



# 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

### **May 5 Worship/Communion**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Psalm 98

*Theme: Psalms, singing & God's love*

### **May 12**

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Luke 24:44-53

*Theme: Ascension*

### **May 19**

Pentecost Sunday of Easter

Wear Red!

Acts 2:1-21

*Theme: Pentecost*

### **May 26**

Trinity Sunday

John 3:1017

*Theme: the Trinity*

## **Nahant Community Breakfast**

Friday, May 4, 8 a.m.

### **Craft Fair**

Saturday May 4, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### **Taco Night & Bingo!**

Friday, May 10, 5:30-8:30

### **Seaglass Village**

Tuesday May 14, 11 a.m.

### **Annual Meeting**

Sunday, May 19, immediately following worship

### **Caregivers Group**

Tuesday, May 21, 11 a.m.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

These days the beauty of creation is a constant

theme in my head

and a number of newsletters and sermons too, because every single day on Nahant is full of breathtaking views. You can look up, down and all around and there are stunning sights to see all year round. This fact made me forget how much spring's annual unfurling of greenery and blossoms adds a whole other layer of attractiveness to this sparkling gem of geography. Just a week or so ago the pink petals on the blossoms of the tree in the front of the church took my breath away as I arrived for work after a week on vacation. And when I got inside the garth also gave me pause as I laid eyes on the flowers in full bloom around the brick way.

It's not just plants, of course, colorful birds have returned dotting the sky and trees with an array of color and sizes and whistles and calls. Rabbits are seemingly everywhere and I've spotted more than one pretty predator eyeing them and their bushy tailed neighbor, the squirrels. Even the waves in the sea seem to don a vernal hue edged with foam as they endlessly glisten in the longer rays of the sun. I actually find myself humming and whistling and singing a bit more in the presence of so much beauty, so much of God.

There is a long psalm, Psalm 104, that reminds me of spring here in Nahant and

how it makes me feel. Here are just some of the verses (1-13) from Eugene Peterson's The Message ( a modern paraphrase of the Bible):

*O my soul, bless God! O my God, how great you are! beautifully, gloriously robed, Dressed up in sunshine, and all heaven stretched out for your tent. You built your palace on the ocean deeps, made a chariot out of clouds and took off on wind-wings. You commandeered winds as messengers, appointed fire and flame as ambassadors. You set earth on a firm foundation so that nothing can shake it, ever. You blanketed earth with ocean, covered the mountains with deep waters; Then you roared and the water ran away— your thunder crash put it to flight. Mountains pushed up, valleys spread out in the places you assigned them. You set boundaries between earth and sea; never again will earth be flooded. You started the springs and rivers, sent them flowing among the hills. All the wild animals now drink their fill, wild donkeys quench their thirst. Along the riverbanks the birds build nests, ravens make their voices heard. You water the mountains from your heavenly reservoirs; earth is supplied with plenty of water. (continued)*



Toward the very end of Psalm 104 there are these words that capture the musical feelings Nahant in the spring brings about:

*Oh, let me sing to God all my life long, sing hymns to my God as long as I live! Oh, let my song please him; I'm so pleased to be singing to God . . . O my soul, bless God!*



May all of you have a wonderful spring, so wonderful it makes you sing.

Your Brother in Christ

Rev. Scott Elliott



## MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR

Jennifer McCarthy

The church has been a busy place the last couple of months with the Lenten Season, business matters, and social activities. I am writing today to take a minute to invite you to our Annual Meeting scheduled for May 19, 2024, immediately following worship. We have four pieces of business to address during the meeting.

First, we will vote to accept the Annual Report for the year 2023. Each Board and Committee has written a summary of their activities and work throughout the 2023 year. They are available for your review, so if you haven't received one, please let Chris Steven know.

Our Second piece of business will be to vote on the nomination presented to us by the Nomination Committee to appoint and fill openings for Board and Committee members.

Our third piece of business has to do with the time that worship starts. Usually in the summer, we move the start of worship up an hour early. We have had several requests to make the time uniformed throughout the whole year. Church Council will be discussing this during its meeting and will make a recommendation to the Congregation.

And finally, our fourth piece of business is the proposed Bylaw changes. As you know, our Bylaws Committee has been working to update sections V – XIII, which would update our Boards and Committee numbers to reflect the congregation of today. They have also proposed adding a Conflict-of-Interest clause as well as a Dissolution Clause.

