

The Pulpit Rock

The Nahant Village Church ~ 27 Cliff Street, Nahant, MA 01908
An open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ
where everyone is welcome



Dear Friends,
Our music for February will be full of Spirit and joy and the chapel is warm and cozy. Join us

for worship in February as we continue to study the Gospel of Mark from start to finish. I have been hearing from a number of people about how helpful it has been to be able to explore the stories contained in the Gospel in the order in which they were written. As we continue our study, I encourage you to bring your Bible to church and a pencil to jot down notes and questions. We are each theologians in our own lives, making meaning of our faith in the context of our lived experiences. Come to worship on Sundays to gain confidence in your own Biblical literacy and theology.

Please note that February 26, we will mark Ash Wednesday with a short service (6-6:30 pm in the chapel) and receiving of Ashes.

Blessings,
Rev. Megan

Bible Study

Join Rev. Megan and the Bible Study Group in her office on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Megan's Drop In Hours

Tuesdays from 11:00 - 1:00 p.m. at the church, or by appointment.

New Members Classes at the Nahant Village Church

Are you new to the church (in the past two years)? Are you interested in learning more about the church and what it means to be a member? Church membership is like going from being a guest at a party to becoming a host. It's about knowing the background details of how the church runs, what is stored in which church closet and where we are going in mission and service in the years to come. If you are ready to take the next step and make the Nahant Village Church *YOUR* church home contact Rev. Megan Snell at this e-mail rev.megansnell@gmail.com to register for New Members Classes.

Classes will begin on these dates:
Sunday, February 23, 12:00-2:00 p.m.,
Sunday, March 22, 12-2 p.m.

Classes will conclude with dinner, dessert and faith stories at the parsonage on Sunday, April 11 at 5:00 p.m. All who wish may choose to formally join the church on Pentecost (Sunday, May 31, 2020). Whether you've been a part of NVC for two weeks or two years, you are welcome to join in the New Members Classes.

Sermon Podcast

You may link to the sermon podcasts from the lower half of the NVC Home page or by clicking on the "Worship" tab from the Home page.

Stay Connected

Sign Up for Weekly E-mail

Would you like to receive weekly E-mail notices about the activities and services at NVC? If so, sign up on the NVC Website or e-mail your contact information and permission to Secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org.

2nd Worship Service

10:30 am Worship/Communion

7th Community Breakfast 8:00 am

9th Worship Service

10:30 am Worship and
1:00 P.M. CCG Meeting

13th Memory Cafe 10:00 a.m.
Nahant Library

15th Silent Movie Night

5:30 p.m. Potluck Dinner
7:00 p.m The General

16th Worship Service

10:30 am Worship

23rd Transfiguration

10:30 am Worship
12:00 pm New Member Class

26th Ash Wednesday Service

6:00 p.m. Receiving of Ashes



1st First Sunday in Lent

10:30 am Worship/Communion

6th Community Breakfast 8:00 am

8th Second Sunday in Lent

10:30 am Worship
1:00 pm Serve at MBT

12th Memory Cafe 10:00 a.m.
Nahant Library

15th Third Sunday in Lent

10:30 am Worship

22nd Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:30 am Worship

29th Fifth Sunday in Lent

10:30 am Worship

31st CCG Worship @ Jesmond
10:00 - 11:00 am

Mark Your Calendars

Silent Movie Night

Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 7 p.m.

The movie that will be show is **The General** starring Buster Keaton with live piano accompaniment by Rob Humphreville. The movie was made in 1926 and it is considered one of the greatest movies of all time. Here is a plot summary:



One of the most revered comedies of the silent era, this film finds hapless Southern railroad engineer Johnny Gray (Buster Keaton) facing off against Union soldiers during the American Civil War. When Johnny's fiancée, Annabelle Less, is accidentally taken away while on a train stolen by Northern forces, Gray pursues the soldiers, using various modes of transportation in comic action scenes that highlight Keaton's boundless wit and dexterity. Tickets are \$20.



Nahant Community Breakfast

Friday, February 7, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

It is an honor to welcome back our State Senator Brendon Crighton at the February 7th breakfast. Senator Crighton represents the Third Essex District including the Town of Nahant. He will give a presentation about his work at the State House, as well as issues of concern to our town and region. Breakfast is served at 8 a.m. Bring a family member or friend. ALL ARE WELCOME.

The Nahant Budget Presentation by **Nahant Town Administrator Tony Barletta** will be held at the **March 6th breakfast**.

2020 Budget Meeting

The 2020 budget meeting was held on Sunday, February 2nd immediately following the worship services. Copies of the proposed budget and comparisons with last year can be found in the Companionway.

Compassionate Care Group (CCG) News



The Compassionate Care Group is having a special **Valentine's card making/writing** day on **Sunday, February 9**. Please join us following worship during coffee hour to make or sign cards.

If you are interested in joining the CCG or wish to suggest someone to be on our list, please let Rev. Megan or Chris Alexander know. You are invited to make and/or write cards for folks on our list. We ask you to keep this ministry of the NVC in your prayers.

