



The Pulpit Rock

The Nahant Village Church, 27 Cliff Street, PO Box 77, Nahant, MA 01908
*An open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ
where everyone is welcome*

2024

Scripture Readings

Sept. 1/Communion

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 7:1-8, 14-23

Theme: Understanding negative events

Sept. 8 Worship & Special Music

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 7:24-37

Theme: A woman in the Bible who changed the church

Sept. 15 Worship

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Galatians 5:13-15

Theme: A summary of the Christian Bible

Sept. 22 Worship

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 5:18-24

Theme: 10 Things people think Christians can but don't have to believe

Sept. 29 Worship

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22

Theme: Esther, a female hero

Nahant Community Breakfast

Friday Sept. 6, 8 a.m.

Community Flea Market

Saturday Sept. 21, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Caregivers Group

Tuesday Sept. 17, 11 a.m.

CHA-CHA-CHA CHANGES



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Most of you

by now know that I am leaving Nahant. It was a very difficult decision to make. Not only do I love the congregation and living here, we have also accomplished a great deal in our time together. Worship has been revitalized with attendance more than doubling. There was no Church Council when I arrived and we got one appointed (and then elected). We had little information on active members so we set up a survey of the community and now have a list of over 90 active members, plus a number of friends who actively participate in the life of the church. We also successfully added Lenten Classes; Religious Book Studies; a summer long 200th Year Anniversary Celebration; Animal Blessing Services; a Night of World Holiday Music; and Children and Family outreach projects like "Supper with Santa" and an "Easter Egg Hunt & Lunch." We have researched, detailed, shared and preserved our church history in sermons, services and pamphlets. We had three weddings in the church and played a

significant role in eight end of life services. We helped create and lead Overcoming Racism Classes in the community and made stronger connections with the Library, My Brothers Table, Essex County Community Organization, North Shore Community College and local United Church of Christ churches and representatives. Our Bylaws Committee set us on the path to much needed updates. Construction-wise, handicap accessible paths were laid, the hazardous robing room was fixed, A/C was put in the companionway, Swansburg Hall was painted and needed outside repairs took place. That's a lot for a little church to achieve in eighteen months!

Although much has been accomplished— for which I am very grateful— there have been constant concerns at NVC about finances, including large budget deficits. In addition to the financial situation I have also had concerns relating to revitalization of the church. My faith and approach to revitalization and ministry have not matched community desires creating conflict, division and insufficient support. The financial situation is of great concern, but the mismatch has worried me more. I do not want to drain resources, or be a source of conflict and division. Moreover, sufficient support of a pastor is vital to church revitalization especially in a small town.

Given the above, after prayerful consideration, I decided I needed to leave.

I want to re-emphasize that I have grown to love this congregation and this island, I appreciate both. I am also very appreciative of the hard working leaders in the church and all who supported our ministry together. I hope and pray much of what we accomplished can be of use into the future with positive ripples in the church and community. I also hope and pray for the best for Nahant Village Church.

I plan to work with you all in this time of transition and provide as much help as the church desires. One piece of wisdom I will repeat as often as I can while I am here is to prayerfully listen to the professional advice of regional conference minister Rev. Alex Shea Will and to support him and the church leaders.

My final day in the pulpit will be October 27th. Between now and then I pray we make the best of our remaining time together. God bless Nahant Village Church and all of you.

Your Brother in Christ,
Rev. Scott Elliott



SEARCH TEAM FORMING

As we start to think about moving forward, Jen McCarthy is looking to form a new Search Team to help find an interim pastor. Being on this team is pretty easy. It's reviewing Profiles (resumes) that come in and sitting in on interviews of which many will be on zoom. I would like to have 3-5 people for this team. If you are interested in serving on this team, please contact Jen McCarthy at (781) 316-7309 or email edwarthy@hotmail.com by October 1st.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

If the news had previously escaped you, you certainly know now by reading Rev. Scott's message that in two months time, he will be leaving us. Below is the letter our Moderator, Jen McCarthy sent out upon receiving Rev. Scott's letter of resignation:



Dear NVC Members and Friends,
I write today with a heavy heart as I need to inform you that I have accepted a letter of resignation from Rev. Scott Elliott.

In his letter he states, "I love this congregation and Nahant. I have found wonderful people in this wonderful place and appreciate both very much." With all of that being said he feels that he is not a match for what our community wants and that the cost of a full time position does not seem to be manageable long term.

Church Council has met and will continue to meet to plan our next steps. I have also been in conversation with our UCC Area Minister Rev. Alex Will Shea for guidance as we move forward. Rev. Scott will be with us until October 27. I look forward to working with him in his final months here to continue sharing God's message of love. I will keep you updated as we move forward over the next few month.

