



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

Nov. 3 Worship/Communion

Welcome Rev. Dave Van Arsdale

Twentieth-Fourth Sunday after
Pentecost

Mark 12:28b-34

*Theme: Loving God & Loving
Your Neighbor*

Nov. 10 Worship

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after

Pentecost

Mark 12:38-44

Theme: Praise for the Passionate

Nov. 17 Worship

Twenty-Six Sunday after

Pentecost

Mark 13:1-8

Theme: Life Quakes

Nov. 24 Worship

Twenty-Seventh Sunday after

Pentecost

John 18:33-37

Theme: Images of Christ

Nahant Community Breakfast

Friday Nov. 1, 8 a.m.

Trustees

Tuesday, Nov. 12, 7 p.m.

Church Council

Monday, Nov. 18, 6:15 p.m.

Caregivers Group

Tuesday Nov. 19, 11 a.m.

WELCOME REV DAVE VAN ARSDALE!

I am pleased to announce that we have entered into a Call Agreement with Rev. Dave VanArsdale to serve as a Bridge Pastor through the end of January 2025. Dave will be with us part time. He will have some in-person office hours, and we will announce those times soon.

Dave is honorably retired and now enjoys helping churches when they need pulpit coverage for one reason or another. Dave was with us for a few weeks back in 2017 so he may look familiar to some of you.

His career as a Minister started in Massachusetts and took him around the country to New York, Nebraska, Ohio, Michigan, Arizona and then back home to New England. He currently resides in North Andover with his wife Ellen. Ellen has had a career in the field of Nursing.

Besides having years of experience in the pulpit and leading churches in worship, Dave brings experience in stewardship campaigns, missions, and capital campaigns. His ministry has been centered in compassionate pastoral care and supportive attention to congregational members and the extended church family.

In Dave's personal time, he enjoys sports, is an avid golfer, traveling,

and theater & musical productions. Dave also loves taking long joyful walks with his wife Ellen. Ellen and Dave have three grown sons who now have families of their own and have made Dave and Ellen grandparents.

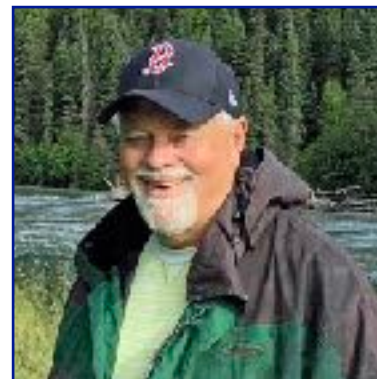
Church Council is excited to work with Dave over the next few months. He will be bringing his expertise, energy, enthusiasm, flexibility and leadership to Nahant Village Church. We are also happy that he will be with us through Advent and Christmas and can offer the Congregation some continuity.

Over the next few months, Church Council will be working on the Profile to begin our search for a Designated Term Pastor. Please let me know if you have any questions or thoughts. I am looking forward to your input. I will keep you updated as we progress through this process.

Blessings,

Jen McCarthy

Moderator



WHICH ARE YOU?

Dear Faith Church Friends:

By the time you read this note, I will have been



introduced as the “bridge pastor” and we will have shared in that first Sunday together.

Let me begin with a story.

Once upon a time a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable and that

she didn't know how she was going to make it. She was tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed.

Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high flame. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in the second pot and ground coffee beans in the third pot. He then let them sit and boil, without saying a word to his daughter. The daughter, moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing.

After twenty minutes he turned off the burners. He took the potatoes out of the pot and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. He then ladled the coffee out and placed it in a cup. Turning to her, he asked. “Daughter, what do you see?” “Potatoes, eggs and coffee,” she hastily replied.

“Look closer” he said, “and touch the potatoes.” She did and noted that they were soft. He then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. Its rich aroma brought a smile to her face. “Father, what does this mean?” she asked.

He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity ... the boiling water. However, each one reacted differently.

The potato went in strong, hard and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and mushy. The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid interior until it was put in the boiling water.

Then the inside of the egg became hard. However, the ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new. “Which one are you?” he asked his daughter.

“When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean?”

In life, things happen around us, things happen to us, but the only thing that truly matters is how you choose to react to it and what you make out of it. Life is all about learning, adopting and converting all the struggles that we experience into something positive. Life is not always about what comes our way in terms of opportunities or personal challenges, but life is much more about the decisions we make in response to what comes our way in the events of life. Life in the Village Church congregation is all about the decision we make.

Choices we make are influential in how things progress for all of us ... for those we love.

