

The Spire

The Newsletter of Maple Street Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

April 2011

Pastor Kevin's Corner

Lifting Off

...Then, not for the first or the last time,
I take the deep breath...
of happiness, and I think
how unlikely it is

that death is a hole in the ground,
how improbable
that ascension is not possible,
though everything seems so inert, so nailed

back into itself—
the muskrat and his lumpy lodge,
the turtle,
the fallen gate

of happiness, and I think
how unlikely it is

.
...this decision,
this trailing of the long legs in the
water,
this opening up of the heavy body
into a new life: see how the sudden
gray-blue sheets of her wings
strive toward the wind; see how the clasp of nothing
takes her in.

from Heron Rises from the Dark Summer Pond, Mary Olive

I've spent a lot time around rivers. Rushing, turbulent, frothing rivers of early spring and trickling still rivers of late summer. No matter the time of year somehow the river echoes resurrection. Mary Oliver, in her wonderful poem excerpted above, using the reality and the metaphor of the great blue heron captures the essence of resurrections that are real and oh so possible.

Our lives roll on like the mighty river at times. Rushing to and fro, churning up the landscape and life around us, and cutting new paths leading to yet unexplored territories of the heart and mind. Other times we are slowly meandering in deep and chilled water moving ever so slowly, ever so forward to places well known. Still, in other seasons the shores of our lives become parched and it seems only the trickle of life holds us together.

Too often the rivers that are our lives become murky and clouded. Uncertainty abounds and there is darkness in the depths of us.

It is no wonder that Jesus was baptized in a river. It was such a metaphor for his life, too. But I think, I hope, Jesus knew throughout the seasons of the river of his life that the gravity of God was always pulling him toward new life, abundant life, and eternal life.

As the river of Lent gives way to the abundant ocean of God's resur-

rection in our lives; as our flowing souls mix with the ocean of God's promise and hope, let us pray for the resurrections we need in our lives and for the new life our family and friends and, indeed this troubled world, is in such need of in this Spring of our time. Good Easter to you. Amen.

Pastor Kevin



Stewardship Committee



On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, I would like to thank all of you who responded to this year's pledge campaign. If you have not yet made a pledge and would like to do so, please contact the church office.

For those who requested pledge envelopes, boxes will be available in the Social Hall throughout the month of April.

In the May issue of "The Spire," I will report back to you with the pledge results to let you know how well we did in achieving our goal. Thank you again for your generous support of Maple Street Congregational Church and our various missions.

– Jeff Crum

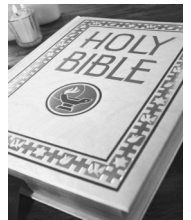
The Japanese Earthquake, Tsunami, and after-shocks.... "As we contemplate the great number of people who have died in this tragedy, we may feel very strongly that we ourselves, in some part or manner, also have died. The pain of one part of humankind is the pain of the whole of humankind. And the human species and the planet Earth are one body. What happens to one part of the body happens to the whole body. An event such as this reminds us of the impermanent nature of our lives. It helps us remember that what's most important is to love each other, to be there for each other, and to treasure each moment we have that we are alive. This is the best that we can do for those who have died: we can live in such a way that they continue, beautifully, in us." Tich Nhat Hanh - Let us remember that in the bible's book of Corinthians we are told that we are One Body. As part of this global world and One Body, may we continue to pray for our Japanese brothers and sisters sending them our hopes and prayers for their peace, healing and protection.



Pre-Annual Meeting Informational Session

On **Sunday, May 1**, after the World Service event, there will be a "Pre-Annual Meeting Informational Session" in the Reception Room for everyone who wants to get more information about the budget and what we will be voting on at the annual meeting. This is an opportunity to have your questions answered before the Annual Meeting on May 15.

Basics of the Bible – A Lenten Series



Wonder what's so great about the Bible? Wish you understood its major themes? Embarrassed at how much you don't know? Want to enjoy it more by understanding it better? (Or just want a refresher?) Then join retired UCC minister Sharon Goss for the last of a three-part series on the Bible.