Members on our Active Membership List will be able to vote on the upcoming business of the church. It is recommended that you attend in person. For those who are not able to attend, you will be able to join Zoom and cast your votes on Zoom. If you are not sure of your membership status, please contact the Office Administrator during regular church business hours.

I look forward to seeing you all on May 19.



Karen Falat — 5  
Linda Hall — 6  
Herb Motley — 8  
Edie Richardson — 10  
Jen McCarthy — 12  
Margaret Alexander — 22  
Linda Jenkins — 26



Organist Bill Thompson and his protege Charles Sokolov. Bill has been giving Charles lessons and he sat in, for the first time, playing the prelude with Bill during the April 14th service. Play on Charles!! And thank you Bill for this wonderful ministry.

Photo: Amy Dow

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

## COMMUNITY BREAKFAST



### A Sneak Peek at Town Meeting with Town Administrator Tony Barletta May 3, 8 a.m.

Join us for the May 3<sup>rd</sup> breakfast with Town Administrator Tony Barletta who will brief us on the state of the budget and provide an overview of warrants that will be considered at the upcoming Town Meeting. This is a not-to-miss event. Breakfast is served at 8 with the presentation starting around 8:15. This also is an opportunity to ask questions relative to town issues.

So come prepared and with a friend or family member. Transportation of elders may be arranged by calling the Tiffany Room a few days in advance of the breakfast. Their number is 781-581-7557.

We hope to see you there.



### ASK SOMEONE TO CHURCH, — IT'S THE WAY FOR NVC TO GROW

Most of you will recall that when Rev. Scott first arrived he asked us to all invite to church at least one person a month. His reasoning --which still holds true-- is that over 80% of visitors attend a church because someone in the pews asked them to. See, no matter how good our worship services and our events and mission work have become, people need to personally be asked to attend on Sundays. They need to be asked by us. The goal of each member asking a person a month to NVC is very doable. Let's all start doing it. It's the way for NVC to grow, to blossom like the tree in the photo Rev. Scott took (above).

## MEET SEAGLASS VILLAGE

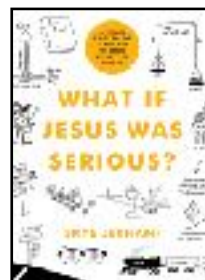
Tuesday May 14, 11 a.m.



You are cordially invited to join us in Swansburg Hall May 14 at 11 a.m. for an informal gathering for coffee to get acquainted with Seaglass Village. It is a non-profit community of seniors helping each other maintain their independence, aging in their homes. It serves the communities of Marblehead, Nahant, and Swampscott. No reservations needed. Just come for coffee and some goodies. We hope to see you there.

## WHAT IF JESUS WAS SERIOUS?

Potential book study!



Rev. Scott will start a new book study in June, but only if there are enough people interested. The book would be "What if Jesus was Serious?" by Skye Jethani, "A visual guide to the teachings of Jesus that we love to ignore." The book is not only a compilation of reflections by Skye but also include his doodled illustrations on each topic. Please sign up by May 26 if you are interested. Class will meet on Tuesdays, start with a pot luck at 6:30 p.m. and discussion at 7, done by 8. Contact Chris at [secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org](mailto:secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org) or at 781-581-1202 if you're interested!



## FROM THE TRUSTEES

See what the Trustees are up to

The Trustees met on Tuesday, April 9 and considered a proposal from Resonant Energy for installing solar panels on the flat roof over Swansburg Hall. This has been reviewed by some one in the community and he will be helping us get other proposals, hopefully at a more favorable cost.

For now, the three electric accounts have a new supplier which will result in some savings. We have two accounts at the church, one for the Sanctuary and one for the newer structure, and another account for the Parsonage.

We will be dealing with some lighting and electric issues at the Parsonage.

Exterior projects at the church include leaking in the Sanctuary windows, for which we have an approved contract.

Other repairs include leaking windows in the companionway, slate roof and steeple repair, rotted exterior on the back of the chapel, and rebuilding the egress on the North side near the bathroom hall. The contractors for the exterior accessibility project have worked through their punch list and we will process their final payment once it is approved by the architect.

