



The Chapel Bell

Presented by the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc.

Volume 26, Issue No. 3 Summer, 2025

Listed on the National Register of Historical Places

by Ken Bohl and Tiffany Warmowski

The MAPLE STREET CHAPEL has been a beautiful icon of the Village of Lombard since 1870. Today, it serves the community with two concert series and as a lovely setting for weddings. The Chapel is a landmark the entire region recognizes and treasures. The American Gothic board-and-batten design, its stained-glass "grisaille" windows and the Chapel's simple elegance, all add to its importance as an historic site.



Pictured above are some of the directors of the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, (standing, left to right) Reid Foltyniewicz, Kevin Lattner, Victor Habon, Matthew Pedraza, (seated, left to right) Felicia Marchosky, Vicki Webb, Tiffany Warmowski and Ken Bohl. Not pictured are Charles Kreichelt, Ken Bruzek & Suzanne Bruce Arndt. For more information about the Chapel, visit MapleStreetChapel.org.

In Memory of Betty Meyer, Chapel Society Member

by Charles Kreichelt

Sadly, we announce the passing of Elizabeth 'Betty' Meyer, on April 20, 2025, at the age of 95. Betty was born on July 20, 1929 and was a longtime Lombardian. She had earned her Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Illinois State University and was actively involved in teaching. She also participated in many musical groups throughout her life.



As the Historian of the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society since 2014, Betty was responsible for the Chapel which included inventorying all materials, organizing the Reade Room, and researching any historical aspects about the Chapel. Along with her husband, Marlyn, Betty was one of the founding members of the Chapel Society. Over all of the years, she was active in many of the Society endeavors that were planned to "maintain and preserve" our 155 year old Lombard church building.

Besides the Maple Street Chapel, Betty was involved with many organizations and was the past President of the Lombard Service League, founder and past President of the American Association of University Women, Lombard Woman of the Year in 1971, P.E.O., past President and District 44 School Board Member.

Betty, rest in peace! You will be missed by all of us!

The Chapel Bell is a newsletter presented by the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc., published quarterly in Lombard, Illinois 60148. Contact personnel @ 630-627-0171

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Chapel Bell Editor and Publisher: Suzanne Bruce Arndt, 630-306-0212

Behind the Scenes

Meet Victor Habon, the newest member of the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society.

I was born in Chicago, IL, along with my two brothers. My mom was a Neonatal Intensive Care Registered Nurse at Cook County Hospital and my dad was an accountant for a poster manufacturing company in the Austin neighborhood in Chicago.

Currently I reside in River Grove, IL (by O'Hare airport) with my partner, Matthew, and I'm a godfather to my 2-year-old nephew, who is a bundle of joy!

I earned my Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Elmhurst College/University. For over 10+ years I worked as a Critical Care Registered Nurse (at Loyola University Medical Center). After working a few years at the bedside, I went back to school to earn my Master's degree in Health Informatics from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



In my current role, I am a Healthcare Applications Epic/MyChart Analyst at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital by Lake Shore Drive in downtown Chicago. I am also an ordained minister and have officiated at multiple wedding ceremonies.

The Maple Street Chapel was first introduced to me earlier this year by a good friend of mine who had been planning to have her wedding ceremony at the Chapel. I was immediately drawn to Maple Street Chapel & First Church of Lombard for its welcoming and kind, grass-roots community. I'm also a big fan of Maple Street Chapel's American Gothic architecture, its timeless cathedral ceiling, and its gloriously painted windows.

Recently, I have participated in this year's Lilac Parade representing First Church of Lombard & the Maple Street Chapel. I also attended the Lombard Pride event at First Church of Lombard (June 1st, 2025). This July, I plan to join the Rainbow Faith Ministry group, which meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. The group promotes unity & inclusivity within our overarching communities.

