

WESTMINSTER NEWS



Westminster Presbyterian Church • 1200 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403-2419 • 612.332.3421 • www.eWestminster.org

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Fair Trade Gift Fair

By Cynthia Arnold, Social Justice Ministry Team

On **Sunday, November 20**, conscientious consumers and ethically-minded vendors will celebrate Westminster's fifth annual Fair Trade Gift Fair. This year, we offer products sourced from 20 countries: everything from coffee, chocolate, olive oil to hand crafted clothing and jewelry. Plus, we have extended the shopping hours until 2:00PM, so holiday shoppers can invite friends and family to join us to find the perfect gift.

Fair trade has earned a reputation as a force for economic justice. Purchasing fair trade products from small, indigenous cooperatives gives money to impoverished regions of the globe rather than putting more cash into the hands of big businesses.

This year, will also include domestic Fair Trade producers. Ending disparities among small, independent producers is a creative way for our members to help



locally as well. Native Harvest, the brand name of the White Earth Land

Recovery Project of Ponsford, MN is an example of local Fair Trade. Their wild rice is hand-harvested by native ricers in the ancient method of skimming through the lakes of northern Minnesota in boats. There's no way these harvesters could compete with factory-sized paddy rice farmers who mass produce rice products. Fair Trade is about the small changes we can make as consumers to ensure that the local and global farmers and workers are treated fairly and paid fairly for their work.

Shoppers will find the perfect gifts that have true meaning for this holiday shopping season. Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee, the sale runs from 9:15AM until 2:00PM, with a break during the 10:30AM worship service.



Above: Artisan hand painting an ornament.

Left: Harvesting Fair Trade coffee.



COUNTING
OUR
BLESSINGS

SENIORSHIP 2012

Come to the All-Church Festival!

Sunday, November 13, 9:00am

A Morning of Fellowship, Food & Fun

All Westminster members and friends are invited to an All-Church open house and celebration of our life as a community of faith! The entire main floor of the church will be filled with music, art, displays, videos. Activities for all ages...there will even be a scavenger hunt! Light refreshments served. Come see how God is at work at Westminster and what's in store for 2012. At the close of the festival, bagpipes will lead us all in a procession to the Sanctuary for worship at 10:30AM.

No RSVP required, just come for the fun!

No 8:30 worship service, 9:30 communion, or education classes on the 13th, so that everyone can join in the fun.

Stewardship 2012: Counting Our Blessings

By Susan & Geoff Francis, Westminster members



When we were asked to join the Membership Committee in 2007, we thought, how could we contribute – what experience do we have? We had recently become new members ourselves, and felt that we were still trying to wrap ourselves around all that happens here at Westminster. This is a big place, with a lot to offer. What would we have to contribute to new members when we weren't sure about our own place in the church? We had our reservations but decided to jump in and be a part of this committee.

Each fall, winter, and spring, new member classes are offered. The classes focus on learning what it means to be a Presbyterian

and learning about Westminster's programs and missions. Typically, on a Sunday evening and the proceeding Thursday, new members share a meal with each other and then meet with the Session. These meals not only nourish our bodies – they also provide us time together in fellowship.

This is a congregation that places emphasis on fellowship as God intends. We look forward to each group of new members with anticipation. We have learned that as volunteers the important thing is not what we know about the church, but taking the time to be hospitable and interacting with each new member. When we were new to the church, the welcoming nature of the congregation and

the genuine fellowship that we found here was a major part of why we decided to become members. That fellowship has led to the development of many friendships within the congregation. These friendships have been a blessing in our lives. We moved to the area just months before first attending Westminster, and since we have no family in Minnesota, these church relationships are all the more consequential to us.

We know that many prospective members have similar circumstances. They are in transition from one religious community to another and possibly relocating here. They are now in the place that we were. It is our hope that they are blessed in the same way what we have been by the fellowship of this church.

With each new member class, we find ourselves *counting our blessings* as we get to know new and wonderful people. Being volunteers with a focus on fellowship gives us an opportunity to make a difference, to touch people's lives. It gives us a chance to give back to our church community. In fellowship with each other we get a chance to share our blessings.



Susan & Geoff Francis

What is the Role of Marriage in Our Society?

