

# WESTMINSTER NEWS



Westminster Presbyterian Church • 1200 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403-2419 • 612.332.3421 • [www.eWestminster.org](http://www.eWestminster.org)

February 25, 2011 • Vol. 45, No. 4

## Beloved

By Melanie Ohnstad, Minister of Music and the Arts

As we approach Lent, the sermon series on *Good Questions* brings to my mind a poem that poses two more very universal questions. The poem is *Late Fragment* by American poet Raymond Carver (1938-1988). He conceived it as the coda to his final collection of poetry written only months before his untimely death from cancer. I first heard *Late Fragment* at a memorial service honoring a young woman who had committed suicide. The strength of the words has never faded.

### *Late Fragment*

**And did you get what  
you wanted from this life, even so?  
I did.**

**And what did you want?  
To call myself beloved, to feel myself  
beloved on the earth.**

Beloved is not a commonly used word. It's there at Jesus' baptism, "This is my beloved Son..." It pops up at weddings, "Dearly beloved, we are gathered..." There is a song, "This Is My Beloved" and Toni Morrison's novel, *Beloved*. In *Late Fragment* beloved stands as the definition of a fulfilled life. Reaching hard earned self acceptance enabled Carver to call himself beloved. Experiencing intense love with certainty enabled Carver to feel beloved. It was in the end what he wanted and what he got from life.

It seems that Lent offers us the opportunity to deeply consider what creates meaning in our lives. It offers the opportunity to examine once again the way our lifestyles reflect our priorities. Lent may be a season to move even a little bit closer to the recognition that God might have something to do with calling ourselves beloved and feeling ourselves beloved. Lent may be a time when we open ourselves to change. It may be a time when we more purposefully enable others to call and know themselves as beloved.

In our beloved community, the *Good Questions* sermon series will shift to the *Hard Questions*. During Lent Tim Hart-Andersen will consider along with us the nature of evil, sin, suffering, forgiveness, and death. In his last months, Carver spoke of blessing, grace and mystery. May our Lent be filled with the same.

## LENT & EASTER

### Ash Wednesday, March 9

Worship at Noon (followed by lunch)  
and 6:30PM

### Wednesdays in Lent

March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13

Worship at Noon followed by lunch  
Taizé Service at 6:30PM

### Palm Sunday, April 17

Worship at 8:30 & 10:30AM

### Maundy Thursday, April 21

Worship at Noon & 7:00PM

### Good Friday, April 22

Worship at Noon

### Easter Quiet Worship, April 23

Worship at 9:00AM

### Easter, April 24

Worship at 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00AM

*Covenant Groups begin the week of March 13 and meet on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays during Lent. Registration cards were in the Feb. 11 News and are available on the information tables around the church.*



## Bringing Fresh Water in Cuba

By Jessie Wright, Westminster Member, Student at University of Virginia

**Editor's note:** Westminster has just been asked to install a clean water system at the Luyano Presbyterian Church in Havana. The Luyano congregation has hosted almost all of Westminster's traveling groups over the last decade. Helping them have, for the first time ever, an on-site clean water system would be a great way to pay back their hospitality.

Tim Hart-Andersen and Ed Cunningham will meet with anyone interested in becoming part of Westminster's new Clean Water Team, after the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, March 6, in the Bates Room.

Cuba is hot. This isn't a particularly groundbreaking observation, but it was an inescapable one as I sat on burning concrete under the Matanzas sun, baking and watching small lizards dart near my fingertips. I was spending a month of last summer at *el Seminario Evangelico de Teologia* in Matanzas, Cuba, and serving Westminster's partnership congregation at Versalles. In front of me, ten neighborhood children were earnestly scuffling and kicking a beaten soccer ball up and down an old basketball court, shrieking with the thrill of competition. They bounced through the seminary gates almost daily, hosting their own neighborhood version of the World Cup on the grounds. After an hour or so of play, we all tromped to the seminary's cafeteria, and the kids and I, dusty and panting, drank in the clean, cold water coming from the spigot.