Session III – Getting the Big Picture (4/3)

Centuries of recording, editing, and translating and what they mean for Biblical truth; texts that got shot down in committee; our core crucifixion and resurrection texts

A weekday session will be held on Thursday morning (prior to Sunday session) at 10 a.m.; the class will be repeated on Sunday morning at 11:15 a.m. Each of the three sessions is meant to "stand alone" – meaning you can come for one, for any two, or for all three. For information contact Sharon at 978-536-0035 or sharon-goss09@aol.com.

The Danvers Food Pantry is in need of Easter candy for the baskets they provide children at Easter. Please plan to contribute on Ingather Sunday, the 2nd Sunday of April. Watch for details in the bulletin.

From Elsa Marshall

Junior Deacons



As the Body of Christ, a church family, we are one of the important places in each other's lives including our youth and children, where spiritual formation happens. Faith practices are an essential element in church family life. A theological understanding for family might be a supportive and formative group of people, connected through either common biological lineage or covenant, who are meant to learn and practice the worship of God through relationships with God, each other and the world. I think the church is called to be the family of faith for each other and for the world. Therefore the role of the Christian church is to be the family of faith that invites us into worship of God and be disciples of Jesus Christ. It is the church's responsibility to provide ways for our children and youth to practice Christian sacraments, rites, rituals and traditions that offer a means of grace that are common to it (acceptance, encouragement, loving challenge, forgiveness, reconciliation, and hospitality). What better way than the Sacrament of Communion.

The new by-law change passed on March 6th, has the potential to transform our youth who assist the Deacons in the preparation and administration of the Sacrament of Communion. They will be formed by practicing their faith through participating in and receiving communion. This church is offering them a transformational experience as they acquire the skills and language of Communion and as they interact with the Deacons who will prepare and serve Communion along side of them. The more often they prepare and administer with the Deacons the more connected they will feel and identify with the church as a vital place for making meaning in their lives. They will have another way to be the Body of Christ and to experience the Holy. They will belong and become.

Formation and transformation are not two polar opposites in the growth of persons. In fact, formation and transformation are complimentary dimensions of life. Formation occurs to some degree whenever a person participates with others in any activity. So when a teen uses public transportation, they are formed into the processes and etiquette of riding the bus or train. Their identity is not meaningfully impacted by the practice but they do acquire new knowledge, experience new emotions, and practice new skills. A transformational example of formation can be observed in a teen becoming a gamer. The teen is formed into a gamer as they participate with their friends in playing video games. They acquire skills and language that assist them in playing the game and interacting with a group of gamers. The more they play the games the more they feel connected to the identity of a gamer. A transformational approach to youth ministry will engage all our youth with meaningful practices and experiences where God can work and transform them into Christ followers.

The children and youth are blessed to have the generous support of this congregation and your willingness to nurture, love and embrace them.

May your Lenten journey continue to be rich.....

Shalom with love,
Elsa

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 17
10:00 AM Worship

Maundy Thursday, April 21
7:30 PM Communion and Tenebrae

Good Friday, April 22
Noon, Led by Hospice of the North Shore, Rona Tindale

Easter Sunday, April 24
9:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Worship



From the Trustees

2011/12

Program and Operating Budget

The Trustees have been working hard on the church **Program and Operating Budget** for the coming church year. Despite level funding of the Church Programs and Committee Budgets, we are once again facing a deficit.

Now that we have completed the interim process, have a new Settled Minister and are starting down the path of stability with promise and excited anticipation, the Trustees feel that we need to fund this deficit in order to invest in our future.

While we all have our individual opinions as to what is causing this continued shortfall, such as the economy or the interim period, the facts are our expenses continue to rise as they do with any organization and our income from Pledges, Building Income and the approved 5% of the Endowment have decreased.

We understand it is **imperative** that moving forward we stop the dent we are making in our Endowment Fund. If we continue to dip into this investment beyond the 5% approved for budget purposes, we will eventually be using principle to fund the Program and Operating Budget.

