



# 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

## April 2021 Scripture Reading

### April 4 Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2,  
14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11;  
John 20:1-18

**Theme: Christ is risen, Alleluia**

### April 11

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133;  
1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

**Theme: Blessed are those who  
have not seen**

### April 18

Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4;  
1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

**Theme: Then he opened their  
minds**

### April 25

Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23;  
1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

**Theme: I am the Good  
Shepherd**

## Calendar

**April 1 Maundy Thursday** on  
details for Zoom meeting in the  
Worship section on Page 4.

**April 4 Sunrise Easter Service**  
6:15 am details on Page 4.

**Easter Worship Service 10:30**  
followed by Communion at  
11:15 am

**April 10 - Nahant Village Voices**  
3 - 5 pm

### Worship Service

Sundays @ 10:30 am

### Bible Study

Tuesdays @ 10 am

### Genesis Supper Club

Fridays @ 5 pm

All Meetings Via Zoom



## REPORT

The Leadership Team has been meeting with Rev. Jeff on a weekly basis since the beginning of 2021. We have tackled a number of issues, including the start of lay-led worship services on the second Sunday of the month, drive-thru communion service, improving our broadcasts of Sunday worship services and identifying needs for better equipment, to name just a few.

On Sunday, February 28, the Church's annual budget meeting was held via zoom. It was a spirited gathering that lasted over an hour, led by Board of Trustee Chair, Bill Crawford. Some people had difficulty with our communications. We have been using e-mails and the Pulpit Rock frequently to convey our news and post our Church meeting. In addition, some individuals who had requested a copy of the budget package did not receive it prior to the meeting. We apologize for these communication difficulties. One possible reason for them might be that e-mails are going to an old NVC e-mail address. In the future, please send any e-mail requests for information to: [secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org](mailto:secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org)

or for questions or requests you may phone 781-581-1201.

The 2021 budget was approved with 25 yes votes and one no vote. The count included six affirmative votes that NVC received by proxy or mail.

Much of our time has been absorbed planning for Holy Week and Easter. There will be an in-person sunrise service at 6:15 on Easter morning. The location is opposite Castle Rock. To accommodate more people, we will be meet across the street from our usual gathering place in the yard of Bob and Nancy Risch who graciously offered their property at 401 Nahant Road for this occasion. COVID protocols will be strictly adhered to so we ask that you bring and wear a mask and social distance. The 10:30 Easter Celebration will be via Zoom (check the NVC website at: [nahantvillagechurch.org](http://nahantvillagechurch.org) for the link). Communion will be served following this service via drive-thru at the NVC starting at 11:15 am.

If you'd like to receive Communion but cannot be present for the drive-thru at NVC, please contact Jen McCarthy in advance to schedule a time for either a deacon or Rev. Jeff to serve you Communion at your doorstep.





## LAY-LED WORSHIP

We want to thank all those who participated in the two lay-led worship services held in February and March. The two services were well planned by the NVC Worship Team and inspirational. Participants in the March lay-led service were: Samantha S. with her well researched and inspirational sermon, Jen with her prayers, Lisa with her music, Margaret showing her artwork inspired by the scripture readings, Peter as our Music Director, and other members of the Worship Team. And last but not least, the team of people who worked behind the scenes to film and produce the weekly services. That process is described more fully below.

As Rev. Jeff remarked in his March 21 service, the NVC Worship Team is spreading its wings and exercising the sharing of grace. Again, our thanks to all who are making these lay-led services a reality. The next lay-led service will be held on the second Sunday, April 11

