



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

Oct. 6 Worship/Communion

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 104

Theme: Earth is heaven on earth!

Oct. 13 Worship

Twenty-first Sunday after

Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

*Theme: How are we supposed to
respond to life?*

Oct. 20 Worship

Twenty-Second Sunday after

Pentecost

Mark 10:35-45

Theme: The lowest are the highest

Oct. 27 Worship

Rev. Scott's last day!

Twenty-Third Sunday after

Pentecost

Mark 4:26-34

*Theme: Heaven is like a weed
seed*

Nahant Community Breakfast

Friday Oct. 6, 8 a.m.

Caregivers Group

Tuesday Oct. 15, 11 a.m.

Murder Mystery Dinner

Fundraiser

Oct. 26, 6 p.m.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,



As I prepare to leave I wanted to make sure to point out Nahant

Village Church (NVC) has many of the ingredients needed to revitalize, grow and animate the Body of Christ. Good things, God soaked things can happen here. Proof can be found in the many things we've done. As I detailed last month, we have done a lot! While I referred to financial concerns last month I want to also point out some good financial things. In 2023 pledging units increased by 29% and the amount of pledges went up at least 17% and by the end of that year NVC realized a gain of \$117, 945. In 2023 there was a great deal of generosity, over \$90,000 in gifts/pledges and there has been almost \$50,000 so far this year. Those are wonderful blessings that most churches rarely, if ever, experience. The accomplishments and blessings of resources add up to so much promise that I continue to believe in this church and encourage you to do so too.

The good work the church accomplished over the past nineteen months involved a lot of you. Most of the work was headed up by

committees and I want to give a nod of thanks to those who served on committees. This includes Marrit, Rex, Rich, Amy, Cal, Dave, Carl, Chris R., Bill C., Bill T., Nancy C., Nancy E., Nancy A., Robin, Flo, Beth, Elizabeth, Lynn, Lisa, Ute and Linda. Two leaders on committees and almost every work crew that I have not yet mentioned were Jen and Chris. Those two need a category all their own, I think of them as "Church Angels." Month in and month out Jen and Chris did whatever needed doing. They have supported every activity and our ministry together. They are exceptional servants of God and a blessing.

Another blessing is this church's decades of membership in the United Church of Christ. Deriving more than its IRS non-profit status from UCC membership, NVC has also received much help from the UCC, and it's reputation is great especially in MA. I note that historically when this church thrived the most, under Rev. Swansburg, it was very involved in the UCC. I tried to move us back to that involvement. In this time of people leaving church the UCC offers a progressive Christianity that can draw new members in and churches to grow. I am grateful to the UCC for all it has done and continues to do for NVC.

As we prepare to leave Nancy and I

have provided a modest gift of a blown up canvas version of a beautiful photo I took of the church in the spring (to match the one we gave showing winter). I titled the photo "The Ruby of Nahant with Blossoms." I think of that picture as a metaphor for the potential of this church to fully blossom. The church is blessed with many of the ingredients needed to blossom, more so in many respects than most churches these days. My prayers this month include that your next Minister and the church match in ways that allow that blossoming to fully occur and that you commit to not just finding a Minister that matches what you want, but to work hard to support what that Minister offers. I am confident that if you do. NVC can blossom and grow. I wish you the best living into the promise of being the Body of Christ fully animated in Nahant.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rev. Scott Elliott

FROM THE TRUSTEES

We have much to be grateful for at the Nahant Village Church. Last month I received documents to sign to accept the final distribution from the estate of Michael Gray.

Michael was a gentle and kind soul who was active in the Village Church for years. He passed away in June of 2017, and the church received an initial distribution from his modest estate in 2018.

This final distribution is the church's share of the remaining balance of his estate. It is very much appreciated.

I want to express thanks as well for the ongoing fundraising and outreach efforts that contribute to the many programs and activities at the church, headed primarily by Jen McCarthy and Chris Stevens, with help as always from Cal and Marrit Hastings, who also host the Community Breakfast.

The Trustees will continue to do our best to be good stewards of our many blessings and resources.

With much gratitude,
Rex Antrim

PASTOR SEARCH UPDATES

From Moderator Jen McCarthy

Hello! When I announced to you that Rev Scott had resigned, I promised to keep you updated as to how we progress.

Church Council met with our Area UCC minister, Rev Alex Will Shea to discuss our options. There are two that would best meet the needs of our church. Option 1 is to search and hire an Interim Pastor. An Interim Pastor would be with us while we search for a settled pastor to lead us in worship, provide pastoral care, work with boards & committees and help keep our search on track. But an Interim Pastor cannot be considered for our Settled Pastor.

Option 2 is to have a Designated Term Pastor. A Designated Term Pastor (DTP) does everything an Interim Pastor does, but is with us for a specific time and for a special purpose. And a DTP can be considered for our Settled Pastor.

Church Council has decided to look for a Designated Term Pastor. We feel that as a church we really need to do some soul searching, and work, to discover more about our church and what path we want to go down.

The process to find a DTP is similar to finding a Settled Pastor. We will complete a Profile (similar to a resume) that the UCC will post on their website and push out to Pastors that they feel may be a good fit for NVC. The process is ongoing and will end when we feel that we have found the right person for NVC.

We will be holding discussions sessions during the process to make sure your voice, thoughts, suggestions and concerns are heard.

