



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*

November 2022 Scripture Readings

Nov. 6 - Worship/Communion

**Twenty-Second Sunday
after Pentecost**

2 Theess 2:1-5, 13-17

Theme: Hold on to Faith

Nov. 13 - Worship Service

**Twenty-Third Sunday
after Pentecost**

13: Isaiah 65:17-25 Luke 21:5-19

Theme: Infinite Possibilities

Nov.20 - Worship Service

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday
after Pentecost**

20: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79

Theme: Together in Christ

Nov.27 - Worship Service

First Sunday of Advent

Matthew 24:36-44

Theme: Called to Gift

Calendar

Nahant Community Breakfast

Friday, Nov. 4 at 8:00 a.m.

Caregivers "Connections"

Tuesday, Nov. 15 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.

Bells on Mondays

Beginning 4:45 p.m.

Advanced Ringers 5:15 p.m.

Bible Study (via Zoom)

Tuesdays at 10:00-11:00 a.m.

*See the insert for Zoom meetings
and contact information*



The exile is ending, the promise land beckons you, members and friends of Nahant Village Church! It appears to me that

NVC walked through the past few years as if in exile. If we reflect back on this time, grounded in our sacred texts (Exodus), we give spiritual value to exile-time. We learn from the story of the Israelites that exile is not empty. Wandering the desert, teetering with existential despair, questioning God, and feeling confused, is not a waste of time at all, but rather, it is a time to stay the course, and a time to "let go and let God" (Psalm 10). Perhaps this metaphor isn't a tight hand and glove fit, but it works to make meaning out of a difficult time.

A few ministers asked if NVC were dying. Your numbers dwindled on Sunday morning to less than a dozen. You were hit hard by fear and doubt. As I see it, we owe thanks and congratulations to the faithful remnant (Isaiah:11), a small group of you who tied a knot at the end of the rope and clung to it while carrying the rest of the membership along.

Last Sunday, October 16, 2022, ushered in a new beginning, a promise of hope, a type of resurrection. Enough of you, more than expected, showed up in Church to make it so. You had pulled back, but never left. You unanimously voted in as the next settled Pastor of the Nahant Village Church, The Rev Scott Elliot. Just a sighting of Scott in person, a trust in

the love that consumes him, along with a deeper trust in the Search Committee who did due diligence on your behalf, served to rekindle the fire. We see now that the fire was never fully out, smoldering, for sure, but not out.

I offer this reflection that you might own your collective story. Put some words to your experience, and "believe in the sun (Son) even when it is not shining." Can we affirm: God is sometimes hidden, but never absent? Yes, the exile is ending, no the work is not finished, but for certain, a glimpse of promise is in sight. Well done, good and faithful servants (Matthew 25:23).

Rev Patricia Long

DON'T MISS

THE REV. ALEX WILL

On **NOVEMBER 6, 2022**, The **Reverend Alex Will**, our Area Conference Minister, will be our preacher at the 10:30 liturgy in the Chapel. I hope you enjoy his love of the Church, his amazing energy and enthusiasm for ministry, and his deep faith, as much as I do! I asked him to please bring his guitar and teach us a contemporary hymn. I think he will. Look up on YouTube the hymn, *Sanctuary*, so you can come in a bit prepared.

Ambassador Ted on duty with his person, Marsha White, gets a little attention from Elisabeth Foukal during the Oct. 15 Open House.



Church Family & Friends,



This is the trickiest *Pulpit Rock* message that I have tried to write. Why? Well, I write as word is out that you have found a candidate for a full-time settled pastor (...or did God find him for you?!?). Either way, how wonderful! And, what a lesson about the power of patience.

Yet, at the time I write this, you have not yet taken your vote to call him. I doubt you recall my message from October when I suggested that October be a month of prayer for NVC but my prayers are that you will have duly considered Rev. Scott Elliott and now continue in prayer about the turn towards a new life for this, your church. It takes a village to make this church and help its shepherd. Do not call the new pastor then step back and expect him to do all the work.

Rembrandt's famous painting, *Storm on the Sea of Galilee*, the one stolen from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, gives us an example of your upcoming journey. I am not sure if you remember when I brought in my reproduction of it. Take a look at it here. Jesus is asleep as the disciples struggle against a violent storm. Due to its low setting and surrounding topography, the Sea of Galilee is the site



of frequent storms. The story is so wonderful that it is found in three of our four Gospels. Read Matthew 8:23–27, Mark 4:35–41, then Luke 8:22–25. Finally, look at the image to the left of the painting. It depicts the place where the painting was once hung. The museum has left it vacant as a reminder of what happened. People who visit actually take pictures of the empty space. I know this because I took one too.

