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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AUTHOR OF "WICKED" SPEAKS AT PILGRIM CHURCH



Greg Maguire, author of the best-selling book and musical *Wicked* will speak at Pilgrim Church on Sunday, May 23rd during the 10 am service. Sponsored by the Kenneth Powell Fund for the Creative Word, Maguire's talk will be entitled *WHAT-THE-DICKENS, storytelling as an act of consolation*. From 12:15-1:15, Maguire will present *WICKED GOOD*, a free workshop which is open to the public. The author will tell the story of how he wrote *Wicked*, read from the book and lead a discussion.

Ken Powell was the minister of Pilgrim Church and served the community for over 25 years. The Fund has been created to honor him.

Gregory Maguire is the author of four novels for adults and more than a dozen novels for children. His adult novels, include *Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West*, praised by John

Updike in the *New Yorker* as "an amazing novel," *Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister*, *Lost*, *Mirror Mirror* and *Son of a Witch*.

Wicked has been developed into a Broadway musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, a book by Winnie Holzman and direction by Joe Mantello. It is coming to Boston this fall. *Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister* was filmed for ABC/Disney and aired originally in the Spring of 2002.

His children's novels include *The Hamlet Chronicles*, a seven book series including, *Seven Spiders Spinning*, *Six Haunted Hairdos*, *Five Alien Elves*, *Four Stupid Cupids*, *Three Rotten Eggs*, *A Couple of April Fools* and *One Final Firecracker*.

Mr. Maguire has been the recipient of several awards and fellowships. He was artist in residence at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, and has received fellowship residencies at Blue Mountain Center, New York; the Hambidge Center, Georgia; The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts; and the Bread Loaf Writers Conference, Vermont.