If you'd like to learn more about me, please visit my social media sites, where you can direct message me and/or contact me via email:

- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- Vhabon84@gmail.com (Personal Email)
- vhabon@hutchnotaryservice.com (Wedding Officiant Services Email)

Chapel Secret Passages?

by Ken Bohl

There are two places on the main floor where you will find screws that serve no apparent purpose:

- on the north wall of the northwest entryway
- on the east wall of the bell rope closet (on right).

These screws hold panels in place which, when removed, open up into little 4'x4' rooms.



So what are these rooms? Secret passages to some forbidden place in the Chapel? Hiding places from the Underground Railroad?

Sorry, they are much more mundane. We always talk about the Chapel's main spire and steeple, but notice that there are also two smaller spires on the front corners of the Chapel. Inside the spires are the "secret rooms!"

They are actually quite useful, as they provide easy access from the basement to the main floor and to the attic, which has been used for wiring the ceiling lights and pipes for the fire sprinkler system.



In order to preserve and maintain the Chapel, we have to be aware of every little detail as to its construction!

Historic Maple Street Chapel Represented at Helen Plum Library

by Dan Jares

This summer's major exhibit at the MAC at COD is "Hokusai and Ukiyo-e: The Floating World" featuring the Art Institute's "Great Wave" painting--now through Sept. 21. Naperville artist Rich Lo (see his work at artclicker.com) has created ukiyo-e style landscapes for more than 20 communities in DuPage County. The works comprise "Waves of DuPage: Beautiful Cities Public Art Project." Lombard's entry is a beautiful view of the Maple Street Chapel as seen during Lilac Time from Lilacia Park.



To see the work, go to the Helen Plum Library but instead of entering, step to the right to the plaza on the north side. There you'll find the scene spread over two windows. Unfortunately, the

work is not visible from the street due to the half wall that encloses the plaza. Framed prints of all the 20+ public art works are at the MAC as part of the exhibit or can be accessed on Mr. Lo's website. The list of all the locations can be found by searching "Waves of DuPage."

Congratulations to Marisa Olas, Lombard's 2025 Lilac Queen

by Vicki Webb



On May 3, 2025 the Lombard Junior Women's Club crowned their Queen. This program dates back to around 1930.

Marisa Olas was chosen as queen from five Princesses that had been selected by judges from outside the Lombard area. Queen Marisa, a former senior at Glenbard East, will be heading to the University of Illinois in the fall. Her plans are to major in history and minor in secondary education in hopes of becoming a high school history teacher.

The Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society wishes Queen Marisa all the best in her future endeavors.

NEW SHOWTIME ON SATURDAYS = 7:00 PM!

SAT SEP 27	ANNALEE KOEHN and CHUCK COX with special guest JESS BALDISSERO 7:00 PM \$20	THE SPECIAL CONSENSUS Celebrating 51 years 3:00 PM \$25	SUN JAN 4
SAT OCT 18	JAMES GORDAN 7:00 PM \$20	DYNAMIC DUOS OF THE 60's Featuring ZACHARY STEVENSON & KIERAN McCABE 7:00 PM \$20	SAT JAN 24
SAT NOV 15	LEE MURDOCK & his 34th Annual Christmas Ship Show 7:00 PM \$20	PATCHOULI & TERRA GUITARRA 7:00 PM \$20	SAT APR 25
SAT DEC 6	JBK SING-ALONG with KILTY PLEASURE 5:30 - 7 PM Donations	41st Annual Maple Street Chapel Concert Series	41

MAPLESTREETCONCERTS.ORG

Tickets: available online with credit card, or at the door with cash or check only.

All concerts take place in the historic

Maple Street Chapel, 200 South Main Street, Lombard, Illinois

MapleStreetConcerts@gmail.com | 630-627-0171

**Annalee Koehn & Chuck Cox with Jess Baldissero
Saturday, September 27th @ 7pm. \$20**

Join us for a great evening of music from Annalee Koehn and Chuck Cox, with special guest Jess Baldissero. This dynamic group plays moving original songs featuring soulful vocals, close harmonies, with fine instrumentals on guitar and fiddle. Their repertoire is based in Country Music, with elements from other American Roots Music styles such as Folk, Blues, and early R&B. Annalee and Chuck crossed musical paths in 2018 and began working together a year or so later. In 2024, Annalee recently released her long-awaited album *Tools of an Unseen Hand*, with Chuck producing and playing, and featuring Jess Baldissero on fiddle.