You may be thinking that this process sounds lengthy, and it is. Rev Scott's last service is on October 27th. The plan is find a Bridge Minister to take us through Advent & Christmas, to provide some consistency during this important time.

As the Pulpit Rock is set to go to print, I am excited announce that Council has met and is in talks with Rev. Dave VanArsdale for that position. Rev. Dave has been with NVC several times for Pulpit Coverage back in 2017. As of now it looks like Rev Dave is available to be with us from the beginning of November through the end of January 2025. Because all of the details are unfolding as I type this, more details will be shared with you soon.

Murder Mystery Dinner

A Do-Wop Disaster!
Saturday, Oct. 26 — 6 p.m.



Major Fundraiser afoot &

**THE NVC
FAMILY
NEEDS YOUR
SUPPORT**

Please buy a ticket and join us in person!



SOME REAL FUN IS ABOUT TO UNFOLD!

There seems to be some confusion as to what exactly this evening of fun & playful mayhem will entail. It's not "10 Little Indians." We're not going to knock you off one by one, but it is a lot like a live version of Clue and it's also

a fundraiser for the church.

Boston's Murder Mystery Company will set the scene for what is an interactive whodunnit, set during a 1950's sock hop — a high school dance — where participants (anyone who buys a ticket) could be a detective, or chosen to be a suspect or even a murderer.

Guests should arrive at Swansburg Hall by 6 p.m. where they will be seated at table of 6 or 8. There will be time to mingle, get something to eat and drink and by 7-ish, someone will die!

Some of you might be tagged as suspects the rest of you will be detectives. That means over the next hour and a half or so you will be invited to question suspects, pool information with your dining companions and in the end enter into evidence a written statement (one from each table) as to who the killer is. The winners take home bragging rights and possibly a prize.

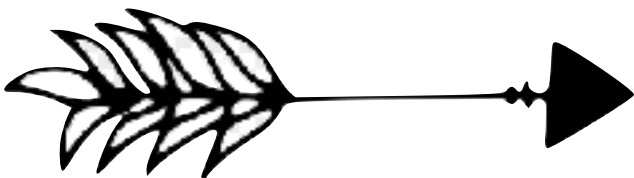
There is no real acting involved — suspects are given scripts to read so you can let loose your inner ham if you like or just play it cool. The rest are given a list of questions to ask in case you haven't watched enough Law & Order or CSI and find yourself stumped.

WHAT IT REALLY IS, IS FUN! It's a night to relax, to have some food and fun with friends to the backdrop of some 50's music and murder. What more could you ask for?

Also, since it is so close to Halloween and just to add to that fun, we are encouraging folks to dress the 1950s part so dig up some saddle shoes or dust off your penny loafers, cuff your jeans, find poodle skirt, grease your hair, roll a pack of cigs into your t-shirt sleeve and sign up for the bash.

Tickets are \$60 each and include dinner, dessert, drinks (including wine on each table) and a dastardly good time! Contact Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309 or Chris Stevens, 781-581-1202 for tickets.

Don't be square — be there! It'll be a gas, I guarantee!



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

NAHANT COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Friday Oct. 4, 8 a.m.



Please join us on Friday, October 4 for breakfast and a presentation by the Nahant Cultural Council. NCC Chair Peg Curran will talk about the Council's activities and funding. She also will seek suggestions about cultural events, and answer any questions about the current grant application process.

The council promotes excellence, education, diversity, and inclusion in the arts, humanities, and science by awarding grants funded by the state Cultural Council.

Spread the word and invite family and friends, particularly those who might benefit from a NCC grant! We look forward to seeing you there for a hearty breakfast, wonderful camaraderie, and an informative presentation. Breakfast is served at 8.

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

CELEBRATE REV. SCOTT

Oct. 27 immediately following worship

Please come by Swansburg Hall Sunday Oct. 27 immediately following worship (11:15-ish) and join us as we say good-bye to Rev. Scott. Raise a glass of punch, have a slice of cake, share a story and wish him well before he heads west back to California.



- Nancy Marie Elliott - 16
- Calantha Sears - 17
- Rev. Teri Motley - 19
- Olivia Aswad - 20
- Lucy Grimm - 24
- Andy Puleo - 24
- Nancy Whitman - 27
- Jane Collins - 31



DID YOU KNOW:

Our friend Ryan Park is not only an avid diver he is also an keen spear-fisherman! Here is with two cod he recently caught off East Point. Though he likes the challenge, Ryan does not simply fish for sport — he eats what he catches or shares it with friends.

SCENES FROM THE INSIDE YARD SALE!

We cannot thank those who donated their stuff and those who lugged it, sorted, priced and sold it during our town-wide yard sale enough! And thanks also to the residents who rented space to sell their own wares. With all your help, we raised \$1,700 toward our budgetary fundraising goal and had a great day of fun & camaraderie.



Thank you Nancy Antrim for your beautiful handiwork on our white board!

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

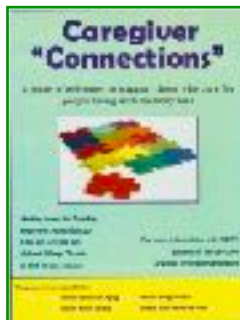
<https://www.facebook.com/TheNahantVillageChurch>

CAREGIVER "CONNECTIONS"

Tuesday, Oct. 15 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.

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!**



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!