Two years ago, that spigot and water did not exist. Westminster has had a wonderful history with our



Volunteers work on clean water project

brothers in sisters in Cuba, maintaining mutually enriching relationships with our partner congregation in Matanzas. Ed Cunningham, a long-time Westminster member, has been involved in a slightly

different way. In the summer of 2008, Ed

traveled with a group to Cuba to take water samples at the seminary, collecting data in an effort to provide clean

## Young Filmmakers at TGOF

By Barbara Mauk, Westminster Member

Have you thought about how the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico might impact the environment closer to our home? Some very thoughtful and creative young people from North Minneapolis have done just that. The result is *Blue Migration*, a documentary about the blue heron population that spends each summer in Minneapolis on an island in the Mississippi River. The film explores the potential danger the water birds may encounter as they migrate to their winter nesting location in the oil spill area.

The students produced at the 2010 Kwanzaa Freedom

water to communities around the world. Working with First-Trinity Presbyterian Church in Mississippi and the Synod of the Living Waters, Ed helped install a water purification system at the seminary the following summer. He and the First-Trinity team had been trained in Mississippi, learning how to install clean-water systems and also how to communicate the system's spiritual and hygienic elements to the communities being served.

A few weeks after I sat watching that pick-up soccer game under the sun, Ed and a team from First-Trinity successfully

installed another clean-water system at an orphanage in Matanzas. The water not only serves the children and staff of the orphanage, but the people of the neighborhood and surrounding community as well. Likewise at the seminary, people traipse through the gates with buckets and bottles hourly, toddlers and babies babbling as their faces get a splash of the refreshing stream. The water not only provides health, it provides a community bond, a flowing source of life and connection for the people who drink it. And I, a month-long visitor at the seminary, discarded my bottled water and Pepto-Bismol, and confidently lifted a glass up to the spigot next to my Cuban friends. We were brothers and sisters, brought together by the hot Cuban sun and the possibility of community.



Director and residents of orphanage in Matanzas where clean water system was installed.

School summer program, and will show their film, answer questions, and describe their plans for a sequel at TGOF on **Sunday, March 20**. We will view a second film, *Our Community, Our Home*, also produced by the students. This film presents a positive view of North Minneapolis and describes what makes it feel like home.

This program will honor and encourage these youth, and help will learn more about our city. One-hundred blue herons on an island not far from downtown? Who knew?

TGOF, *The Great Over Fifties*, begins with lunch at Noon in the Meisel Room. Tickets (\$14) on sale in Heller Commons on March 6 & 13 or contact Dan Franklin 612.332.3421. Everyone is invited!

# From Our Pastor

## Dear Friends,

Last week, after the chapel service at which Westminster's Session received new members, I noticed one of those just welcomed lingering by the Book of the Covenant. She was leafing back through the pages, running her finger down the list of names contained in the book. She and the others had added their names as part of the ritual of coming into the church.

People often ask if they can try to find a family member in the Book—a grandfather who joined Westminster in the 1940s, or a mom with her confirmation class in the 1960s. This particular volume of the Book of the Covenant goes back to 1935. I asked the young woman turning the pages if she was looking for someone in particular. "No," she said. "I'm just marveling at all the names."

I share her wonder: since 1857 people have united with this band of Christians in downtown Minneapolis who chooses to call itself *Westminster*. Each of them has come to church, sung the hymns, prayed the prayers, given money, heard the sermon, served in one way or another, and then moved on. Either they died and we had a memorial service for them or left town and transferred to another church—or, perhaps, simply chose to give up their membership.

There've been thousands of them, and they're all in the Book of the Covenant. The new member standing quietly at the front of the chapel that evening seemed almost to hear their voices and sense their presence. Maybe she was thinking that one day someone else would run her finger down the page and see her name.

It's a good thing, this community called church. We stand in a long tradition—beginning not merely in 1857, but 2,000 years ago. Each generation is a steward of the grace of God—and then passes it along to those who follow. What a privilege!

**This Lent, I encourage you to sign up (by March 1, if possible) for a Covenant Group.** These small weekly gatherings will give you a chance to get to know someone who has signed the Book, as you have. Your faith will deepen. Your worship will, too, as you explore some of the Hard Questions I'll be looking at in the sermons.

See you in church—and let's watch for those who came before us.