Note: On March 31 at Rev. Megan and the CCG will host Worship at the Jesmond on Nahant Road

Christine Alexander, Coordinator, Margaret Alexander, Olivia Brand, Marrit Hastings, Jen McCarthy, Teri Motley, Samantha Scolamiero, Betsy Winkler and Rev. Megan.

Connections, A Memory Café

Thursday, February, 13th at 10:00 a.m.

at the Nahant Public Library

If you know of anyone concerned about memory loss, please spread the word about our efforts to make Nahant a more dementia friendly community. Sponsors of the Memory Cafe are the Nahant Public Library, the Nahant Council on Aging, and the Nahant Village Church.



Seeking Volunteers

In the past few years, two flea markets have been held to raise funds for our Operating Budget. This has represented about \$6,000 in income. This year, volunteers are needed to make a spring flea market a reality. Marrit Hastings who has taken the lead on these fundraisers in the past is unable to do so this spring due to surgeries that require extensive rehabilitation. If you are interested in taking this on and want to find out more, please contact Marrit at 781-581-5691 or calhast@hotmail.com.

NVC Staffing

Our Sexton Andy Puleo has scaled back some of his responsibilities starting the beginning of 2020. He will continue to be an integral part of NVC's Buildings and Grounds team, but his role cleaning the church, mowing the grass and trimming bushes, as well as snow removal will be undertaken by outside contractors. The cleaning will be done by Jen Hill and her company so if you see her or her staff at the church, please extend a warm welcome.

Our Administrative Assistant Susan Gilbert will be retiring from NVC in late winter/early spring. She plans to spend more time traveling with her husband Bob. We have treasured our time with you, Susan and wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that our Interim Church Musician Peter Freisinger is extending his interim contract through the end of August of this year.

Universal Accessibility Project

During the 2020 budget meeting, Trustee Lynne Spencer gave a presentation about the proposed Universal Accessibility Project for our Church. She also discussed the capital campaign to raise funds for this project scheduled to be launched in the near future.

My Brother's Table Offering and Service



My Brother's Table, located at 98 Willow Street in Lynn, began as a vision shared by a handful of people who were moved by compassion to respond to the growing needs of the hungry people they saw around them. In 1981, these needs were manifest in the City of Lynn—an old city

certainly with its share of people in need. The founders realized that food pantries, senior services, and school-based programs did not meet the needs of everyone in the community. They sought a new way of addressing the nutritional needs of the hungry.

My Brother's Table has shared its table with neighbors since 1982 and will continue to do so with dignity, humor, love and kindness. My Brother's Table has been open over 10,000 consecutive day and today serves approximately 300 people per day. Last year alone, MBT served over 186,000 free meals. Currently, MBT serves lunch and dinner Monday through Friday and one meal per day on Saturdays and Sundays. In addition to serving meals, seven days a week, MBT delivers meals to homebound individuals, participates in a family dinner program, provides meals to at risk-seniors, and hosts a free weekly medical clinic.

Over 2,500 volunteers a year donate their time to help feed every guest who comes to our door. MBT has shared its table with neighbors since 1982 and will continue to do so with dignity, humor, love and kindness. Six times a year (every other month, an Offering Envelope for My Brother's Table is included in the Sunday Bulletin. This special collection is used to pay for these meals, and volunteers.

In addition, Jen McCarthy organizes volunteers to serve food at MBT on the Sunday of the collection at 1:00 p.m.

If you'd like to volunteer for service on **Sunday, March 8 at 1:00 p.m.**, please add your name to the My Brother's Table sign-up sheet in the Companionway, or contact Jen.

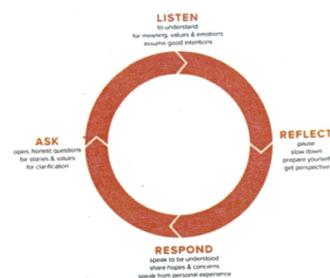
Thank you for supporting this important mission!

Bridging The Divide

Respectful Conversations – Update

We were honored to have Dave Joseph and Kathy Eckels of Essential Partners give a presentation about their work fostering civil communication at the January 10 breakfast. They introduced The Constructive Cycle of communicating (see diagram below). Since the lettering is small and hard to decipher, here it what it says:

The Constructive Cycle



Listen

to understand
for meaning, values & emotions
assume good intentions

Reflect

pause
slow down
prepare yourself
get perspective

Respond

speak to be understood
share hopes & concerns
speak from personal experience

Ask

open, honest questions
for stories & values
for clarification

The next step will be to plan and hold a one-day workshop on civil discourse to be facilitated by Essential Partners. This organization specializes in fostering dialogues about polarizing public issues. In January, the Nahant Village Church received word that it will receive a small grant from the Nahant Cultural Council to defray some of the workshop expenses. Another grant application will be submitted by the Nahant Public Library to supplement the NCC grant. The workshop will be scheduled for some time in late spring or summer.