



The Spire

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

March 2011

Pastor Kevin's Corner

Prayerfully Letting Go

Lent is as good a time as any to renew your prayer life. It may even be the best time. For in Lent we symbolically “go through the cross” to resurrection. Or, to put another way, it is time when we contemplate our very human brokenness, seek to do without things we really do not need anyway, and come out the other side with an “Easter heart,” or a renewal of our dedication to God, a resurrection of our faith if you will.

I recently read the book *eat pray love* by Elizabeth Gilbert (Penguin Books, 2006). Early in the book, which is autobiographical, we meet a woman in deep pain over her relationship in her marriage. What happens to Elizabeth in her pain is that she rediscovers prayer. Real prayer. Prayer where she doesn't have any answers or requests other than merely to beg God to “please, please tell me what to do...” Her cross is very heavy indeed. Almost unbearable. She does not even know what to ask for in her prayer and finally, after she is spent physically, emotionally, and spiritually she *lets go*, she empties herself and lets God into the space of her heart. Really good prayer is a self-emptying process and event. That empty space where you have gotten out of the way is the place

where God can begin to work within you. It takes a lot of trust to bear your cross and then give your cross over to God. We humans like control too much to give our crosses wholly and completely over to God. But Elizabeth finally gave hers over to God and in the stillness of her spirit God began to work in her life. Hope and a resurrection seemed possible, even though much turmoil and transformation was ahead of her—but God was working in her life.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, a leading clergyman and preacher of the late nineteenth and early-to-mid twentieth centuries, once wrote that “prayer at its center is as simple and as profound as friendship. (*The Meaning of Prayer*, Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1949, 45)” Let me urge you this Lent to recommit to a regular prayer life where you can meet God in relationship and give your burdens over to the loving vessel of our faith and our ultimate hope and resurrection. Engaging in a relationship of prayer with God is not an easy thing, but sometime it is the only thing that can get us through the day. We have to let go and give in to God's timeline and mystery. We sometimes have to empty ourselves and just get out of the way having hope and faith that in God's good time all will be well. We need to have daily conversations with God. May God bless and keep you. Amen.

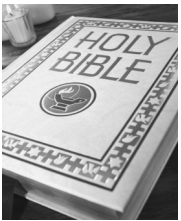
Pastor Kevin



There will be weekly Lenten Tuesday prayer and reflection service from 11:30 to noon beginning March 15th. 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 Lenten season. This set apart time can be carried throughout the week and continue with us in the silence of our hearts when we are at work, at home or resting. The hope is that this time will nurture and encourage our God centered inner essence to blossom within us and to connect and unite our faith and daily life.



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 a three-part series on

the Bible beginning March 17. Topics will be as follows:

Session I - Finding a Loving God in the Hebrew Scriptures (3/17 and 3/20) The Torah and more; an evolving perception of God; the tragedy of the Exile gives rise to hope and compassion

Session II - The Gospels: Four Takes on Jesus (3/24 and 3/27) Reflections from four different Christian communities; three variations on a theme by Mark, Matthew and Luke; John's view of Jesus "the Word"

Session III – Getting the Big Picture (3/31 and 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 mornings (prior to Sunday session) at 10 a.m.; the class will be repeated on Sunday mornings 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

Stewardship Committee



This year's stewardship campaign has used the imagery of the church as a ship, and I have used the letters S-H-I-P to convey some of the key points to consider when you pledge your support to Maple Street Church each year.

Stewardship – Being responsible stewards of God's resources

Helping – Helping our church financially, according to our means, so we can offer programs to benefit everyone

Investment – Investing yourself in our church to become part of something bigger than what any of us could do on our own

Prayer – Praying about your level of support to the church

Stewardship Sunday is March 27 this year. By the time you read this article, many of you will have already picked up your pledge packet at the church. Anyone who has not picked up a packet will receive one in the mail. We look forward to joining together as a church family to pledge our commitment to this church and to God.