## BEHIND THE SCENES

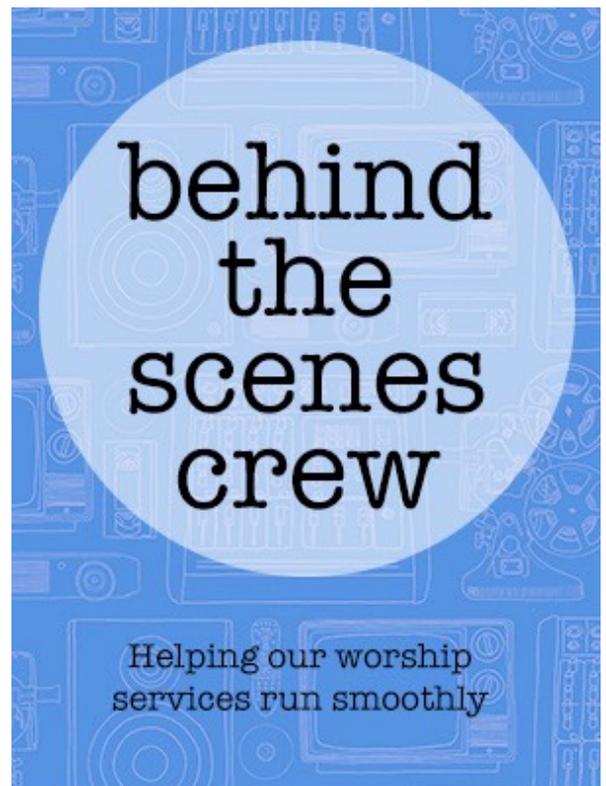
As part of the March 21<sup>st</sup> service, Christine Stevens was invited to speak about what occurs behind the scenes when worship services are filmed and produced. When the pandemic arrived a year ago, NVC as other churches had to shift gear and figure out how to congregate without being able to get together. NVC turned to the internet and social media to get its message out. In September, after the departure of Rev. Megan Snell who had led this digital effort, others in the Congregation needed to step up to the plate and learn how to do this. Numerous people lend a helping hand – Herb Motley, Doug Frauenholz, Amy Dow, Jen McCarthy and Christine Stevens. Without any training, they became film directors, stage hands, lighting experts, and film editors. It was a process of trial and error, but the members of this team taught

each other. As Christine noted in her remarks: “It’s a pretty awesome feeling when it all comes together!”

“Who knew we could do this?” she noted. “Perhaps God knew ... this is our calling!” As Deacons, our goal is to serve the Congregation and community as best as we can. And during the past few months that has been communicating via the Internet. “We figured out that we could make it work.” And they did and do.

It takes an immense amount of effort – to do the filming, editing, inserting pieces, putting wording when hymns are being played or for responsive prayers, and finally the publishing. It is a leap of faith that all will go as planned. But as Christine noted: “It is fun; we are having a good time doing this. This is my talent, my gift. It may not be polished but it is sincere. This has given us an opportunity to grow in ministry. One never knows when or what or where you might be called to serve and where it will take you.”

Jen and Christine have done and continue to do the lion’s share of this behind-the-scenes work, as well as serve on the Worship Committee. We extend our deep gratitude to both of them, as well as to other members of the team.



## COMPASSIONATE CARE GROUP (CCG)

The Compassionate Care Group at NVC is a lively group of caring folks who reach out to our community and "love our neighbors." We welcome people to contact us to participate if they would like to: mail a card to someone who needs a lift, deliver soup to an ill resident, give a ride to someone with cancer who needs to see a specialist in Boston, drop off a book, drive by and share a smile, etc. We have a growing list of people who need our love and support, and we can include you or someone you care about.

After leading CCG since its inception, Christine Alexander is no longer able to serve in the capacity of Chair. We extend our sincere gratitude to Christine for all she has done particularly during the pandemic challenges. With her help, CCG has been able to reach out to and stay in touch with many in our Congregation. Christine showed us how a lay-led group can function effectively. Thank you for a job well done!

CCG will be meeting in early April to discuss options for continuing this important ministry and decide on new leadership. Until such decisions are made, Olivia Brand has graciously agreed to be the CCG contact person. You can reach her at 781-584-8112 or 717 816-5046. Thank you, Olivia.

We also want to extend our thanks to Flo Sigourney who has been managing our Birthday Blessing Ministry. Many parishioners have commented how nice it was to receive a card from NVC extending happy birthday wishes. If you have a birthday coming up (and you are not on the list published on the last page of the Pulpit Rock), please let CCG know.

## THE GENESIS SUPPER CLUB

The Genesis Supper Club celebrated its first year of Friday night gatherings. A group of 6 to 12 people meet weekly from 5:00 pm to 6:30 on Zoom.

