Open Westminster
by Meghan Gage-Finn, Executive Associate Pastor

Tim Hart-Andersen shared with the Session at its September meeting the story of the leaders of Westminster who, at the turn of the 19th to 20th century, were challenged to invite as many friends and neighbors as possible to church. In the course of two weeks, some 200 new members were added to the church's rolls!

This was the catalyst for framing November as the first month of Open Westminster, a time when all of us can reach out to neighbors, colleagues, friends, and family members who might benefit from attending worship, a concert, a Town Hall Forum, or other event at the church. So many of us found our way to the church because of someone else's invitation; in November and beyond we have the opportunity to open Westminster to the wider community, that they might experience the grace and love of God we feel in our midst. We can invite others to serve, learn, listen, and grow in faith as people of God.

Materials will be available in worship at the end of October for you to share as you invite others to come, experience, and explore your church home.

To learn more, visit westminstempls.org/opendoor

Fair Trade Fair
by Alanna Simone Tyler, Associate Pastor

Beautiful beaded jewelry made by the faithful women of South Sudan and an array of artisan products from House of Talents headline this year’s Fair Trade Gift Fair at Westminster on Sunday, November 24.

Westminster’s fair trade partners empower craftspeople and farmers to preserve their traditions and create better lives for their families and their communities. Fair trade vendors from around the world work to improve the lives of crafters, farmers, and their families by marketing these products. Each time you buy a fair trade item, you help promote livable wages, skills training, and sustainable business development.

The fair follows both services from 9-10:30 am and 11:30 am-1 pm. The Fair is free and open to the public. Free parking is available at Orchestra Hall ramp until 2:30 pm. This is a wonderful way to do your holiday shopping!

Learn more about House of Talents, its Ghanaian founder Kate Herzog, and its mission to connect talented artisans in developing countries to consumers worldwide at houseoftalents.com.

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Building the Beloved Community

by Ann Rainhart, Westminster member

When I was called to be a Deacon, I didn’t know how to fulfill the role. What I’ve come to realize is that, for me, it’s really about a shifting way of being in the world. It’s all about community. This means that the way I show up at Westminster and the broader world is focused on connecting with others. This way of being began when I joined the small team that sets up communion. At first, I saw our work as a task. Years later, the same team shows up each month to accomplish the task of communion preparation, but what’s really happened is we are now community. I’ve also found community in participating as a prayer companion, something that took me way outside my spiritual comfort zone. But what I’ve discovered in quiet moments of prayer with another person is a quiet moment of community. I am involved in a remodeling project for my workplace. At its core, the project is focused on creating community and encouraging people to see and work with each other. We’ve done this through light and glass, open hallways and a community café – and already people are gathering for lunch or conversation around unfinished tables. Unfinished, and yet community. These experiences have helped me shift my way of being in the world toward loving my neighbor. Living out my Christian faith in service to others means financially supporting and helping create God’s beloved community.

In Gratitude for a Recent Legacy Gift

“I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High.”
Psalm 7:17

One of the reasons Westminster will sustain God’s work into the future is because of those who remember the church with a Legacy Gift. Legacy Gifts are invested to benefit the church in perpetuity. Westminster is grateful for a recent Legacy Gift from Harlan Verke. He was a member of the church for 32 years and was active in the life of Westminster. Among other ways, he gave generously of his time to serve hungry neighbors through FEAST. Thanks be to God for his legacy. For information on how you can create a Legacy Gift to Westminster, contact Mary Hess, Director of Stewardship, mhess@wpc-mpls.org or 612.332.3421, and see westministermpls.org/giving.
From Our Pastor

Dear Friends,

We have been hearing a lot this fall about Building the Beloved Community, the theme of Westminster’s 2020 stewardship program. We can all participate in building the beloved community here in our congregation and in the city by making a financial commitment in support of Westminster’s ministry and mission.

Stewardship Sunday is November 17; we will receive pledge cards soon in the mail, or we may go online to make your commitment. Thank you for your generous support!

The phrase beloved community originated with American philosopher Josiah Royce, who founded the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) in 1914 at the outbreak of WWI. Royce wrote, “My life means nothing, either theoretically or practically, unless I am a member of a community.”

That is a profoundly theological statement. At Westminster we understand the need to belong to a people; in that belonging we discern the presence of God. Royce wrote of a beloved community as the ideal toward which the human family should strive. Martin Luther King, Jr., would later join the FOR and be deeply influenced by its emphasis on community. King popularized the beloved community as a vision for humanity.

My wife, Beth, and I are planning our January driving trip on the Civil Rights Trail in the south. We will worship at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, where Martin Luther King, Jr. preached. We will visit the King Center across the street.