—Jeff Crum

Meet the Pastor: A Conversation with Pastor Kevin Smith will air on Danvers Cable Access TV beginning in March. Tune in to watch our pastor be interviewed by Deborah Sauer and Lew Hathaway. The interview will also be available in streaming video ("Video on Demand") in March at DCAT's web-site: www.danverstv.org. The times the show will air in March are:

Sunday 9:30a
 Tuesday 8:30p
 Wednesday 10:30a
 Thursday 6:30p

Comcast Station 99 and Verizon Cable 36

From Elsa Marshall

Lent is a forty-day period before Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday. We skip Sundays when we count the forty days, because Sundays are considered Little Easters celebrating the Resurrection. Lent begins on 9 March 2011 and ends on 23 April 2011, which is the day before Easter. It is the season we *travel into the wilderness with Jesus*. The concept of journeying is foundational to the Christian faith. In the Old Testament, God commanded Abram and Sarai to “leave their country and their people and their father’s household and go to the land I will show you.” People of faith have journeyed both physically, emotionally and spiritually toward a deeper understanding of God and God’s purposes for their lives and for the world. In the Celtic Christian tradition believers saw themselves as “guests of the world.” Every experience encountered and every activity undertaken on “the way” of their lives was an opportunity to meet or to represent the Risen Christ. During the Middle Ages Christians literally journeyed to special holy places. The journey was called a pilgrimage. Pilgrimage is derived from the Latin word *peregrinatio* which means journeying. Lent invites each of us to contemplate our own Christian journey and consider the disciplines that we need to deepen our relationship to God. The word discipline is rooted in the word disciple and means a “learner”. Lent invites us to practice some disciplines that will help us enter into the endless possibilities of growing in our faith. Henry Nouwen says that “Discipline is the creation of boundaries that keep time and space open for God – a time and place where God’s gracious presence can be acknowledged and responded to.” To be a disciple of Christ means to grab hold of Jesus’ vision of the Realm of God, and to make it the destination for our life’s journey. It is a vision and journey



to be fully immersed into God’s restoration, healing and wholeness. Lent has traditionally been distinguished with prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Some churches today still observe fasting during Lent, especially the giving up of meat, alcohol, sweets, and other types of food. Other traditions do not place as great an emphasis on fasting, but focus on charitable deeds, especially helping those in physical need with food and clothing, or simply the giving of money to charities. Lent is a season of preparation to celebrate God’s awe-inspiring salvation at Easter, and the resurrected life that we live, and hope for, as Christians. In most churches, the decorations are purple, the royal color, of Kings. Lent is a special church season for reflection and taking stock. Lent is marked by a time of prayer and preparation to celebrate Easter. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. I doubt if it is by coincidence that the concept of Spring cleaning emerged from the practice of Lent. This was the time of the year when one cleaned house – first physically and then spiritually. What we “sweep out” or give up should keep us focused on the important things of God. By observing the forty days of Lent, the individual Christian imitates Jesus’ withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days. This season of the year is equal only to the season of Advent in importance in the Christian year, and is part of the second major grouping of Christian festivals and sacred time that includes Holy Week, Easter, and Eastertide. May we, over the six weeks of Lent, as we journey with Christ toward the cross, examine our own lives and areas of brokenness and explore how we can move closer to God and more effectively be God’s hands, feet, and mouths of healing, love and wholeness. “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” Ps51:10

Shalom,
Elsa



The Children

of the church school will again be creating Easter Baskets for our shut ins during Lent. They will be asked to bring in small items to be placed in an Easter basket that will be delivered by the Deacons on Palm Sunday to members of the church who no longer find they are able to attend worship or be part of the activities of the church family. Some suggestions for the basket might be note cards, stamped postcards, Easter candy and treats, pens, pencils, and other small trinkets. This is a long standing tradition of the church and a wonderful way to connect our children with the elders of their church family. It is a grand connection!



Some suggestions to make your Lenten journey meaningful!

Attend the Ash Wednesday Ecumenical worship service at First Church.

Don't travel this journey alone. Join us Tuesday mornings at 11:30AM in the Chapel for a brief time of prayer and reflection.

