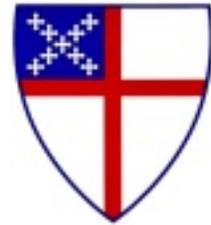


**ASCENSION MEMORIAL CHURCH**  
**Flourishing - Family - Community**  
**A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts**

P.O. 547, 31 County Street, Ipswich, MA 01938  
e-mail: amcipswich@verizon.net 978-356-2560 www.amcipswich.org



**TIDINGS WEEKLY**  
**April 15, 2018**

**Deadline Extended for Ayer Grant Applications to April 30**

*Ipswich Children's Programs and Organizations to Benefit from Ayer Grants*

April 10, 2018 – IPSWICH - Ascension Memorial Episcopal Church announces the application deadline for the Helen Ayer Children's Enrichment Grants has been extended to April 30, 2018.

This is the second year that Ascension Memorial Church has issued Ayer Children's Enrichment Grants. The mission of the Ayer Grants is to provide funding for non-profit organizations, individuals and programs that focus on the well-being, education and development of children in Ipswich.

Ascension will evaluate requests for funding of new or enhanced programs, services or other offerings from individuals and organizations who serve the Ipswich early childhood and youth communities in a manner consistent with Ascension's core values of Flourishing, Family and Community:

- Flourishing – giving with care and compassion in service to others
- Family – being real, welcoming and supportive to all
- Community – sharing and building relationships with those near and far

The Ayer Children's Enrichment Grants is named in memory of much beloved Ascension Memorial Church parishioner, Helen H. Ayer, formerly of Hamilton, MA. The Ayer Grants are intended to enrich the quality of life for the Ipswich community, especially those organizations directly impacting the lives of local children.

Ayer Grant applications are available at [amcipswich.org](http://amcipswich.org) or the Parish Office, 31 County Street, Ipswich.



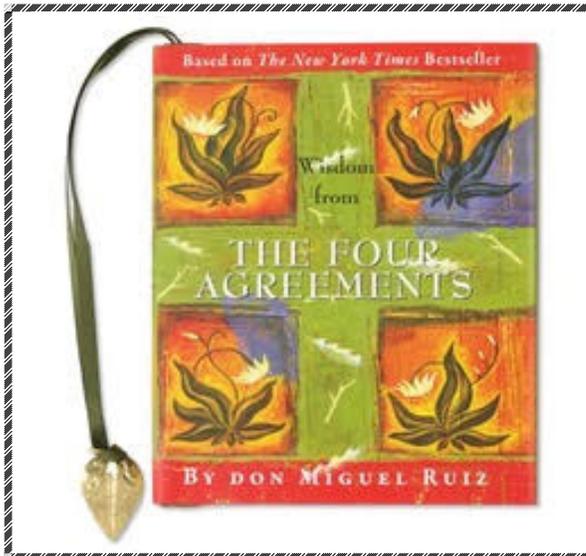
**You're invited to Taste the Promise on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Danversport Yacht Club.**

This annual Family Promise fundraiser generates funds to "end homelessness one family at a time." Join volunteers, sponsors and supporters to enjoy delicious samples from more than a dozen generous North Shore restaurants. Hear from "graduates" who have felt the positive impact of Family Promise on their journey to sustainable housing.

Tickets are \$50 each. Tables for Ten make it easy to relax together.

Reserve online at <https://BiddingForGood.com/Taste2018>.

Or contact **John Kenney** at **978-380-2002** for more details.



**The Ascension Memorial Church Book Group** invites you to squeeze some worthwhile reading into your life along with some enjoyable reflection among fellow readers.

**Wednesday evenings, 6-7PM in St. Matthew's Parlor**

**The Four Agreements**  
**by Don Miguel Ruiz.**

Based on ancient Toltec wisdom, The Four Agreements offer a powerful code of conduct that can rapidly transform our lives to a new experience of freedom, true happiness, and love.

### **EPISCOPAL CHURCH #101 CLASSES**

in St. Matthew's Parlor from 9-10AM on Sunday mornings

Remaining Sessions

4th Class- **4/15/18** - Bible Basics

5th Class- **4/22/18** - Spiritual Practices and Review

**North Shore Deanery Confirmation Service with Bishop Gayle Harris**

Saturday, May 5th, 2018 at 10:00AM

Ascension Memorial Church, Ipswich

### **"CIRCLE OF CARE"**

**1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month - 7 to 8PM**

**Starting May 1st, 2018 St. Matthew's Parlor**

**Ascension Memorial Church, [31 County St. Ipswich, MA](#)**

Worse than sharing our loss with others is having no one with whom to share our loss. **Circle of Care** is a resource for learning how to live within a new narrative, a way of living that honors and acknowledges loss while not being limited and defined by loss. **Feel free to attend one meeting or several. Circle of Care welcomes anyone and everyone.** This offering is co-led by the Rev. Bradford Clark and Clinical Social Worker Brandon Schroeder.

Call Parish Office for more information: 978-356-2560 Or email: [amcipswich@verizon.net](mailto:amcipswich@verizon.net)

### **AMC Saturday Morning Men's Group**

**Starting May 5th**

The practice at Ascension of guys getting together on **Saturday morning from 8 to 9AM** resumes on May 5th. These mornings are for sharing our lives, discussing what matters, reflecting on highs and lows, offering support when needed, and building trust and camaraderie. The focus of our time might be scripture, a newspaper article, a short story, or a current event. We talk, we laugh, we pray, we exchange what's on our minds and hearts. Bring your favorite morning beverage. Sometimes donuts appear. Take away some nourishment for the soul. Mark your manly calendar for May 5th, starting at 8AM, in the Rector's Office.