By Judith Ericksen, Marriage Study Group Member

Westminster's Advocacy Committee has formed a Marriage Study Group to look at marriage as a civil and ecclesiastical institution with emphasis on the Reformed tradition. This group will study Biblical, theological, and secular perspectives on marriage, including how they may have changed over time.

The Study Group will make recommendations to Westminster's Session on how we in the Reformed tradition can best be obedient to Jesus Christ in church and state with respect to marriage. Among the issues to be considered will be same-sex marriage, and the most appropriate role of clergy who are currently acting as agents of the state in marriage ceremonies.

The Study Group, chaired by Don Ristad, includes Jennifer Alexander, Sandy Wolf Wood, Meghan Paul-Cook, and Judy Ericksen, with Doug Mitchell serving as staff. All members of the congregation are invited to par-

ticipate during this initial discovery phase. Here are some ways you can get involved:

- Attend a Listening Session to share your thoughts, **Sundays Oct. 30 or Nov. 6, 11:45-12:30, Bates Room** **Wednesday Nov. 9, 5:30-6:30, Founders Rm.** (*Dinner available in the Refectory, \$7/adults, \$3/children*).
- Email comments to marriage@wpc-mpls.org.
- Drop your comments in the Marriage Mail Box at the Reception Desk. You can also fill out a card that will be next to the Mail Box asking for six words you think of when you think of marriage.

Your input is a critical part of the process. Further congregation-wide dialog and small group studies in the spring will provide additional input before a final document is sent to Session. In the meantime, please direct questions to anyone on the committee. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful participation.

From Our Pastor

Dear Friends,

What do Nachito Herrera, Charlie DeVore, Nancy Carter, Ross Sutter, Mike Breidenbach, *Sentimiento Andino*, and Brad Ollmann have in common? They're all musicians who will be part of the fun at the **All Church Festival, Sunday, November 13!**

Last year we tried it for the first time – having a Sunday as part of our fall stewardship program where we gathered for only one worship service, at 10:30. We suspended all church school and other usual classes and events at the 9:15 education hour. We turned loose our creative juices in celebrating the life and ministry and mission of Westminster Presbyterian Church in downtown Minneapolis. The Festival was a huge success – so we're doing it again this year.

On that Sunday, November 13, starting at 9:00AM, we will be greeted at the Marquette Tower door by Charlie DeVore and his New Orleans Jazz Quartet. Ross Sutter will be playing Celtic music in the Meisel Room. The South American band *Sentimiento Andino* will provide music in the Great Hall.

Acknowledging our connection to his homeland through our global partners, Nachito Herrera will bring his exciting Cuban jazz to the Steinway piano in the Chapel, starting at 9:30 on Festival Sunday. He typically plays at the Dakota Jazz Club; no cover charge to hear him at Westminster! Nancy Carter and the Westminster Bell Choir and Brad Ollmann's Seraphim singers will also perform in the Chapel.

Lots of music will make our building a lively place on November 13!

Light treats will be served throughout the building that day as we browse displays, presentations, and activities for all ages by leaders of Westminster's many programs. It will be a delightful way to encounter and learn more about the wide-ranging ministries of our congregation. It all culminates in a celebratory worship service in the sanctuary at 10:30, to which bagpiper Mike Briedenbach will summon us as he moves through the building at the appointed hour.

It's a joy to be part of a thriving church!

This year's stewardship theme, *Counting Our Blessings*, has prompted some inspiring reflections by church members and leaders. We've read them in the *News*. We've heard them in worship. We've seen them at countingourblessings.org.

The All Church Festival on Sunday, November 13 gives us yet another chance to count our blessings together here at Westminster. Plan to join the festivities that day – and why not bring a friend!



Timothy Hart-Andersen

WESTMINSTER CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Timothy Hart-Andersen

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Kathy Fisher, Executive Assistant

Mary Hess, Director of Legacy Giving

ADULT ED. & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Rev. Katherine S. Michael, Associate Pastor

Kathy Fisher, Leadership Development Admin. Asst.

