



The Pulpit Rock

*The Nahant Village Church ~ 27 Cliff Street, Nahant, MA 01908
where everybody belongs*

MAY 2018

- 4th Community Breakfast
- 6th Sixth Sunday of Easter**
10:30 am *Worship/Communion*
NVC Annual Meeting
- 8th Worship at Hathorne Hill
Transition Team Mtg. 3:00 pm
Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm
- 10th Worship at Jesmond 9:30 am
- 13th Seventh Sunday of Easter**
10:30 am Worship Service
Mother's Day
Serve at My Brother's Table



20th Pentecost Sunday

- 10:30 am Worship Service
with the Village ringers

Trinity Sunday



27th Trinity Sunday

- 10:30 Worship Service

- 29th Transition Team Mtg. 3:00 pm

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## JUNE 2018

- 1 st Community Breakfast
- 3rd 2nd Sunday after Pentecost**  
10:30 am *Worship/Communion*
- 10th 3rd Sunday after Pentecost**  
10:30 am Worship Service  
Music appreciation
- 11th Transition Team Mtg. 3:00 pm  
Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm
- 15th Worship at Jesmond 9:30 am
- 17th 4th Sunday after Pentecost**  
10:30 am Worship Service  
Fathers' Day
- 24th 5th Sunday after Pentecost**  
10:30 am Worship Service
- 26th Transition Team Mtg. 3:00 pm

## A Resurrection Story

Inside this edition of Pulpit Rock, you'll find resurrection stories. Chris Alexander writes of a moment when a beloved aunt makes her presence known. In other ways, we experience the eternal love of friends, neighbors, and ancestors of our great faith tradition.

In honor of resurrection, I'd like to share a story.

A friend and I were sitting in my office, talking about her late husband. She had been grieving his death since the day he was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer (Stage 4). The aggressive treatments had been part of the battle he willingly engaged in, to live as long as he could for his wife and two children. She knew that death was inevitable, but she was anxious about the unknown experience of accompanying a loved one who was going to die soon. "How long would he fight? How badly would he suffer? When would he die?"

The journey of anticipatory grief was an opportunity for her to prepare herself and her children. Though this may sound grim, we enjoyed remembering their love, celebrating

their life together, and learning to accept what could not be changed.

Right before he died, when he finally admitted the fight was over, she was able to have some intimate conversations. One of them was a simple question: "What will be your sign that you are with me?" He took a while to answer, clearly thinking seriously about this resurrection question before his own death. Then he answered, "I will whisper in your ear."

Shortly after his death, when she was overwhelmed by her sorrow, she took a yoga class to help calm her soul. At the end of the session, the instructor asked her to lie on her back and relax. The tears began to flow freely.

Suddenly, she felt a warm breath on her ear. Her hair moved slightly and the breath came again. She has no doubt that her beloved husband was visiting.

Openness is all we need to experience signs of resurrection.

In the Spirit of springtime, when we see resurrection in the earth,

*Rev. Laura*

## Bible Studies

Bible studies will be on the Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Please bring friends.

## Worship Themes for May



### Sixth Sunday in Easter

**May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
Theme: To Be Lovable  
Scripture: Psalm 98; John 15:9-17

**May 13 - Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
Theme: Body and Soul: enemies or lovers?

Scripture: Ephesians 1:15-23;  
Luke 24:44-53



### May 20 - Pentecost Sunday

Theme: Inspiration  
Scripture: Acts 2:1-21;  
John 15:26-27; 16:12-13

### May 27 - Trinity Sunday

Theme: Protector, Friend and Energy  
Scripture: Psalm 23; John 21:1-14

## A message from your Co-Moderators

It's a grey day. If it weren't for the clouds I'd be tucked in the shadow of the Beverly/Salem Bridge.

Looking out over the choppy water, the gulls circle and cry.

A police boat pulls away silently from his slip at the Harbormaster's office.

The only boats at these slips this time of year are commercial. Lobster boats with five gallon buckets slung over their exhaust, I'm guessing to keep out the rain in today's forecast.

This morning was beautiful, sunny with blue skies and temps in the sixties. Its funny how after such a long and dreary winter, when we are finally blessed with some warm Spring weather, we all accept it so easily.