Grace and peace,



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

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The Rev. Katherine S. Michael, Associate Pastor

Kathy Fisher, Leadership Development Admin. Asst.

Claudia Kapitan, Adult Ed Admin. Assistant

Barbara Mauk, Librarian

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

Mary Alette Davis, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Erin Swenson, Dir. High School and

College-Age Ministries

Marie Kruskop, Coordinator of Early Childhood

Barbara Prince, Administrative Assistant

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Claudia Kapitan, Evangelism Admin. Assistant

Dan Franklin, Fellowship Admin. Assistant

Kristin Kieft, Publications Coordinator

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The Rev. Douglas Mitchell, Associate Pastor

Dan Franklin, Coord. of Discipleship Ministries

### MUSIC AND THE ARTS

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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, Early Childhood Music

Christopher Laumann, Youth Music Director

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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 Riesenber, Wedding Coordinator

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Todd Bushy, Brian Coyoc, Christopher Glenn,

Richard Wilder, Facilities Staff

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### WESTMINSTER CAMP AJAWAH

Dave Moore, Director

Emma Watson, 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

## Senior High Lock-In

It's time for another lock-in! **Friday, March 11, 6:30PM to Saturday, March 12, 9:00AM** Join us for a night filled with games, friends, food, movies, and loads of fun! We'd love for you to invite your friends as well. Bring a snack to share and \$5 to help cover the cost of breakfast. RSVP to Erin at [eswenson@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:eswenson@wpc-mpls.org) by Wed., March 9. Hope to see you there!

## WOW

Men and women of all ages meet on Wednesdays in the Meisel Room for 9:00AM coffee, 9:30AM men's & women's Bible studies, and a program at 11:00AM. On **March 2** *Tastes & Sounds of the Civil War*, with Vickie Wendel, Anoka Cty. Historical Society. On **March 9** *Forgetfulness vs. Dementia*, with Dr. Abigail Holley, MD. For more info, call Sharon Achor, 952.847.9117.

## Wills Seminar for Families

*Do You Prefer Your Will...or the State's Will?* Workshop **Saturday, March 19, 9:30-11:30AM**. Too busy with work and family to think about creating a will? Many people put off the important task of creating or updating a will, even though they know it's one of the innumerable things they should do. Join us for coffee and refreshments to learn more from attorney Robert McLeod, of Lindquist & Vennum, about this topic. This workshop is open to all who are creating or updating wills. Childcare is available for \$5/child. RSVP and/or arrange childcare with Sara Caugh, [scaugh@comcast.net](mailto:scaugh@comcast.net) or 763.404.0972, by March 13. Rest easier at night knowing you've planned ahead!

## Men's Spring Retreat

**Saturday, April 30, 8:30AM-Noon** at Westminster. Watch for more info.

Daily Phone Devotions	
Phone 612.332.7087 for the daily lectionary	
February 25 .....	Ps. 131
26 .....	1 Cor. 4:1-5
27 .....	Matt. 6:24-34
28 .....	Deut. 32:1-14
<b>March 1</b> .....	1 Kgs.17:1-16
2 .....	Isa. 66:7-13
3 .....	Exod. 24:12-18
4 .....	Ps. 2
5 .....	2 Pet. 1:16-21
6 .....	Matt. 17:1-9
7 .....	Acts 7:30-34
8 .....	Rom. 11:1-6
9 .....	Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21
10 .....	Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-7
11 .....	Ps. 32
12 .....	Rom. 5:12-19
13 .....	Matt. 4:1-11

## Births & Adoptions


### HARPER JANE TEGAN

Birthdate: November 1, 2010  
Family: Melissa & Paul Tegan and Wyatt

### ALDEN PIETER BOSACKER-KASS

Birthdate: February 14, 2011  
Family: Anna Bosacker & Andrew Kass and Liam, Charlotte, Maura

**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Harriet D. Paske**  
died February 17, 2011  
*I am the Resurrection and the Life*



**Find us on Facebook!**  
[facebook.com/WestminsterPresbyterian](http://facebook.com/WestminsterPresbyterian)

## Children, Youth & Families Are On The Go!

photos submitted by Randy Greene, Marie Kruskop, Priscilla Northenscold, Tom Northenscold



Nursery families at Midtown Global Market



Cabaret 2011

Packing meals at Feed My Starving Children



Arts Month had a global theme!