At the same time we must continue to offer vibrant programs, services and outreach in order to grow and flourish. To do this we need dedicated, enthusiastic, faithful and committed staff and church members.

So how do we begin to move back to a balanced budget and living within our financial goals?

Beyond this investment in the future there are three main ways we have talked about to

accomplish this in the coming year and beyond.

Fundraising We have added an income line item of \$10,000 to this year's budget as a commitment to actively work on the deficit. Reverend Kevin is in full support of this and will work with us as a congregation to bring back the excitement of community activities that bring us together as a congregation and help fund our programs. We already see this happening with the **Trivia Night** being organized by **Mercy Duffill** for the second year in a row. Some other ideas that have been tossed around are a monthly **Spaghetti Supper**, a **Silent Auction** and a **Golf Tournament**. Do you have any ideas?

New and Returning Membership With Reverend Kevin now firmly planted in Danvers and in our midst, we are excited about the real possibility of new membership and growth. We are already holding a New Membership Information Meeting Sunday, March 27th. This is the first time in several years we have accomplished this and the plan is to do this on a regular basis. Reverend Kevin is also making himself known around town and we anticipate he will bring a lot of excitement back to Maple Street Congregational Church.

Pledges This is where we all need to take a deep look within and determine what we are willing and able to do financially to keep Maple Street Congregational Church alive, growing and vibrant. As you consider this I urge you to get a copy of Reverend Kevin's Stewardship Sermon offered Sunday, March 19th. Even if you were there and heard the sermon it is well worth reading again.

Knowing that there is a lot of concern around the **Program and Operating Budget** and the deficit, we are planning a **Pre-Annual Budget Information Session** on **May 1st** following the World Service Event being held after service. We urge you to come to this to ask questions of the Trustees and the Council members. Also please feel free to contact Cheryl Ward thru email csw1981@gmail.com or by phone 777-1543. You can also speak to any Trustee. We look forward to hearing from you in the coming weeks.

Respectfully, The Board of Trustees



A Word from Membership and Leadership

Our committee needs your help!

Membership and Leadership Committee members have been working on the ministry of filling approximately 31 vacant church committee positions. Terms run 3 years and each committee is led by a committee chair who attends church council meetings. All committees are equally vital to the continuing ministries of the church and share common goals to enrich and expand our faith journeys.

We have had some success in the filling of the vacant positions, but have a long way to go. Many thanks to those who have already volunteered. However, we are still looking to fill (20) committee vacancies as follows for May: Clerk (1), Board of Deacons (3), Trustees (3), Christian Education (2), World Service (2), Music (1), Stewardship (4), Memorial Gifts (1), Membership and Leadership (1), Church Growth (1), Member at Large (1).

If you have an interest in serving and have yet to be approached, or are trying to figure where you can share your talents, please contact one of the Membership and Leadership members. We are happy to answer any questions you might have. Contact any of the following: Committee Chair, Warren Parr (978-774-3021), John Doucette, Bob McBride, Paul Eovacious, Sandy Bogel, Bob Wilkinson.

Respectfully submitted by Warren Parr

**Maple Street Church Mystery Tour
Coming in May!**

Deacons' Bench

Reprint from the September 2010 Spire:

One of the duties of the Board of Deacons is to ... "Care for the poor, the sick, the sorrowing, the indifferent and the stranger ..." (For many years the Deacons have visited a minimum of three times a year those members who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis). This year the Deacons will be expanding this outreach through the Called-to-Care Ministry. This outreach will



continue to those who may be alone and lonely, unable to get out, those who are ill, short term or more seriously, as well as wellness visits – opportunities to bring greetings from the church to someone who just hasn't been around for a while. Last spring several Deacons and other interested Church members received training led by Susan Dickerman from the Massachusetts Conference of the UCC. In the days and months ahead a formal program will be developed to expand this Ministry of Maple Street Church. All are invited to be part of this vital mission. We would welcome your interest in being trained as a visitor but also to help us identify people who may have a need. Please contact Elsa Marshall or any of the Deacons for more information.

