



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*

DECEMBER 2022

Scripture Readings

Dec. 4 - Worship/Communion

The Second Sunday of Advent

John 1: 1-8/Isa 11:1-10

Theme: Vision of Peace

Dec. 11 - Worship Service

The Third Sunday of Advent

Ps 146:5-10/Luke 1:46-55

Theme: Heartbeat of Justice

Dec. 18 - Worship Service

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isa. 7:10-16/Matt 1:18-25

Theme: God With Us

Dec. 25 - Worship Service

Christmas Day

Isa 52:7-10/

*Theme: Word
becomes Flesh*

Calendar

Nahant Community Breakfast

Friday, Dec. 6 at 8:00 a.m.

Caregivers "Connections"

Tuesday, Dec. 20 at 11:00 a.m.

Support for caregivers of people living with memory loss.

NVC Christmas Fair

Saturday, December 3rd

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candle Light Service

Saturday, Dec. 24, 7 p.m

Bible Study (via Zoom)

Tuesdays at 10-11:00 a.m.

*See the insert for Zoom meetings
and contact information*

IT'S OFFICAL

The Search Committee and the Board of Trustees are excited to announce that we have called the **Reverend Scott Elliott** to be the next Settled Pastor of the Nahant Village Church.

Candidate Weekend was held on October 15th and 16th at Nahant Village Church. On Saturday the 15th we held a Meet and Greet with Rev Scott. On the next day, Scott led us in



worship

After worship there was a Congregational Meeting where a vote was called to ask the Congregation to accept Rev Scott Elliott as the next Settled Pastor of Nahant Village Church. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have been in discussions with Scott and the UCC about the Call Agreement (contract), which we completed at the end of October. A huge thank you to Amy Dow and Marrit Hastings for all the work they put in on the Call Agreement. With Leadership, Trustees and Rev. Elliott all signing, the task is finalized and official!

Rev Scott Elliott, will be the next Settled Pastor of the Nahant Village Church. Scott and his wife Nancy will be moving from Ohio to Nahant where

they plan to settle into the parsonage. Scott is tentatively scheduled to start in the middle of February. Until then, Rev Patricia Long and Preacher Rusty Chadwick will continue to be with us and minister to the needs of the Church

ALMOST THERE



Church Family & Friends,

I write this letter on November 8, 2022 to say: we are almost *there*. I do not mean Thanksgiving or Christmas. I do

not mean the arrival of your new shepherd. I speak of Advent. The time of waiting and expectation, of hope, of love, of faith, of peace, of light....of that opening verse in "*O Little Town of Bethlehem*" that sings, "above your deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by".

The days of light, warmth (and humidity) are, with few exceptions and depending upon the effects of climate change, now both of the past and of the future. Daytime is suddenly more important. Darkness controls us more than we realize even though we live in an age of electronic light. An age of human-created light. An age when many think they walk in a 'good enough' light or think they do not need The Light.

Our church has always walked in The Light. A faithful remnant has kept the The Light burning through the darkness of COVID and the lack of a full-time pastor.

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Many have shepherded and preached you through these times.

And now, like shepherds in the fields outside Bethlehem or kings in the East, you are being called back to The Light, for you are part of that Light. Jesus said that a city on hill cannot be hidden and no one hides a lamp under a bushel basket. Each of you must now pass the light of this church to one another. Think about this when you symbolically pass the light of Christ to one another on Christmas Eve. Think about how you must, yes must, be active in passing the light of this church to one another and everyone you meet. It will take more than one new pastor to spread the light of this church. He will be one candleholder reaching towards other candleholders. Be one of those outstretched candleholders seeking to take the light and then to give it to another. Make this one of your resolutions for the new year.

Peace and Love in Christ,
Preacher Rusty

VESPERS

DECEMBER 8, 2022 at 7 p.m.



Vespers, literally meaning evening prayers, is an ancient contemplative form of prayer. Monastics paused numerous times during a day to pray, Vespers, was held early evening. Rev. Patricia has planned a Vespers for you. Our evening prayer will center around Advent and Mary's experience of being called to be the Mother of God. We will hear the sweet bells of our

Bell Choir, a Mary Monologue by Ute, and silences throughout to calm us and center us as we ready our hearts for Christmas. This Vespers experience will be a welcome PAUSE during the hustle and bustle of our holidays. Come, and bring a friend or join us via Zoom: Meeting ID: 869 1204 8062/ Passcode: 123456

CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.” – Isaiah 9:2 (ESV)

A limited number of copies of “Jesus—Light of the World 10 Christmas reflections on the Life and Light of Christ” are now available at the church. In a world filled with darkness people need to see the Light! We can show them Jesus who is the Light that pierces the darkness and brings us love, joy and peace. This booklet will help you share this amazing message with others so that they can experience His Light. Distribution will be on a first come first serve basis.