The King Center says the Beloved Community is

“A global vision in which all people can share in the wealth of the earth. In the Beloved Community, poverty, hunger and homelessness will not be tolerated because international standards of human decency will not allow it. Racism and all forms of discrimination, bigotry and prejudice will be replaced by an all-inclusive spirit of sisterhood and brotherhood.”

That is a high calling for any community. I am glad our stewardship leaders have invited us to consider our role in building such a community here at Westminster. Dr. King said,

“The end is the creation of the Beloved Community. This type of love can transform opponents into friends, and the deep gloom of the old age into the exuberant gladness of the new age. This love will bring about miracles in human hearts.”

Let us keep that vision before us as we make our commitments to Westminster for the promising year that lies ahead.

Thank you!

Grace and peace,

Tim

Clergy & Staff

Staff Leadership
- Rev. Dr. Timothy Hart-Andersen, Senior Pastor
- Rev. Dr. Meghan K. Gage-Finn, Executive Associate Pastor
- Janice Telizcan, Executive Assistant

Congregational Care
- Rev. David Shinn, Associate Pastor
- Deb Wagner, Administrative Assistant
- Angelique Kingsbury, Coordinator of Volunteers & Senior Center

Congregational Life
- Rev. Sarah Brouwer, Associate Pastor
- Deb Wagner, Administrative Assistant
- Kristin Kieft, Communications Coordinator
- Vanessa Uzong, Wedding Coordinator & Receptionist

Educational Ministries
- Rev. Katherine S. Michael, Consultant to Education
- Mahin Hamilton, Administrative Assistant
- Barbara Mauk, Librarian

Faith in Action
- Rev. Alanna Simone Tyler, Associate Pastor for Justice and Mission
- Vanessa Uzong, Administrative Assistant

Families, Youth, and Children
- Sonja Dzierskiowski, Director of Children’s Ministries
- Matt Lewellyn-Otten, Director of Youth Ministries
- Marie Kruisak, Coordinator of Early Childhood & Family Ministries
- Kasey Coliver, Nursery Coordinator

Music and the Arts
- Dr. Amanda Weber, Minister of Music & the Arts
- Dr. Rodney Allen Schwartz, Director, Gallery & Archive
- Barbara Prince, Program Facilitator, Director Global Choir
- David Ostenso Moore, Director, Gathered at Five
- Jeffrey Gram, Artist-in-Residence
- Kenny Vigne, Interim Organist
- Brad Ollmann, Dir. Early/Middle Childhood Music
- Ryan LaBoy, Director, Youth Music
- Mark Kieffer, Director, Handbell Choir

Finance & Administration
- Julie Champ, Director of Finance
- Kianna Mack, Accounting Manager
- Deborah Majune, Accounting Clerk
- Lacey Jung, Hospitality Assistant

Stewardship
- Mary Hess, Director of Stewardship
- Anna Gram, Stewardship Associate

Operations
- PJ Eichten, Director of Facilities
- Mike Anderson, Facilities Team Lead
- Chris Brown, Todd Bushy, John Seagard, Richard Wilder, Facilities Staff

Emeriti
- Rev. Byron Thompson
- Rev. Katherine S. Michael
- Rev. Douglas Mitchell
- Dr. Melanie Ohnstad
- Samuel G. Cooke

Parish Associates (Volunteer Clergy)
- Rev. Dr. James Brasel, Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins, Rev. Judy Allen Kim, Rev. Judy Landt, Rev. David Liddle, Rev. Dr. Margaret McCray

Westminster Camp Ajawah
- Sofia-Bella Vitale-Gill, Registrar

Westminster Counseling Center
- Rev. Dr. Margaret McCray, LMFT, Director
- Peter Bruhn, MA, LADC
- Sherri Dunham, MA, LPC
- Carol Hornbeck, LMFT
- Rev. Susan Thornton, M.A., M.Div, LP
- Jennifer Aden, Office Manager

Westminster Town Hall Forum
- Susan McKenna, Director
WPC Happenings

**Pajama Party!**
**Friday, November 8 | 6:30-8 pm | Woodlake Nature Center**
Bring a new book and new pajamas (infant to adult XXXL sizes) to donate to the Pajama Program, a non-profit that donates new pajamas and books to children in need. We’ll share a pizza dinner, have time to explore the Nature Center and make bookmarks, and listen to stories around the fire. Suggested donation is $5 per person; families capped at $20.

**WestConnect Annual Retreat**
**November 9-10**
Sarah Brouwer will lead a weekend at a cabin one hour north of the Twin Cities. There will be good food, good drink, good conversation, good worship, and of course play time and rest. Email Sarah if interested! sbrouwer@wpc-mpls.org.