## Mission Trip Navajoland, Farmington, NM: June 30-July 7, 2018

### Trip Details

- We will meet a couple of times before our we leave for Navajoland in May and June to meet and greet, to share our hopes and questions and to learn about Navajoland and ways to prepare yourself to go on a mission trip (packing and beyond!!).
- A non refundable **deposit of \$50** and completion of registration form (which will be used to make plane reservations) is due **April 15th** to secure a place on the mission team, to St. John's Episcopal Church, Gloucester.\*\*\*
- You will be responsible for raising money for your transportation via airplane and van rental (approx \$500) and room and board (\$200) through parish, family funding or other creative means.
- You will be responsible for fundraising \$100-\$200 each, to be given to All Saints, Farmington for their ongoing work. Plan car washes, bake sales, chores or other creative ways to raise this money!! This will is due Mid-June to St. John's Episcopal Church, Gloucester.\*\*\*
- You will be responsible for taking your own spending money with you for travel and souvenirs.(\$50-\$100 is recommended)
- The remaining **\$650 cost of the trip** is due **May 13th**. Payable to **St. John's Episcopal Church, Attn: Elizabeth deVeer, 48 Middle Street, Gloucester, MA 01930**. Please write **Navajoland** in the **Memo section of the check**.



### About the Navajo Nation

Unlike most Native-American tribes, the Navajo continue to dwell on the land of their ancestors. Because of this, the Navajo culture has been preserved in a unique way. While the young people are becoming more and more westernized, there is still a strong tie for all Navajo people to their tribe and their land. Many of the Navajo elders still speak primarily in their native language and continue to herd sheep as their people have done for centuries. While serving on a mission trip on the Reservation, you're sure to learn so much about the Navajo culture and language, and make some great friends along the way. Due to the lack of a thriving economy in the surrounding area, many Navajo remain impoverished and unemployed. This means that Navajo families often struggle to even do basic maintenance and repairs on their homes.

Navajo land is a remote desert region that can seem very desolate at times, but its beauty is remarkable. There are canyons such as the magnificent Canyon de Chelly and Chaco Canyon, Ancient Anasazi ruins can be found at Navajo National Monument, Chaco Canyon and many other locations. There are spectacular landmarks such as Shiprock and the Bisti Badlands.

Historically, white people (or "Anglos" as Navajo call them) have been seen as the enemies and conquerors of many Native American populations, and specifically the Navajo people. Consequently, many traditional Navajo view Christianity as "the white man's religion," shunning local churches and viewing Navajo Christians as sellouts to their own heritage and traditions. The local Navajo priests know they see what their fellow Navajo do not: that Christianity is far from a "white man's religion," but good news for every tribe, tongue, and nation. By coming alongside local Navajo churches and serving in their community, you will provide much needed encouragement to Navajo believers, share the love of God through acts of service, and help draw more Navajo people into the body of Christ.

## Our Service

In Navajo culture "Hozho" means balance, harmony and life. To be able to walk in hozho' is to be in a state of balance with your mind, our spirit and creation. The "old hospital" which service the Navajo for 100 years is being rebuilt as the Hozho' Wellness Center to serve Navajo families: to heal intergenerational trauma which has caused addiction and disharmony.

scramble to stand on their own two feet, fighting alcohol and drug abuse, diabetes, and domestic violence. They have found that going back to their roots, their legacy of traditional values of ke' - family is the source of our healing. Our Wellness Center will help us do this as the services will include support, counseling and classes from parenting and cooking to nutrition and art.

## Resources

Please use your time and research gifts to find information online about Navajo culture, history, traditions and spirituality. Here is a start!

<http://www.discovernavajo.com/navajo-culture-and-history.aspx>

<http://navajobusiness.com/fastFacts/Culture.htm>

<https://www.nhonews.com/news/2007/jun/05/the-spirituality-of-nature-earth-and-universe/>

<http://www.everyculture.com/multi/Le-Pa/Navajos.html>

<http://navajopeople.org/navajo-culture.htm>

The Navajo Times. Weekly news magazine available online at [www.navajotimes.com](http://www.navajotimes.com)

## THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

For additional information and listings, please visit our website calendar:

<http://www.amcipswich.org/calendar.html>

<b>04.15 Sunday</b>	8:00AM - Holy Eucharist Rite I 8:45AM - Adult Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room - Boone Hall Lower Level 9:00AM - Confirmation Class 10:15AM - Holy Eucharist Rite II
<b>04.16 Monday</b>	12:15PM - Holy Silence
<b>04.17 Tuesday</b>	5:00PM - Choristers Rehearsal - Choir Room - Boone Hall Lower Level
<b>04.18 Wednesday</b>	9:30AM - Bible Study - St. Matthew's Parlor 11:30AM - Holy Eucharist at Riverbend 5:30PM - Holy Silence/Holy Communion 6:00PM - Book Group - St. Matthew's Parlor 4:00PM - Outreach Committee Meeting 7:00PM - Discernment Committee Meeting 7:30PM - Vestry Meeting
<b>04.19 Thursday</b>	4:30PM- Honors Youth Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room - Boone Hall Lower Level 7:00PM - Education for Ministry - St. Matthew's Parlor
<b>04.20 Friday</b>	9:00AM - Hoops University - Dorman Gym - Boone Hall
<b>04.21 Saturday</b>	10:00AM - Hoops University - Dorman Gym - Boone Hall