Update:

We are pleased to say that after some unforeseen delays and the persistent efforts of Sandra Sears and Faye Gardner, the Called-to-Care Ministry is beginning again in earnest. On March 20th approximately fifteen new volunteers received training at the Newburyport Congregational Church. Don Remick, the MA Conference Area Minister conducted the training. Under the direction of the Board of Deacons, these individuals will be making a difference. We always welcome new additions. Contact Sandra or Faye if you are interested in learning more.

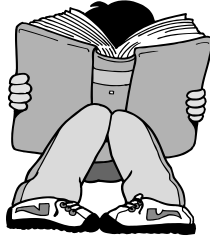


Christian Education Committee

Upcoming events and happenings:

The Heifer Read-a-thon has commenced and will continue through Lent.

So, find a Faith Walker or two or three and sponsor a reader. All money will be used to purchase an animal for a needy family thru Heifer International.



The Faith Walkers have received their Lenten Boxes, the equivalent of adult Lenten folders/envelopes. This year the collection will be going to the River House Emergency Shelter for men in Beverly.

Easter Baskets are in the classrooms to be filled by the Faith Walkers for distribution to our shut-ins by the Deacons.



Maundy Thursday, April 21st, there will be a reception for our 5th grade Communion class prior to the service in the Reception Room. This is sponsored by the Deacons and CE and will be for the 5th graders and their families.

May 15, is Senior Sunday, which will be the recognition for graduating high school seniors. May 22nd is Confirmation Sunday. Our confirmand will become a member of Maple Street Church.

The CE Committee and the Intergenerational/Family Worship committee thank everyone for another successful and fun-filled Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. If you missed it—you missed delicious pancakes and all the fixin's and fun, games, dancing and fellowship. So, make sure to mark your calendars for next year.



Help Needed Please!!! Easter Sunday Morning Brunch for our Chancel Choir!



This year it would be a lovely gift to our Chancel Choir if the church family offers them in appreciation for their ministry a special Easter brunch between the 9AM and 11AM services. In years past they have provided their own brunch between Easter morning services. On Easter morning they arrive early in the morning to rehearse and then leave following the second service. The Chancel Choir not only dedicates hours of rehearsals each year but also offers us their music ministry during worship each week. This would be a small way of saying THANK YOU to them and their families for their ministry to and amongst us.

Needed will be quiches, breakfast breads, fruit salads and other brunch foods. You can bring it Sunday morning before the 9AM worship service or on the Saturday before Easter, April 24th and leave it in the kitchen.

There will be a sign up in the Social Hall beginning April 3rd. Thank you for helping Maple Street Church support and care for our wonderful Chancel Choir.

Maple Eves Women's Group



Maple Eves Women's Group will hold it's April meeting on Wednesday April 13, 2011. Instead of our usual meeting, we will be having a Mystery Ride adventure toyou'll never guess where. We are meeting at the church at 6:50 PM to board cars and begin our mysterious journey.

Dress comfortably. When we reach our destination there will be a few stairs to climb, but we have many able and willing hands to help anyone who needs assistance.

The hostesses for this exciting evening will be Grace Phinney and Deb Sauer. Coffee and desserts will be served. If you are not on the Maple Eves call list and would like to join the fun, please call Marge Hathaway at [978-774-5848](tel:978-774-5848). All are welcome to join us for what should prove to be an adventurous evening.

April 2011 Youth Ministry News

During the month of March we had a lot going on for all groups. The GNG had their “Winter Olympics” where tons of games were played and we made “Monk” Pretzels and learned the legend of how they were formed. Making the pretzels was a blast; none came out quite looking as they should have, but they sure tasted delicious! We went to Monster Golf here in Danvers and had great fun trying to get a little white ball into a smaller round cup 100 miles away (only kidding, but it did feel that way on some holes).

