

**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**  
**February 17, 2019**

**THE GRACE AND CHALLENGES OF AGING**

An enthusiastic group met last Sunday to discuss the challenges of aging and will meet again on Sunday, February 17th after the 10:15 service. Please feel free to come even if you were not at our first gathering. After getting a cup of coffee or tea we will gather in a circle in the sanctuary to share our wisdom and worries about the aging process and what can fortify us in this last important journey. Everyone is welcome whether you are at this stage of life or thoughtfully looking ahead for yourself or others. If you have questions please give Helen Danforth a ring at 978 356-4985.

*Reverend Roger W. Cramer*

**SHROVE TUESDAY CELEBRATION**  
**MARCH 5TH, 6 TO 8PM - St. Matthew's Parlor**

This year's annual Shrove Tuesday Celebration hosted by our parish vestry in St. Matthew's Parlor from 6-8pm features Pancakes, Plastics, and Patagonia.

The Lenten season is also a fitting time to stop, reflect, and see more clearly how we can act toward one another and all living things evermore respectfully and kindly. To that end, special guests from Ipswich, Amy Borgman and "The Green Team" from the Ipswich Middle School will provide us all a sobering look at how our culture's use of plastics is impacting our environment worldwide and what hopeful steps we can take to eliminate plastics from our lives.



**WHERE  
DOES  
YOUR  
PLASTIC  
GO?**



ILLUSTRATION BY JOE MORAN

Support Green Team student initiatives and join us for a  
**free movie event - A Plastic Ocean**

As an added treat for the eyes, the Rector and his wife Erica will share a brief, music video presentation of photographs from their recent sabbatical camping/hiking trip to Patagonia.

Bring your appetite on Tuesday, March 5th for food, fun, and fellowship!

## FUNRAISING COMMITTEE UPDATE

**Fundraising Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 26th at 7:30pm - St. Matthew's Parlor**

**ShamRock & Roll**  
**Saturday, March 16th, 7pm - 10pm - Dorman Gym**

Planning for our first fundraising event of 2019, ShamRock & Roll, is underway and we welcome your help and support. This favorite community-wide event features great music and supports a good cause. ShamRock & Roll is a St. Patrick's Day celebration and a Food Drive with the Orville Giddings Band.

This is always a fun event with lots of dancing to the rock& roll, soul, funk and boogie sounds of the Orville Giddings Band. The Dorman Gym is transformed with festive St. Patrick's Day green decorations, special lighting and a glowing fireplace. Shelves for the Food Drive are set up in the lobby and it's wonderful to see them fill up with food items. Simple snacks, beer, wine and soda are available. Gift baskets and raffles add excitement to the evening.

Please consider how you can help with the ShamRock & Roll. One easy and fun way is to come! Better yet, bring some friends. Tickets are available for purchase after the services. There are also plenty of opportunities to help, such as, make or donate items for a gift basket, help set up, decorate, prep or serve food, ticket sales, or clean up. The more, the merrier when it comes to helping with these events. Please take a look at the sign-up sheet in the Parlor and add your name.

Our next Fundraising Committee Meeting is Tuesday, February 26th at 7:30pm in St. Matthew's Parlor. All are invited to attend.

Thank you,  
The Fundraising Committee

## OUTREACH MINISTRIES

The members of the Outreach Ministries are busy planning for the yearly ongoing events, Dinner Bell, Family Promise, the annual visit in July of the children from the B+SAFE Program, and our yearly Winter Warm Up Sale happening in October.

Please be advised that Ascension will be helping with the Dinner Bell Supper at the Masonic Temple on April 1st. A signup sheet will be available at Sunday coffee hours starting in March.

Another project with which the members of the parish are involved is the Food Pantry located at Agawam Village. The center has recently gone from serving the public two days per week to three days per week. We have a collection box in the Narthex of the church where donations to this program may be made. Items sought are canned goods such as tuna fish, pasta, jars of peanut butter, jams, tomato sauce, and other food staples. Paper products are in demand also, toilette paper, pampers, and personal care products. Please note that the Food Pantry is required by law to distribute only those goods which do not have expiration dates that have lapsed. Also, goods that have been opened and/or resealed may not be distributed. New arrangements have been made to have Ascension's collection box contents transported to the center on a regular basis.

Thank you.



# ShamRock & Roll



A St. Patrick's Day Celebration & Food Drive  
with

## Orville Giddings Band



Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM



Ascension Memorial Church

Boone Hall, Dorman Gym  
31 County Street, Ipswich

Event includes Food Drive for  
The Open Door Ipswich Community Food Pantry

**Bring Needed Food Items To Event!**

PEANUT BUTTER • CEREAL • 100% JUICE • TUNA  
CANNED CHICKEN



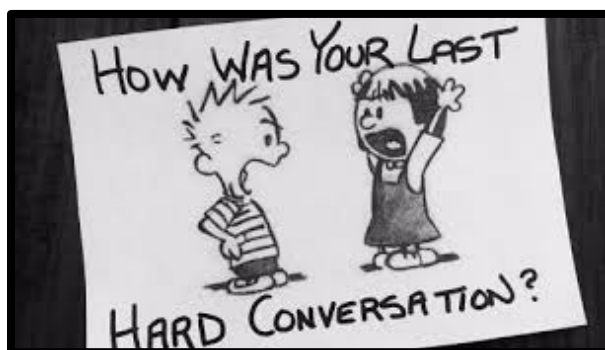
Great Live Music  Light Snacks  Gift Baskets

Tickets: \$20/person

For more information call: 978-356-2560

## “Holding the Hard Conversation”

2019 Ascension Memorial Church Lenten Series  
Wednesday Evenings, 6-8PM, Bread and Soup Dinner  
St. Matthew's Parlor  
3/13/19 thru 4/10/19



"Holding The Hard Conversation" is a five-part series designed to help participants address difficult topics with those they love. The series begins by offering helpful skills, advice, and encouragement for how we can share a conversation honestly and respectfully about issues we may consider too painful or shameful to discuss. Subsequent evenings will focus attention on specific topics, all of which we face daily but too often choose to avoid. Trained, experienced leaders in their fields will help us hold the hard conversation on such topics as domestic abuse, drug abuse, dementia, and racism.