If you want to fill your space from mostly vacant to overflowing, don't expect miracles by someone other than you. Jump in the boat, stop waiting for the storm to start and the sailing to be clear and...do not jump out of the boat when the going is tumultuous! Enjoy the ride!

Peace and Love in Christ,
Preacher Rusty

COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS

November 4 at 8:00 a.m.

Nahant Fire Department

It is an honor to welcome the Nahant Fire Department back for a presentation at the Nov. 4 breakfast. These first responders provide fire, rescue and emergency medical services and we are immensely grateful for all they do for the Town of Nahant. Many of us have benefited in one way or another from their fast and professional responses – whether for a medical emergency, a water rescue, or a house fire – to just name a few. The horrific house fire on Maple Ave is still fresh in our memory. This is an opportunity to learn or be reminded of things all of us can and should do to prevent house and other fires and to be safe not only in our homes, but also while boating or spending time on the beach.



So join us on November 4 at 8 am for a hearty breakfast, an informative talk and a get together with others in Nahant. Spread the word and bring family members and friends.

If you are an elder and need transportation to and from the breakfast, please make arrangements with the Tiffany Room a few days in advance either by signing up or calling 781-581-7557.

The next community breakfast will be held on January 7 featuring a presentation by our other first responders the Nahant Police Department. There will be no breakfast in December because we will be holding our annual Christmas Fair on December 3rd.

VESPERS ON DECEMBER 8, 2022

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. Marrit, Ute, and I have 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.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

CONNECTIONS MEMORY CAFE

Thursday, November 10, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

At the Nahant Town Library



The Nahant Council on Aging, Nahant Public Library and Nahant Village Church all wanted to help, so they formed a committee to make Nahant a Dementia Friendly Community. A registry was set up at

the police station, in case a loved one became disoriented while out alone. A Memory Café was started in 2019, giving people with dementia and their caregivers a place to enjoy activities together. But after a year and a half, COVID forced the Café to a screeching halt.

The group, **Connections: A Memory Café**, meets on the second Thursday of the month. This month we will meet on November 10 at 10:30-11:30 a.m.. People living with dementia and their caregiver will sing, laugh, tell stories, do crafts, and find new ways to relate to one another.

If you are interested in attending or finding out more information, please send an email to Mary Miner, Council on Aging, at mminer@nahant.org or call (781) 581-7557.

CAREGIVER “CONNECTIONS”

Tuesday, November 15

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 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 11:00 a.m - 12:00 p.m.** In addition to the three sponsors of the Memory Cafe and Caregiver Support Group (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.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

SEEKING SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

We are looking for items to enter into the silent auction at the Christmas Fair. They could be paintings, sculptures, antique or interesting furniture, Nahant memorabilia, you name it. Help us to make the silent auction once again a big money maker for the Church. Contact Marrit if you have items to donate at 781-581-5691 or calhast@hotmail.com.

GARDEN CLUB CHRISTMAS HOUSE

TOUR



Our beautiful chapel will be part of the Garden Club's Christmas Tour. The Tour coincides with our Christmas Fair on Saturday, December 3. Contact the Garden Club for tickets.

OPEN HOUSE SUCCESS!

The Growth Committee, Samantha Scolamiero, Margaret Alexander and Chris Stevens, would like to thank everyone who participated, visited or bought something during the Oct. 15 Open House at NVC. From Marsha White spreading the word at the Farmers Market with Ambassador Ted to the Bell Choir and their fabulous mini concert and a roving Margaret who participated via Zoom, it was a smashing success. And we couldn't have done it without the support of the congregation — so again, thank you.



IN MEMORIAM

Martha Keller

I so admired Martha and her many accomplishments –and was so happy to be her friend and “cousin.” It was an honor to serve on the Memorial Committee of our Church under her dedicated and innovative leadership.



Her talented footsteps can be found in so many community projects here in our town—while her vibrant physical presence will continue to be missed. Her many thoughtful and meaningful contributions will continue to shine brightly into the future.