## A First Step to Serving Others

By Max Musicant, member & Mary C. Hess, Dir. of Legacy Giving

Westminster's endowment is supported by generous members who create Legacy Gifts as expressions of their deeply-held values and love for the church's mission. How does the endowment further the church's mission? It is an important source of revenue for many programs, including the Meisel Scholarship Program. On January 2, Max Musicant spoke to the congregation about the scholarship's impact on his life:



Max Musicant

"As a life-long member of Westminster, it's an honor to speak about my experiences as a Donald M. and Eleanor Meisel Scholar Grant recipient. The program is part of the Westminster Endowment that supports the church's young adults as they pursue faith-based professional, scholarly, or service activities. The rationale is that college-age students should be encouraged to partake in activities that the church values, regardless of financial considerations.

In these turbulent economic times, offering a free summer intern to a faith-based, mission-driven organization increases its capacity to do good. Further, the student's experience can serve as the launching pad into a career in the service of God's community. For me, receiving the Meisel Scholar Grant the summer after my freshman year of college enabled me to work at the Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing (MICAHA). During my tenure there I was able to meaningfully contribute to a number of advocacy campaigns, and strengthen my knowledge of and passion for revitalizing

inner cities.

This internship gave me the experience and credibility I needed to fully pursue my new-found calling. Subsequent internships with a Hennepin County Commissioner and at a public affairs firm built upon my time with MICAHA and allowed me to scale up my impact on the issues that I cared most about. These experiences led to employment at a non-profit doing economic development in Jamaica, Queens, New York City and eventual admission to the Yale School of Management where I am currently finishing up my MBA.

While not all of my success can be credited to the Meisel Scholarship, it has undoubtedly served as that all-too-important and elusive first step on a long journey serving communities in need. My experience with the Meisel Scholar Grant is not unique and serves as proof of the power of Westminster's positive intervention in its young adults at a critical point in their development.

I would like to thank the Westminster community, once again, for their support and hope that my story would inspire continued involvement in this church's young adults' lives."

The Meisel Scholar-Grant Program exists to influence young lives towards positive service to others. If you would like to learn more, contact Jacqui DeVries ([devries@augsborg.edu](mailto:devries@augsborg.edu)). If you'd like to support the program with a Legacy Gift, contact Mary Hess ([mhess@wpcmpls.org](mailto:mhess@wpcmpls.org)).

To hear Max speak, go to [ewestminster.org](http://ewestminster.org) for worship audio from January 2.

## Women's Spring Retreat

By Melanie McCall, Coord. Fellowship and Special Events

"The retreat is always a great opportunity to learn and relax with other Westminster women. I return home with a refreshed spirit." — past Retreat participant

Calling all Westminster women! You are invited to retreat from your busy work and personal lives, and retreat to a time of rest, relaxation, study, and laughter.

From **April 29 to May 1**, we'll retreat to the wooded setting of Camp Clearwater Forest to enjoy a blend of structured study, discussion, and free time. Our study this year will be led by our own Rev. Annika Lister Stroope. Watch for more info online and in the next issue of the *News*.

We will travel to Clearwater on a comfy coach bus, departing WPC on Friday afternoon and return on Sunday around 2:00PM. Cost of the retreat is \$95, which covers transportation, two nights lodging and all meals. Sign up in the Heller Commons beginning March 27. Questions? Contact Melanie McCall, 612.332.3421 or [mmccall@wpcmpls.org](mailto:mmccall@wpcmpls.org).

## Gifts of Women Sunday

By Cindy Vekas, Chair of Women's Ministries

International Women's Day will be celebrated on March 8. Hundreds of events occur worldwide all month to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women. Each year, the PC(USA) designates the Sunday before International Women's Day as Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday. This year's theme is Beautiful Women Who Do Beautiful Things. There are women in scripture and in our congregation who regularly show their faith in beautiful ways. Women at Westminster are Elders, Deacons, Trustees and Pastors. We study scripture together at WOW, share our stories at Sunday/Monday Connections and come together for reflection and community during our Spring Retreat. Each year we host the Faith Nixon Symposium in honor of Westminster's first female elder. On Sunday, March 6 we will take a moment during worship to celebrate women, their service and the things they do that keep the church vibrant, active and full of God's love.

