



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*

December 2021 Scripture Readings

Dec. 5 Worship & Communion

Second Sunday of Advent

Guest Speaker: Dr. Bruce Walker

Dec. 12 Worship Service

Third Sunday of Advent

Luke 3:7-18

Theme: Look Forward

December 19 Worship Service

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Luke 3:7-18

Theme: Moving with Mary's Song

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service

Music 6:30 p.m., Worship 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 26 Worship Service

First Sunday after Christmas

Luke 2:41-52

Theme: Who is This Child?

Calendar

Worship Service

Sundays, 10:30 am in person and
 remote service via e-mail blast

Bake Sale

Sunday, December 5

Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 18

Christmas Eve Service Dec 24

(see above for details)

Contemplative Circle

with Rev. Patricia Long.

Wednesdays 5:15-5:45 pm

A Memory Café

Thursday, December 9

10:00 am - Nahant Public Library

Bible Study (via Zoom)

Tuesdays @ 10:00-11:00 am

Genesis Supper Club

Fridays @ 5:00-6:30 pm

See the last page for Zoom
 meetings and contact information

Dear Brothers and
 Sisters in Christ,
 Friends and Strangers
 alike,

Starting the day after
 Thanksgiving, I play
 and then repeat over
 and over, the Vince Guaraldi Trio
 soundtrack to *A Charlie Brown
 Christmas*. Okay, okay, maybe I play
 that soundtrack nearly all year but this
 is the time of year, I play it out loud
 for *everyone* to hear. Though, per the
 request of various family members, I
 am limited to doing that no more than
 twice a day.

We all have traditions, especially this
 time of year. Traditions mark the
 passage of our time. It is good to keep
 them. The Christmas Season is full of
 traditions. But truth is more important
 than any tradition.

Once the leaves turn to crunch
 underfoot, tradition brings our national
 day of Thanksgiving (thanksgiving for
 many but not all). This year, that very
 same weekend our Advent Season
 began. Prepare now the Way of the
 Lord so you may securely shout with
 the angels on Christmas Eve, "Glory
 to God in the highest heaven!" in the
 sure comfort that, yes God, I do
 believe in Your Son and so, yes God, I
 know that I shall not die but I will
 have a share in life eternal. That is the
 only tradition that matters, though,
 some ask, isn't this all just nonsense?

When questioning Jesus, the Roman
 Governor asked, "What is truth?"



Well, technically, he said, "*Quid est
 veritas?*" but do you see his point?
 Each one of us wants something true
 that we may hold onto in the dark
 winter hours of our lives. Speaking
 before the House of Commons in
 1940, Winston Churchill proclaimed
 that "Truth is incontrovertible,
 ignorance can deride it, panic may
 resent it, malice may destroy it, but
 there it is." Nearly 2,000 years before
 that speech, Jesus came and stated, "I
 am the Way, the Truth, the Life."

What is your truth? What will you see
 when you look to the heavens on
 Christmas Eve? Angels singing of
 God's glory? Will it be a Silent Night?
 Naw. Christmas Eve is not supposed to
 be too quiet. And the journey leading
 up to it is not always peaceful. But,
 there is Grace to be found. And, the
 joy of children - young and old -
 yearns to reawaken again. Your church
 hopes to be wide open on Christmas
 Eve. Come! Join us that night and
 before that night, and after that
 night...the Babe in the manger awaits
 you.

Peace through Christ this *Christmas*,
 Preacher Roger 'Rusty' Chadwick



Thank you to the Deacons for
 setting up the wonderful
 Nativity Scene in the garth.

ADVENT READERS AND CANDLE LIGHTERS

We are looking for families or groups to be Advent Readers and to light the Advent Candles during the Sunday Advent Services. If you would like to participate, please contact Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309 to volunteer.



CHRISTMAS EVE READERS

Would you like to read scripture during our Christmas Eve Candle Light Service? If you would like to sign up to be a reader, please contact Jen McCarthy at 781-316-7309 to volunteer.

CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS

Would you like to help decorate the NVC altar for the Christmas Eve Service with beautiful poinsettias?

If so, please use the order form at the on the last page of this issue. These plants make a wonderful addition to your Christmas Day decorations, or you may wish to give one to someone who was not able to attend the service.



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE

Music from 6:30 p.m.

Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Join us on **Christmas Eve** to enjoy the beauty of our sanctuary at night as we pray, and reflect on the birth of Jesus in our lives. All are welcome!



MO EDISON'S BOUTIQUE

**Sunday, December 5, 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and
Saturday, December 11 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

We will also offer a clothing sale, similar to what we had at our past Christmas Fair, with limited Christmas and jewelry items, on various dates in November and December. A team of volunteers has come together to organize the clothing in Swansburg Hall, with the inspiration of Maureen Edison.

We will have clothing for all ages, as well as Mo's Boutique offerings. Please consider making donations to our clothing sale, volunteering your time to help out, and encouraging your family and friends to visit the Nahant Village Church clothing sale at these three times during the holiday season.

Please drop off clothing at the Nahant Village Church on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to noon. If you need your clothing to be picked up or you'd like to volunteer, please email Nancy Cantelmo nlc31@comcast.net.

A RAFFLE CALENDAR

A calendar raffle is a contest where people buy a chance to win prizes (cash, physical item, or service) awarded each day for an entire month of January. The winners are selected by random drawing. If you win, your name is put back into the bucket and you have the chance to win again. We have some great items on the calendar. Calendars will cost \$20. They can be purchased at church on Sundays, or you can contact Jen McCarthy to purchase your calendar. They will be sold until December 31st and we will start drawing winners on January 1, 2022.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE

It is time to rejoin the annual Christmas Parade in Nahant. Dressed in white, we will be 'ANGELS' singing a Christmas Carol. There is a signup sheet in the companionway or you can call Christine Stevens to let her know that you want to participate. The parade will be held on **Saturday, December 18**. It stages in front of our Church. There will be hot chocolate Legal Seafood clam chowder as well.

MUSIC NOTES

Bill Thompson, Organist



The new organ, Rodgers Digital Instrument model 535, was delivered and installed in the Chapel in late November. The benefits of the Rodgers 535 is that it will NEVER need tuning since it's mostly software driven. Other maintenance is minimal since there are few moving parts.

Call for musicians!

"We are seeking members or guests who play any kind of instrument to consider playing a solo during our services. Contact Bill for details.

CHAPEL ORGAN FUNDRAISER



The Trustees approved this acquisition at their October meeting.

The Trustees invite anyone who would like to participate in this project to make a contribution to the organ fund.

APPRECIATION FOR THE NVC SPEAKER SERIES

Cal and Marrit Hastings keep those of us in the broader community informed about special events connected with the Nahant Village Church. When I saw that my friend Susan Solomon had been invited to speak, I decided to attend...which led to a post on my Facebook page that I then shared to two other Nahant pages. This is what I posted:



*Photo and note of appreciation
from Jim Walsh*

"I was raised in the Roman Catholic tradition. This morning I invited a Muslim friend of mine, new to Nahant, to attend a service at the Nahant Village (Protestant) Church to hear a Jewish woman and dear friend speak on how her religious heritage informed her love of nature and her career as one of the world's top environmental scientists.

My new friend made more new friends and we all benefited from the welcoming atmosphere."

A friend who was a roommate of mine when I lived at 21 High Street starting in 1973 added a comment with an allusion to a Hebrew greeting, to which I responded:

"Tom Fair's intended Hebrew "Peace be with you" comment, "Shalom aleichem," has its equivalent in Arabic, "as-salāmu 'alaikum." Rusty Chadwick, who led the service at the Nahant Village Church, conveyed the same message as did the Imam who spoke at the graveside service of my friend and neighbor, Khalid Abaddy, who died this past week. The wonderful priest from my childhood, Fr. Douglas A. Morrison, who remains a treasured friend to this day, would have chimed in with "pax vobiscum" if he was on Facebook...which, at 91 Years old, he decidedly is not.