Yup, Spring's here, oh boy, let's go.

And then the skies cloud, the temperature drops and Mother Nature takes our beloved Spring back with a swipe and we feel so betrayed.

On the pier a man and his grandson have been fishing.

They are packing it up. They both look up at the clouds with their hands cupped like visors above their eyes, gauging the weather. They know what's coming, it's time to go.

The police boat is back. Backing into his slip effortlessly, patrol's over.

Even the birds have deserted the pier.

The nice weather may have also flown the coup but the promise remains.

Spring will come, and then summer, we just have to be patient.

I wonder if that cop left the keys in that boat.....

Respectfully yours,

*Rich Stevens*



## ANNUAL MEETING

**Nahant Village Church Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, May 6, 2018**

Please plan to join us for the annual meeting on Sunday, May 6, in Swansburg Hall, immediately following the worship service.



## Nahant Community Breakfast

**May 4, 2018**

The May breakfast will feature a presentation by Mike Rauworth who will present his "Motorcycle Diaries – Along the River Roads to the Black Hills and Far Away Nahant.



The free breakfast starts at 8 a.m. Please plan to come for a hearty breakfast, an informative presentation and wonderful camaraderie. All are welcome. Spread the word and bring a family member or friend.

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

Save the date for the June 1<sup>st</sup> breakfast which will feature a presentation on the North Shore Community College by its President, Dr. Patricia Gentile.

*Cal and Marrit Hastings*

Community Breakfast Coordinators

## A Resurrection Story

Every night I read from a few devotionals before I go to bed, one of which is the *Upper Room*, which is available here at the church. During Lent on March 13<sup>th</sup>, the Bible Reading was Matthew 11:28-30. Verse 28 read:



"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

The devotion ended with a prayer: "Dear Jesus, help us surrender our burdens to you so that we may live joyfully. Amen."

In my night table I have an old prayer book that belonged to my Aunt Margaret. She was a wonderful, positive influence in my life and I loved her very much. I hadn't looked at the book in months. This night I picked it up and read on the page that fell open. The quote from the Bible read,

"Come to Me all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you."

Aunt Margaret was with me! I got goosebumps...a sign, I believe from the Holy Spirit, an affirmation of life and resurrection.

*Christine Alexander*



## Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

The **2018 Elizabeth Peterson Palmer Scholarship** in the amount of \$500, will be awarded to a 2018 high school graduate with a connection to the Nahant Village Church. The application deadline is Tuesday, May 15. Applications should be sent to Nahant Village Church, Awards Committee, P. O. Box 77, Nahant, MA 01908. The Award committee will consist of Nancy Cantelmo, Edith Richardson, and William Crawford.

**Nahant Woman's Club Scholarship** in the amount of \$2,500 to a member of the high school class of 2018 who is a Nahant resident and is enrolling in an accredited college. Application deadline is Tuesday, May 15. For more information contact M.L. Cort, One Maolis Rd.

**The Nahant Garden Club Scholarship** in the amount of \$2,000 scholarship to a student entering college who will be studying ecology, environmental engineering or conservation. Applications are due May 15. For more information, contact Jeannie Buckley at 781-581-0339.



## Save the Date for an Important Congregational Gathering Sunday, June 10 at 10:30 a.m.

For the past several months, the NVC Transition Team has been working hard to develop the Church Profile that will be sent to potential candidates to become our new Settled Minister. Before completing the Profile, the Transition Team will be looking at alternative models for Ministry, and we want and need your input.

There will be a “3<sup>rd</sup> Conversation” with the Congregation —along with a brief worship service in Swansburg Hall on Sunday, June 10 at 10:30 a.m. to explore alternative ministerial models. Please save the date and plan to be part of this important discussion on the future of our Church.



## Successful Flea Market and Bake Sale

The Flea Market was a successful fundraising event thanks to many – the donors, the bakers, the people who did the setup, sorted and priced, sold goods, and did the cleanup. The Church not only raised \$3,500 to support the Church’s ongoing operations, it also donated enormous amounts of goods not sold at the Flea Market to several charitable organization in Lynn, Salem and Swampscott -- Goodwill, Lifebridge, Northeast Animal Shelter, and the Salvation Army. So this was a WIN WIN for the Church, as well as for our neighbors in need.