The Junior and Senior High youth traveled to Dorchester to serve at The Pilgrim Church, UCC. There we made lunch for our guests and sat, breaking bread with them, listening to their stories. We folded blankets and put them away; finished putting a new tiled ceiling in the kitchen so it would be ready for the building inspector; we put care packages together for the



food pantry for Wednesday’s pick up, saving the pastor of Pilgrim Church a lot of time; we cleaned out an old nursery school, salvaging items that can be used for other programs; sorted coats and learned about the church and the programs it ran. It was eye opening for all, for most it was the first experience of what it is to do mission and service in the greater community. We left that experience with a task... to collect BBQ Sauces and marinades to make the tough, low grades of meat the shelter receives taste better. We made a promise that at least three times a year we would make a delivery to keep them stocked up. You will notice the boxes, one stating that “Sauce is boss” and another, “Make meat taste sweet”. Please drop off a bottle!

A very important program we held last month was with DanversCares; we held a World Summit Café. It was an interesting program that polled our youth about things in our school system and community that concerned them and ways that we could alleviate the problems. The parents joined the youth on the second round and the same questions were raised, just to see if the youth and parents saw things in the same way. It was great to see that the parents did know about most of the issues and actively talked to their children about them. What a world we live in. Thank goodness for the church family and the youth ministry programs held not only here at MSC, but also other youth-based programs held in the town.

Some of us visited the Salem Mission and made a special dessert that we served after serving a great meal made by the Kilty’s. It was a great experience.

April is the last month of our youth group meetings with the exception of Mission Possible 2011. We had a great year, full of fun and fellowship; learning about ourselves, our peers and our wider community.

Good News Group

This group, comprised of 4th, 5th & 6th graders, meets two Tuesday afternoons of the month in the Social Hall. We focus on fellowship, introduction to mission and, of course, fun. We will meet as follows:

Tues, April 12 4:30 – 6:00: Sanctuary Hunt – be prepared for tons of fun

Tues, April 26 4:30 – 6:00: Pizza Party – our last meeting of the year

Junior Youth Group/S.M.Y.L./MP2011

This group is comprised of 6th grade and up and will meet on the first and third Sundays of the month. We focus on Fellowship and Mission.

Sun, April 3 4:30 – 6:00: Arc Bingo Night, Meet at and Pick Up from Southside Road.

Sun, April 10 11 – 3:30: Common Cathedral in Boston—We will make sandwiches during church (10:15 – 11) and then travel into Boston to Worship with and serve lunch to the Ecclesia Congregation. Dress warmly as we are outside.

Sun, April 17 9:00 – 2:00 Palm Sunday – Youth Memorial Scholarship Luncheon Fundraiser—We need help with all aspects of this fundraiser. It is a **mandatory event for MP2011**.

Friday Night Flicks (FNF)

FNF is held the first and third Fridays of the month. We show age appropriate movies for the 4th grade and up. It’s a fun night of fellowship and giggles! Please walk your youth up to the reception room to sign them in. There is \$1 fee, popcorn is free and we do sell snacks. The movies this month will be:

April 1 6:00 - 8:00 ANTZ

April 15 6:00 – 8:00 Toy Story III



Visit us on our web page, www.maplestreetchurch.org and go to Youth Ministry and Youth Ministry again for the latest information.



World Service Notes

Enclosed with your Spire this month you will find your new Lenten Envelope! This year, instead of sending everyone a Lenten coin folder, we are supplying you with an envelope decorated by our Church school children in which you can put your Lenten donation for this year. The gift of your monies collected will be given to the River House, a homeless shelter for men in Beverly. Our church school children are also receiving Lenten coin boxes in which they can put their donations to this worthy cause. It's so wonderful that they can be an integral part of our World Service missions. If anyone would like to have the old style coin folder, there are few of them available in the narthex of the church. Please feel free to pick one up while the supply lasts.



Our World Service Mission moment this month is being presented by Don Preston from Habitat for Humanity. Please feel free to chat with him after service if you are interested in knowing more about Habitat.