“People pay for what they do, and still more for what they have allowed themselves to become. And they pay for it very simply; by the lives they lead.” — James Baldwin

I look forward to our time together over these next few months. Anything you can do to make things more caring and supportive, I will deeply appreciate your efforts.

Grace and Peace,



Dearest Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

By the time this goes to press we will have had our last service and fellowship time together. As I write this in mid October I am already tearing up at the thought of it. We have done and shared so much together – and I have grown quite fond of you.



If all goes as planned, we will have held a farewell ritual in the last service bringing to an end my service as Minister at Nahant Village Church (NVC). A consequence of that ending is that ethically I will no longer be available to provide pastoral services to the NVC community. I understand these ethical boundaries to mean that except for administrative questions from leaders or staff I am unable to discuss church business, provide pastoral care, or officiate weddings, baptisms and memorial services from the NVC community. To minimize temptation, I plan to discontinue most social media connections (Facebook, etc.) as well. Please do not take any of this distancing personally, I understand the boundary steps I've listed to be a part of an ordained minister's ethical obligations. Honoring those obligations allows the new Minister(s) to better develop relationships with you – and allows me to let go and move forward. I hope you will understand.

In closing let me state again that I love Nahant Village Church, UCC and I am grateful for the kindnesses and support provided in our ministry together. Please support the new Minister(s) and the church in this time of transition. I hope and pray for the best for all of you and the church. I will miss you. You will always be in my heart and prayers. Bless you.

Much love, and farewell, from your brother in Christ,

Rev. Scott Elliott



What a weekend at NVC. Lot's of laughs, food, memories, fellowship, amazing music, worship, some tears and LOTS of love! As NVC closes another chapter in its history, we wish Scott & Nancy (and River) The best in their next chapter of life!



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

ALL ABOUT ELDER SERVICES

Nahant Community Breakfast, Friday Nov. 1,
8 a.m.



Think the Greater Lynn Senior Services has nothing to offer because you don't live in Lynn? You're wrong!

All About Elder Services will be the topic of discussion led by GLSS at the Nov. 1 Community Breakfast. You might be surprised to hear that GLSS many services to people age 60 or older, adults with disabilities and families and caregivers. And Nahant is one of GLSS' five service areas. For close to 50 years, GLSS has responded to the changing needs of these residents. They provide a continuum of community health and social services to help people maintain their independence, safely and with dignity.

The broad range of services include help at home, home care, long term services and supports coordination, meals and nutrition, safety and security, counseling and support, along with information and referral, health and well-being, to just name a few.

GLSS also runs several support groups for caregivers (including one at the Village Church) that can help make the job easier. For more information, contact the Mary Miner at the Nahant Council on Aging.

If you or someone in your family is 60 or older or an adult with a disability, GLSS makes it easy for you to get exactly the services you're looking for. So come and join us and get acquainted with all the services that are available through this non-profit agency and the many organizations that GLSS partners with.

The free breakfast starts at 8 a.m. Transportation to and from the breakfast can be arranged by calling the Tiffany Roon a few days in advance. Their number is 781-581-7557.

Please invite family and friends to a hearty breakfast, an informative presentation and wonderful camaraderie.

WHITE CHRISTMAS

Each year we collect money donations to help local families in need during the holiday season. Last year we distributed almost \$5,000 in gift cards. Please help us to do the same or better, there's still time! You can write a check (to Nahant Village Church with White Christmas in the subject line) or visit nahantvillagechurch.org to make a contribution there. And thanks in advance for making the holiday season more joyful for many in our midst.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Dec. 7, 9 a.m - 2 p.m.

It will be here before you know it! And there are multiple ways you could help out. We need baked goods, both sweet and savory for our world famous (or maybe that's just in my mind) bake table. Are you creative with greens? The greens table could use your help or do you have an eye for jewelry? If you can spare a few hours to volunteer at a table on Dec. 7 or help create greens or sort jewelry in the week ahead the fair— or if you have a treasure to donate to the silent auction — contact Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309 or Chris Stevens at 781-581-1202 or email secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org. It takes a village people to put on the Village Church Fair so don't be shy!

COMPULSIVELY LATE CHURCHGOERS!
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS THIS WEEKEND!

OH, NO! I'M THE
FIRST ONE HERE!



**MAKE SURE TO SET YOUR CLOCK
BACK 1 HOUR SATURDAY NIGHT TO AVOID
THE HORROR OF ARRIVING EARLY FOR CHURCH!**

**Daylight
Savings
Time is
here!
Don't
forget to
fall back
on
Nov. 3.**



Donna Gramolino — 4
Han Tan Parish — 11
Rich Stevens — 21

SAVE THE DATE



Dec. 11, 7 p.m.