It takes a VILLAGE to launch a successful fundraiser. And many villagers/parishioners came out to donate and help. Special thanks go to the bake table, chaired by Lenora Brauner, Roz Puleo, and Maria Welsh, which brought in record bake sales of over \$800. Hours and hours of set up time were devoted to sort and price the donated goods by Maureen Edison, Marrit Hastings, Robbie McGowan, Edie Richardson, Betsy Winkler, and others – what a team! Amy Dow ably chaired the day of the Flea Market, with Lissa Stempel handling finances. Thanks to both of them for a job well done, as well to the many helpers who came on Saturday to sell the goods. Setup and cleanup were handled by our Buildings and Grounds Team (Cal Hastings and Andy Puleo), with help from Andy Karl and Paul Wilson who transported truckloads to charitable organizations. Edie Richardson, Robbie McGowan, and Marrit Hastings shouldered the task of packing up.



# My Brother's Table



# THANK YOU

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On the second Sunday of this month and every other month, you will find an offering envelope for My Brother's Table in the Sunday Bulletin. Here are a few things to know about MBT and the services they provide to our community:

- Free meals to everyone who comes to their door. In 2016, MBT served 186,000 meals. These include weekday lunches and weekend dinners.
  - Entirely privately funded, with no government grants or from other charitable organizations.
  - Over 70,000 volunteers have helped serve over three million meal since 1982, including many volunteers from Nahant Village Church.
  - Thanksgiving is not the busiest day. The busiest months are during the summer.
  - Free Dinner Shuttle to deliver food to critically ill individuals (referred by medical professionals) and their families.
  - Free monthly dinner to at-risk seniors.
  - Operates a free health clinic served by volunteer Nurses and doctors for the past 23 years.

Hospitality is at the root of everything My Brother's Table does, with a mission "to nourish our community everyday through Hospitality, free meals and unconditional love."

Below is a note of gratitude from My Brother's Table to the members of NVC Church.

# THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING MY BROTHER'S TABLE



With your generous donation.  
Last year, thanks to thoughtful  
friends like you, we were able  
to serve over 186,000 meals!

May - Volunteer

MY BROTHER'S TABLE • 98 WILLOW STREET, LYNN, MA 01901

[WWW.MYBROTHERSTABLE.ORG](http://WWW.MYBROTHERSTABLE.ORG)

## A Letter of Thanks

Jessica Pedro is a seventeen-year-old high school student who lives in Dumaguete City, Philippines. NVC sponsors Jessica though our Missions Committee and Little Children of the World.

Below is a transcription of Jessica's letter updating the congregation on her studies and expressing gratitude to God and to her sponsors for the financial support.

## Transcription

“It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Host High, to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night.”

Dear Sponsor,

Hi! How are you? I would like to greet you a pleasant day and I hope everyone is in the best of health. About me, I'm doing good and also my family. Thanks God, He is always there to help and to guide me always. About my studies, I'm also doing good. I'm doing my best to participate in our class and to have good scores in every quizzes and exams. We played volleyball and also dutchball for our P.E. class. I enjoy so much participating in our class. We also have hard and easy quizzes. We do reports and we are enhancing our skills. Even though, the lessons are hard to understand and it's not easy to learn especially when you have terror teachers. I'm still doing my best to be good in school because of my family, for myself, for my future, and also for you who help me and support me in my studies. I don't want to disappoint you. I really want to learn and finish my studies in order to achieve my goals and someday, I will be successful and I will be the one who will help my family because they sacrifice and they work hard for us.

I'm so thankful to God in every blessing He gave me. For the love, guidance, for my family, for LCP, for you as my sponsor and also for those people who supports and cheer me up in every struggles in my life. Also, thank you sponsors for sharing your blessings to us. I will always be praying to God that He will bless us and guide us always. May God bless you and give you good health always.

Love you as always,  
Your Sponsor Child,  
Jessica T. Pedro.