



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*

2023 Scripture Readings

Sept. 3 Worship/Communion

At Marjoram Park

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 19

Theme: The word of God in nature

Sept. 10 - Worship

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Romans 13:8-14

*Theme: The founding of the
Village Church*

Sept 17- Worship/

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 18:21-35

Theme: Forgiveness

Sept. 24- Worship

Seventeenth Sunday after
Pentecost

Matthew 20:1-16

Theme: Grace

Calendar

Community Breakfast

Friday, Sept. 1, 8 a.m..

Last Overcoming Racism Class

Sept. 10, 4 p.m., Nahant Library

Caregivers "Connections"

Tuesday, Sept. 19, at 11 a.m.

Nahant Market by the Sea

Saturday, Sept. 16

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Volunteers needed!

Open House/Concert

Sept. 30th, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Concert: 7 p.m.

A CELEBRATION OF US!



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

By the time this goes to print I will have preached two sermons relating to how the Nahant Village Church, UCC came to be. The first was on Samuel May who spent the summer of 1820 leading the first worship services in Nahant before he went on to a life dedicated to opposing slavery and racism and sexism.

The second history of the church sermon was on The Nahant Church and the two Eliots (just love that last name!) who led the effort to build the first church in Nahant which was, a summer church for the summer people from Boston.

This month there will be a third history of the church sermon. It will be on the formation of the Village Church for the year-long people which started as a Methodist church, but in 1905 joined the Congregational denomination (one of the denominations that merged to become

the United Church of Christ).

These history of the church sermons take place on the second Sunday of the month. We have also provided "history moments" and an old timey hymns on Sundays this summer as we celebrate (post-pandemic) the two hundredth anniversary of the arrival of church worship services in Nahant in 1820.

In August we had special events that we also tied into the 200th Anniversary celebration. We started the month with a wonderful Animal Blessing Service at Marjoram Hill Park. About twenty church members attended with forty or so visitors—and that is not including the two dozen or so dogs and two cats.

Following the Animal Blessing Service we started the Sunday afternoon Overcoming Racism Classes with our partners Nahant Public Library, Essex County Community Organization (ECCO) and First Church in Swampscott, UCC. Twenty-nine people attended the first of five classes and engaged in thoughtful conversation on the difficult topic of racism.

In the middle of August we staffed a booth at the Market by the Sea and held a very well attended yard sale at the church which not only raised \$1,803 but featured the first known photo opportunities with the Nahant Sea Serpent.

In September we will once again host a table at the Market on September 16 and we 'd love to see as many of you as possible there. Then on the weekend of September 30th and October 1st our 200th Anniversary

celebration will culminate with a blockbuster open house on the 30th featuring a bake sale, a morning concert on the lawn by Lisa, lunch, a time capsule project, history of the church displays, games, and an afternoon hymn sing, organ recital and organ “tour” and a bells concert. In the evening starting at 5:30 there will be a wine and cheese gala before the 7pm concert by Ayla Brown and Rob Bellamy. Please plan to stop by and join in the festivities—and invite your friends and family and buy tickets to the concert! On October 1 we will have a service with more old timey music, one last history moment and a sermon reflecting on where we’ve come from, where we are and where we might go in the days ahead with the help of God and each of you.

Thanks to all who have participated in the celebrations so far. As summer winds down I hope more and more of you are able to be a part of the events and do your best to get the word out about the open house and Ayla Brown Concert!

Your Brother in Christ,

COME PLAY WITH US



Inna Semeina played the piano beautifully during the offertory. If you'd like to share your musical talents in a Sunday Service see Organist Bill Thompson or Rev. Scott Elliott. Your gifts would be appreciated!

PARDON OUR APPEARANCE ...

It isn't hard to see all the work being done to the church these days. Crews have been working hard on the windows in the chapel, replacing the old sills and making repairs. They've also been painting inside and out and solved an age old problem in the robing room, before repainting that space. Meanwhile another crew has been busy working on the redesign of the front entrance while also making it handicap accessible. A big thanks to the Cal Hastings, Rex Antrim and Lynne Spencer for guiding the processes and making it happen.