**Thanksgiving Quiet Worship**
**Saturday, November 16 | 9 am**
“Give thanks to the Lord. Words from the “Great Thanksgiving Litany” begin every Communion Service: “It is right to give God thanks and praise.” With Thanksgiving Day just ahead, we’ll shape our worship around this affirmation and the melody and words of one of the most familiar of the Sung Prayers from Taizé: “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.” Rev. Dr. Margaret McCray leads worship.

**Beyond Sunday Connections**
**Monday, November 18 | 6 pm | Westminster Hall**
Join other women to hear WPC member Nancy Moehle talk about how children shaped her life and career. Tickets ($28) are available in the Westminster Commons on Nov 3 and Nov 10, via the online calendar, or email Deb Wagner, dwagner@wpc-mpls.org by Nov 10. Questions? Contact Lynne Thompson 612.339.3971.

**FEAST**
**Sunday, November 24 | 4-7 pm**
Help serve a meal to the hungry in the church neighborhood. Sign up at the reception desk or contact Angelique, akingbury@wpc-mpls.org.

**Save the Date: Advent Wreath-Making (with Cocoa & Carols!)**
**Sunday, December 1 | 11:30 am-1 pm | Westminster Hall**
Create Advent wreaths, sing carols around the piano with bonfires blazing outside, and roast marshmallows for our hot cocoa! The event costs $10 for adults and $5 for children under twelve (free for 3 and under). This covers lunch, beverages, and one wreath (with live greens and candles) per household. RSVP to Deb Wagner at dwagner@wpc-mpls.org. All ages are welcome. Look for upcoming bulletins and email blasts for more information.

**Save the Date: Women’s Ministries Christmas Lunch**
**Wednesday, December 11 | 11:30 am-1 pm | Westminster Hall**
All women of the church are welcome to join in our annual Christmas Lunch. We will sing carols, eat delicious food, share Christmas devotions, and present the Presbyterian Women Lifetime Achievement Award. Questions? Contact Sarah Brouwer sbrouwer@wpc-mpls.org.

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**Daily Phone**  
**DEVOTIONS**  
**612.332.7087**

**November**

1. Psalm 149  
2. Ephesians 1:11-23  
4. 1 Corinthians 5:9-13  
5. Zechariah 7  
7. Psalm 98  
8. Job 19:23-27a  
9. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17  
11. Psalm 123  
12. 2 John 1:1-13  
15. Psalm 98  
16. 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13  
18. Psalm 141  
19. 1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1  
22. Psalm 46  
23. Colossians 1:11-20  
25. Psalm 24  
26. Revelation 22:8-21  
27. Luke 1:1-4  
28. Isaiah 2:1-5  
29. Psalm 122  
30. Romans 13:11-14

**BIRTHS**

Silas Aaron Snaza  
September 25, 2019

**IN MEMORY**

Karin Olson  
August 19, 2019  
Joanne Cochrane  
September 30, 2019
New Old Adventure
by Jeffrey Gram, New Old Adventure Committee

No matter your current age and health, planning for a loss of health care-related, decision-making capacity is critical. Whether as a wiser adult with a progressive condition or a younger adult impacted by a sudden accident, each of us is susceptible to needing temporary or permanent help to make health care decisions.

On November 13, the New Old Adventure will explore health care directives ("advance directives") in a session led by expert Ann L. Russell, JD, MSW. She will discuss the decision-making process at the end of life, the appropriate use of advance directives, and the significance of identifying an individual who can serve as your agent if you have temporarily or permanently lost decisional capacity. She will also discuss the process of selecting an agent, engaging in deep conversation with that agent, and actually preparing a truly useful advance directive to ensure that your agent is prepared to step into your shoes and speak on your behalf. Specifically, she will share model directives that are helpful to physicians. Please join us at 11 am for two hours of learning, lunch, and discussion. Questions? Contact Deb Wagner, dwagner@wpc-mpls.org

Service of Remembrance
by David Shinn, Associate Pastor

When we grieve the death of our loved ones, the pain may be so severe that we wonder if God can possibly love us. Advent is God’s response to this question as we remember God being born for the sake of the world in the life of Jesus. This incarnational presence is Advent’s gift that God is real and that God cares.

The holiday season can be particularly difficult when the grief for loved ones, recent or long ago, surfaces. Memories of being with them can be overwhelming. In such times, we need not shoulder the burden of grief alone. In fact, in our loving community, we can bear the weight of grief and loss together.

We invite you to join us for our annual Service of Remembrance on December 3. At the service in our chapel at 6 pm, you are invited to come and receive the gifts of music—sung and played—along with the comfort of the living Word of God, candlelight to remember your loved ones, and the support of the community. Immediately following the service, two trained prayer companions will be available to sit, listen, and pray with you. Their listening presence can be a source of comfort for you. Then at 7 pm, we will gather in the Meisel Room for a hot meal with warm company. Join us as we remember our loved ones together and as we give thanks to God. Come and join us as we hold our weary hearts and offer God’s incarnational love to each other.

