



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*

2023

Scripture Readings

May 7- Worship/Communion

Fifth Sunday of Easter

John 14: 1-13

Theme: Interfaith respect

May 14-Worship

Sixth Sunday of Easter

John 14:15-21

Welcome Rev. Teri Motley

May 21 - Worship

Ascension Sunday

Acts 1:1-11

Theme: Ascension of Jesus

May 28- Worship

Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

Theme: Pentecost

Calendar

200th Anniversary Committee

Monday, May 1, 6:30 p.m.

Book Study Group

Potluck Supper, 6:30 p.m./Class, 7

Nahant Community Breakfast

Friday, May 5, at 8 a.m.

Free Taco Night!

Friday, May 5, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Caregivers "Connections"

Tuesday, May 16, at 11 a.m.

Annual Meeting

May 21, immediately after worship

Genesis Supper Club

Fridays, 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study (via Zoom) Tuesdays

at 10-11 a.m.



WHAT'S GOING ON

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Since there will be no 2023 report for the pastor at the Nahant Village Church Annual Meeting on May 21 I thought I'd take a moment to at least sum up my first quarter of the year here in 2023. I officially began as the full time minister on February 11, 2023. The goal was to get here by Lent, we did and we hit the ground running with a powerful Ash Wednesday service and a well attended and lively six week discussion on "The Last Week," a book about Holy Week by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. (The discussion went so well another one is being planned for May/June around a very informative book called "Remedial Christianity: What Every Believer Should Know About the Faith, but Probably Doesn't" by Paul Laughlin).

During Lent images of Christ that I have collected over the years were put on display in the Narthex by Amy and Chris just in time for Palm Sunday and we had an uplifting service with wonderful music provided by the bell

choir, the vocal choir, a gifted trumpeter, Cheryl; and the music was planned by the music committee and led by our hard working Music Director .Bill.

Palm Sunday was followed by a moving Maundy Thursday service with a great congregational reading of Mark's texts and exceptional solos by Amy and Cal, keyboard by Bill- and a dramatic reading of the role of Jesus by Rev. Teri. Then on Easter NVC hosted a beautiful sunrise service, a delicious Easter breakfast, an egg hunt and a powerful Easter service with colorful flowers, nice readings by Rachel, and great music by the bell choir, the vocal choir, Rich and Michael with Bill again heading all that music up. (Make sure to thank Bill for his Holy Week work!)

In addition to Lenten work, Sunday services, Holy Week and Easter preparation, the past three months I have also attended numerous meetings with NVC church leaders as we get underway in our ministry together. I have had a great exchange of emails and an in-person meeting with North Shore Community College leadership discussing how we might work together on Peace Village and other forms of building the community up. I also met with the Nahant Council on Aging leadership to discuss possible uses of our building and resources to connect with them and help. I have had meetings with local UCC clergy and conversations with the Northeast Association of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ. (The UCC has been extremely supportive!). I've also started connecting with local theatre

participating in community discussions and a reading of “Our Town” put on by the library.

For the summer, Jen and Chris and I have also been focusing on plans for a new children’s summer camp, Peace Village and we’ve gathered a couple of times with a number of others interested in helping and planning the program. This Friday, May 5th at the Community Breakfast I will be talking about Peace Village and our plans and how folks can help. A half dozen of us have also started working on putting together a 200th Anniversary celebration of church in Nahant.

I have also been involved in working with volunteers, church leaders and staff regarding a myriad of issues and ideas including the above, as well as publicity, signage, music, summer worship, summer discussions, needed changes, building use, building upkeep, bylaws, leadership, updating membership rolls, office manager, office hours, bulletin boards, and preparation for the annual meeting. Almost everyone at NVC has greeted and treated me with kindness and hospitality and respect, which I’ve appreciated. All of this gives me hope that NVC can experience a renaissance– indeed the church seems to already be growing as many have stepped forward to help animate the Body of Christ in our community– that should be good news for us all.