Sincerely

Jennifer McCarthy
Nahant Village Church Moderator



**This is a major fundraiser for the church! Space is limited so
get your tickets early**

Murder Mystery Dinner

A Dance With Death

(A 1950s Prom is a doo wop disaster!)



Put on your best '50s sock hop threads
and come to the very interactive

Nahant Village Church

Fundraiser

27 Cliff St. Nahant

OCT. 26 /TICKETS \$60 each

(Dinner, Drinks, Dessert & a Dastardly Good Time Included)

For Tickets Contact:

secretary@nahantvillagechurch.com

Jen McCarthy: 781-316-7309

Chris Stevens: 781-581-1202



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

NAHANT COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Friday, Sept. 6, 8 a.m.



The September 6 Community Breakfast will feature a presentation by the Nahant Fire Department. It will provide an overview of the department, how it has been staffed throughout its history and the challenges that they are now facing. The presentation also will cover past fire stations in Nahant and our need for a new fire station. And time permitting, the Fire Department will also provide some information about smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and the free detector program that it is currently offering.

The free breakfast is served at 8 a.m., with the presentation starting around 8:15. Spread the word and invite family members and friends for a hearty breakfast, an informative presentation and wonderful camaraderie.

Transportation of elders may be arranged by calling the Tiffany Room a few days in advance of the breakfast at 781-581-7557.

DON'T FORGET!

Be part of the fun and support OUR church! This is a fundraiser and they don't happen in a vacuum. Please volunteer your time, muscle or stuff! We need sorters, movers to help set up and break down and people to sell, sell, sell!

See Chris Stevens or Jen McCarthy to volunteer and **THANK YOU!!**

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Saturday | Sept. 21 | 10 am - 3pm
27 Cliff St. Nahant

There are 2 ways to participate!
Rent a Space for \$20 and sell your stuff

Or

Donate your stuff to NVC and we'll sell it
for you to support our outreach
programming!

(No clothing or large bulky pieces of furniture
accepted & PLEASE make sure items are clean,
unbroken and usable.)

Drop off Sept. 9-19th at NVC



REMEMBERING YOUNG AE

BENSON

Saturday, Sept. 14, 1:30 p.m.

There will be a memorial service held to honor our friend Young Ae Benson Saturday, Sept. 14 at 1:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Following the ceremony there will be a brief graveside service at Greenlawn Cemetery then a reception in Swansburg Hall.

Please join us.



Young Ae circa 2014
at the NVC Christmas
Fair.



**WELCOME BACK PETER
FREISINGER!**

Former organist Peter Freisinger stopped by for a visit speaking at the August Community Breakfast and playing for us back in the Sanctuary on Aug. 4.



- Maria Welsh - 5
- Roz Puleo- 14
- Susan Downs-Cripps - 22
- Olivia Brand - 28



**DID YOU
KNOW**

There's a new Sexton in town

Starting in September Chris Stevens will take on the duties of sexton (custodian) in addition to office manager.

Hours will be fit around office duties. If there is a problem, a question or you need the building open for some reason, you can reach her at 781-254-6827 or try the office at 781-581-1202.

BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH

Did you know that over 80% of visitors attend a church because someone in the pews asked them to? See, no matter how good our worship services and our events and mission work are, people need that personal touch.

They need to be asked to attend on Sundays. And they need to be asked by us.

The goal of each member asking a person a month to NVC is very doable, so let's all start doing it. That is how NVC will grow!



FROM THE TRUSTEES

What's going on? Read on!

The Trustees met on July 9 this summer and did not have a scheduled meeting in August.

David Parish offered to be our recording secretary for the remainder of the church year and assumed that duty at our July meeting.

At our last meeting we went over updates on the proposed solar electric project. We will be pausing on that for now until we can figure out financing for the project. As mentioned before, the project can be financed by individual(s), who would qualify for the applicable federal and state tax credits.

We had some upgrades to our electrical system, including new outside receptacles near the companionway entrance, adding an additional circuit in the kitchen, and putting a timer on the outside light at the sanctuary entrance.

We discussed a proposed new sound system for the chapel which would be financed by a church member.

Chris Stevens has agreed to take on the duties of the church Sexton in addition to her position as office manager.

We have renewed our contract with Macfarlane Energy for supplying oil and servicing our burner. They were able to give us a church discount which at a competitive price.

Wilmer Morales and his company, New England AAA Services completed the repairs around the leaking Sanctuary windows, and are almost finished with replacing the rotted trim around the companionway windows.

They are now replacing the rotted sheathing and trim on the altar end of the chapel (exterior) wall. They ran into severe rot and Powder Post Beetle infestation there and have replaced the sill and were able to salvage enough of the framing to keep the structural integrity.