## Town Hall Forum Spring Season

By Katherine Youngblood, Advisory Board Chair



### Larkin McPhee

*The Documentary Film: In Search of Truth*

**March 10, Noon**

Larkin McPhee is a Peabody and Emmy award-winning documentary filmmaker whose newest PBS film, *Troubled Waters: A Mississippi River*

*Story*, examines the consequences of farming practices on soil loss, water pollution, and the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico. Her previous films have explored topics ranging from personal finance to nuclear power to the illness of depression. She has served on the staff of National Geographic Explorer, the PBS series NOVA, and Smithsonian World with David McCullough. She is a graduate of Middlebury College and lives in Minneapolis.



### David Brooks

*The Social Animal*

**March 31, 7:00pm**

David Brooks is a columnist for the New York Times and a regular contributor to The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer on PBS and All Things Considered on NPR. He has been a contributing editor

at Newsweek and The Atlantic, a senior editor at The Weekly Standard, and the op-ed editor of the Wall Street Journal. He is widely recognized for his savvy analysis of politics, foreign affairs, and the American way of life. In his latest book, *The Social Animal*, he explores the recent discoveries in neuroscience and cognition that reveal how life is shaped by imagination, emotion, and intuition.

## Eat, Dance and Be Merry!

By Erin Swenson, Dir. High School/College-Age Ministries

What could be better than a variety of different foods, great company, conversation, music, dancing, and yummy recipes? That is what the Taste of Westminster event is all about; people coming together for great food and fellowship. You are invited to be a part of this all-church event on **Sunday, March 6, 5:00-7:30PM** in the Great Hall and Meisel Room.

One could describe this event as a potluck with a bit of a twist. We encourage you to prepare one of your favorite recipes to share – entree, side dish, or dessert – and submit the recipe. Not only will you leave with a full and happy stomach, you will also collect many new recipes to add to your collection.

Live music, Mardi Gras activities, and a contra dance will also be a part of the evening – no dance experience or



### Marcus Borg

*Putting Away Childish Things*

**April 14, Noon**

Marcus Borg is professor emeritus in the philosophy department at Oregon State University where he held the Hundere Chair in Religion and Culture until his retirement in 2007. He was an

active member of the Jesus Seminar and served as chair of the historical Jesus section of the Society of Biblical Literature. He is the author of nineteen books, including *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time* and *The Heart of Christianity*. In his newest book, *Putting Away Childish Things: A Tale of Modern Faith*, he explores the important issues challenging Christians today.



### Frederic Luskin

*The Power of Forgiveness*

**May 5, Noon**

Frederic Luskin, Ph.D., is the Director of the Stanford University Forgiveness Project, a Senior Consultant in Health Promotion at Stanford, and a professor at the Institute of Transpersonal

Psychology. He serves as co-chair of the Garden of Forgiveness Project at Ground Zero in Manhattan. His extensive research on forgiveness therapy has demonstrated the power of forgiveness to affect physical and emotional change in individuals and organizations. He conducts workshops nationally and internationally and is the author of the books *Forgive for Good*, *Forgive for Love*, and *Stress Free for Good*. Co-sponsored by the Westminster Counseling Center.

Forums are held in Westminster's sanctuary, and all events are free and open to the public. Music precedes each forum, and a public reception follows. For more info, visit [westminsterforum.org](http://westminsterforum.org) or contact Susan McKenna, 612.332.3421, [smckenna@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:smckenna@wpc-mpls.org).

dance partner is necessary!

Tickets for this event will be on sale in the Heller Commons after worship on February 27 & March 6 and at the door the night of the event. Tickets are \$10 for adults (\$7 if you provide a dish) and \$5 for children 12 and under with a family max of \$25. All proceeds from ticket sales will help fund the senior high mission trips. If you are not able to attend but would like to donate a dish, we welcome your donation. If you plan on bringing a dish for this event or would like more information, please visit the tickets sales table in the Heller Commons after worship on February 27 or email Erin Swenson at [eswenson@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:eswenson@wpc-mpls.org). We hope to see you at this exciting event.