Isn't it sad that Facebook seems at times to bring out the worst in people? There are other alternatives.

I am so happy to have been able to share my recent, peace-in-any-language, experiences with friends and neighbors.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We extend a special thanks to Dr. Susan Solomaon and Katharina Radlberger for their participation in the NVC Speaker Series. It was very inspiring to hear how their faith interacts with the work they do.

NVC SPEAKER SERIES

Sunday, December 5

Dr. Bruce Walker

Join us for worship on Sunday, December 5, when our speaker will be Dr. Bruce Walker. Dr. Walker's research is focused on learning from patients to define mechanisms of immune system control of chronic viral infections, with an emphasis on those who control HIV infection in the absence of antiviral therapy.

WHITE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Bring Christ's love to those who are in want this season. As we have in the past, the NVC is collecting gifts for families whose Christmas may be bleak this year.



Here's how you can help: You may donate by check, made out to "Nahant Village Church" with "White Christmas" in the memo line or online. A committee of church representatives will determine who will receive the gifts.

White Christmas envelopes are available in the Narthex on Sundays. White Christmas gifts can also be placed in the offering plate on any Sunday during Advent. Please donate by December 15.

BAKE SALE

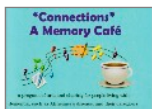
Sunday, December 5

December 5th there will be a bake sale after church (baked goods welcome!) and Mo's Clothes Closet will be open for your holiday shopping with Clothing, Jewelry, Shoes, Accessories. Genesis Supper Club will be offering dried herbs and gourmet flavored popcorn.

SUCCESSFUL HALLOWEEN BAKE SALE

The Halloween Bake sale on October 31 which coincided with the guest speaker Susan Solomon was a big success. We raised \$600 according to Marrit Hastings, our treasurer. Special thanks to Rusty's mom, our organist Bill Thompson and his wife who contributed popular pumpkin breads and Flo Sigourney who made gluten free brownies! There were some amazing Walnut pies and Roz's famous whoopie pies. Thanks also to ALL of our bakers and to everyone who declined change when making their purchase.

CONNECTIONS—A MEMORY CAFÉ



Thursday, December 9, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Nahant Public Library

The Nahant Memory Café has opened its doors again. No reservations are needed—simply come to the Library.

The Memory Café is sponsored by the Nahant Library, Council on Aging and our Church. Volunteers are needed to make reminder phone calls, help with program planning and hands on art projects, as well as serving as a host or hostess and bringing refreshments and healthy snacks. Contact Marrit Hastings to learn more about this NVC Outreach Project and how you can help.

THE GENESIS SUPPER CLUB

To prepare ourselves to be temples of the Holy Spirit, and to welcome the Light of Christ at this darkest time of the year, Genesis Supper Club will continue to meet during the Advent Season and discuss topics related to optimum nutrition and fasting. We welcome any one to join us on zoom on Friday Evenings. We look forward to celebrating our 2nd Anniversary in February.

NAHANT VILLAGE VOICES

Our poetry and music series is on hiatus until the New Year. If you are interested in sharing your writing, music or other artistic talent please contact NahantVillageVoices@angelic.com

CONTEMPLATION CIRCLE

Rev Patricia holds a Contemplation Circle on Wednesdays 5:15-6:00 p.m. in the Chapel at the NVC. All are welcome to “sit in the silence until the silence silences us”.

COMPASSIONATE CARE CIRCLE

Please contact Olivia Brand or the church if you would like to take part in our Caring Circle of Friends.



Chris Rogers	12/01
Amy Dow	12/03
Christine Kendall	12/09
Chris Alexander	12/29
Flo Sigourney	12/29

MANY THANKS

To Roz and Andy for the Christmas lights that now adorn the tree in front of the companionway and bell. Come check out this festive scene that signals the arrival of Advent.



