopes

Statement of financial contributions made to the Church during 2017 were mailed out mid-January. If for some reason, you expected but did not receive one, please contact Treasurer Marrit Hastings.

Please note that cash contributions can only be tracked if they are put in an envelope bearing the donor's name.

Offering envelopes (one for each week, as well as once-a-month envelopes for our Communion Offering Fund, and special offerings for Easter and Christmas) may be obtained free of charge from the Treasurer. They are ready for pick up in the Companionway for those who requested envelopes in previous years.



**E-Giving:** You can enroll in E-Giving at any time during the year—it is EASY. You simply decide how you want to pay for your pledges or contributions (i.e. checking or savings account or credit card), the amount, and the schedule for making contributions. Once enrolled, the transactions occur automatically. The donor can make changes at any time. Obtain an enrollment form from the Treasurer or approach her with questions that you may have about electric-giving. It works for everyone.



## Soup Sundays

Many thanks to Jen McCarthy, Chris and Rich Stevens for providing delicious soups for the two Soup Sundays. To ensure a successful Soup Sunday Program for the rest of the year, please pick a date and sign up to make a soup. Funds collected on Soup Sundays will be used to support the Church's Missions Program.

## Bible Studies



Bible studies are on the Thursdays at 11:00. Please bring friends!!  
Rev. Laura

## Coat Drive For Kids

Kids in all grades are showing up to school without coats. In below freezing temperatures for days on end, kids are coming to school in sweatshirts.

The Nahant Village Church is partnering with Marshall Middle School and Girls, Inc. to help get coats to kids.

### Here's what we can do:

Find those clean, gently used winter coats and jackets taking up space in your closet and bring them to church.

or

Buy a new coat and bring it to church.

or

Drop a Nahant Village Church check in the offering plate with "Coat Drive" in the memo line, and we will do the shopping for you.

We want coats for boys and girls in all sizes, including adult sizes. We will find the perfect child for each coat.

Coats/checks may also be dropped off at the church Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

It takes a VILLAGE to raise a child.

Want more info?

Contact: Diane Gaucher (781) 913-5855



## New Century Hymnal

Consider the opportunity to dedicate a new hymnal to someone you love, in honor of, or in memory of. The cost of the new hymnal is \$25.00. Yellow forms to place your order for the new hymnal can be found in the Narthex and Companionway and can be left with a check (Memo Line New Hymnal) in the Treasurer's mailbox (on the Administrative Assistant's door) or given directly to Susan Gilbert, our new Admin Assistant. A sample book plate is shown on the back of the form.