Your Brother in Christ,
Rev. Scott Elliott

NVC STATS



Attendance: 31
Visitors YTD: 23
Seeds YTD: 43

ANNUAL MEETING

Moderator Jen McCarthy has set the date and Church Council has approved May 21, 2023 for our next Annual Meeting. The meeting will take place in the sanctuary immediately following worship. It will be Zoomed but please make every attempt to attend the meeting in person.



Check out the angel wings hanging in Swansburg Hall and snap a selfie while your at it (or have someone take a pic for you). And if you like, send it to Chris at secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org to be included with your information in an updated directory — which will be coming out soon. If you’re not a fan of the wings — then send us another photo of yourself or let us take one for you to include in the directory and thanks!!

BELLS

Starting in June, the Village Ringers will be participating in worship services held on the **fourth Sunday** of the month. Feel free to join them on Monday afternoon at 5:15 for a rehearsal and consider becoming a ringer. All we ask is that you can read music, are interested in becoming part of a small ensemble, and can come to weekly rehearsals.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

For the May 7 communion service, we welcome organist Bill Thompson's twin brother, Dr. Robert Thompson, of Corvallis, Oregon. Bob has a long history of accomplishments including a Fulbright Scholarship to study organ in Germany with the noted Helmut Walcha and earning a doctorate in organ performance from University of Michigan.

He was a member of the St. Olaf College (MN) faculty for many years and has served various churches as Choirmaster/Organist.

Bob will play the prelude Sunday, May 7 and will perform “Turo”, a hymn he composed, for the postlude. Every hymn has a name for the tune it is based on. A given hymn may appear with different texts and under differing titles. “Turo,” composed by Robert Thompson, is one such hymn. It appears in the black hymnal, #117 as “Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates,” which dates back to 1641 and was composed by Georg Weisel.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Friday May 5, 2023

8 a.m.

Swansburg Hall



Our very own Rev. Scott Elliott will discuss plans for the creation of Peace Village during May's Community Breakfast. The four day camp aimed at kids in grades 1-6 will focus on teaching kids peaceful

practices. This will be done through fun outdoor activities, classes, music and interfaith stories of peace and fellowship. Rev. Scott has participated, organized and led several Peace Villages in Oregon and Ohio. Ours will be the first Peace Village in Massachusetts. Come and listen, discover ways to volunteer or get the children in your lives involved.

If you are an elder and need transportation to and from the breakfast, please make arrangements with the Tiffany Room a few days in advance either by signing up or calling 781-581-7557.

Also, mark your calendar for the June 2nd breakfast which will feature a presentation by My Brother's Table, the largest soup kitchen on the North Shore. At 40-plus years of age MBT has served 6.7 million free meals and reached out to untold numbers of people.

OPPORTUNITY TO BID ON CHURCH PAINTING WORK

The Nahant Village Church is looking for a licensed painter who is fully insured to perform various painting tasks at the church. Some of these are time sensitive, so start date will be one of the factors in deciding on the contractor. A briefing is scheduled at the church at noon on Wednesday, May 3 to review the work that needs to be done and to obtain information on the bid due date and how the bids should be structured. For more information, contact Cal Hastings at 781-581-5691 or calhast@hotmail.com.

COMMUNITY DINNER

Friday, May 5, 2023 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Swansburg Hall



This month have both breakfast and dinner with us as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo (the anniversary of Mexico's victory over the Second French Empire at the Battle of Puebla in 1862) with a FREE taco

dinner. Enjoy chicken or beef tacos with all the fixings, coleslaw, ice cream and even a mock-a-rita!

Donations will kindly be accepted and will go to support Peace Village, a four-day camp for kids in grades 1-6 planned to take place here in Nahant, in August.

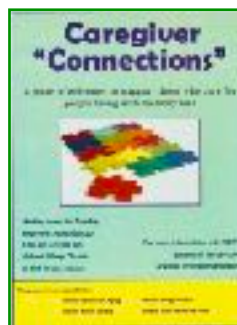
We know it's not Taco Tuesday, but they taste just as good on Friday so come join us anyway — you know you want to!

