



# The Pulpit Rock

The Nahant Village Church ~ 27 Cliff Street, Nahant, MA 01908

January 2017

## January 2017

- 1st New Years Day**  
*Communion Sunday*  
Worship moves to the Chapel  
10:30 am - Worship/CE  
11:30 am - Fellowship
- 6th 8:00 am - Breakfast**
- 8th The Baptism of Christ**  
10:30 am - Worship/CE  
11:30 am - Fellowship & Soup Sunday
- 15th Second Sunday/Epiphany**  
10:30 am - Worship/CE  
11:30 am - Fellowship  
4:00 pm - "Paris to Budapest: Express"
- 15th 1:00 pm - Serve MBT**
- 22nd Third Sunday/Epiphany**  
10:30 am - Worship/CE  
11:30 am - Fellowship & Soup Sunday
- 28th Silent Movie: "Speedy"**  
5:30 pm - Potluck Supper  
7:30 pm - Movie w/piano by Rob Humphreville.
- 29th Fourth Sunday/Epiphany**  
10:30 am - Worship/CE  
11:30 am - Fellowship

## February 2017

- 3rd 8:00 am - Breakfast**
- 5th Fifth Sunday/Epiphany**  
*Communion Sunday*  
10:30 am - Worship/CE  
11:30 am - Fellowship & Soup Sunday



## Interim Ministry: Following Jesus in the In-Between Places

In-between Jewish villages and foreign territories, Jesus was constantly moving and teaching about God's loving justice. Keeping up with his inspired energy, followers were enthused by the Jesus movement. His invitation was open. Followers didn't need able bodies or a practiced faith. Just their authentic selves.

While he engaged his community through healing, story-telling, and prayer, his followers were profoundly compelled by the power of the Holy Spirit alive in their midst. Excitement and enthusiasm for justice and peace led the way for these Jesus people.

He had energy. He was passionate. When he saw someone who was suffering in any way, he brought them into his fold. When he felt someone's hunger for healing, he brought food to nourish and restore bodies and souls. When he heard the cries of loneliness and isolation, he broke through barriers and enveloped everyone.

*Come follow me and we will discover God in this world. We will be a movement that proclaims God's good news. Our people, the ones who will follow, will come from all walks of life, from all places in the world; they will be poor and rich, employed and unemployed, lost and found; they will be healthy and frail, wandering and wondering; they will have survived despair, abuse, war, and loss; they will know the sorrows of hatred, bias, and racism. Our people will be powerful because of their struggles!!! Come follow me, for now is the time to trust in the power of God's unending love.*

The times were tough; and people came. People joined. People worked together for God's sake. People who never belonged anywhere, trusted in the Jesus movement.

Our invitation today is to follow Jesus as fellow sojourners. We are invited to embark on a Jesus adventure that is ever-so-relevant in our world right now!!

January is a good time to begin following once again. After his birth, the young family escaped to Egypt, in fear of persecution. In between places and lives, they were refugees full of questions. Who are we? Where are we going? Who is our companion; our enemy? Who will we become? Where can we find safe haven? What child is this?

As we join the people who follow this child and link hands with Mary and Joseph, we are faced with similar questions: Who are we? Are we individuals starving for connection and healing? Are we students wanting to learn as much as possible? Are we comrades ready to join in the fight for freedom and justice? Are we lost souls seeking refuge and guidance? Are we wounded humans who have learned to hide our vulnerabilities?

Interim ministry is a time to discover who we are, what we want, who is with us along the way, and where we are going.

So let us begin this journey of following Jesus in the in-between places, with enthusiasm and energy. No matter who you are, you belong!!

Sincerely yours, *Rev. Laura*

## Worship Themes for January

### January 1st

**New Year's Day**  
Communion Sunday  
*"Truly I Tell You"*

Ecc1 3:1-13; Psalm 8;  
Rev 21:1-6a; Matt 25:31-46

### January 8th

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
*"Possibilities Unfolding"*

Isa 42:1-9; Psalm 29;  
Acts 10:34-43; Matt 3:13-17

### January 15th

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
*"All That We Are"*

Isa 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11;  
1 Cor 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

### January 22nd

*"Called together"*

Isa 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9;  
1 Cor 1:10-18; Matt 4:12-23

### January 29th

*"The Vision Beautiful"*

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15;  
1 Cor 1:18-31; Matt 5:1-12

## UPCOMING EVENTS

There is lots of excitement in the air! We will kick off the New Year with three special concerts/events.