Calantha



GUEST MUSICIAN SERIES CONTINUES

11/6 Ambar Marte, Alto

11/20 - Ann di Sciullo, French Horn

12/4 - Janet Pohli, Soprano

12/18 - Lisa Putukian, oboe

THANK YOU AND GOOD-BYE, SUSAN

Our beloved, Administrative Assistant, Susan, retires on October 21, 2022. She has graciously offered to be on standby to initiate Chris Stevens into the job, even from Florida.

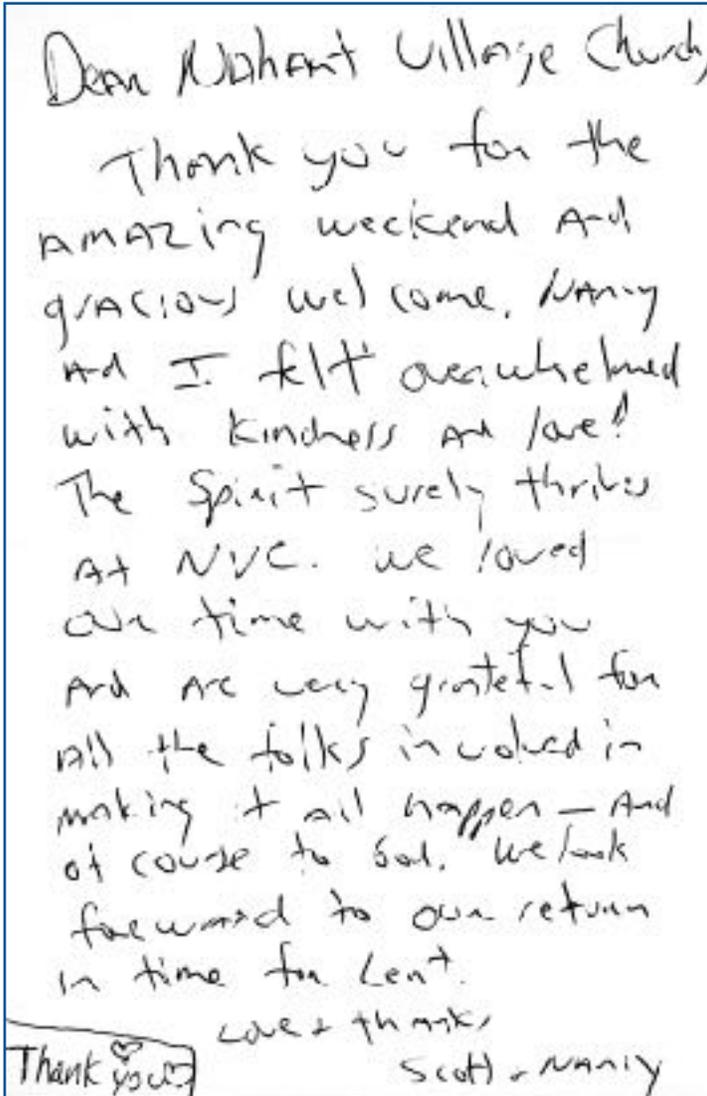
Thank you, Susan, for your dedication and faithful commitment to the Nahant Village Church during these past few trying years. You have successfully navigated your way around Rev Laura, Rev Megan, Rev Jeff, Rev Terry, Rusty, and me. Phew! That is no small feat, adjusting to each one with new ways of understanding liturgy and church dynamics. Your remarkable character traits of flexibility, openness, and creativity with graphics and layout, will be missed. Thank you also for developing the job, writing the job responsibilities, and handing them over to Chris (a tremendous help that was not handed to you when you arrived). You have been outstanding, we will miss you, and we are sending you along with every good blessing that God has in store for you.

Lots of love!

Rev Patricia



A little
thank you
note from
Rev. Scott
& Nancy
Elliott



3 Rev. Patricia Long

4 Donna Gramolini

21 Rich Stevens

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. In September the bells tolled in the midst of the worship service both to commemorate

the 21st anniversary of 9/11, as well as to raise concerns about climate change.

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, Saturday Nov.12, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

If you would like to offer a performance of a spiritual nature for our Veterans themed gathering featuring music and poetry, please contact Samantha at 978 530 7633 or email her at nahantvillagevoices@angelic.com to sign up ahead of time. Or simply show up — walk-ins are welcome!

COMPASSIONATE CARE CIRCLE

Make someone's day; please sign a greeting card.



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!