Claudia Kapitan, Adult Ed Admin. Assistant

Barbara Mauk, Librarian

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

The Rev. Meghan K. Gage-Finn, Associate Pastor

Mary Alette Davis, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Dan Commerford, Dir. of Middle & H.S. Ministries

Marie Kruskop, Coord., Early Childhood Ministries

Barbara Prince, Program Assistant

EVANGELISM & FELLOWSHIP

The Rev. Annika Lister Stroope, Associate Pastor

Melanie McCall, Coord. of Fellowship/Spec. Events

Claudia Kapitan, Evangelism Admin. Assistant

Dan Franklin, Fellowship Admin. Assistant

Kristin Kieft, Publications Coordinator

FAITH IN ACTION

The Rev. Douglas Mitchell, Associate Pastor

Dan Franklin, Coord. of Discipleship Ministries

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

Dr. Melanie Ohnstad, Minister of Music and the Arts/Organist

Dr. Jere Lantz, Westminster Choir Director

Dr. Rodney Allen Schwartz, Director,

Westminster Gallery and Archive

Barbara Prince, Program Assistant,

Worship, Music and the Arts

Nancy Carter, Handbell Choir Director

Brad Ollmann, Dir. Early/Middle Childhood Music

Shekela Wanyama, Dir. Youth Music

PASTORAL CARE

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Robertson, Associate Pastor

Claudia Kapitan, Administrative Assistant

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Sandy Wilson, Office Manager

Jennifer Zenanko, Accountant

Mary Dolan; J D. Shaffer, Accounting Assistants

Debbie Anderson; Sarah Kantrud, Receptionists

Amy Riesenberger, Wedding Coordinator

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Neale Holleschau, Facilities Manager

Todd Bushy, Brian Coyoc, Christopher Glenn,

Richard Wilder, Facilities Staff

EMERITA

The Rev. Elizabeth D. Heller, Assoc. Pastor Emerita

WESTMINSTER CAMP AJAWAH

Dave Moore, Director

Sarah Kantrud, Registrar

WESTMINSTER COUNSELING CENTER

612.332.7743

The Rev. Dr. Margaret McCray, LMFT, Executive Director

The Rev. Ross A. Aalgaard, MSW, LGSW

The Rev. Dr. Leta J. Herrington, LPC

The Rev. Mary Keen, LMFT

Lori Churchill, Business Manager

WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL FORUM

Susan McKenna, Director

PARISH ASSOCIATES (Volunteer Clergy)

The Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins

The Rev. Margaret McCray

The Rev. Dean J. Seal

WPC Happenings • • • WPC Happenings • • • WPC Happenings

WOW Westminster on Wednesdays

Men and women of all ages meet on Wednesdays at 9:00AM in the Meisel Rm. for coffee; 9:30 men's & women's Bible studies; program at 10:45. Bring a bag lunch and continue fellowship time together after the program. Upcoming programs include: **Nov. 2** Rodney Allen Schwartz on the Westminster Gallery exhibition, *I Am*; **Nov. 9** Melba Elston, *A Conversation*; **Nov. 16** Therese Gales, American Refugee Committee. For info, call Sharon Achor, 952.847.9117.

Camp Ajawah: Buckthorn & Bonfire

Saturday, Nov. 5, 10:00AM – 6:00PM Come anytime during the day! Learn to identify and remove buckthorn. Enjoy a big bonfire afterwards to burn the buckthorn. Bring hot dogs, brats, burgers, and s'mores to roast over the fire after a hard days work. Contact Doug VanValkenburg, vanv0034@umn.edu.

Fall into Fellowship: An Early Childhood Families Potluck

Join us on **Saturday, November 12, 4:00-6:30PM** at the home of Katherine and Scott Kovarik. Join us for food, fellowship and...some fun! Look for details in the next issue of the Westminster Nursery News and upcoming CYF weekly updates. Contact Marie Kruskop for more information and to RSVP by November 7, mkruskop@wpc-mpls.org or 763.535.8973.

Come to the NAZ Ball!

Saturday November 12, 7:00PM – midnight at International Market Square, 275 Market Street, Minneapolis 55405. The PEACE Foundation is now doing all its business as the Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ). Come and dance and celebrate the work being done in the Zone. Music will be provided by the Soul Tight Committee. Westminster has a reserved table. More info and tickets available online, northsideachievement.org, or contact Doug Mitchell, dmitchell@wpc-mpls.org.

