



The Pulpit Rock

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

September 2017

September 2017

3rd Thirteenth Sunday/Pentecost

Communion Sunday

9:30 am - Worship

10:30 am - Fellowship

8th 8:00 am - Breakfast

10th Fourteenth Sunday/Pentecost

Rally Sunday

10:30 am - Worship

11:30 am - Fellowship

& Church Picnic

1-4:30 pm - Serve MBT

12th 7:00 pm - Trustee's Mtg.

17th Fifteenth Sunday/Pentecost

10:30 am - Worship

11:30 am - Fellowship

24th Sixteenth Sunday/Pentecost

10:30 am - Worship

11:30 am - Fellowship

28th 6-9:00pm - Tides Fundraiser

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## October 2017

### 1st Seventeenth Sunday/Pentecost

Communion Sunday

10:30 am - Worship

11:30 am - Fellowship

7th 8:00 am - Breakfast

### 8th Eighteenth Sunday/Pentecost

10:30 am - Worship

11:30 am - Fellowship

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

When my family adopted my sister from Vietnam in 1972, we were living in uncertain times. The United States was actively involved in combat. At home, violence caused by racism and white privilege unhinged our communities and our country. The civil rights movement had intertwined with the anti-war movement. Riots were plaguing cities around the country. Bringing home a Black Vietnamese baby was my family's way of shining light in the midst of difficult times.

I have many memories of direct racist behavior during those early years of living with my baby sister. I recall my mother grocery shopping with my sister and hearing racist comments through the aisles. Once, she publicly raged against a group of women gossiping about our family. "Can you believe they brought a black child into this establishment....". The times were uncertain. The war was unjust. Racism, fear, and injustice plagued our lives.

Today, we are living in uncertain times. The peaceful protest of a racist rally in Charlottesville VA has revealed the truly divisive leadership in this country. As Christians, as faith-based people, as Jesus-followers, we cannot sit by and be silent.

Never have I felt a stronger need to help people make their voices heard, to speak up myself, and to make a difference. Elie Wiesel wrote, "We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented." It's time to come together and to speak out against the politics of hate, oppression, racism, and sexism. We can each do that in our own ways. We can examine our own privilege and beliefs (there are lots of books and articles on this very topic and movies and documentaries as well), groups to join, fundraising campaigns, candidates to support that are working to galvanize all the good and earnest people who truly imagine a different world and are willing to take a stand to do so.

I pray that we come together as a congregation and a community to pray and work for peace and justice. September is a good time to recommit ourselves to the Jesus-Movement. Come on Sept. 10th to launch our fall together. Sign up for volunteer opportunities. Join a small team ministry, a Bible Study, or an outreach fundraiser.

In the Spirit of Love and Peace,  
Rev. Laura

## Worship Themes for September

### September 3rd

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Communion Sunday

Organ Presentation by Herman Weiss

HYMN singalong

"Long Ago, God Spoke"

Ex 3:1-15; Rom 12:9-21

### September 10th

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

"Extravagant Acceptance"

Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

RALLY SUNDAY and Community Choir

### September 17th

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

"The Grace of God"

Psalms 105:1-6; Matt 20:1-16

### September 24th

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

"A Question of Authority"

Psalms 78:1-4,12-16; Matt 21:23-32

9:00am Parents Children and Spirit



WORSHIP TIME

RETURNS TO 10:30AM

Starting Sunday, Sept. 10th

## September Community Breakfast

Friday, September 8th

You are cordially invited to the Sept. 8 breakfast with a presentation by Kevin Andrews, Principal of the Johnson Elementary School. He will not only highlight some of the initiatives that the school will be undertaking in the fall but also focus on strategies to gain the cooperation of children, and working to create a collaborative environment. Attendees at the breakfast will be able to apply the strategies when they work with young people, as well as adults, in their lives.

This summer several of the Johnson School teachers attended a week-long seminar in the Responsive Classroom approach. It calls for educators to bring students into the process of setting up and running the classroom. It does this by having them discuss what they hope their classroom to look and sound like, and what steps the groups should take to get there. It also covers how to implement clear, non-judgmental reminding language when students are not meeting expectations, and the positive effect that modeling this behavior has.

The free breakfast starts at 8 a.m. Plan to come for an informative presentation, a hearty breakfast and some wonderful camaraderie. 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 save the following dates:

October 6th with a presentation on fire prevention and November 3rd featuring State Representative Brendon Creighton as our speaker.

## Joining Hands

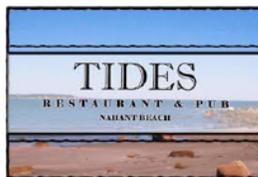
The presentation made by GLSS at the August Nahant Community Breakfast was spirited and informative. It focused on an upcoming initiative to lay the Foundation for Swampscott and Nahant to become dementia friendly communities.

There will be a training session for professional and lay people interested in this initiative on Thursday, October 5 in Vinnin Square. You can register by contacting the Family Caregiver Support Program at GLSS in Lynn or by calling Linda Peterson of the Nahant Council on Aging at 781-581-7557.

Inquire about the possibility of arranging for respite care for a person you care for who has dementia so that you can attend the training.

Let's all join hands and become part of a Dementia friendly Nahant and Church.

Pick up a flyer about the event in the Companion Way.



## Tides Fundraiser for Nahant Village Church on Thursday, Sept. 28th

If you have items to offer for the Raffle, please contact Christine Alexander who is running this event. Gift certificates from your favorite merchant, gift baskets, art, tickets to sporting events, jewelry etc. make great raffle items! Raffle items will be on display after church on Sun., Sept. 24th.

The Tides donates 10% of sales during this time period. See Chris at church or call her at 781-864-5367.