During Lent we are reading through the Book of Daniel and learning how his vegetarian diet may have contributed to his becoming one of the greatest prophets in the Bible. The group shares joys and concerns from the week as well as recipes, and much laughter, which is hard to find during a pandemic! Our prayer time is very powerful and people have learned how to pray with greater conviction and authority over illness and despair. We invite you to join us on this journey.

## NAHANT VILLAGE VOICES

Our online gathering of Nahant Village Voices -- a space for poetry and music--is thriving. About a dozen people have participated in each of the last two monthly events.

Our featured poet in March was Janet Aldrich who married into the Aldrich family of Nahant and lived here for a few years in the 1980s when she began writing poems. Her work centers around her faith and spiritual growth. Our theme was "Ruach" or "Wind of the Holy Spirit." Polly Bradley wrote a new poem for the occasion and read it for us! Guest Pastor Steve Larson from Libertyville Covenant Church in Illinois joined us to read his "Ruach" poem and opened our meeting with prayer. The Holy Spirit was palpable as the theme of wind in the trees emerged in amazing ways. "Spending an afternoon with faithful creatives is an enriching experience" said one participant. Our feature, Janet, even got inspired to publish her work based on our response.

On **April 10th**, our topic is "Resurrection" and will feature the incomparable **Maureen "Mo" Edison** who is a life long poet and retired university English professor. All are welcome to join us, musicians are encouraged! (We are hoping to be able to broadcast from the Chapel, stay tuned!)

Email [NahantVillageVoices@angelic.com](mailto:NahantVillageVoices@angelic.com) to participate.

## YOUR INPUT MATTERS

As Spring approached, the Leadership Team has started to think about when and how to safely re-open our Church doors for Sunday worship services. **A Special Meeting of the Church via Zoom will be held on April 11 at 11:30 to get your input. We request all members to join us in these deliberations.** You can find the link to this meeting at our website: [nahantvillagechurch.org](http://nahantvillagechurch.org).

The small subcommittee of the Search Committee has been hard at work looking at the Profile to determine what needs to be updated for our search for a new Settled Minister. As a first step, you will soon be receiving a very brief survey that will help the Church to update its membership roster, as well as the demographics of our Congregation. This brief survey will be followed by a lengthier questionnaire that will seek your views and ideas about the Church's mission, its strengths and weaknesses, ideas about possible ways to broaden our ministry to more people in our community, to just name a few of the things we want your input on. We hope that you will take the time to respond to these two surveys. Your views, opinions and ideas are important and need to be taken into account in our Profile revisions. We hope that the end result will be a document that lays out clearly for our new Minister how we hope and plan to move forward with NVC's ministry in Nahant.

## IN THE NEWS

Nahant Village Church and Rev. Jeff MacDonald were featured both in the February 15, 2021 edition of The Item and the recent publication of 01907. To view the Item article, please use the link below:

<https://www.itemlive.com/wp-content/uploads/pdf/digital-edition/February-15-2021.pdf>

The Lynn Item published an article on March 21 about the NVC Easter Sunrise Service on April 4. To view the article in your browser use the link below: <https://www.itemlive.com/2021/03/21/nahant-village-church-to-host-sunrise-service-this-easter/>

## CELEBRATIONS and GOODBYES

Happy Birthday to all who were born in April. We hope that you have a great day and a fabulous year ahead!

April 4	Kevin Bailey
April 5	Dunbar Livingston
April 18	Nancy Carey
April 19	Ute Gfrerer
April 22	Mary Livingston
April 24	Carl Jenkins
April 27	Rob Alexander

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Alice Hall who entered into eternal rest on March 14, 2021. We mourn her passing and celebrate the many memories we have of her life.

## ELIZABETH PETERSON PALMER SCHOLARSHIP

The Elizabeth Peterson Palmer Scholarship will be offered to a Class of 2021 high school graduate with Nahant Village Church affiliation, on the basis of scholarship and service to the Church community. The Scholarship award will be five hundred dollars (\$500).

