



# 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

### Feb. 4 Worship/Communion

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

*Theme: Being all things to all people*

### Feb. 11- Worship

Rev Scott's 1 year anniversary!

Transfiguration Sunday

Mark 9:2-9

*Theme: Transfiguration*

### Feb. 14-Ash Wednesday

### Feb. 18- Worship

First Sunday in Lent

Luke 6:17-26

*Theme: A Black History Month*

### Feb. 25- Worship

Second Sunday in Lent

Mark 8:31-38

*Theme: Taking up our cross & following Jesus*

### **Nahant Community Breakfast**

Friday, Feb. 2, 8 a.m.

### **Silent Movie Night**

Friday, February 9

Potluck at 5:30 p.m.

Movie starts at 7 p.m.

### **Caregivers Group**

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 11 a.m.

### **Lenten Movie Series**

Starting Wed. Feb 21

Potluck/discussion -6 p.m.

Movie - 7 p.m.

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

### TO US!



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I arrived here a year ago! It was cold and snowy, but ever so beautiful. The sight and sounds and smells of the ocean filled our senses. After nine years in the Midwest it was good just to be back near the sea. Even in the cold we walked about Nahant when we arrived just to take in as much of it as possible. Nancy has since walked all over the island and I've walked and ridden my bike throughout the charming town as well.

I often take a camera with me when I go out and about in Nahant. I like to take photos. I think of it as capturing moments of Awe and Wonder; that is to say for me in the moments I focus on picture-taking I find glimpses of God. It's not that I conjure up God (everywhere we go there is God) but that I look for what we often are distracted from finding, i.e., God in every nook and cranny. Nahant makes it much easier to do this. It is full to the brim with easy to see Awe and

Wonder. But even so it often takes a conscious effort to experience it.

With the very generous Christmas gift from the church I bought a new camera. Thank you so much for that present! I love it. It helps me take better pictures and sometimes I actually take a really nice one. I am, though, very much an amateur (I hope one day to take a course). While it is fun and rewarding to see a nice result now and then, mostly it's the sport of the hunt and the glimpses of God that have me doing this.



Photography compels me to take time to look and search and find Awe and Wonder. I always find it. And so I love it.

Often this winter I've been up before dawn and hiking up to East Point to take in flame colored sunrises. Even more often I have been at The Wharf or Baily's Hill or Doggy Beach taking in blazing sunsets in the crisp cool



wind chilled air. I've also been walking or riding in midday on my weekends hunting the Awe and Wonder of the Divine in Nahant. Obviously you can hunt and find it without a camera

This Lent I have decided to give up not hunting for it everyday, in other words I plan to spend time every day that I can between Ash Wed and Easter looking for the Awe and Wonder of God in nature on Nahant. Maybe I'll see some of you out there looking too. If I do, don't be surprised if I snap your picture, because the Awe and Wonder of God can be found in all of you too.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rev. Scott Elliott

P.S. If you like movie pictures, check out "The Gospel According to Hollywood" Lenten Series we are putting together. (See page 4). There are glimpses of Awe and Wonder in the stories of Jesus that can be found on film.



## **BUDGET MEETING TIME!**

**Feb. 4, immediately following services**



The Nahant Village Church Trustees have called a meeting of the Congregation to approve the Budget for the year 2024.

**We request that you try to attend in person** but will also zoom the meeting

for those not able to be there. However, people on Zoom will not be able to participate in the vote.

Join Zoom Meeting at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86912048062?pwd=VG1xUW0wWVZ4YUF4Qm9lOUFYU2VQUT09>

Meeting ID: 869 1204 8062                      Passcode: 123456

Copies of the proposed Budget Report will be distributed and available for pick up towards the end of January. Please take the time to read it and bring any questions to the meeting on Feb. 4.

## **NOTES FROM THE MODERATOR**

### **Happy New Year!**

2024 is off and running and there is a lot of planning going on right now to make this upcoming year spiritual as well as fun, so be sure to check the website and read the E-news and Pulpit Rock so that you can stay up to date on upcoming special services and events.

In the meantime, I have set some dates for the Congregation to conduct some of the church business. I would like to ask you to please mark your calendars so that you can help with this important church business. As you know, we have our annual budget meeting this Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship.