WANTED: CARING VOLUNTEERS

The Deacons, Moderator and Pastor are working together to create a team of church members who would be willing to do some out reach to some members & friends. Volunteers would provide a connection by sending notes and communicating with those on their lists, and are also welcome to visit and pray and listen to them if the occasion should arise. They will work closely with the Pastor and Deacons to keep them apprised of prayer and visitation needs and illnesses of NVC members and friends. If you're interested please contact Chris Stevens at secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org or call 781-581-1202.

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. because — **he won't know you want a visit if you don't ask!**



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MISSIONS



NAHANT COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Sept. 1, 2023 8 a.m.

The Norman Laliberte , “Laliberte Life!” Exhibit which recently opened at the Nahant Community Center will be the topic of the upcoming breakfast at Nahant Village Church. Norman spent many years of his life living and working in Nahant and often attended Nahant Village Church.

The exhibit, sponsored by the Nahant Historical Society, highlights the connection between Norman and Nahant and his exuberant art and close connections to his friends and patrons, near and far.

Lynne Spencer and Anne Spirn, both Nahant residents, friends and colleagues of Norman, will present the talk. They will discuss the artist, his influences and inspirations and his art which is featured at the exhibit.

The free breakfast is served at 8 a.m., followed at 8:15 by the presentation. We hope that you will join us for a thoughtful lecture, enthusiastic discussion, food and fellowship. This talk is one of the many events surrounding the current exhibit.

Transportation arrangements for elders to and from the breakfast can be made by calling the Tiffany Room a few days in advance. Their phone number is 781-581-7557.

Spread the word and bring family and friends.

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on the third Monday of each month at 6:30. If you have anything you think Council should discuss please let Jen McCarthy know.

WHO ARE AYL & ROB?

Sept. 30, 7 p.m. Nahant Village Church



Everyone should know by now that we are selling tickets to An Evening of Music and Storytelling with Ayla Brown and Rob Bellamy. The Sept. 30th show could be a major fundraiser for our church -- if everyone joins in.

But it has come to our attention that not everyone knows who Ayla and Rob are, so here are some introductions.

Ayla Brown and her husband Rob Bellamy are country singers with a pop edge.

Ayla placed 13th on American Idol in 2006 and since then has performed all over the world for our American troops. She lives in MA and performs all over the state.

In 2017 she met Rob in Nashville and also landed an opportunity to co-host the WKLB 102.5 morning show, which she now hosts solo.

“And just when I thought life couldn’t get any better, it did! We welcomed a baby named Barrett in August of 2022! He’s the coolest little man,” she wrote in a social media post.

Barret even led to a new side gig for Ayla when she started making bibs for him.

“All in all, I still sing, I’m on the radio every morning, I make baby bibs, and I am madly in love with my growing family. We are so blessed and I’m happy that you are along for the ride!”

For more on Ayla, check out her website at <http://www.aylabrown.com>.

You can hear Rob’s latest release at <https://youtu.be/pMr2UwVaWhA?si=tuPe-BJ9q99Y7m4O> or take a peek inside his life at <http://www.facebook.com/robbellamymusic/>.

Or you can come meet them in person.

Tickets to the show are \$40 each. You can purchase them via the church website, <http://www.nahantvillagechurch.org>, click on the Pay button at the top of the page and scroll down to tickets, email Chris Stevens at secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org or call 781-581-1202 or call Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309 (she takes Venmo).

OPEN HOUSE!
CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF
CHURCH SERVICES IN NAHANT

Sept. 30,
Festivities 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Cocktails & Concert — 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Nahant Village Church, UCC is celebrating 200 years of worship services in Nahant. Actually it's 203. The anniversary came amidst the pandemic so we're celebrating now that life has returned, somewhat, to normal. To that end, on September 30th we will host an Open House that's open not only to our members but the entire Nahant Community. And we'll cap the day with a celebratory concert, *A Night of Storytelling & Music with Ayla Brown & Rob Bellamy*.