WHITE CHRISTMAS

It has become a tradition to bring White Christmas gifts to those in need in our Congregation and community during the Christmas season. The Johnson Elementary School identifies needy families and children, and we have been able to distribute gifts to many over the years. We are continuing this tradition and ask for contributions to the White Christmas Fund. Monies collected will be used to purchase gift cards. We ask for monetary donations instead of gift cards because it makes the distribution process less challenging. You can put your donations in the offering plate or mail them to PO Box 77. Please indicate on the memo line of your check that this is a White Christmas gift. Thank you in advance for helping to make this Christmas a little bit brighter for some individuals and families.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN AND E-GIVING

If you have not already done so, please send in your 2023 pledge and/or contribution to Nahant Village Church, PO Box 77, Nahant, 01908. This will enable the Trustees to put together a draft budget for 2023 which will be brought before the Congregation for review and approval in early 2023.

The decision to call a full-time Minister has obvious financial implications but the Leadership Team and Trustees feel that this decision was the right one to make at this time for this Church and community. We need to pave a way to the future and build on the strong foundation established long ago.

And we request your help with that.

You may want to consider signing up for E-Giving. Electronic giving not only makes life easier for parishioners, it also yields significant benefits for our Church. The program allows your weekly, monthly or quarterly contributions to be transferred electronically from your checking or savings account. So you can make your contributions without having to lift a pen to write a check or reach into your wallet for cash! You also can make your e-giving contributions via a credit card. Contact Treasurer Marrit Hastings for more information about e-giving.

COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS

Jan. 7, 2023, at a.m.

There will be no Community Breakfast in December due to the annual Christmas Fair. The next community breakfast will be held on January 7 featuring a presentation by the Nahant Police Department.



*Gifts Given are Gifts
Ever Flowing*

OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you'd like to receive a set of offering envelopes for 2023, contact Marrit Hastings. These envelopes are especially helpful for individuals who place cash contributions in the offering plate. By putting the cash contribution in the offering envelope, the treasurer can record that contribution and provide you with a statement at year end which you may want to use for tax purposes. This E-Giving program has been ongoing for several years.

GUEST MUSICIAN SERIES CONTINUES

12/4 - Sara DeLong, soprano

12/18 - Lisa Putukian, oboe



The Nahant Fire Dept. shared safety tips for residents during the Nov. Community Breakfast. Firefighter Frank Pappalardo explained how you should "Close Before You Doze" (closed doors will slow the spread of a fire). And everyone welcomed artist Carolyn Jundzilo-Comer who was back in Nahant for a visit.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

CAREGIVER "CONNECTIONS"

Tuesday, Dec. 20

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Nahant Village Church -
Swansburg Hall



The first Caregiver Connections Support Group met for the first time at the Church on Tuesday, September 20. It 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 will meet monthly on the **third Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m - 12p.m.** The Caregiver Support Group is sponsored by Nahant COA, Nahant Public Library, and Nahant Village Church, a representative from Greater Lynn Senior Services will participate. She is experienced in leading caregiver support groups in nearby communities. Please pass the word and share this information with those who may benefit from participating. You may contact Mary Miner of the Nahant COA at mminer@nahant.org for further information.

BYLAWS TEAM – PROGRESS REPORT

The Bylaws Team has been working diligently over the last six months to review the Church's bylaws, which were drawn up more than 50 years ago. The charge was to come up with a structure and bylaws adaptive to both the current and future ministry of our Church.

To date the committee has met a dozen times. At several of the meetings Pastor Chris Hart, who started a six-month consultancy with the Church in mid-April, was able to join us in person or via Zoom. Pastor Chris provided valuable guidance to our team and shared several examples of bylaws of other churches. Our next step will be to get feedback from the Leadership Team and Trustees on the proposed revisions we have made to date before holding focus groups with others in our Congregation. And hopefully/ultimately a formal vote for approval by the entire Church membership.

Team Members: Marrit Hastings, Mary Livingston, Teri Motley, and Chris Rogers



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday Dec. 9, 3 p.m. - 2 p.m.

The Annual Christmas Fair is back! Come and check out wares by local artisans, the every popular bake table and see what Amy has in the always popular jewelry corner. There will be a raffles, a silent auction and of course lobster rolls along with holiday greens and the Historical Society's new calendar all for purchase.

We've missed you these last few years and we hope to see you there!

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday Dec. 24, 7 p.m.

Please join us for NVC's annual Christmas Eve Candlelight service. This year the service will include special guest musicians, a children's choir and the Village Bell Ringers and all the familiar music of the season.

FYI!



There will be no Sunday Services on Jan. 1, 2023. Rev. Patricia will hold a hymn sing later in the week in lieu of. Date and time still to be determined.

CORRECTION

The Chapel will be in next year's Garden Club Holiday House Tour, not this year. We regret this mistake in last month's Pulpit Rock.