The Nahant Village Church will host an evening
of

MUSIC, JOY AND HOLIDAY CHEER

with the Nahant Children's Choir,
Nahant Seaside Sirens,
the Village Ringers, and more

Wednesday, December 11 at 7 PM

ADMISSION IS FREE/DONATIONS WELCOME

This is a Don't- Miss-Event!

CHURCH COUNCIL meets on the third Monday of
each month at 6:30. If you have anything you think
Council should be aware of, please contact Jen
McCarthy edwarthy@hotmail.com or
781-316-7309

SCRATCH CARD TICKETS WANTED

Turns our best selling Christmas raffles have been the ones made up of scratch off tickets so we're going big with those for this year's Christmas Fair. Next time you have the chance please pick up a scratch card or two (or three), any denomination (\$1, \$5, \$10 or whatever). We'll fashion them into wreaths and what not for the raffle table. You can drop them off in the office, with Jen McCarthy or Chris Stevens.

And thank you!

STEWARDSHIP

AS GOOD STEWARDS OF THE
MANIFOLD GRACE OF GOD, EACH
OF YOU SHOULD USE WHATEVER
GIFT HE HAS RECEIVED TO SERVE
ONE ANOTHER.

— 1 PETER 4:10

If you haven't already — you will be receiving your
stewardship letter shortly.

Please take the time to thoughtfully respond and
return your cards. You can drop them in the mail or
in the collection plate at church — just be sure to
drop them with us
and thank you.

A DINNER DATE WITH DEATH!

Scenes from NVC's Murder Mystery Dinner



Psst --- ICYMI
This guy was the
murderer!!



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

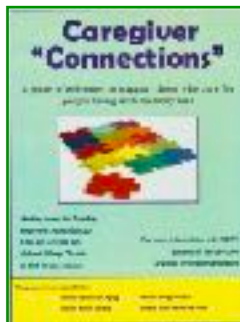
<https://www.facebook.com/TheNahantVillageChurch>

CAREGIVER "CONNECTIONS"

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 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.

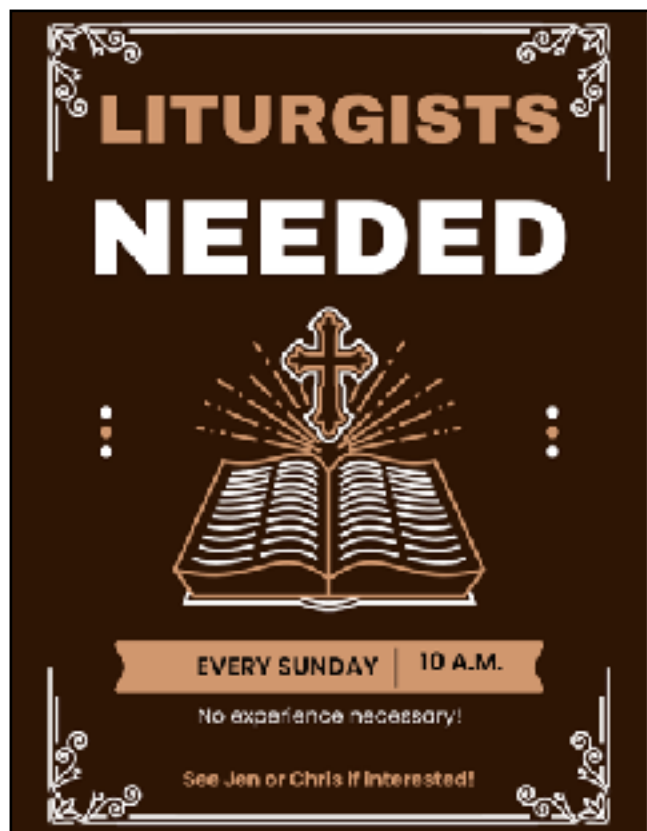


Image by lifeforstock on Freepik

WANT TO FEEL PART OF THE SERVICE

BE A READER!!

If you'd like to participate in the worship service consider being a liturgist one Sunday. No experience necessary! You lead the responsive prayers, read the scripture lesson and announce the hymns. It's easy and rewarding! Contact Jen at 781-316-7309 or Chris at 781-581-1202 if you're interested. Or simply reach out to us at church.



WOULD YOU LIKE A VISIT FROM

NVC?

If you would like a visit for any reason just give a shout, or a call!

781-581-1202

And we'll drop by at your convenience !

We'd love to so don't hesitate to call!





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. Dave Van Arsdale -

pastorvillagechurch@gmail.com

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 - 781-581-1202
secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org

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!