## Adult Education Special Events

By Katherine S. Michael, Associate Pastor

### Review of *Israel & Bethlehem: A Pilgrimage of Faith* March 13, 11:45AM, Meisel Room

Photos, stories, mementos, more stories, inspiration, food, laughter, more food, more photos, more stories. Come and enjoy all these things as the travelers from our January 2011 pilgrimage share their experiences. All are eager to share with the congregation this life-changing experience. See you then!

### Holy Land Bible Study

Wednesdays, March 9 – April 20, 5:00-6:00PM

Join *The Bible and the Land – A Geographical Study of Scripture*, a Bible study focusing on texts reflecting locations in the Holy Land. Rev. Kathy Michael will lead this small group study, meeting in the Thompson Room. Please register with Claudia by March 8. [ckapitan@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:ckapitan@wpc-mpls.org).

### Bible Stories in Art – A Field Trip

March 20, Noon, Minneapolis Institute of Arts

We learn about the Bible in many different ways. In times past, illiterate people learned the stories through paintings, frescos, and murals. If you are a visual learner, or simply enjoy art, plan to join this field trip! Meet for lunch at noon at the D'Amico's on the Mezzanine level at the MIA. The one-hour tour starts at 12:45. For those who

want to meet for the tour only, we will gather at the black leather couches on the first floor.

Westminster Deacon Marcy Rinek is an experienced docent at the MIA and will give us a tour that will touch on the Older Testament and the Newer Testament.

Entrance to the museum is free. The only cost will be lunch.

RSVP to Claudia in the church office by March 18, 612-332-3421 or [ckapitan@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:ckapitan@wpc-mpls.org).

## Lenten Covenant Groups

By Katherine S. Michael, Associate Pastor

**E**vil, Sin, Forgiveness, Suffering, Death – these are just a few of the difficult issues that trip us up on our journey of faith. They are also issues that must be addressed as we seek to grow and mature in our faith.

Topics and texts will follow the sermons in worship. Plan now to join with a small group to grapple with the deep and sometimes painful questions of faith.

Sunday groups begin March 13, 9:15AM; Tuesday groups begin March 15, 7:15PM; Wednesday groups begin March 16, 7:10PM, following the weekly 6:30PM Taizé service.

Registration cards available at the church. Please fill out the card and leave it in one of the boxes on literature tables at the church, or contact Claudia at [ckapitan@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:ckapitan@wpc-mpls.org). **Please return your card by March 1.**

Contact Rev. Kathy Michael with questions, [kmichael@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:kmichael@wpc-mpls.org), 612.332.3421.

## What's Happening Next in the Westminster Gallery?

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

**L**ooking At Faith opens on the first Sunday of Lent, March 13. This exhibition illuminates an Affirmation of Faith found in the Iona Abbey Worship Book that is sometimes used in worship at Westminster. Each of the 23 lines of this Affirmation is paired with an original piece of art from the Westminster Collection. The text and art will create a contemplative setting in which we might think about what we believe and how we confess our belief, within the framework of the Lenten and Easter season.

*Won't You Be My Neighbor?* opens on Sunday, May 8 and runs through the summer. This exhibition of art created by Westminster members will feature a variety of art forms that might, in a light-hearted manner, reflect Mr. Roger's neighborhood. Did you know that Mr. Rogers was a Presbyterian minister and that he appears on page 127 of Westminster's history book, *Living Faith*?

In this **call for submissions of art**, I suggest that you think about the neighborhood around Westminster, around your own home, and the places that you frequent. You might consider the text of Luke 10:25-37 where Jesus answers the lawyer's question, "Who is my neighbor?"

The last day your submissions can be accepted for this exhibition is Sunday, May 1. Original artwork in any format is accepted, and thinking outside the box is encouraged. This is your opportunity to share your creativity and imagination with Westminster's members and visitors. Please contact me with any questions.