Sunday, January 15th at 4 pm  
at the Nahant Village Church

A concert entitled "Paris to Budapest: Express" by Robert Stallman on Flute and Herman Weiss on Piano. It includes works by Alain, Gaubert, Poulend, Debussy, Enesco, Marais, Dvorak, Bartok, and transcriptions by Robert Staffman. Admission is \$20.

This program is a benefit for our Church and its cultural and musical outreach to the Nahant community.

Saturday, January 28th at 7 pm  
at the Nahant Village Church

Silent Movie: "Speedy" by Harold Lloyd with live piano accompaniment by Rob Humphreville.

This performance is preceded by a Potluck Supper at 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$20.

Sunday, April 30th at 4 pm  
at the Nahant Village Church

Boston Saengerfest Men's Choir 25th Anniversary Concert featuring Nahant's own favorite soprano soloist, Ute Gfrerer.

This program includes audience favorites from the last 25 years. Saengerfest has recently returned from a concert tour to Wales and London's Royal Albert Hall.

The concert is for the benefit of our Church.

Admission is \$25

### Another baptism, another baby quilt!

Thanks to Olivia Brand and quilting teacher, Margie, who put the finishing touches on the quilt for Nancy Cantelmo's grandson's baptism gift.

Isn't it wonderful to see so many new Christian babies and their families this year!



## Join us for Soup Sunday!

Soup Sundays have always been appreciated at NVC. Please join us for our first lunch which will be on January 8, 2017 for a warm meal and fellowship. If you'd like to help there is a sign up sheet in the companionway. These are the dates for Soup Sundays in 2017 (weather permitting):

January 8

March 5

January 22

March 19

February 5

April 2

February 18

Three different kinds of delicious soup will be served with rolls/bread and butter as well as salad and dessert. You can contact Claudia Orleans or Olivia Brand for more information.

We invite you to make a donation to support our mission to help others in need both here in Nahant and around the world.

Thanks for your support. Together we can make this world a better place.

*Betsy Winkler*

## Potluck and Silent Movie Night at the Nahant Village Church

Bring your favorite dish to share at the upcoming potluck supper to be held on Saturday, January 27 at 5:30 p.m.

At 7:00 p.m. we will be showing the silent movie "Speedy" by Harold Lloyd with live accompaniment by Rob Humphreville on the piano.

**This is a NOT TO MISS event!**

Admission for the silent movie is \$20. Contact Marrit Hastings at 781-581-5691 for tickets or more information regarding this event.

## Final Roll Call

*A Time for Armand Conti*

Help us wish one of Nahant's finest a long, happy, healthy retirement!

Tickets available at the Nahant Police Station. Please call 781-581-1212 for more information.

Celebrate with us:

What: Retirement of fOc Armand Conti

Where: Oceanview, Willow Rd., Nahant

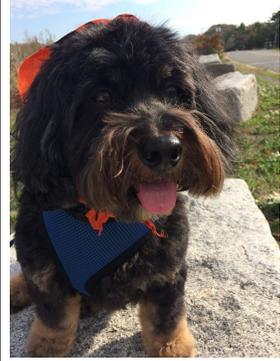
When: Sunday, January 15th from 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Great Food, Music and Cash Bar**

**\$30 per person**

Please make checks payable to Nahant Police Union.

Final count needed by Sunday, January 8th.



### **In Memory of Gus**

Martha Keller's dog, Gus, recently died.

He was quite a friendly boy and would do tricks for a cookie!

He will be missed by many people in Nahant as Martha took him everywhere she went.

In his memory Martha and Betsy Winkler brought sheets and towels to the New England Animal Shelter.

As you tidy up your closets this winter please consider putting your old towel and sheets into the donation box under a table in the companionway. There is a list on the table for other items needed at the shelter.

(Please note that some items are not allowed such as open food bags and pills.)



### **Thanks for caring!**

If our cats and dogs could talk, they would thank you from the bottom of their hearts!

Your recent donation to the Northeast Animal Shelter means a lot to us.

Animals need to be fed and cared for every day and, unfortunately, there are always more neglected and unwanted pets who need our help.