The next Congregational Meeting is scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship. This will be our Annual Congregational Meeting where we will approve the annual report and some updates to our bylaws. To prepare for this meeting, anyone that chairs a board or committee is being asked to submit their annual report for their group by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Reports can be sent to the Office Manager.

And finally, I am in the process of setting up the Nominating Committee to help fill the seats on Boards and Committees. If you would like to be considered for a Board or Committee, please let me know by March 31<sup>st</sup>, so I can forward your name to the Nominating Committee. The Nahant Village Church runs because of these important Boards and Committees. Please consider submitting your name for consideration. Wishing you all a happy, healthy year!

Blessings,  
Jen McCarthy  
Moderator

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

## IT IS WITH GREAT SYMPATHY ...



It is with great sadness that we report that during the beginning of January, Youngae Benson, John Benson as well as their nephew Andrew, passed away, apparently victims of carbon monoxide poisoning.

If anyone has grieving issues that they would like to speak to Rev Scott Elliot about in a pastoral care sense, he is of course, available and more than willing to provide that care, just give him a call at 781-581-1202.

Prayers for Youngae, John, Andrew and all who grieve their loss.

## COMMUNITY BREAKFAST WITH BRIAN SNELL

FEB. 2, 2024, 8 a.m.

Attorney Brian Snell who specializes in all aspects of elder law, including estate planning and trust administration will be February's breakfast speaker. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts and Suffolk



University Law School, he has offices in Marblehead and Reading. He served as chair of the Reading Council of Aging for several years advocating for the senior population.

Breakfast is served at 8 a.m. Spread the word and invite family and friends for an informative presentation, a great breakfast, and wonderful camaraderie.

Transportation of elders to and from the breakfast may be arranged by calling the Tiffany Room at 781-581-7557 a few days in advance of the breakfast.

We hope to see you there.

## SILENT MOVIE NIGHT

Friday Feb. 9, 7 p.m

Join us to watch a shop girl fall in love with the store owner's son, who is working incognito to prove himself to his father. The feelings might be mutual but, oops, he's also engaged to a debutante.

The evening will kick off with a pot luck supper at 5:30 so come in from the cold and joins us for dinner and a show with live musical accompaniment! And bring a favorite dish to share! Admission is free but a \$20 donation is suggested.



## BIG THANKS!

First a big thanks came from the Johnson Elementary School for NVC's generous donation of gifts cards for JES families and their children.

A second note came from a family with multiple kids who wanted to say how much they appreciated the gift cards as well as grocery cards, which were "so helpful.

"It seems everyday someone needs something for school, sports, diapers ... something ... Thank you again for being so kind to our family."

And thank you to all who contributed to our annual White Christmas initiative. As you can see, it is greatly appreciated by all! ❤️❤️❤️❤️



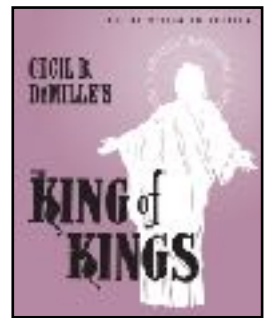
# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO HOLLYWOOD

## A Lenten Movie & Discussion Series

The plan is to have a potluck dinner from 6 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. with discussion of the movie we saw the previous week. The first week we will discuss parts of the gospels that mean the most to us and what parts we think film makers will emphasize. The last week, those who wish, can stick around late and chat about the final film after its showing.

As we watch the movies keep these questions in mind (and any others that come up):

- \* What sense of Jesus, God and/or the Spirit did you get? Do you think it was the same as what the first viewers felt?
- \* What did you think about the portrayal of Jesus, God and/or the Spirit and how other Biblical people and the times were portrayed?
- \* What was your favorite part of the movie(s) and why?
- \* What was your least favorite part and why?
- \* What did you think of the depiction of miracles?
- \* What sense of God did the film maker seem to be portraying and how was it the similar and different from the other films we watched?
- \* Has the story evolved/changed in film and in our culture in the past 100+ years?



### 2024 LENTEN SERIES SCHEDULE



***During each movie think about the above questions and others you might have for our discussions.***

February 21: Potluck meal with opening discussion then at 6:30 p.m. we will watch two silent films: *The Life and Passion of Jesus Christ* (1905) and *From the Manger to the Cross* (1912).