The Trustees reviewed the proposed ByLaw amendments and recommended some changes, with some suggested edits from lawyers for the Dissolution clause.

respectfully, Rex Antrim

## CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

Check out what Council is considering

Church Council met on Tuesday, April 23. We had a summary from each board and committee. These summaries are very important as they help each other board and committee know what's going on, so we are all on the same page. We also reviewed the upcoming fundraiser events to make sure that everything is set and ready to go. Finally, we finished our meeting with a discussion about the annual meeting scheduled for May 19, 2024 immediately following worship. Annual report is all put together and ready to go. Thank you very much to everyone who contributed a report for that. Thank you very much to Chris Stevens for assembling the annual report. We would also like to thank the Bylaws committee, Scott Elliott, Carl Jenkins, Marrit Hastings, Rex Antrim, and Chris Rogers for all of the time that they put in updating those Bylaws to be presented at the annual meeting. The annual meeting will be on zoom, and it will be possible for people to vote on zoom. Our next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM.



## RINGERS WANTED

We are once again looking for individuals who are interested in learning to play chimes and handbells. Join us if you are playing or have played an instrument. Ability to read music is a plus but not essential. We will start an introductory session on Monday, May 13, at 4:30. We rehearse every Monday for about an hour – from 5 to 6 and play occasionally in a worship service or another occasion. Contact Marrit at for more info.





# NVC IN ACTION!

Sunrise Service  
& Easter Service



Then there was the  
other big show!  
Eclipse gazing with Rev.  
Scott, Chris Stevens and  
Nancy & Rex Antrim





# PAINT NIGHT SUCCESS!



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR  
NEXT NIGHT OF  
FUN AND FUNDRAISING!**

**1 NIGHT — 2 GREAT EVENTS**

Tacos & Bingo Friday, May 10 5 p.m. -  
8:30 p.m.



The night starts off at 5 p.m. with a free community Taco Night Dinner complete with mock-arritas.

At 6:30 p.m. we'll start to transition to Bingo Night, which will kick off at 7 p.m. Cost for Bingo is \$20 per board and each board has 3 games. Additional boards will be available for \$5 each. There will be prizes and there will be fun! So come!! RSVP to Jen or Chris at 781-316-7309 or 781-581-1202 respectively.



## 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](http://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>

## WANTED: VOLUNTEERS FOR COFFEE HOUR

All you need to do is serve coffee and treats, provided by you, or other volunteers immediately after worship and then clean up. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jen McCarthy.



## WANT A VISIT?

Rev. Scott is happy to visit members and is willing to travel — all you have to do is ask and schedule a date & time! Let him know by calling 781-581-1202 or emailing him at [Nahantpastor@gmail.com](mailto:Nahantpastor@gmail.com). because — **he won't know you want a visit if you don't ask!**

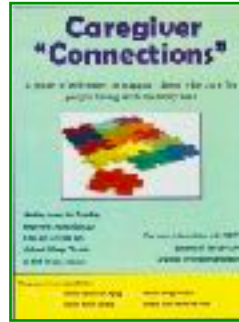


## CAREGIVER "CONNECTIONS"

**Tuesday, May 21, 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](mailto:mmminer@nahant.org) for more information.



## WE NEED LITURGISTS ON SUNDAYS

**No experience necessary!**

If you would like to participate in the worship service by leading responsive prayers, reading scripture and announcing hymns, please contact Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309 or call the NVC office at 781-581-1202 or sign up electronically by clicking on this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054FADAF28AAFC1-liturgist>







**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. Scott Elliott -[nahantpastor@gmail.com](mailto:nahantpastor@gmail.com)

781-581-1202

**Church Council**

**Jen McCarthy** - [edwarthy@hotmail.com](mailto:edwarthy@hotmail.com)

or 781-316-7309

Moderator

**Nancy Cantelmo** - [nlc31@comcast.net](mailto:nlc31@comcast.net)

or 781-599-3977 or 617-794-6477)

Missions

**Rex Antrim** - - [rexantrim@comcast.net](mailto:rexantrim@comcast.net)

or 781-856-1067

Board of Trustee Chair

**Chris Stevens** - [cjs\\_ros2@verizon.net](mailto:cjs_ros2@verizon.net)

or 781-254-6827 - Deacon/office manager

**Marrit Hastings** - ([calhast@hotmail.com](mailto:calhast@hotmail.com))

or 781-581-5691) - Treasurer

**Buildings and Grounds**

**Cal Hastings** - [calhast@hotmail.com](mailto:calhast@hotmail.com)

or 781-581-5691)

**Amy Dow** - [ikors92@yahoo.com](mailto:ikors92@yahoo.com)

617-378-8520

**Compassionate Care Circle** - 781-581-1202  
[secretary@nahantvillagechurh.com](mailto:secretary@nahantvillagechurh.com)

*You are invited to ...*

**Sunday Worship Service in the Chapel**  
**Sundays @10:30 am**

**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

We would *Love* for you join us!