Applications must be received no later than Monday, May 17, 2021. Completed forms and attachments should be sent to **Elizabeth Peterson Palmer Scholarship, c/o Nahant Village Church, P. O. Box 77, Nahant, MA 01908**. The Scholarship will be awarded on Sunday, June 13, 2021.

To request an application, send an e-mail to the Church Administrator at [secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org](mailto:secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org).



## LENT-HOLY WEEK - EASTER

We hope that you will join us for the following services:

### PALM SUNDAY

#### **Nahant Car Processional**

Sunday, March 28 at 9:30 am  
Meet at Nahant Village Church

#### **Worship Service**

Sunday, March 28 at 10:30 am  
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87409463319?pwd=UkRKUGZzYnpCakNzS3AzL0lpUU5Gdz09>

Meeting ID: 874 0946 3319  
Passcode: 01908

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

via Zoom – Thursday, April 1 at 7 pm  
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87409463319?pwd=UkRKUGZzYnpCakNzS3AzL0lpUU5Gdz09>

Meeting ID: 874 0946 3319  
Passcode: 01908

### EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

Sunday, April 4 at 6:15 am opposite Castle Rock led by Rev. Teri Motley.

Masks must be worn and social distancing practiced.



### EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

via Zoom Sunday, April 4 at 10:30 a.m.  
Join Zoom Meeting for Worship Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87409463319?pwd=UkRKUGZzYnpCakNzS3AzL0lpUU5Gdz09>

Meeting ID: 874 0946 3319  
Passcode: 01908



Join us for Easter Communion! Come to NVC around **11:30** to receive Communion and share Easter greetings outdoors in a social distanced format.



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

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Call the Church at 781-581-1202, anyone on the Leadership Team, or Rev. Jeff for any urgent pastoral care or other needs. Phone messages at the Church are checked daily and forwarded to the appropriate individual on our Team.

**Church** – 781-581-1202

**Interim Minister**

**Rev. G. Jeffrey MacDonald**

[revjeffnvc at gmail dot com](mailto:revjeffnvc@gmail.com) or 978-270-0114

**Leadership Team**

**Jen McCarthy** (Chair) - [edwarthy@hotmail.com](mailto:edwarthy@hotmail.com)  
or 781-316-7309)

also Board of Deacons Chair

**Nancy Cantelmo** - [nlc31@comcast.net](mailto:nlc31@comcast.net)  
or 781-599-3977 or 617-794-6477)  
Memorials/Music Committee Chair

**Bill Crawford** - [crawfordwm@verizon.net](mailto:crawfordwm@verizon.net)  
or 781-581-0411)  
Board of Trustee Chair

**Marrit Hastings** ([calhast@hotmail.com](mailto:calhast@hotmail.com)  
or 781-581-5691)  
Treasurer/ Pulpit Rock

**Maria Welsh** ([mariawelsh@ymail.com](mailto:mariawelsh@ymail.com)  
or 781-856-5753) –

**Buildings and Grounds**

**Cal Hastings** - [calhast@hotmail.com](mailto:calhast@hotmail.com)  
or 781-581-5691)

**Andy Puleo** - [andynahant@aol.com](mailto:andynahant@aol.com)  
or 617-293-3913)

**Compassionate Care**

**Olivia Bland** - 781-584-8112 or 717- 816-5046

*You are invited*

All gatherings are held on Zoom  
For call in: Dial-in +1 929 205 6099

**Sunday Worship Service**

Sundays @ 10:30 am

Click below to join on Zoom

[NVCworship](#)

Meeting ID: 874 0946 3319

Passcode: 01908

**Bible Study**

Tuesdays @ 10:00 am

Click below to join on Zoom

[NVCBible](#)

Meeting ID: 838 6095 4980

Passcode: 01908

**Genesis Supper Club**

Fridays @ 5:00-6:30 pm

Click below to join on Zoom

[GenesisSupperClub](#)

Meeting ID: 881 0920 8580

Passcode: 01908

**Nahant Village Voices**

Saturday, February 13 @ 3:00 pm

Click below to join on Zoom

[NahantVV](#)

Meeting ID: 810 8610 6763

Passcode: NVV

Passcode: 697582 (phone)

We would *Love* for you join us!