After delivering all the blankets, sheets and new socks to Operation Troop Support, the Moody's informed us that our troops are in need of toiletries, so if you are able, you can drop your donations of full size items in the marked box on the stage in the Social Hall. Items such as toothpaste, brushes, razors, deodorant and such are much needed by both our men and women serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan. Other items they can use are paperback books, magazines and stationery. Please, let's do all we can to care for them as they care and protect us.


Coming up on May 1st will be our annual Mission Sunday. A representative from Heifer International will be our speaker and presentation boards from a number of the missions this church family supports will be on display in the Social Hall after the worship service. This is your opportunity to learn more about them.

As always, the committee thanks you for your dedication to our church's many missions. We could not do all we do without the support of each and every one of you. God Bless you all!

Annual Youth Memorial Scholarship Luncheon

It's that time of year!! On Palm Sunday, April 17 directly following the MSC Church service, join your church family in the Social Hall for Salad and Baked Potatoes with all of the "fixin's" (including Chili!!!), drinks and dessert. We will have an alternative to baked potatoes for those who aren't fond of them. We will also offer to-go packages for those of you who can't stay and eat with us. Please sign up in the Social Hall so that we have enough for everyone.

The cost is \$8.00 per person with a \$25.00 cap per family. The proceeds go to our Scholarship Account - every youth that wishes to be involved in our youth ministry program, no matter who they are, can, regardless of monetary issues. We have used this account for day programs, overnight programs and mission trips. Our youth ministry motto is "no one gets left out because of lack of funds". There is always a way, and you can help us out and have lots of fun doing it!



Our prayers continue to be with families who have suffered the loss of a loved one in recent months.

Blessings to the family of Avery Iris Clark, daughter of Joshua and Jennifer Clark, who was Baptized on Sunday, March 20.

A Note from Maggie and Amanda

On February 26th, fifteen youth and leaders went to an all-men's homeless shelter located in a church in Dorchester, Massachusetts. Throughout the day, we assisted the shelter in various ways like wrapping silverware, retiling ceilings, making food care packages, helping to prepare the food, and many, many more activities. Around lunchtime, we helped the shelter's volunteers serve food to all who came in for the community lunch.

Once the crowd started to dwindle, we sat down in groups of threes and ate a meal with the diverse crowd, from mailmen on lunch breaks, to homeless men and women. Everyone who attended the meal was very polite and friendly.



At the end of our service, we met up the other youth groups. We were thanked

for our service by the shelter workers and asked to continue helping them off premises.

They asked one group to collect powdered drinks while we were asked to collect meat marinades. Our church community was asked to collect BBQ and teriyaki sauce to help make their meat look and taste better. Starting this week, we will have boxes located in the church for the donated sauces. It would be greatly appreciated if you could bring in even one bottle, for every little bit will greatly help the shelter.

Maggie Shannon, a middle schooler and Amanda Hathaway, a high schooler are both members of our Youth Group.

S.L.I.D. – Not your run of the Millie church dog saysHave you seen the upstairs lady's bathroom lately? I think Martha Stewart is a member of our congregation. So very nice and so chic! Thank you for making the room welcoming and pretty! Woof, woof. (thank you in Boston bull terrier)



ORDERS MAY BE PLACED FOR EASTER LILIES AND TULIPS

Each year the display of lilies and red tulips in our sanctuary helps us more fully appreciate the beauty of Easter. If you wish to have a memorial lily plant and/or tulip plant in the sanctuary for the Easter season, please complete the form below and send it to the church office with your payment. Orders MUST be in the church office by Wednesday, April 13. Gifts to the Memorial Fund may also be given.