### 2019 Lenten Series Schedule

1) March 13, 2019

Topic: Introduction to Holding The Hard Conversation  
Presenter: Chuck Doran, Director and Founder of MWI, Mediation/Negotiation Trainer

2) March 20, 2019

Topic: Holding The Hard Conversation On **Racism**  
Presenter: The Rev. Rebecca Black, Diocesan Anti-Racist Trainer

3) March 27, 2019

Topic: Holding The Hard Conversation On **Drug Abuse**  
Presenters: Cheryl and David Clark, Co-Conveners of Learning To Cope

4) April 3, 2019

Topic: Holding The Hard Conversation On **Dementia**  
Presenters: Beth Burrridge and Ellen Graham from Senior Living Advocates

5) April 10, 2019

Topic: Holding The Hard Conversation on **Domestic Abuse**  
Presenter: The Rev. Anne Marie Hunter, Director and Founder,  
Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

The ministry of Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV's) is underway at Ascension with the first of two training opportunities upcoming. On Sunday February 24th following the 10:15AM service, LEV volunteers are invited to meet with the Rector for a training orientation. LEV visits will begin as soon as our volunteers have been trained and blessed on their way. Parishioner John Walker has agreed to serve as the LEV Coordinator. John is to be credited for the reactivation of this important and meaningful ministry.

### Lay Eucharistic Visitor Pairings

- 1) Mim Hulbert ~ JOANNE VENTOLA and KITTY BARTHOLOMEW
- 2) Lynda Klinger ~ DOTTIE PHILLIPS and DEBORAH LINDAHL
- 3) Shirley Conrad ~ ANNE O'MARA and KAREN ESPERSON
- 4) Isobel Coloumbe and Moira McLaughlin ~ JOHN WALKER and JOHN MOBERGER
- 5) Ed Rauscher ~ DOUG BRENDEL and PAUL PHILPY
- 6) Cynthia Chapman (Wakefield) ~ BRAD CLARK
- 7) Anne Flynn (Rowley) ~ JIM FIELD and CAROL KINGSTON
- 8) Mary Fosdick (Topsfield) ~ PAULA JONES and HELEN BADENHAUSEN
- 9) Louise Jewett (Newburyport) ~ BRAD CLARK
- 10) Pete Stevens (Beverly) ~ JIM DINAPOLI
- 11) Betty Richardson (Danvers) ~ JEN CLARK and BETTY DORMAN

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH #101 CLASSES

to begin on Sunday, March 10th, 2019 at 9:00AM

Starting Sunday, March 10th, 2019, the Rector will offer a series of 5 CLASSES as an informative overview of the history, liturgy, theology, and distinct spirit and character of The Episcopal Church. All inquiring minds are invited to participate in these conversational sessions, especially those seeking to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church by Bishop Gayle Harris on May 18th, 2019 at the North Shore Deanery Confirmation Service to be held at Trinity Church, Topsfield.

If you wish to be confirmed or received this Spring, participation in these classes is required. Please contact the office at [978-356-2560](tel:978-356-2560) by Monday, March 4th to register. Classes will be held in St. Matthew's Parlor from 9-10AM Sunday mornings on March 10, 17, 24, 31, and April 7. A diocesan confirmation Retreat for youth being confirmed will be held at the Barbara Harris Conference Center, April 5-6, 2019.

### March and April 2019 Session Topics:

- 1st Class **3/10/19**- Introduction: "Why bother with religion at all?"
- 2nd Class- **3/17/19** - History and Spirit of the Episcopal Church
- 3rd Class- **3/24/19** - Book of Common Prayer and Liturgy
- 4th Class- **3/31/19** - Bible Basics
- 5th Class- **4/07/19** - Spiritual Practices and Review

## THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

For additional information and listings, please visit our website calendar: [amcipswich.org/calendar/](http://amcipswich.org/calendar/)

**Parish Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday - 9:00am to 1:00pm**

<b>02.17 Sunday</b>	8:00AM - Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:15AM - Holy Eucharist Rite II 7:00PM - Adult Floor Hockey - Dorman Gym
---------------------	--

<b>02.18 Monday</b>	12:15PM - Holy Silence
---------------------	------------------------

<b>02.19 Tuesday</b>	
----------------------	--

<b>02.20 Wednesday</b>	9:30AM - Bible Study - St. Matthew's Parlor 11:30AM - Riverbend Eucharist Service 4:00PM - Outreach Meeting - St. Matthew's Parlor 5:30PM - Holy Silence/Holy Communion 6:00PM - AMC Book Group - St. Matthew's Parlor 7:30PM - Vestry Meeting - St. Matthew's Parlor
------------------------	--

<b>02.21 Thursday</b>	4:30PM - Honors Youth Choir - Boone Hall Choir Room 7:00PM - Education for Ministry - St. Matthew's Parlor
-----------------------	---

<b>02.22 Friday</b>	
---------------------	--

<b>02.23 Saturday</b>	8:00AM - AMC Men's Group - St. Matthew's Parlor
-----------------------	---

<b>02.24 Sunday</b>	8:00AM - Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:15AM - Holy Eucharist Rite II
---------------------	--