TGOF: The Great Over Fifties

TGOF is a monthly fellowship group for Westminster members and friends, age 50 and above. We will gather at **Noon on Sunday, November 20** for lunch in the Refectory and a program on Veterans from World War II. We will hear from Ruth Hass, who was a nurse in the US Army Nurse Corps, and Don Pottratz will share his experiences in the US Army Signal Corps. \$14 covers the cost of lunch. Register on the online calendar at ewestminster.org, or on Sundays, Nov. 6 & 13 in the Heller Commons. You can also register by contacting Dan Franklin at 612.332.3421.

Christmas Dinners, Dec. 2 & 3

The story we will hear at this year's Christmas Dinners is called *The Night Before Christmas, 1944*. It is the wartime story of Hank Andersen, told through the pen of his son, our pastor, Tim Hart-Andersen and it takes place as American troops prepare for the Battle of the Bulge. Hank's story will be portrayed as a 1940s radio drama. Tickets will be sold on Sundays in the Heller Commons. Please join us for this Westminster Christmas tradition.

Notice of Congregational Meeting

A meeting of the Congregation of Westminster Presbyterian Church will be held Sunday, November 13, 2011 during 10:30 worship in the sanctuary of the church, 1200 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis, Minnesota for the purpose of electing Elders, Trustees, Deacons, and Congregational Nominating Committee members at large.

By Order of the Session, Vincent A. Thomas, Clerk of Session

All-Church Festival Volunteers Needed

Help make the All Church Festival a success! Volunteers are needed on **Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 12 & 13**.

Sit at a Welcome Table, help with food, or assist with setup or cleanup. We promise you'll also have time to enjoy the Festival!

To sign up, contact Dan Franklin, 612.332.3421 or dfranklin@wpc-mpls.org. Thank you!

IN MEMORY OF

Joanne DeVore

died October 15, 2011

I am the Resurrection and the Life



Births & Adoptions

RHYS SEVERSON RILEY

Birthdate: September 4, 2011

Family: Elizabeth & Scott Riley and Brennan

Daily Phone Devotions

Phone 612.332.7087

for the daily lectionary

October 28	Ps. 107:1-7, 33-37
29	1 Thess. 2:9-13
30.....	Matt. 23:1-12
31	Josh. 4:1-24
November 1	Matt. 5:1-12
2	Ps. 128
3	Josh. 24:1-3a, 14-25
4	Ps. 78:1-7
5	1 Thess. 4:13-18
6.....	Matt. 25:1-13
7	Josh. 24:25-33
8	1 Thess. 3:6-13
9.....	Matt. 24:29-35
10.....	Judg. 4:1-7
11	Ps. 123
12	1 Thess. 5:1-11
13.....	Matt. 25:14-30
14.....	Rom. 2:1-11

Journey to Housing Justice

By Douglas Mitchell, Associate Pastor

With homelessness on the rise in our state, it is on the shoulders of local shelters and organizations to support and shelter low-income individuals through these rough economic times. In November, three shelters in Minneapolis are opening their doors to people of the congregations that make up Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness (DCEH) to visit and learn more about the issues facing those who utilize their services. They will also address how they are helping to end homelessness.

Sunday, November 6, 10:30AM-1:00PM

St. Stephen's Human Services, 2211 Clinton Ave. S.

Sunday, November 13, 10:30AM-1:00PM

People Serving People, 14 S. Third St.

Sunday, November 20, 10:30AM-1:00PM

YouthLink, 41 N. 12th St.

Visit www.dceh.org for more information.

Community Partnerships Evaluation Committee

By Tom Fidler, Chair,

Community Partnerships Evaluation Committee

Each fall/winter season, the Community Partnerships Evaluation Committee begins its work of reviewing applications for funding from Westminster's mission budget. Westminster typically receives funding requests from 25-30 local organizations, and the committee makes site visits to these organizations before making final recommendations for funding to the Faith in Action Council.

This year, a meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 7 at 6:30PM** in Rooms 209/210 to help set direction for the committee's upcoming work. We welcome all returning and prospective new committee members to attend this meeting. The committee is always looking for new members, so please contact Dan Franklin, dfranklin@wpc-mpls.org if you would like to participate in this important work.