MADONNA REVISITED

The stone Madonna sculpture in the garth received some needed TLC from her creator, artist Isabell VanMerlin. Equipped with a pail, brushes, and cleaning supplies, Isabell meticulously and lovingly cleaned off the green moss that had accumulated over the years. Below is Isabell's reflection on her sculpture.



"We all have a Creator, who loves us for the divine creations we are. The vehicle of creation that our Creator uses is —Mothers! Kinetic sculpture class 101! This is what Madonna means to me: a physical symbol of the nurturing love we are held in."

Madonna come to the NVE in 2008, and has been in the garth since. Also, Isabell is the artist who brought us the pair of bronze hands located in the Minister's Office.

Thank you, Isabell, for sharing your creations with the NVC.



OUR DAILY BREAD

Celebrating Jesus: 10 Christmas Reflections on Christ and the Community.

Ten copies of a special edition of *Our Daily Bread* are available in the Narthex at the Church. You may pick up a copy or contact the AA, Susan Gilbert at (secretary@nahantvillagechurch.org) or 781-581-1202 to request one be sent to you.



NAHANT VILLAGE CHURCH
27 Cliff Street, PO Box 77, Nahant, MA

CONTACT INFORMATION

Call the Church at 781-581-1202 to leave a message. Contact Rev. Patricia Long for urgent Pastoral Care, or Jennifer McCarthy for other church needs. Phone messages at the Church are checked regularly and forwarded to the appropriate individual on our Team.

Church – 781-581-1202

Preacher: Roger “Rusty” Chadwick

Pastoral Care: Rev. Patricia Long
781-941-6663 or revpatsylong@gmail.com

Leadership Team

Jen McCarthy (Chair) - edwarthy@hotmail.com
or 781-316-7309)
also Board of Deacons Chair

Nancy Cantelmo - nlc31@comcast.net
or 781-599-3977 or 617-794-6477)
Memorials/Music Committee Chair

Bill Crawford - crawfordwm@verizon.net
or 781-581-0411)
Board of Trustee Chair

Maria Welsh (mariawelsh@ymail.com) –
or 781-856-5753) –

Treasurer

Marrit Hastings - (calhast@hotmail.com)
or 781-581-5691)

Buildings and Grounds

Cal Hastings - calhast@hotmail.com
or 781-581-5691)

Andy Puleo - andynahant@aol.com
or 617-293-3913)

Compassionate Care Circle

Olivia Brand - 781-584-8112 or 717- 816-5046

You are invited

Sunday Worship Service

Sundays @10:30 am

Remote Service

*will be available on the NVC website,
YouTube, and the NVC Facebook page.
We will send an e-news blast this afternoon.*

Bible Study

Tuesdays @ 10:00 am
Click below to join on Zoom

NVCBible

Meeting ID: 838 6095 4980
Passcode: 01908

Contemplative Circle

with the Rev. Patricia Long
Wednesdays, 5:15-5:45 p.m. in the Chapel.

Genesis Supper Club

Fridays @ 5:00-6:30 pm
See article in this issue
or join on Zoom

GenesisSupperClub

Meeting ID: 881 0920 8580
Passcode: 01908

Nahant Village Voices

On Hold until the new year
Click below to join on Zoom

NahantVV

Meeting ID: 810 8610 6763
Passcode: NVV
Passcode: 697582 (phone)

We would *Love* for you join us!



ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA NOW

The altar and sanctuary will be decorated with poinsettias for the
Christmas Eve Service on Monday, December 24th.

The cost per poinsettia is \$10.00.

Please make your check out to the Nahant Village Church.

Please complete the form below and send it with your check
no later than Sunday, December 12 to:

Nahant Village Church,
PO Box 77, Nahant, MA 01908
Attn: Susan Gilbert

The form and check may also be placed in the offering plate following the service.

***We are requesting that you take your poinsettia after the service
on Christmas eve.***

(Poinsettias that are left will be given to someone who is
ill, homebound and unable to get out to church.)

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

I wish to purchase _____ poinsettia(s) for Christmas.

I would like my name printed in the bulletin as follows:

In memory (or in celebration) of:

Given by: _____