Set aside time each day for reflection. Buy a notebook to specifically reflect on your Lenten journey. Purchase a book of Lenten reflections or use *These Days* found in the Narthex.

Attend worship each Sunday and be part of the Sunday celebration.

Be gentle on yourself and others.

Take up the \$2 a day food challenge—www.twodollarchallenge.org Donate what you save to the Danvers People to People Food Pantry or the Greater Boston Food Bank.



MACUCC Conference
eBulletin

God is still speaking



"If Christians want to address the problems of immigration ... and contribute to possible solutions, then they should do so consciously as Christians and more specifically as biblically informed Christians."

~ M. Daniel Carroll R.

The language of the immigration debate is loaded. Terms like "illegal" and "alien" are thrown around. Scripture is quoted on both sides, more often used as weapon than a balm. Many among us have a deep sense of uneasiness about the tone of the debate. In response, the Massachusetts Council of Churches is presenting a day-long workshop for clergy and lay leaders.

"Immigration, the Church, and the Bible"

Friday, March 11, 2011

9:00am to 4:00pm

Wesley United Methodist Church

114 Main St. Worcester, MA

01608

Presenter: Professor M. Daniel Carroll R.
Distinguished Professor of Old Testament at Denver Seminary
Author of *Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, and the Bible*

Cost of registration: \$20.00, which includes lunch and a copy of *Strangers in the Land*, the 6-week devotional guide on immigration from the editors of *Sojourners*. The cost is \$30 for a pastor and lay leader. Scholarships available.

For more information, email the Massachusetts Council of Churches at council@masscouncilofchurches.org, or call 617-523-2771.

A Lenten Prayer

"O thou Eternal God, out of whose absolute power and infinite intelligence the whole universe has come into being,

We humbly confess that we have not loved thee with our hearts, souls and minds and we have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us.

We have all too often lived by our own selfish impulses rather than by the life of sacrificial love as revealed by Christ.

We often give in order to receive, we love our friends and hate our enemies, we go the first mile but dare not travel the second, we forgive but dare not forget.

And so as we look within ourselves we are confronted with the appalling fact that the history of our lives is the history of an eternal revolt against thee.

But thou, O God, have mercy upon us.

Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be.

Give us the intelligence to know thy will.

Give us the courage to do thy will.

Give us the devotion to love thy will.

*In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray.
Amen "*

— The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Christian Education News

Communion Education

The fifth grade will be beginning their Communion Education program this month. They will be working with Elsa and with various members of the Deacons to learn about the ritual of Communion. They will be learning about the background, origins and the proper etiquette of Communion.



Lenten Happenings

Get your sneakers laced and your pancake flippers ready for the annual Shrove Tuesday pancake races. Shrove Tuesday, our annual feast of pancakes, ham and apple sauce will start at 5:30 pm on March 8, 2011. There will be plain, blueberry and, of course, chocolate chip pancakes with a choice of toppings. And we can't forget the pancake toss and relay for added fun. Everyone, young and old, are invited (and encouraged) to attend. Who knows, there will probably be some surprises in store for you! Please look for sign-up sheets in the in the Social Hall. There will be games and activities to get us ready for Lent, which begins Wednesday March 9th. So, young or old, new to the church family or seasoned member, come and join the fun.



Lenten Offering Banks for Faith Walkers

This year we will be sending home Lenten offering banks for the children. The proceeds will go to River House, as will the adult Lenten envelopes. Please support your children in this endeavor .

Heifer Read-A-Thon

Our children will be participating in a Heifer read-a-thon this year to raise money for Heifer International. They raise money to help people in third world countries purchase livestock to help support their families. This wonderful project is two-fold, not only is it raising money to help the needy, it is encouraging reading to our children. So, if asked please consider sponsoring a child in his or her efforts for Heifer.



Deacons Bench



Seeking Drivers

The church has received a few requests for rides to and from church on Sunday mornings. This need may increase as our population ages, so we are seeking volunteer drivers who would be available to provide this service. We would like to put together an updated "drivers list". If you are interested in being a volunteer driver, please contact Glen Thompson or call/email the church office with your contact information.