Boy Scouts Help Save the Chimney Swift

At left: Westminster Boy Scout Troop 100 is working with the Audubon Society to save the chimney swift from extinction. They have built four nesting towers and plan to build at least two more.

This photo shows a tower that Eagle candidate Mark Thao put up at 1666 Coffman, a retirement home for University of Minnesota faculty.

Photo by Dave Moore.

Nicollet Square Update

By Lorene Liddle, Co-Chair,

Nicollet Square Connections Committee

Since the inception of Nicollet Square, Westminster has participated in this project to house homeless adolescents and young adults. This beautiful, new facility is located at Nicollet Ave. and W. 37th St, and, at last, all units have been filled. Approximately half of the units were designated as housing for adolescents aging out of the child welfare system of Hennepin County, and the balance of new residents were selected from a long list of those requesting housing. With your generous support, all new residents received a basic set of household items and cleaning supplies with which to begin their "new" housed lives. As the initial group of youth began moving in, household items were in a conference room to facilitate their distribution. With all units occupied, those items have now been moved into Nic's Closet, a smaller storage room on the third floor.

As individuals move out of Nicollet Square, they will take their household items with them as personal possessions, so our need for those items will continue, but at a slower pace. Currently, we have an abundant supply of some items but need a few others, such as new or very gently used sets of silverware. We are always happy to have cash donations for the purchase of consumable supplies such as laundry detergent and cleaning products, and to purchase gift cards for birthdays. If you have items to donate, you may bring them directly to Nicollet Square OR bring them to church clearly marked for Nicollet Square items. If you have questions, please call me at 612.729.9430.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with various aspects of the Nicollet Square project. Currently, volunteers from Plymouth and Westminster churches are hosting a monthly birthday celebration lunch on the third Wednesday to honor residents who have a birthday that month. Volunteers are always welcome to help with that recurring event. We are also in need of volunteers to cover the front desk while the regular receptionist enjoys a 60-minute lunch break. As other needs arise, we will keep you posted.

Winona LaDuke to Speak at Plymouth

By Cynthia Arnold, Social Justice Ministry Team

Internationally known Native American activist and author Winona LaDuke will speak at Plymouth Congregational Church on **Monday, Nov. 7 at 7:00PM**. Her topic, *The Green Path: Land-based Economies and Future Generations*, will address economic choices in food and energy systems. A reception and book signing will follow.

LaDuke is the founder of the White Earth Land Recovery Project, one of the largest reservation based non-profit organizations in the country. She is also Executive Director of Honor the Earth, where she works on a national level to raise public support and funding for frontline native environmental groups. She is a leader in the issues of culturally based sustainable development strategies, renewable energy and food systems. She works nationally and internationally to protect indigenous plants and heritage foods from patenting and genetic engineering.

A graduate of Harvard and Antioch Universities, LaDuke has written extensively on Native American and environmental issues. She is the author of six books,

including *Recovering the Sacred*, *All our Relations*, and a novel, *Last Standing Woman*. She is a former board member of Greenpeace USA and is presently an advisory board member for the Trust for Public Lands Native Lands Program and a board member of the Christensen Fund. An enrolled member of the White Earth Band of Anishinaabeg, she lives and works on the White Earth Reservation, and is the mother of three children.

For more information, see www.plymouth.org or www.ewestminster.org/socialjusticeforum.



Winona LaDuke

LaDuke's visit is co-sponsored by Plymouth American Indian Initiative of the Global Connections Committee, and the Westminster Presbyterian Church Social Justice Forum.

Middle School Fall Retreat

By Dan Commerford, Director, Middle/High School Ministries



On October 14, 22 middle school students and five leaders made the journey to Presbyterian Clearwater Forest for the Middle School Fall Retreat. Along with several other Twin Cities Presbyterian youth groups, our students played games, participated in worship, and enjoyed fellowship with each other. The theme for the weekend was "Like...Follow," using terms from the popular social network sites Facebook and Twitter.

The students participated in small group sessions to explore what it means to "like" God and "follow" Christ. It was a great weekend to get away from the hectic schedules of school, homework, and extra-curricular activities and retreat to a place where the students and leaders could focus on spending time with God and each other.