Generous animal lovers like you make it possible to keep our doors open, saving thousands of pets each year.

Donations of sheets, blankets, towels, animal food, etc. can be placed in the designated bin in the Companion Way.

### **A message from Rev. Laura...**

Dear Friends and Members of the Village Church,

I am so excited to be here as your Interim Minister! I bring with me a bag full of puppets, a guitar, a newly published book titled "Grief and Comeback," lots of stories, and oodles of enthusiasm!!

Please email me ([revlpbiddle24@gmail.com](mailto:revlpbiddle24@gmail.com)) if you would like to meet. I want to get to know you by heart!!

Stay tuned for times we can gather at TIDES for "Spirit and Spirits; an evening of God conversations, laughter, and worldwide wonderings." Drink, eat and be thoughtful!!!

A Special Worship Service this month: On January 22, we will celebrate the ministry and movement of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Gospel music, sung by our own choir and local singers, will inspire and move us into a renewed commitment to non-violence, peace, and justice.

Sincerely yours, Rev. Laura

## **Martin Luther King Service**



### Featuring Gospel Music

Sunday, January 22nd

10:30am @ The Nahant Village Church

22 Cliff St., Nahant

## **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## A "Christmas By the Sea" Church Fair THANK YOU!

With grateful hearts we give thanks to everyone who participated in making our "Christmas By the Sea" NVC Christmas Fair such a wonder-filled event and a great success! A great time was had by all and we also surpassed our financial goal of \$6,000. with \$7,300.00!!

Thanks to Betsy Winkler for heading up the Crafts and Gifts Table and to all her cheery helpers: Pam Motley, Claudia Orleans and Edie Hunnewell. There was an abundance of handmade craft and gift items for the steady stream of fair-goers throughout the day.

Lissa Stempek and Amy Dow did a wonderful job leading the Jewelry Table. The presentation of the jewelry was really professional and attractive! Thanks to them and helpers at that table.

A big thank you to Rob Alexander for heading up the Bake Table and helpers, Joe Benson, Maria Welsh, Lenora Brauner and all you wonderful bakers! They were kept very busy with all the shoppers taking home yummy sweets and goodies.

And thanks to Cal and Marrit for all their work on the signs for the fair as well as their hard work and dedication running the Silent Auction and the Raffle. Kudos to Sue Edwards, Jen McCarthy and Bill Crawford for getting gift certificates for the Raffle. Thanks to Maureen Edison and Sarah Perini, and helpers who worked on the Raffle Table.

Jen McCarthy and Crew did a super job with the Snack Bar! Lobster rolls were a big hit and everything was delicious! Kudos to the set up crew for a new set-up which gave more seating for eating and visiting.

And thanks to Robbie McGowan, for taking charge of the Greens Table and for her artistry in turning greens and decorations into beautiful arrangements! And thanks to Nancy Cantelmo, Pat McArdle and all those who helped to make the Greens Table a success.

As always we appreciate the gracious presence of Calantha Sears for the Historical Society and for the Boy Scouts selling their traditional Christmas wreaths.

And a great big thank you to "Mrs. Claus", Shirley Raynard for dazzling all the kids (young and older!).

A special thanks to Andy Puleo who gave his all to assist us before, during and after the Fair.

To all those above and all those not named who helped make the fair a success, we appreciate the joy and the talents that you give which support the ministries of our church. Thank you for sharing your love as part of our Island Church and your support all year long.

So, a great big round of applause for all of you who helped organize, baked, crafted, cooked, sorted, priced, set up, decorated, cleaned, bought, shopped, ate, etc., with my deep appreciation! We are so blessed at the Nahant Village Church to have the most wonderful group of talented, giving, "make it happen" group of people!

Blessings to you all for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year,

*Christine Alexander*, Chair NVC Christmas Fair



### Another Thank you!

A special thanks from Betsy Winkler to Gail McCann and her granddaughter, Emma, Pam Motley, Edie Hunnewell and Glen Sanphy for all their help at the Crafts and gifts table on Dec. 3rd at the Christmas fair.

We needed a fourth table this year as so many of you donated an abundance of lovely items!

Also, blessings to all our customers who made this fair a huge success.

Harriett Steeves commented that

*"this was the best fair ever."*