



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** William "Bill" Ware, Chairperson  
Economic and Community Development Committee

**FROM:** William J. Heniff, AICP, Director of Community Development *WJH*

**DATE:** December 2, 2009

**SUBJECT:** 220 S Main Street (Maple Street Chapel) 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Community Development Department has received a request for grant funds to allow the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc. to install lighting on the south side of the steeple. The lighting will celebrate the building's 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The lighting would remain in place for all of 2010. The grant request originally came forward as an application for the use of Hotel/Motel Funds. As the property is located within the Downtown TIF District, TIF funds may be used for the grant request. This grant request is similar to the grant request by the Lombard Historical Society for 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for the State Bank Building that was approved at last month's ECDC meeting.

The application submitted by the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society indicates that they received a quote from Hoeksema Electric Service back in 2007 for \$1,810. The Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc. is requesting the grant to be in an amount not to exceed \$2000.

### **ACTION REQUESTED**

The Economic and Community Development Committee is asked to consider the grant proposal. Staff recommends approval of the grant in an amount not to exceed \$2000.

Application Deadline: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted: 11/17/09

### APPLICATION FOR HOTEL/MOTEL FUNDS

*State law requires that Hotel/Motel funds be spent on tourism; more specifically, things and event which will promote overnight stays in Lombard.*

Event/Project/Activity: Maple Street Chapel's 140<sup>th</sup> Birthday, a Year-Long Celebration

Event Date(s): January 2010 through December 2010, the Chapel's 140<sup>th</sup> year

Name of Org/Group Sponsoring Event: Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc.

Organization Address: 220 South Main Street, Lombard, IL 60148

Organization Phone: 630-627-0171

Contact Person: Thomas R. Scott, President

Address: 220 South Main Street, Lombard, IL 60148

Home Phone: 630-858-6708

Business Phone: 630-790-1000, ext. 8336

1. Is this the first year for your event? Yes \_\_\_ No X  
If not, how many years has this event been held? 139 years (since 1870)

2. What is the estimated attendance? 5,000 annually

3. Where will the event be held? Maple Street Chapel

4. What specifically would the Hotel/Motel funding be used for?

Dedicated in May, 1870, Maple Street Chapel celebrates its 140<sup>th</sup> birthday in May, 2010. In honor of the occasion, we want to install lighting of the south side of the steeple with the support of Village Hotel/Motel funds. We can produce signs, press releases, a special logo for village stickers, postcards, pamphlets and photos, docent-led tours, concerts and celebrations. We can even produce reenactments of the Chapel's importance in Village history, updated displays in the recently renovated Reade Room and Helen Plum Library, and a tribute to Josiah Reade, church clerk for 43 years, who is buried in the recently renovated Main Street Cemetery. But we need your help to support and provide the funds necessary to night-light the steeple.

Amount Requested: \$2,000

5. Is this event open to the general public? Yes X No \_\_\_

6. Do you intend to apply for a liquor license? Yes \_\_\_ No X

7. How will this promote tourism/overnight stays in Lombard?

Maple Street Chapel draws 5,000 visitors annually for Lilac Week, tours, concerts and community activities. Attendees and performers eat and stay overnight in Lombard and visit

Village attractions and retail stores. For 2010, we hope to attract even more visitors to Lombard with concert offerings/community programs, Lilac Week activities and year-round school and public tours. The Chapel's preservation depends on keeping its history alive, its potential before us, and its future in front of us. Without any paid staff, donations keep the doors open for tours, meetings, weddings, rentals, concerts and programs. Already 2010 Chapel calendars are for sale, a special dinner in the Reade Room is planned, parade float under development, flag flown over the U.S. Capital promised from Congressman Roskam, and a library display case reserved for the month of May. But we want you, the Village, to help us light up the south side of the Chapel steeple so that visitors can see it all the way from Roosevelt Road. We estimate the cost at \$2,000, but the return will be immeasurable. If approved by February, we can submit a bid, sign a contract and arrange for materials and installation in time for the Town Hall Meeting in March, at which time a 50-state flag flown over the U.S. Capitol will be raised and the steeple will be lit to invite the Village and all our neighbors to celebrate with us. (Did you know the only flag in the building is in the Reade Room, one with 37-stars recognizing the 37 states of 1870?)

8. Will any profits generated be returned to the community? Yes X No    

If yes, how will this be spent?

Thanks to the Village's support in 2006, the Chapel sanctuary has a storage closet for materials for community events, particularly docent-led tours and concert equipment. Thanks to the Village's support in 2008, the Chapel's back door to the Reade Room has an electric door opener, making the building fully handicapped accessible. Thanks to the Village's support in 2010, we can celebrate as the Village has in 2009. Profits generated will be returned in intangible but visible ways as tourism increases.