Groveland Food Shelf Benefit

By Randy Greene, Westminster member

We're off to see *the Wizard*... Everyone is invited to a special screening of the family classic "The Wizard of Oz," to benefit the Groveland Food Shelf.

This event will be on **Sunday, November 6 at 1:15PM** at the Historic Heights Theatre in Columbia Heights. There will also be an organ concert before the event on the Mighty Wurlitzer along with door prizes and trivia.

Tickets will be sold Sundays at the church, (adults \$10; children \$5) or at the Heights box office the day of the event. This is a great way to have a fun afternoon with family and friends and help others who are in need. Contact Mary Alette Davis for more info, 612.332.3421 or mdavis@wpc-mpls.org. See you at the movies! *Sponsored by the Children, Youth & Families Council of Westminster.*

What Are You Doing for Dinner?

How about Dinner For Eight on **Saturday, November 12, 6:00PM**? This is a great way to meet new people and get to know other members of our church better in a relaxed setting, sharing a dinner together. The concept is simple: each host prepares the entrée and guests bring a dish to share. By sharing a meal, new friendships emerge and our community grows stronger as we learn more about one another. You can offer to host (we are always looking for new hosts!) or you can be a guest every time you participate. Sign up in the Heller Commons on Oct. 30 or Nov. 6, or send an email to Kent Cassidy, kecassidy@aol.com, or Debby Woodard, dwoodard@scisoc.org.

All God's Children Got Robes

By Barbara Prince, Program Assistant, Worship, Music and the Arts

In the Spiritual *Heav'n Heav'n*, the African-American slave sees a heaven where all God's children have all their needs met, and the wicked don't even get to heaven:

*I got a robe, you got a robe,
All God's children got a robe.
When I get to Heav'n gonna put on my robe,
Gonna shout all over God's Heav'n, Heav'n, Heav'n
Everybody talkin' 'bout Heav'n ain't going there,
Heav'n, Heav'n, Heav'n.
Gonna shout all over God's Heav'n.*

Westminster's music program has done what it can to bring choir robes to others in need, in the here and now. Several years ago the old adult choir robes, retired when we moved into the renovated sanctuary, ended up with our partner congregation in Cameroon. Two years ago the youth choir robes were replaced, and they have recently found homes at six different churches scattered throughout the U.S. from Lakeland, Florida, to Oakland, California. First we placed an ad on a choral website and had four responses right away. After these "orders" were

filled, we took the next two requests and split the remainder of the robes between them. The churches in need ranged from established programs to start-ups with only 4 members, but which were hoping to grow. The most unusual music program served was that at Feds Creek Baptist Church in Steele, KY, which needed the robes for its signing (no, that's not a misspelling!) team. You can see their choir signing to recorded music on YouTube (before they received the robes).

Perhaps we can't make sure that all God's children have robes, but due to the generosity which allowed our youth to wear new robes, we were able to pass along our good fortune to others.



The Westminster Gallery: Remember the '70s?

By Rodney Allen Schwartz, Director, The Westminster Gallery and Archive

John August Swanson is a familiar, favorite artist to Midwestern art aficionados. The Westminster Gallery featured an exhibition of his early and current work in the fall of 2010. He started making art centered around social justice themes, and has evolved over the decades to focus on Christian and biblical stories.

Swanson is not fond of travel, but came to Westminster from Los Angeles to speak with us during the exhibition. While here, he was asked if there were any early pieces of his art that might be hiding in his studio. Several weeks later, we learned of a series of three serigraph prints of *Noah's Ark*, comprised of *The Building of the Ark*, *The Flood*, and *The Rainbow*. We were delighted to acquire this series with funds given by Shirlee and Sam Bates, and Marge and Bill Carter. The prints have been framed in 1970s-style walnut frames and are making their debut on the gallery wall next to the chapel door.

I invite you to take time to engage your imagination with them. Think about the political and cultural phenomena of the '70s. If you are as old as I am, you might detect the influence of the Beatles' album covers. Remember the soundtrack recordings for *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* (1967) or *Yellow Submarine* (1968)? Do you think Noah might chuckle in seeing his life story represented as psychedelic?