Kids Corner



We are seeking candidates to care for babies and young children in Kids Corner beginning in May. This is a paid position. Candidates do not have to at-

tend Maple Street, but need to be at least 21 years old, qualified in child care, and available on Sunday mornings for approximately 2 hours. If interested, please contact Elsa or call/email the church office.

Conference Delegates

Again, many thanks to Karen Kilty and Sharon Goss for representing MSC at the Essex Association meetings and Norma Gates and Sally Shannon for representing us at the Massachusetts Conference. Maple Street Church is entitled to 3 representatives at each organization, so there are two more open spots. If you are interested, please speak with a member of the Board of Deacons.



Prayer Chain

Thank you to those who have signed up to be part of the prayer chain which will work via email and telephone contacts. The prayer chain will be

confidential—sort of an extension of our Sunday morning joys and concerns. The prayer chain begins with the minister who generally receives the prayer request and electronically contacts the 1st person on the list. That person in turn will contact the second person and so on. The last person on the chain contacts the minister, which completes the chain. If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please contact the church office with your name, email address, or phone number indicating your preferred method of contact.



Maple Eves Women's Group

The meeting for March 9th has been changed to Wednesday, March 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the Reception Room of Maple Street Church. The speaker will be Jim McAllister, historian, photographer, author, teacher, and tour guide.



Throughout his two and a half decades of involvement with local history, Salem News columnist Jim McAllister has been a relentless pursuer of the odd or little known fact, the colorful character, and the unusual event. In this entertaining lecture, Jim shares some of his favorite anecdotes about the Beverly Farms secession movement, the bizarre maneuverings of Lord Timothy Dexter of Newburyport, Nathaniel Hawthorne's "saintly" daughter, Danvers's extra-legal roots, the strange "re-location" of Rockport's Motif #1, and many other North Shore episodes and individuals.

Hostesses are Priscilla Curda and Jan Moller. Devotions will be led by Norma Gates. If you are not on the Maple Eves call list and would like to attend, please call Marge Hathaway at 978-774-5848. All are welcome to join us for an interesting evening, delicious desserts, and good fellowship.

Youth Ministry News

February was a month of mission and service, *literally!* Our annual Youth Sunday was held on Feb. 13 with three of our Senior High youth presenting the sermon based on MP2010, Re-Member. The liturgy was written by the sixth and seventh graders and read by our Junior High youth. Our wonderful choirs offered their voices as well as a 14 year old violinist pairing up with our organist/pianist Ji-Hye for the postlude. It was splendid!



Another annual event took place on Feb. 6, the "Souper Bowl of Caring" from which the proceeds will once again go to the People to People Food Pantry. Our total, over \$500, will be posted on the Souper Bowl web site along with youth groups from around the country! We thank you, the Congregation, for your support. We count on you every year and every year you deliver over and above. The kids had a great time collecting the money and the Valentines you wrote for the Shut-ins of our church family.

Youth Ministry is fun as well as helping others through missions of various types, whether making cookies and Valentines for our parishioners; making meals for the Called to Care program; cooking for Life Bridge in Salem; offering money and products to the People to People Food Pantry or working in Boston doing Common Cathedral and Boston Urban Outreach as well as other hands-on mission work. We welcome your youth whenever they can attend and we love friends, who are *always* welcome. If you have any questions about our youth programs, please feel free to speak to a youth leader or Elsa Marshall. We are proud of what we offer to MSC and beyond and love to talk about our ministry.



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, March 1 4:30 – 6:00 "Winter Olympics" Games, games and more games!!
- Tues, March 15 4:30 – 6:00 We will make pretzels and discuss how they came into being.
- Tues, March 29 4:30 – 6:00 We will meet at MSC and travel to Monster Golf for some fun competition. Cost to follow.

Junior Youth Group

This group is comprised of 7th grade and up will meet on the first and third Sundays of the month. We focus on Fellowship and Mission.