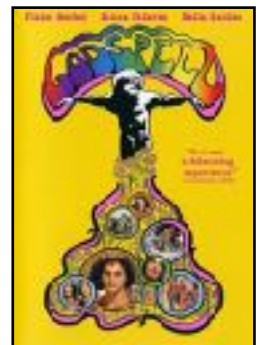
February 28: Potluck meal and discussion about the two silent movies from the previous week. At 6:30pm we will watch the shorter (112 min) 1928 release of the Cecil B DeMille silent film *The King of Kings*.

March 6: Potluck and discussion relating to last week's film. At 6:30 p.m. we'll watch the 1973 film adaptation of the rock opera *Jesus Christ Super Star* (107 min).

March 13: Potluck at 6 where we'll discuss our questions (see above) above relating to last week's film. At 6:30 p.m. we will watch a colorized version of the 1964 film *The Gospel According to St. Matthew* (93 min).

March 20: Potluck meal and discussion will start at 6 followed by viewing the 2000 film *The Miracle Worker: The Story of Jesus*.

March 27: Our last class – Potluck and discussion at 6 p.m. then we'll watch the 1973 film adaptation of the Broadway musical *Godspell* (102 min). Since this is our last class, those would like to stay for 30 minutes after the film for discussion time, are welcome to do so.



## NVC IN ACTION!

### PANCAKES & A PURPOSE

Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024

Help carry out a Missions project for My Brother's Table

On Sunday Feb. 11 come for a pancake breakfast as we celebrate "Fat Sunday," the precursor to Ash Wednesday – and stay for a fabulous mission's project.

Immediately following the Sunday Worship Service enjoy a plate of pancakes. Then, take a seat at the table to help assemble PB&J sandwiches and grab-n-go lunch bags for My Brother's Table in Lynn.



The NVC considers the work of My Brothers Table to be extremely valuable and we want to continue to support them, as we have for many years. Currently, members of the Mission Committee help prepare and serve a lunch at MBT weekly. On January 15, they delivered the hats,

gloves and scarves which the NVC members and friends donated during the holiday season. As the winter has turned cold, these items were greatly appreciated.

NVC also contributes to the work of MBT with annual monetary donations.

Thanks to all who have helped in the past but please join us as we continue to support this important work. And that support will be vital as MBT is about to embark on a much-needed renovation. The soup kitchen will continue to serve meals to the community, during and despite the challenges of construction.

So come, join us on Sunday, Feb. 11 to show your support by helping what is sure to be a fun time of fellowship while providing MBT with items they regularly need. What more could you ask for!

### GET THE SCOOP!

Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024

If you like ice cream then make sure you come to coffee hour on Feb. 18, 2024 where the deacons will host post-Valentine's Day Ice Cream Social.

All are welcome!

### BREAKFAST WITH BRENDAN & PETE

A great success!



Turnout was great for the breakfast with State Rep. Pete Capano and State Sen. Brendan Crighton. Many topics of interest were covered, including transportation – the railroad station repairs in Lynn and a summer ferry program. In response to attendees' interest to have more of these presentations, we're exploring the possibility of a mid-year presentation with a sharper focus on Nahant. If there are specific topics you'd like to have addressed, please forward those to Marrit Hastings at [calhast@hotmail.com](mailto:calhast@hotmail.com). This way we will make sure that those topics get adequate coverage and that plenty of time is allotted to an extensive Q&A.



Bill Crawford — 10

Melinda Hatfield — 18

Andy Karl — 18

Paul Richardson — 19

Pattie Aswad — 28

## 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!**

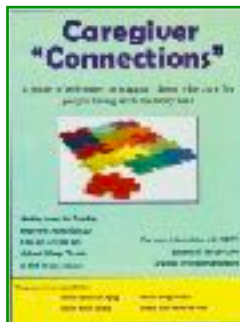


## CAREGIVER "CONNECTIONS"

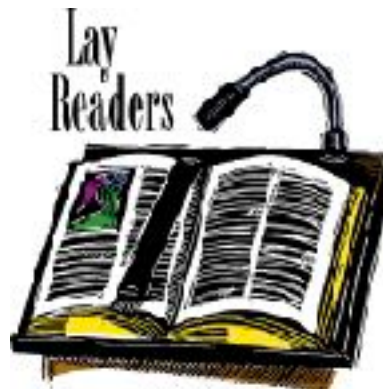
**Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024**

**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!