The planned events will give visitors a number of ways to celebrate with us and offer everyone a number of ways to volunteer, so check out what's going on:

THE OPEN HOUSE

Events include:

- * Hear the history and stories of the church
- * Bake Sale
- * An old fashion hymn sing: 1 p.m.
- * Bells concert (and a chance to play them): 1:30 p.m.
- * Listen to our historic organ: 2 p.m
- * Organ show & tell (and a chance to try it): 2:30
- * Kids events including games, tattoos, photos with the sea serpent and more: 11 - 2 p.m.
- * FREE lunch! With music by Lisa: 12-2 p.m.

How to Help

- * Bake for the bake table
- * Run anyone of three games or guide kids for pictures with the sea serpent.
- * Donate hotdog/hamburger rolls or \$\$ toward the lunch
- * Clean up

THE CONCERT

Events include:

- * Cocktail Hour: 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- * A Night of Storytelling & Music with Ayla Brown & Rob Bellamy: 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- * Merchandise will be available for sale after the show.

How to Help

- * Set up: 3:30 p.m.
- * Ushering: 6:30 p.m.
- * Clean up: 8:30 p.m.
- * Donate towards the wine, cheese and other program costs.



To offer to volunteer, for more info on events or to buy concert tickets, contact Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309 or Chris Stevens at 781-254-6827 or call the office at 781-581-1202 or email secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org. It is going to be a great day and a fun evening and we are looking forward to seeing you on the 30th!



COME SING WITH US

We are putting together a small group of singers to participate in the October 1 worship service which marks the end of our 200th anniversary celebrations and/or the October 15 (2PM) installation of Rev. Scott Elliott as our settled minister. There will be two or three rehearsals prior to those dates. Be on the lookout for a questionnaire that asks about best times for rehearsals, as well as your availability. Or contact Marrit at 781-581-5691 or calhast@hotmail.com if you are interested in joining us for these festive occasions.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 5 — Maria Welsh
- 14 — Roz Puleo
- 22 — Lissa Stempek
- 28 — Olivia Brand

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our annual Christmas Fair date has been set for Saturday December 2, 2023. This is our largest fundraiser of the year. One of our most successful sections of the fair is the Greens table. We are actively seeking a person or two to head up this section. The Fair requires lots of people to make it run smoothly; people for set up, break down, to bake for and run the bake table, jewelry, craft or gift tables, find items for raffles or for the silent auction. Or perhaps you have an idea for a new table! To help make the Christmas Fair successful, please contact Chris Stevens at 781-581-1202 or Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309. We appreciate your consideration.



DID YOU KNOW?

By Jennifer McCarthy, Moderator

Over the past few months, I have heard several times, that if for some reason NVC had to close its doors, that any money and property that we may have left goes to the United Church of Christ (UCC). Now that I am off from teaching for the summer, I decided to do a little research on the subject. Here is what I have found out:

What happens to the church, and its assets, is 100% the decision of the church, subject to the approval of the Attorney General's office of Massachusetts. As a Public Charity, the AG's office must ensure that all assets are used in a manner consistent with the donor's intent. Unless the United Church of Christ is named in the bylaws, or church leadership *chooses* to name the UCC as a beneficiary of the assets, the UCC gets **nothing**. Despite what some may believe, the closing of churches is not a stream of income for the conference, or any other setting.

That being said: Sometimes, when churches close, they choose to make a gift to the conference to seed New Church Starts, or to help fund the costs of closing for future churches (as it can cost around \$50,000 to close a church in MA), or to thank the conference for its assistance through the closing process. However, many churches do **not** name the United Church of Christ in their beneficiary plan, and it is not something we expect. UCC Area Conference Minister Alex Shea Will said, if NVC were to ever close, he would work just as hard for us as we would for any other church, "to help you close with grace, thoughtfulness, and faithfulness, because it's our job, not because there is any financial windfall coming our way."

Our bylaws have no closing plan in them, and I do not see us closing NVC anytime soon. I am hoping that this accurate information will stop the rumors and put some people at ease.

NVC IN ACTION

TRUSTEE'S CORNER

The Board of Trustees do not have scheduled meetings during the summer, but remain active behind the scenes and available to deal with issues as they come up.