- Sun, March 6 4:30 – 6:00 We will be working with DanversCares on the subject of teenage drinking.
- Sun, March 20 4:30 – 6:00 DanversCares Parent Summit – you will be hosting the summit.

Friday Night Flicks (FNF)

FNF is held the first and third Fridays of the month. We will 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:



- March 4 6:00 - 8:00 Honey, I Shrunk the Kids
- March 18 6:00 – 8:00 Pinocchio (starring Roberto Benigni's)

S.M.Y.L.



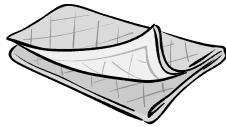
The S.M.Y.L. program is for the High School Youth (9th -12th grade) as well as those in the 8th grade that plan on attending the Mission Trip in July. It is a mission based program. Our meeting times will be:

- Sat, March 12 3:00 – 7:00 Meet at MSC to travel to Life Bridge in Salem to make and serve dinner to the homeless community.
 - Sun, March 20 6:30 – 7:30 Video on Homelessness to get prepared for New York
- If your youth has not received a schedule in the mail, please let us know and we'll get one right out to you. You can e-mail Sheila Rizzotti at srizzotti@ne-arc.org or call the church office with your information. Also, 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

Operation Troop Support is in need of blankets, twin sheets and new socks for male and female troops in Afghanistan. It is winter there and very cold and they desperately need these items. You may leave your gifts on the stage and please label them for OTS.



We are also collecting men's coats (hats and mittens are welcome also) for the River House homeless shelter in Beverly. There are 38 men living there and the need is great. Please leave your gifts on the stage in the box labeled River House.



Lent begins on March 9. This year we will donate your Lenten gifts to The River House homeless shelter. We have made some changes regarding our traditional Lenten Folders. Instead of the coin insert Lenten folders we have distributed in the past, you will receive an envelope decorated by the Sunday school children in your April Spire. You may use this for your Lenten offering. The children will receive UNICEF style coin boxes for their offerings. We will have a limited number of the coin style Lenten folders available in the narthex for those who wish to use those instead.



As always, the second Sunday of every month is food collection Sunday. However, you may leave your non-perishable food items in the shopping cart in the Social Hall at any time.

It is a privilege to be part of such a caring and generous congregation. Blessings to you and many thanks from the World Service committee for your continued support. Submitted by Julia Martin

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Adalia Floyd who celebrated her 88th Birthday on Sunday, February 27th!



Rev. Charles Gross Scholarship

Applications for the Rev. Gross Scholarship will be accepted starting March 15. The Gross Scholarship is open to any graduating high school senior who is a member of Maple Street Church, or who is a child or grandchild of a current member of Maple Street Church, and who has been accepted and enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution. While consideration will be given to a young person who has been active in Maple Street Church, the Scholarship is not restricted to such students.

Any qualified applicant interested in being considered for the Gross Scholarship can obtain an application from the Church Office. As part of the application, the student will be required to submit a 500 word essay on how activities leading to the improvement of the community have affected his/her life; and provide a list of recent community service work, extra curricular activities and work experience. Applications should be completed and returned in a sealed envelope addressed to the Moderator, Maple Street Church, by April 16, 2011.



The recipient of the Rev. Gross Scholarship will be announced on May 13. He or she will receive \$1,000 in the form of a check made payable to the educational institution which will be awarded on or before June 18, 2011.

Literacy and Wellness Fair

On March 26th from 9:00-12:00 the Maple Street Church Nursery School will host a literacy and wellness fair in the church social hall.



Families - please join us for a no cost, fun filled morning of children's activities including healthy snacks and fitness, musicians and storytellers, and much more. Everyone is welcome - hope to see you there.



Friends at Maple Street Church,

Thank you for the many expressions of appreciation that you shared with me as we wrapped up the interim time together this past January.

What a special Sunday it was on the 24th, when I was given the "maple tree stole" by its two fine crafters, Judy and Lynne, on behalf of the congregation! What a joy it was to wear the stole during the rest of worship and during the following "Jazz Sunday". And I am very grateful for the Reception after worship with a wonderful cake, and for the time of sharing hosted by our Moderator Bruce Billingham. Many thanks to Donna Eovacious for sharing her pictures of that day with me, and for all who shared thoughts and remembrances through the offering of cards.