I wish to order _____ lily plant (s) @ \$7.50 each: _____

I wish to order _____ tulip plant (s) @ \$8.75 each: _____

I am enclosing a check for _____

In Memory of: _____

(Signed) _____ Tel. No. _____

Notes from Kathy Gross

The Chancel Choir is busy preparing music for Lent and Holy Week. If you have thought about joining the choir and would like to try us out, the month of April is a wonderful time to come sing with us. We will be singing beautiful classics by Mendelssohn, Faure, and Handel, as well as some lovely contemporary pieces, including an Easter anthem by John Purifoy, who wrote the "Holly and Ivy Service" that we sang during Advent. The Chancel Choir meets each Thursday evening from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Music Room.

The Intergenerational Choir will present a new anthem for **April 17th, Palm Sunday** – "Let Sweet Hosannas Ring" by Mark Hayes. The Intergenerational Choir includes the Chancel Choir, the Good News Choir, and all members of the congregation who are interested in singing with this wonderful all ages group. We will have one rehearsal after church on Sunday, April 10th from 11:30 to 12:15 in the music room. **All singers from grade 3 to age 93 are warmly invited to sing with us. It will be our joy to welcome you!**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to e-mail me at candkl44@gis.net or leave me a voice mail message at the church office.



There is a weekly Lenten Tuesday prayer and reflection service from 11:30 to noon in the Chapel. The intention is that this service will be short but enriching, there will be singing, reflection, prayer and a benediction, some of the most essential elements of worship. Use this time as one or part of your intentional spiritual practices during this

*This set apart
ried throughout
continue with
of our hearts
work, at home
hope is that*



*Lenten season.
time can be car-
the week and
us in the silence
when we are at
or resting. The
this time will nur-
ture and encourage our God centered inner es-
sence to blossom within us and to connect and
unite our faith and daily life.*

The Welcome Table - Update

We had one snow day at the end of January and if the town calls off school due to bad weather, then there is no Welcome Table dinner. But we have been up and running since - In February we had St. Marys, Vic's Catering and family, Holy Trinity United and Northshore Unitarian Universalist, Calvary Episcopal and First Church. In March we had St. Marys, and the Danversport Neighborhood, once again assisted by our own Amy Goodnow.



Anyone who is interested in helping or assisting, contact me at 978-774-4611 or at papapepper@juno.com or come on down on any Thursday to see what we are all about (we might just put you to work). Pay it forward.

—Paul Pepper



Maple Street Congregational Church
 United Church of Christ
 90 Maple Street, Danvers, MA 01923
 www.maplestreetchurch.org

Rev. Kevin Smith <i>Minister</i>	978-774-4510, ext. 3	revkev@maplestreetchurch.org or revkevmsc@gmail.com
Mrs. Elsa M. Marshall <i>Commissioned Minister</i>	978-774-4510, ext. 4	Elsa@maplestreetchurch.org
Ms. Kathy Gross <i>Director of Music Ministry</i>	978-774-4510, ext. 5	candkl44@gis.net
Ms. Ji-Hye Jung <i>Organist</i>		
Ms. Linda Blair <i>Office Administrator</i>	978-774-4510, ext. 0	info@maplestreetchurch.org

Our Worship Services are aired on Danvers Comcast Channel 99 and Verizon Channel 36,
 Sunday 10:00 am and 7:00 pm (one week delay)

Our lighted steeple is an important symbol of our presence in the community. Your contributions in memory of loved ones and friends or to commemorate a special event help keep the steeple lighted. If you would like to have the steeple lighted for one or more weeks, please fill out the form below and send it with \$15 per week to the church office.

I would like the steeple lighted in memory of: _____

I would like the steeple lighted in honor of: _____

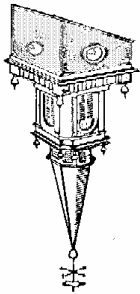
Requested date (if available) to light: _____

(signed) _____ Telephone Number: _____



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 United Church of Christ
 90 Maple Street
 Danvers, MA 01923

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The Spire is a regular publication of Maple Street Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, 90 Maple Street, Danvers, MA 01923.

The due date for contributions to the May issue of **The Spire** is April 19 at noon.

Fully composed items can be e-mailed to info@maplestreetchurch.org. or delivered to the church office. Items may be edited for length and grammar.

No matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here!