Please submit a budget for your event, along with this application, explaining what funding sources will be used no later than December 31. (See page 2 attached)

#### Purpose: Maple Street Chapel's 140<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

Maple Street Chapel built in 1870 was Lombard's first house of worship, first kindergarten classroom, first public library and site for Village Hall meetings, and its bell summoned the volunteer fire brigade. Today the Chapel annually hosts 12-15 folk and variety concerts, the Lilac Princess tiara presentation, 25 weddings, memorials, tours, even Village Board meetings. The all-volunteer Chapel board is committed to expanding this venue as a community center and to recognize Maple Street Chapel's place in Lombard's history from 1870-2010.

#### A Work in Progress: Maple Street Chapel's 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Timeline:

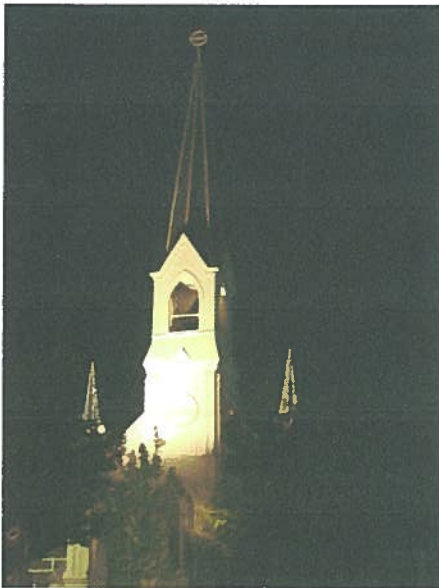
- 11/09 – calendars for 2010 with monthly photos of the Chapel on sale for \$15 each.
- 11/09 – exploration of special label wine with Chapel logo for commemorative dinner.
- 01/10 – special release to the *Lombardian* of upcoming 140<sup>th</sup> year, residents' quotes.
- 02/10 – Village approved funding to install lighting for the south side of the steeple.
- 03/10 – presentation of U.S. flag from Congressman Roskam at Town Hall Meeting.
- 03/10 – sale of 2010 Village vehicle stickers featuring Chapel logo with 1870-2010.
- 04/16/10 – Endowment dinner for 32 in Reade Room @ \$140 per person, w/logo wine.
- 04/25/10 – American Heritage Concert with music of America since Lincoln's days.
- 05/01/10 – Display case of Chapel artifacts at Helen Plum Library for the month of May.
- 05/17/10 – Handmade 9-foot replica of Maple Street Chapel for the Lilac Parade Float.
- 05/23/10 – Ecumenical worship service for First Church and other congregations.

# **The Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society**

## **Lighting of South Side of Steeple**

### North Side

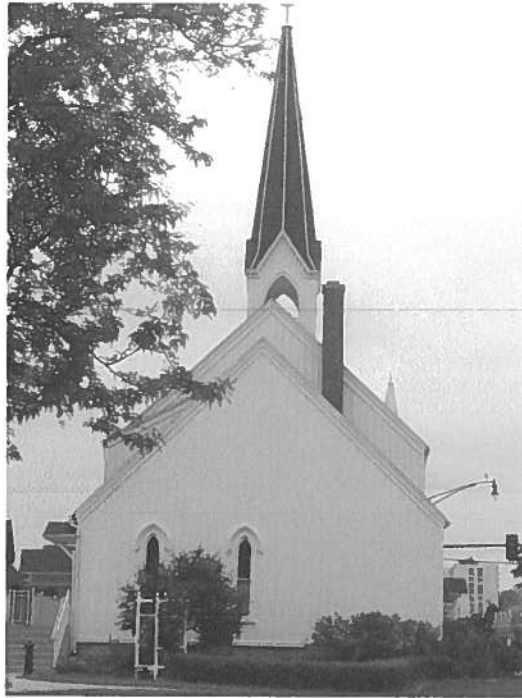
In 2005, by a serendipitous opportunity, we were able to provide lighting of the north side of the steeple with no start-up cost. There is an existing utility pole on the north side of the Maple Street Chapel, and Commonwealth Edison provides a program of providing free installation of exterior lights in exchange for the ongoing cost of their operation (The more common application of this accommodation is a street light at the entrance to a long driveway.). The result is quite striking as one approaches from the north.



The Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society would like to illuminate the south side of the steeple. If you observe the approach to the chapel from both directions in daylight, you will find the potential for an even greater impact from south side illumination. The furthest north the steeple is visible from the north is from Grove Street, but from the south, it is visible all the way from Roosevelt Road - 1½ miles away.

A similar opportunity to use an existing utility pole does not exist on the south side. We will need to employ an electrical contractor to install a fixture. Our best proposal has been for a 400 watt metal halide light.

Our plan to make the fixture as unobtrusive as possible is to mount it on the west side of the chimney, so it will be essentially screened from view from Main St.



The price quoted by Hoeksema Electric Service in June of 2007 was \$1,810, so we are estimating an updated cost of \$2,000.