*Thanks for your help in making  
this a success for our church!*



## Sunday School Begins Again!

Sunday, September 10th at 10:30am

We invite children and families to come to the kick off of Sunday School on Sunday, September 10th.

Susan Edwards, long time member, continues as teacher this year, and will be assisted once again by Rachel McCarthy. Sue will be using the same curriculum as last year - Deep Blue - which includes adventure, exciting stories, science experiments, arts and crafts, animated video storytelling, and active games!

Children will learn Bible stories that will help them learn about God and important values such as respect, kindness, honesty, courage, perseverance, self-discipline, compassion, generosity, dependability.

**...and then after Worship,**

## it's the Potluck Church Picnic

Come and join us for our annual church picnic. Many thanks to Chris and Rich Stevens who have once again volunteered to host the picnic and do the grilling. *Bring yourselves and a dish to share. All are welcome!*



## Music at NVC

The Bell Choir will begin rehearsals on Mon., Sept. 11th at 5:30pm.

**Everyone is welcome to join the Bell Choir  
and learn about ringing!!**

The NVC Choir begins rehearsals on Sept. 10th at 9am.

**Everyone is welcome  
to sing with our volunteer choir!!**

The Community Choir, led by Valerie Peterson and Raeleen George, will join us on Sunday September 10th with rehearsal beginning at 8:30am.

**Everyone is welcome  
to sing in this choir!!**

## Review and Progress Report on Interim Time at NVC

Greetings to you as we move into this often beautiful month of September. I hope you have had some time for rest and restoration this summer.

First, a quick review of the timeline of this Interim period which began at the retirement of Rev. Larry Titus in October 2016. We were blessed to have Rev. Patricia Long with us for November and December. Through the work of the Transition Team (previously Preliminary Search Team), interviews were conducted and Rev. Laura Biddle was hired as our Interim Minister beginning in January 2017.

The Transition Team, consisting of Christine Alexander, Nancy Cantelmo, Bill Crawford, Marrit Hastings, Jen McCarthy, and Maria Welsh, has been meeting regularly. The Team developed and sent out a questionnaire that was mailed and handed out to members and friends. Together with Rev. Laura the Team held a "Conversation about Nahant Village Church Moving Forward" on Sunday, May 21 at 10:30am. Many thanks to all those who filled out questionnaires and attended the Conversation on the 21st of May.

The Team has also been interviewing various leaders in Nahant, such as the Johnson School Superintendent, the Library Director, the Town Manager and others. Compilation, recording and analysis of all of this input is helping the Transition Team with answering the questions: "Who are we? Who is our neighbor? Who is God calling us to be?" which is vital information needed to fill out "The Local Church Profile", which is the document in which we present our congregation to potential Settled Pastors.

The Transition Team appreciates your support of the work we are doing on your behalf. Please feel free to speak to any member of the Transition Team and to Rev. Laura.



Silent Movie with live accompaniment by Rob Humphreville. Potluck supper to start at 5:30 p.m. Stay tuned for information about movie title & ticket prices.  
**YOU'LL WANT TO BE THERE  
FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT!**

## Ministry with the Minister

Please join Rev. Laura for a weekly Bible Study on  
*Thursdays at 11:00am beginning Sept. 7th*

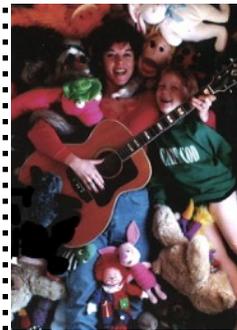
A second Bible Study will be offered Sunday mornings  
*on October 1st, 15th, and 22nd*

Rev. Laura will offer a Sermon Discussion immediately  
after worship in the sanctuary.

Bring your coffee and join the conversation!  
*Beginning September 17th*

## Parents Children and Spirit (PCS)

Families with young children are invited to join Rev.  
Laura for this unique worship service.



Our extravagant welcome includes:  
Refreshments, prayers, guitar, puppets,  
and a Jesus-Story for the whole family.

**Held on the last Sunday of the month**  
*at 9am - Sept. 24th, Oct. 29th & Nov. 26th*  
in the Minister's Office

*Children of all ages are welcome!!!*



## My Brothers Table

The Nahant Village Church  
serves at My Brothers Table every  
other month on the 2nd Sunday of  
that month from 1:00-4:30pm.

For the rest of the year we are scheduled to serve on  
Sunday, September 10th and on Sunday, November  
12th. It is from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. This is a great family  
project or for any age and also great for community  
service project.

This is such a wonderful thing to do and give back. You  
won't be sorry for doing this if you have never served.

*Sign up sheets can be found in the companionway.*

## Official notice of church meeting

There will be a Church Meeting of the Congregation  
after worship in the Sanctuary on Sunday September  
17th. The purpose of the meeting is to hold a vote by the  
Congregation on the recommendation of the Nominating  
Committee to elect Richard Stevens and Maria Welsh  
each to the position of Co-Moderator.

## Caring for our Church

The locks of the church have been changed.

If you need access to the building, please contact Cal Hastings, Trustee for Buildings and Grounds.

We have a new safety system on the doorway to the offices. If the door is locked, please ring the bell. You will be able to speak to the Administrator during church office hours, who will be able to see you through a newly installed camera. When there are meetings or prescheduled appointments, the doors will be unlocked.



**COME!!** *Bring a friend!*

Mark your calendars and  
Join us at the **TIDES**  
**Thurs. September 28,**  
**6-9pm**  
**Great Raffles!** *Fun!!*

NVC receives 10% of all Tides proceeds



**beautiful baskets  
merchant certificates  
collectibles,  
decoratables  
and more!**



**Please support the programs  
and Mission Outreach of the  
Nahant Village Church**

**If you can donate a Raffle Item or would  
like to make a donation in advance  
contact Christine Alexander at  
781-864-5367**