We are waiting for more cost estimates for the slate roof repair on the sanctuary and painting of the steeple trim.

With much appreciation for your support,
Rex Antrim

MUSIC COMMITTEE DOINGS

Special Music Sundays on tap

Maybe it has something to do with the end of summer and start of the new school year but September always feels like a fresh start and the Music Committee is starting a new venture as well. The Village Ringers will play during the service one Sunday a month starting on September 22. They will play again Oct. 13 and Sunday Nov. 24. They will likely ring more often in December during Advent and Christmas. There will also be Special Music during the services on September 8, October 27 and November 10. Ute Gfrerer and the Nahant Women's Choir will kick things off singing three pieces, "I Have A Dream," "I Will Follow Him," and, "Love Changes Everything," on Sept. 8. So mark you calendars and join us for some great performances and as always, great





Blessing of the Animals

Thank you to photographer Beth Walls



ZOOM WORSHIP SERVICES

We **Zoom** all of our worship services live each Sunday, so if you can't attend in person, you are welcome to join us on Zoom. Meeting ID 869 1204 8062 Password: 123456.

We also record each service. You can visit our website www.nahantvillagechurch.org for all of the YouTube links. To navigate to the archive of services, click on **WORSHIP** under the blue banner, then click on On Line Worship Services. You can also find services posted on the church's Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/TheNahantVillageChurch>

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS FOR COFFEE HOUR

All you need to do is serve coffee and treats, provided by you, or other volunteers immediately after worship and then clean up. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jen McCarthy.



WANT A VISIT?

Rev. Scott is happy to visit members and is willing to travel — all you have to do is ask and schedule a date & time! Let him know by calling 781-581-1202 or emailing him at Nahantpastor@gmail.com. because — **he won't know you want a visit if you don't ask!**

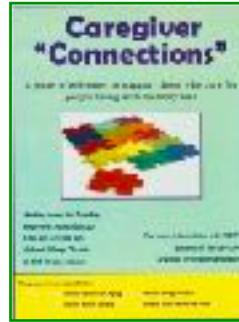


CAREGIVER "CONNECTIONS"

Tuesday, Sept. 17 2024

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Nahant Village Church - Swansburg Hall



The Caregiver Connections Support Group was formed to provide individuals who care for those with memory problems a forum to share experiences and to support each other. This Support Group meets monthly on the **third Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m - 12 p.m.** The Caregiver Support Group is sponsored by

Nahant COA, and Nahant Village Church. An experienced representative from Greater Lynn Senior Services will also participate. Please share this information with anyone who might benefit from participating. Contact Mary Miner of the Nahant COA at mmminer@nahant.org for more information.



WE NEED LITURGISTS ON SUNDAYS

No experience necessary!

If you would like to participate in the worship service by leading responsive prayers, reading scripture and announcing hymns, please contact Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309 or call the NVC office at 781-581-1202 or sign up electronically by clicking on this link

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054FADAF28AAFC1-liturgist>





NAHANT VILLAGE CHURCH
27 Cliff Street, PO Box 77, Nahant, MA

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours

Saturday-Thursday - 9 a.m. -noon/1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - noon.

Phone messages are checked regularly.

In case of an emergency contact Jen McCarthy at
781-316-7309

Church – 781-581-1202

Minister: Rev. Scott Elliot-nahantpastor@gmail.com

781-581-1202

Clerk: Robin deStefano - rdestef@verizon.net

or 781-581-1202

Church Council

Jen McCarthy - edwarthy@hotmail.com

or 781-316-7309

Moderator

Rex Antrim - rexantrim@comcast.net

or 781-856-1067

Trustee

Chris Stevens - cjs_ros2@verizon.net

or 781-254-6827 /781-581-1202

Deacon/office manager

Marrit Hastings - calhast@hotmail.com)

or 781-581-5691- Treasurer

Robin deStefano - rdestef@verizon.net

Clerk

Buildings and Grounds

Cal Hastings - calhast@hotmail.com

or 781-581-5691)

Amy Dow - ikors92@yahoo.com

617-378-8520

Compassionate Care Circle - 781-581-1202
secretary@nahantvillagechurh.com

You are invited to ...

Sunday Worship Service in the Chapel
Sundays @10 a.m.

or to Live Zoom Sunday Service

Live Zoom Service

Meeting ID: 869 1204 8062

Passcode: 123456

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

A link is available on the NVC Home page.

Caregiver “Connections”

Third Tuesday of the month

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

NVC - Swansburg Hall

Village Ringers

Mondays @ 5 p.m.

Swansburg Hall

Trustees

Second Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m.

NVC Library

Church Council

Third Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

NVC Library

Membership

If you'd like to become a member of the church
contact Rev. Scott at nahantpastor@gmail.com or
Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309

We would *Love* for you join us!