CAREGIVER "CONNECTIONS"

Tuesday, May. 16, 2023

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, Nahant Public Library, 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 mminer@nahant.org for more information.

THANK YOU

A HUGE Thank You to the Community Breakfast program for donating \$1,000 in seed money to help get Peace Village up and running. The generous donation is greatly appreciated and very exciting as the plans are beginning to truly take shape.

HELP CELEBRATE PENTECOST BY WEARING RED

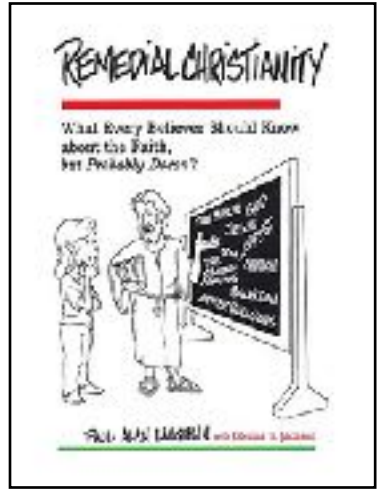
Wear RED to church on May 28, 2023

Pentecost is a celebration of the birth of the church when the Holy Spirit came down like fire and touched early Christians. The liturgical color for the Holy Spirit is red. Rev. Scott plans to wear a red stole on Pentecost on May 28th and anyone else interested in celebrating may join in by wearing red as well. Some members have already done this in the past. Let's make a tradition of it and be a "well red" congregation on May 28th!

May Birthdays



- 6 - Linda Hall
- 8 - Herb Motley
- 10 - Edie Richardson
- 10 - Karen Falat
- 12 - Jen McCarthy
- 22 - Margaret Alexander
- 26 - Linda Jenkins



STILL TIME!: EVERYTHING YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT FAITH

Starting May 3 thru June 7, 7 p.m.

There is a second book study starting May 3 with a potluck at 6:30 p.m. and class at 7 p.m. Class will

meet each Wednesdays thru June 7. The book we will be studying is "Remedial Christianity: What Every Believer Should Know About the Faith, but Probably Doesn't" by Paul Laughlin. New/ used copies can be found online. (If cost is an issue a book will be provided free). The class outline can be found in the companion way so sign up and get reading!

WANTED: PARTY PLANNERS

Did you know that in the summer of 1820 our first church services were held in Nahant? And we plan to celebrate it!

Because of COVID we were unable to party on the actual 200th Anniversary — so we are planning to do so this summer. If you'd like to help, please let Rev Scott (nahantpastor@gmail.com), Jen McCarthy (edwarthy@hotmail.com) or Chris Stevens (secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org) know.



About a dozen people turned out for Rev. Scott's Book Study group that followed the last week of Christ's life. We shared soup and inspiration, laughter and fellowship during the six week session. You should come to the next one!

NVC IN ACTION

Trustees Actions in April

*Approved the acquisition and installation of an A/C unit to be placed over the Companionway entry door. This will provide relief of the heat in the church office and hallways, but also provide some cooling in the chapel and Swansburg Hall with appropriately placed fans.

*Buildings and Grounds has begun making plans for restoration work at the front of the church. Some of this work may need to be delayed until the walkway renovations have been completed.

*Received notification from National Grid that the church will receive reimbursement in full for costs incurred to fix plumbing problems at the parsonage caused by a severed pipe.

*Approved an agreement with Gotta Know Media to rent one of the basement classrooms. Christine Stevens is one of the three principals in this newly formed company. Since last year, the former children's chapel has been rented out for a furniture refurbishing business.

SUNRISE AT EAST POINT

It was a spectacular sunrise that unfolded for those who bundled up for Sunrise Service. Thank you to Bob & Nancy Risch for the their of your front yard, to the more than 30 people who joined us and to the breakfast crew!