I will always treasure the memory of our time together, for the sincere dedication to serving and growing together in Christ in Danvers.

Many blessings,
Steve

S.L.I.D. – Not your run of the *Millie* church dog saysHave you seen the youth room lately? WOW! Woof, Woof to those who cleaned it and made it so cozy for the youth to use for worship. It looks wonderful! Doggie treats all around!!!



Yard/Bake Sale

Our next church yard sale will be Saturday April 2nd in the church social hall. Yard sale donations can be placed on the stage anytime during March.

If you need help getting your items to the church you may contact Rich Hathaway @ 978-774-6661.

Calling all church bakers – If you would like to help us out with bake sale items – Donations can be left in the church kitchen on Friday April 1st, please label for bake sale.



All money raised will go towards the travel cost for our August 2011 mission trip to Re-Member, South Dakota.

Now Enrolling

The Maple Street Church Nursery School is currently accepting enrollment for pre-school age children (ages 2.9-5 years) for the 2011-2012 school year. For more information contact Lynne Hathaway at 978-774-4510 or lynne.hathaway@verizon.net



COME SING WITH US!!



From the song by wonderful New Hampshire folksinger Bill Staines come these words: “All God’s critters got a place in the choir. Some sing low, some sing higher; some sing out loud on the telephone wire, and some just clap their hands or paws or anything they got now.”

Here is your chance! The **Intergenerational Choir** will be offering anthems in worship in both March and April, and we invite you to join us. Anyone who loves to sing, grades three through age 93, is welcome!

We will assemble for **rehearsal** after church on **Sunday, March 13, from 11:30 to 12:15** in the music room. We are singing the very lovely “A Loving Heart,” by Timothy Bushong on the following **Sunday, March 20**, when we will gather at **9:15** for a brief rehearsal before worship.

Please also put on your calendars **rehearsal** after worship on **April 10, from 11:30 to 12:15**, when we will prepare an anthem for **Palm Sunday, April 17**.

We may not be singing from the telephone wire – this time – but we can all raise our voices as the Psalmist summons us to “Praise God in his sanctuary.” “Sing to the Lord a new song!” “Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!” I look forward to seeing you!

Kathy Gross (candk144@gis.net)

P.S. All are welcome to join the Cherub, Good News, Intergenerational, and Chancel Choirs at any time throughout the year.

More Youth Ministry News

We will be offering a special “**Parent World Care**” on **March 20 at 4:30 pm for middle school youth and their parents**. Please hold this important date now. Plan to come and gain information and skills around parent-teen discussions on alcohol and its use and abuse. Statistics prove that parents that talk about alcohol with their children have less issues around teen drinking.

On **Friday, May 13**, we will offer an **educational evening for the high school youth and their parents on binge drinking**. Binge drinking is especially concerning for families as their youth graduate from high school and depart for college.

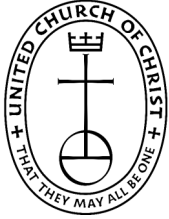
There will be a “for your books” scholarship offered to a graduating senior who is present that night.

Cherub Choir News



Cherub Choir will begin rehearsals for the spring on March 13 after church at 11:15. The Cherub Choir is made up of the youngest singers of our church family starting at age 5 up through second grade. Helpers of any age are welcome! The Cherubs meet in the room on the right at the top of the back stairs. It has a big blue rug. Even if you haven’t been a member in the past, please don’t hesitate to join us for the spring session. We have lots of fun singing and sharing a snack so come along. Rehearsals run until 12 noon.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Chadbourne at 978-807-5858.



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 Temp.</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 7:30 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: _____

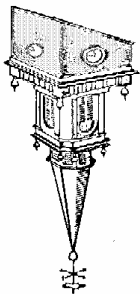
Requested date (if available) to light: _____

(signed) _____ Telephone Number: _____



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 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 April issue of **The Spire** is March 17 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!