**James Gordon
Saturday, October 18th @ 7pm. \$20**

James Gordon has been there. He's done that. He's had a remarkably diverse and resilient career in the Canadian entertainment business. As a solo singer-songwriter and with the ground-breaking trio *Tamarack*, he's recorded at least 40 albums, and toured relentlessly around the world. For more than ten years he was heard on CBC radio as songwriter-in-residence for the 'Basic Black' and 'Ontario Morning' programs. Between tours, James is a record producer, playwright, author, community activist, theatre director, festival director, and a retired City Councilor in his hometown of Guelph Ontario. His new 'musical' novel "The Ark Of The Oven Mitt" was a finalist for the Stephen Leacock Humour Award. His classic song "Frobisher Bay" has been covered by over 100 artists. His new album is "Wrinkles and Scars". These days he's appearing solo, with his "exceptional ensemble", a six-piece outfit who debuted his new album at Hugh's Room in Toronto, and as a duo with Guelph singer Connie Murch. Jamesgordon.ca

Meet More Friends of the Maple Street Chapel

Basic Membership

Carol Reiman

Anne Wolowiec

Bell Ringer

Ken and Patty Bruzek

Cheryl Cramer

Corinne Flemm

Robert Hallam for membership & endowment

Richard and Penny Taylor

Renee & Thomas Thorsell

Russell Weigand

In memory of Betty Meyer

Charles and Janet Kreichelt

Russell Weigand

Troop 51's Spring Sendoff: Service, Smiles, and a Ring of Thanks

by Steve Warmowski and Photo by Steve / WarmowskiPhotography.com

Scouts from Troop 51 helped out the Maple Street Chapel with a work day for their final meeting of the spring on June 2.

The Scouts wanted to say "thank you" to First Church for sponsoring the troop, and reached out to find volunteer work. The boys cleaned the interior of the Chapel, cleaned windows, and pulled weeds from the garden. As a bonus, the boys got to ring the Chapel's bell - raising much curiosity from the kids in line at Dairy Queen across the street.



The Scouts were (in photo, starting from 2nd row from the left, going clockwise)

Joey Lyons, Murphy Temple, John Scott, William Scott, Liam Johnston, Nicholas Warmowski, Shane Pecinka, Leo Rossi, Nathaniel Petkus, and Caleb Knight.

Maple Street Chapel Tour Schedule

by Ken Bruzek

The remaining dates for scheduled Chapel tours are August 30th, September 27th, and October 18th, from 1-3pm. Please join us to learn about Lombard's 1870 Chapel which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. We will be happy to accommodate special requests if you are unable to make the listed dates, Please call 630-627-0171 for a private tour.

Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society
220 S. Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148

Join the Friends of the Maple Street Chapel Society Today!

Please check the box below to direct your enclosed donation.

Please make your check payable to the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc.

- Friends of the Maple Street Chapel. Annual memberships. Money is used for ongoing Chapel expenses.
- Endowment Fund. Money is invested and earnings provide for preservation of the Chapel
- Special Gifts. Specifically for _____

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------|--|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic "Friends" Membership | \$25 - \$99 | <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten Society | \$3,000 - \$4,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bell Ringer Membership | \$100 - \$499 | <input type="checkbox"/> Colonel Plum's Partners | \$5,000 - \$9,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chapel Steward Membership | \$500 - \$999 | <input type="checkbox"/> The Reade Circle | \$10,000 - \$24,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steeple Club Membership | \$1,000 - \$2,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pinnacle Society | \$25,000 + |

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Detach and return to Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc.,
220 South Main Street, Lombard, Illinois 60148