Church Council Actions in April

* A final membership list was voted. It was decided based on the returns of membership forms which tallied as 92 individuals and 76 households.

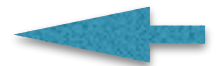
* Discussion was held regarding bylaw amendments

* Summer worship hours were set for 9:30 a.m. starting June 4, the first Sunday after Memorial Day.

* A Nominating Committee, comprised of Jen McCarthy, Marrit Hastings and Bill Crawford was approved — so be prepared to have your shoulder tapped!



Chase and Roxy snuggled up to plush Jesus on Easter Morning after a beautiful service and an awesome Easter egg hunt!





OUR BELLS KEEP TOLLING

Monthly on the 11th day at 11 am the Nahant Village Church bells toll eleven times to raise awareness of the environmental crisis.

SCHEDULING ACTIVITIES AT NVC

It is great to see more activity at our church, and we anticipate that this will increase in the coming months. In order to avoid scheduling conflicts, please let Christine Stevens know about your plans so that she can enter it on the master schedule. Meetings that are held at the church should be included on the schedule.

Any new initiatives or events to be held at the church need to be brought before the Church Council as well as Trustees for their review and approval. This is to ensure that the planned event is in keeping with the church's overall mission.

If for some reason a planned activity is cancelled, it is the responsibility of the leader/chair of that group or meeting to inform its participants accordingly.

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, so you can watch the service later when you have time. 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>

BIBLE STUDIES

Join on Zoom Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m

A link is available on the NVC Home page at

<https://www.nahantvillagechurch.org>

Meeting ID: 838 6095 4980

Passcode: 01908

VOLUNTEERS FOR COFFEE HOUR

We need coffee hour volunteers! Coffee hour following Worship takes 30 - 45 minutes, including clean up. All you need to do is serve coffee (deacons will make it) and treats, provided by your or other volunteers and at the end, clean out the coffee urn, put everything away and wipe down the counters and table. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jen McCarthy.

LITURGISTS WANTED

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>



GENESIS SUPPER CLUB

The Genesis Supper Club meets most Friday nights from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Swansburg Hall. Everyone is welcome to join for a potluck, gluten free vegan meal (and don't let the word "vegan" scare you). Meeting information is available on the Nahant Village Church Webpage at nahantvillagechurch.org. or contact Samantha at 978-530-7633 with questions.



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 Elliott - nahantpastor@gmail.com

Church Council

Jen McCarthy - edwarthy@hotmail.com

or 781-316-7309

Moderator

Nancy Cantelmo - nlc31@comcast.net

or 781-599-3977 or 617-794-6477)

Clerk

Bill Crawford - crawfordwm@verizon.net

or 781-581-0411

Board of Trustee Chair

Chris Stevens - cjs_ros2@verizon.net

or 781-254-6827 - Deacon

Rich Stevens - guitarrstevens@gmail.com

or 781-584-5339 - Deacon

Marrit Hastings - (calhast@hotmail.com)

or 781-581-5691)

Treasurer

Buildings and Grounds

Cal Hastings - calhast@hotmail.com

or 781-581-5691)

Amy Dow - ikors92@yahoo.com

617-378-8520

Compassionate Care Circle

secretary@nahantvillagechurh.com

You are invited

Sunday Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Sundays @10:30 am

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.

Book Study/“Remedial Christianity”

Each Wednesday, May 3 - June 7

Potluck at 6:30 p.m./Class at 7 p.m.

Bible Study

Tuesdays @ 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

Meeting ID: 838 6095 4980

Passcode: 01908

Caregiver “Connections”

Third Tuesday of the month

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

NVC - Swansburg Hall

Genesis Supper Club

Fridays @ 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Village Ringers

Mondays @ 5:15 p.m.

Swansburg Hall

NahantVV

Meeting ID: 810 8610 6763

Passcode: NVV

Passcode: 697582 (phone)

We would *Love* for you join us!