*One Who Broke Through the Darkness*, (detail)  
by Mary Ann Osborne, woodcut, 1994

# RESPONDING IN DISCIPLESHIP



By Dan Franklin, Coordinator of Discipleship Ministries

**FEAST** (Friends Eating and Sharing Together) is the meal Westminster serves the fourth Sunday of each month. We faithfully note the number of guests and when planning meals we use those numbers to determine how much food to buy, but we can never be sure just how many people will come through our doors. Some months we'll be overwhelmed and come close to running out of food; other months we'll be busy at the end of the evening trying to make sure that the extra does not go to waste.

Recently we were able to compile all the FEAST attendance reports and realized that since 1987 we have served over 10,000 meals! The only way that could happen is through the dedicated efforts of the many volunteers who have faithfully and cheerfully served all those guests. An average of 20-25 volunteers each month, currently led by Julie Carver, has made FEAST the strong, vibrant mission of the church that it is today. Indeed, FEAST has become such a popular way to demonstrate God's love for people in need that we regularly receive requests from other churches and local colleges to bring groups in to serve the meal. That the FEAST program is so strong is a testament to the words of Isaiah who declared "If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom shall be like the noonday." (Isa. 58:10). Truly, the lights

of all those volunteers are beacons of Christ's compassion for those in need!

Unfortunately, the fact that FEAST is successful is also a testament to the fact that the hunger problem is not going away—the continuing economic turmoil is making it worse. According to Hunger Solutions Minnesota, there were over 2 million visits to food shelves in 2010, an increase of 62% since 2008. 39% of visits were for children under 18 and 36% of visitors to metro-area food shelves reported having at least one working adult in the household. Our Community Partner, Groveland Food Shelf, serves approximately 1,000 recipients each month, which equates to 20,000 lbs. of food.

There are many ways to help. You might start by volunteering at FEAST on the 4th Sunday of the month or, if you're available during the week, you could become part of Westminster's volunteer group that serves at Groveland each Thursday morning. And, of course, you can bring food to church and place it in the bins designated for Groveland Food Shelf. March is Minnesota Food Shelf month, and I urge you to please remember the hungry who are not just "somewhere out there" in the community but who come to us seeking a nutritious meal each month. For information on how to volunteer at Groveland Food Shelf, please contact me.

• Dan can be reached at 612.332.3421 or [dfranklin@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:dfranklin@wpc-mpls.org) •

## Register for Day Camp, July 25-29

By Mary Alette Davis, Director, Children's Ministries

**B**elieve it or not, it's time to reserve your child's place for DAY CAMP, a not-to-be-missed WPC tradition for children who have completed kindergarten through sixth grade.

Day Camp is a week of outdoor fun, arts and crafts, music, games and stories, and exploration of nature at beautiful Baker Park Near Wilderness Settlement. Each day we'll depart by bus from Westminster at 8:30AM and return by 5:00PM. On Thursday night, older children have the opportunity to stay overnight. Parents pick up all children on Friday after a closing ceremony.

Westminster staff and older youth provide leadership for the children, and Baker Park naturalists are on hand for special exploration of the woods and wildlife of this wilderness-like area.

This year, we offer a leadership training program for children going into sixth grade to help prepare them to be counselors in the future. More info and registration materials at [ewestminster.org](http://ewestminster.org) or the Reception Desk. The cost is \$155 by April 1, \$170 after. \$25 sibling discount available. Questions? Contact Mary Alette Davis, 612.332.3421 or [mdavis@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:mdavis@wpc-mpls.org).



Scene from Day Camp 2010

## Sunday/Monday Connections

Join other Westminster women of all ages at the Woman's Club of Minneapolis on **Tuesday, March 8, 6:00-8:30PM**. Come hear Denise Dunbar-Perkins, ordained Presbyterian minister and Westminster Parish Associate. The evening begins with a social hour and dinner. After the speaker's presentation there will be small table group discussions. The cost for the evening is \$25 with reduced rates available. For info, contact Connie Scott [conniescottmtka@msn.com](mailto:conniescottmtka@msn.com) or 952.933.4285. Register online, or send a check to the church, Attn: Dan Franklin by March 3.