The Rainbow, one in a series of three serigraphs, by John August Swanson, 1974

RESPONDING IN DISCIPLESHIP



By Dan Franklin, Coordinator of Discipleship Ministries

Is it Tuesday yet? That's the question that fifteen 3rd and 4th grade students at Jefferson Community School in Minneapolis ask their teachers every week from October through March.

Those students are participating in a tutoring program offered by Grace-Trinity Community Church, a joint PC(USA)/American Baptist Conference church in Uptown Minneapolis. You have read in recent months that Westminster's Session and Grace-Trinity's Council of Elders approved a plan whereby Westminster will provide leadership during a two year period during which new opportunities for ministry in the Uptown neighborhood will be explored. The agreement between the two churches states that the tutoring program and a nursery school will continue as important outreach to the community.

The tutoring program began twelve years ago and utilizes Macalester students and as well as adult volunteers from the Grace-Trinity congregation. One of those volunteers, Susan Henderson, has been a tutor for 11 of those years, and she looks forward to Tuesday every bit as much as the students do. She says that no matter what kind of day she's having, once she sees the faces

of those young people everything is better. But her enthusiasm pales in comparison to that of the young people. One returning student was so excited about the program that he dragged his younger sister into the social worker's office at Jefferson and demanded an application for his sister! Both of them are now enrolled in the tutoring program.

The ultimate goal of the Westminster/Grace-Trinity partnership is for Grace-Trinity to once again become self-supporting. One way for that to happen is for the tutoring program to get an infusion of fresh energy and enthusiasm. In discussing this new venture, Tim Hart-Andersen has reminded us that Westminster has helped start a number of new congregations in its 150+ year history. Volunteering with the tutoring program at Grace-Trinity is an opportunity for you to continue that tradition. You'll not only be able to touch the lives of young people needing assistance, you'll also contribute to the witness of Jesus Christ in the Uptown area, by helping restore vibrancy to a congregation that wants to be its own *telling presence* in the community. Please contact me for more information.

• Dan can be reached at 612.332.3421 or dfranklin@wpc-mpls.org •

WestConnect for Fun and Fellowship

By Melanie McCall, Coordinator of Fellowship

Adults in their 20s and 30s are invited to be a part of WestConnect, Westminster's young(ish) adult fellowship group. Upcoming:

- **Ongoing on Sundays**, come to the Bushnell Rm. for the After Hour, a time to connect over good coffee after the 10:30AM worship service. Discuss the sermon, meet new friends, and learn more about upcoming events.

- **Monday night Bible Study**. Join in this four-week Bible study and discussion with a lively group. Held at Beth Gillaspay's home. Email Beth for more information, bethgillaspay@gmail.com.

- **Beer/Wine/Other Drink Tasting** on November 11, Hosted by Jacque and Jim DeBuse. Bring a beverage of your choice and something to eat. If you have any fun group games, bring those as well! For more info contact Jacque and Jim at jacqueline.debuse@gmail.com.

All the latest news is on our Facebook group page. Search for us at Westminster WestConnect. Questions? Contact Melanie at mmccall@wpc-mpls.org.

Town Hall Forum

Tom Brokaw

Thursday, November 8, 7:00PM

The Time of Our Lives: Past, Present, Promise

Tom Brokaw is a Peabody and Emmy Award-winning journalist who served as anchor and managing editor of the NBC Nightly News from 1983 to 2005. Before that, he served as a White House correspondent and anchor of the Today Show for NBC News. He is the author of five bestsellers, including *The Greatest*



Generation. In his newest book, *The Time of Our Lives: Past, Present, Promise*, he examines changes in American life since the Great Depression, and, reflects on our nation's future.

Music with Klezmer and All That Jazz precedes the forum at 6:30PM; public reception and book-signing follow. Free and open to all. For further information, contact Susan McKenna, smckenna@wpc-mpls.org, 612.332.3421, or visit westminsterforum.org.

Turkey Adventure: Pilgrimage in Paul's Footsteps Join Rev. Kathy Michael and Dr. Sarah Henrich from Luther Seminary for this wonderful adventure, **April 20-May 2, 2012**. Brochures are on the literature tables, or you can contact Kathy or Claudia in the church office, 612.332.3421 or kmichael@wpc-mpls.org.