BELLS



A little
thank you
note from
Susan

Welcome Jonna Switzer to the Village Ringers! She will be ringing with us on Christmas Eve.

Unfortunately, Michael Weimer will not. He will return to his native Germany shortly after Advent Vespers. We wish Michael and his wife Katharina all the best; we have really enjoyed his participation not only as a bell ringer but a cellist as well.

If there is interest in learning how to read music or ring bells or chimes, contact Marrit Hastings for more information.

ITALIAN SUPPER SUCCESS!

The Deacons, Jen McCarthy and Chris & Rich Stevens, would like to thank everyone who came out for the Italian Supper on Nov. 18. The “Friendsgiving” was well attended, and many laughs were shared over plates of spaghetti & homemade meatballs, homemade lasagna, salad, cookies and thanks to Roz, cupcakes!. The meal was free and opened to the community but donations were accepted. Thanks to the generosity of many, we mailed My Brother’s Table a check for \$185.60. Be on the lookout for another delicious event in February!



Maureen Edison, seated with Marsha White, Flo Sigourney & Olivia Brand, gives “Friendsgiving a thumbs up!

MORE KUDOS

A big thank you to Roz Puleo for the new Christmas lights that grace the tree in front of the Companionway. The lights were put on the tree by G&J Trucking Company thanks to Gennaro Anguilo. The lights will brighten the dark winter months ahead.



Dec. 1 Chris Rogers

Dec. 8 Amy Dow

Dec. 10 Pauline White

Dec. 29 Christine Alexander and Flo Sigourney



Tommy Carromero serves up meatballs for Rev. Patricia during the Nov. 18 “Friendsgiving,” where about 35 people turned out for an Italian dinner.



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.

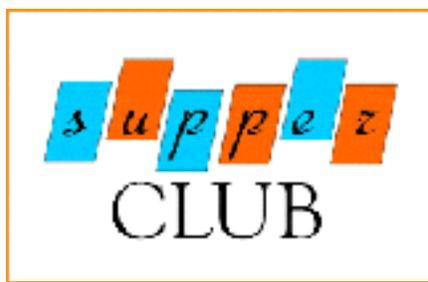
CHURCH CALENDAR UPDATES

Please submit information for events (including meetings) name, date, and time to the church assistant at secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org. The AA will check to make sure the dates are available and post the event on both the Church Website and on the master calendar that will be posted in various locations around the church.

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 blu banner, then click on On Line Worship Services.



GENESIS SUPPER CLUB

The Genesis Supper Club is back after a hiatus and meeting in person, 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.



SCRIPTURE READERS

Would you like to read the scripture during the Sunday Worship Service? If so, please email Jen

McCarthy at edwarthy@hotmail.com.



VOLUNTEERS FOR COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour following Worship has resumed in Swansburg Hall. If you would like to volunteer to oversee the Coffee Hour, which takes about 30 to 45 minutes. Coffee is made and food is provided.

Volunteers will just do a light clean up and clean out the coffee pot. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jen McCarthy.

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

NAHANT VILLAGE VOICES

Nahant Village Voices is back, by popular demand, but the next date is TBD. However, if you would like to offer a performance of a spiritual nature for their next gathering featuring music and poetry, please contact Samantha at 978 530 7633 or email her at nahantvillagevoices@angelic.com to sign up ahead of



NAHANT VILLAGE CHURCH

CONTACT INFORMATION

Call the Church at 781-581-1202 to leave a message. Contact Rev. Patricia Long for urgent Pastoral Care, or Jennifer McCarthy for other church needs. Phone messages at the Church are checked regularly and forwarded to the appropriate individual on our Team.

Church – 781-581-1202

Preacher: Roger “Rusty” Chadwick

Pastoral Care: Rev. Patricia Long
781-941-6663 or revpatsylong@gmail.com

Leadership Team

Jen McCarthy (Chair) - edwarthy@hotmail.com
or 781-316-7309)
also Board of Deacons Chair

Nancy Cantelmo - nlc31@comcast.net
or 781-599-3977 or 617-794-6477)
Memorials/Music Committee Chair

Bill Crawford - crawfordwm@verizon.net
or 781-581-0411)
Board of Trustee Chair

Maria Welsh (mariawelsh@ymail.com) –
or 781-856-5753) –

Treasurer

Marrit Hastings - (calhast@hotmail.com)
or 781-581-5691)

Buildings and Grounds

Cal Hastings - calhast@hotmail.com
or 781-581-5691)

Andy Puleo - andynahant@aol.com
or 617-293-3913)

Compassionate Care Circle

Olivia Brand - 781-584-8112 or 717- 816-5046

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.

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

Beginners 4:30 p.m., Advance 5:15 p.m.

Swansburg Hall

NahantVV

Meeting ID: 810 8610 6763

Passcode: NVV

Passcode: 697582 (phone)

We would *Love* for you join us!