In June we voted by email to approve a capped budget program for oil delivery from North Shore Fuel, who have been supplying oil and reliable service to the church for several years.

We met jointly with the Church Council on July 6, and voted to have Rex Antrim appoint a bylaws subcommittee to resume work on updating the bylaws this fall.

Following the joint meeting the Trustees voted to formally elect Rex as chair of the Trustees. The trustees voted also to add Rex as signatory on all the NVC accounts. That has since been accomplished, with thanks to Marrit for coordinating and handling all the necessary paperwork.

The trustees voted also to approve of spending \$12,180.00 for repairs to the organ in the sanctuary.

On July 11, we voted by email to approve the contract with Ambient Entertainment for the September 30 concert with Ayla Brown and Rob Bellamy.

We have kept an eye on projects such as dealing with the rodent infestation and resulting strong odor in the robing room, and also the repair of the chapel windows and walls, and painting the interior and exterior wall.

We are dealing with issues with the Vulcan kitchen range, which has produced excessive heat and unhealthy air in the kitchen and Swansburg Hall. In the short term, the pilots to the ten burners have been turned off and the pilot on the second oven has been rekindled until we can schedule a service call.

I wish to thank Bill Crawford for his long service on the Board of Trustees, and many years as chairman.

Peace,
Rex Antrim

FLEA MARKET SUCCESS

Our Aug. 19th Flea Market fundraiser was a huge success, raising just shy of \$1,900. We are so grateful to everyone who donated items, came to help sort and price, bought and sold items, and set up and breakdown the flea market. Many hands made for light work and it was great to see so much support from our Nahant Community as well. Thank you!

Rich Stevens & Clinton Norton served up hotdogs (right) ; Super volunteers Chris Alexander & Roz Puleo (below left) and Jen & Rachel McCarthy work the crowd (below right)



The Aug. 6th **ANIMAL BLESSING** was an awesome event! The day was breezy, sunny and warm, the animals plentiful and the spirit bountiful. Thanks to all who participated! 🐾





BELLS

The Village Ringers will be participating in worship services held every **fourth Sunday** of the month. Please consider becoming a ringer. Join them Mondays at 5:15 for a rehearsal. All we ask is that you can read music, and can come to weekly rehearsals.

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 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>

BIBLE STUDY
IS ON
HIATUS

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.

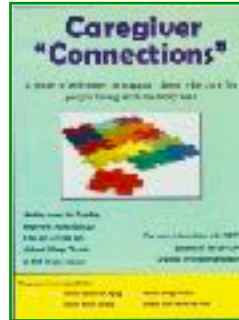


CAREGIVER "CONNECTIONS"

Tuesday, September 19 2023

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, Nahant Public Library, 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 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>





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

781-581-1202

Church Council

Jen McCarthy - edwarthy@hotmail.com

or 781-316-7309

Moderator

Nancy Cantelmo - nlc31@comcast.net

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

Clerk

Rex Antrim - rexantrim@comcast.net

or 781-856-1067

Board of Trustee Chair

Chris Stevens - cjs_ros2@verizon.net

or 781-254-6827 - Deacon

Rich Stevens - guitarrstevens@gmail.com

or 781-584-5339 - Deacon

Marrit Hastings - calhast@hotmail.com

or 781-581-5691) - Treasurer

Buildings and Grounds

Cal Hastings - calhast@hotmail.com

or 781-581-5691)

Amy Dow - ikors92@yahoo.com

617-378-8520

Compassionate Care Circle - 781-581-1202

secretary@nahantvillagechurh.com

You are invited

Sunday Worship Service in the Sanctuary
Sundays @9:30 am (thru Labor Day)

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.

Overcoming Racism Class

Five Sundays 4 p.m. -5 p.m.

Starting Aug. 6

Bible Study

Tuesday 10-11am On hiatus

Caregiver “Connections”

Third Tuesday of the month

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

NVC - Swansburg Hall

Village Ringers

Mondays @ 5:15 p.m.

Swansburg Hall

We would *Love* for you join us!