Town Hall Forum

André Thomas | Tues, Nov 12 | noon
The Power of African American Spirituals

André Thomas is professor of choral education, director of choral activities, and the Owen F. Sellers Professor of Music at Florida State University. He was the artistic director for the Tallahassee Community Chorus and serves as the conductor of a variety of choral organizations throughout the country. He is in demand as a choral adjudicator and clinician and has conducted 48 Honor and All-State Choirs, as well as the World Youth Choir. As a composer, his works have been distributed by seven publishing companies, and he is the author of the book Way Over in Beulah Lan’: Understanding and Performing the Negro Spiritual.

Parker Palmer | Sat, Nov 16 | 11:00 am
We the People: A Call to Action

Parker Palmer is a writer, teacher, activist, and founder of the Center for Courage & Renewal, a nonprofit committed to creating a more just and compassionate world by nurturing personal and professional integrity. His bestselling books include, among others, Let Your Life Speak, Healing the Heart of Democracy, and On the Brink of Everything. A graduate of Carleton College, he holds a PhD in sociology from the University of California at Berkeley and is the recipient of 13 honorary doctorates as well as numerous awards for achievement and excellence. At the Forum, he will be in conversation with Sondra Samuels, President and CEO of the Northside Achievement Zone in North Minneapolis.
In Partnership with the Schubert Club
by Amanda Weber, Minister of Music and the Arts

The Westminster Performing Arts Series will partner with Schubert Club on their well-known Courtroom Concert Series, held in the Landmark Center in St. Paul. We will offer repeat concerts in our very own Westminster Hall. This lunchtime series features classical chamber music and is hosted by composer Abbie Betinis. All concerts are from 12-1 pm. Concerts are free. Parking is free for Westminster members and $10 for visitors.

January 10  Irina and Julia Elkina, piano duo
March 6   Border CrosSing
May 1    Quince (4 female voice vocal quartet)

Community Group Performances at Westminster
by Barbara Prince, Program Facilitator for Music and the Arts

Westminster hosts rehearsals and performances by a wide variety of music groups throughout the building. On a Monday you might catch strains of Cantus practicing in the Youth Music Room, the Minnesota Chorale rehearsing in the Meisel Room and the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies (GTCYS) rehearsing in Fellowship Hall.

Performances are even more wide-ranging. In November, you can catch the South African Gospel Ensemble, 29:11 (Nov 1); Schubert Club’s Accordo (Nov 4); and a Cantus open rehearsal (Nov 20). Information and tickets can be found at the online addresses below.

Westminster Performing Arts Series: westministermpls.org/wpas
Schubert Club: schubert.org
Cantus: cantussings.org

What to do...
by Margaret McCray, D. Min., LMFT

Global warming, gun violence, immigration atrocities, racial discrimination, fighting words, fractured relationships... the list is endless and overwhelming. The bottom line we all encounter is, “How can I make a difference? What I should do feels next to impossible. What I can do seems not enough.”

A friend who has been in recovery in AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) told me that what helped him most was the mantra “do the next right thing.” It seems a puny response to all that is happening in the world, our country, our city and neighborhoods, and yet isn’t it the only thing we are truly capable of?

The next right thing might be obvious. Other times it may require research, consultation with friends and family, courage, prayer, and even sacrifice. I had a client of modest means tell me she bought her airline ticket, and in February she will use vacation time to go to the border to work with a non-profit agency serving the needs of immigrants. Some of us can give of our financial resources or join protests. Many of us try to be mindful of our use and abuse of the planet. Prayer and conversation with others can lead to “aha” moments of discovery and discernment.

I believe the next right thing always moves in the direction of community and compassion... the bonds that hold us together in our shared humanity. This is not the time for a long winter hibernation. Our world needs our energy, love, and imagination!
Hospitality Highlight
by Lacey Jung, Events Coordinator

With the turning season comes an opportunity to look to activities to build warmth and caring at Westminster. **Thursday, November 7** from 9 am to 4 pm, Westminster will host Greater Twin Cities United Way’s annual Home for Good event in Heller Commons.

At this community building event, volunteers will assemble welcome home kits for families exiting homelessness. United Way hopes by 2020 to equip all families transitioning from homelessness with the essential household supplies needed to turn a living space into a safe and stable long-term home.

Another opportunity for church members to mingle with United Way’s Emerging Leaders will be exploring the city’s new taprooms on **November 14**. More information and other opportunities can be found at gtcuw.org.

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Creating Community in a Divided World
*by Kathy Michael, Pastor Emerita*

Adult Education classes provide creative ways to think about community and how we can make a difference in our world.

The Rev. Dr. Margaret McCray from Westminster Counseling Center will lead a discussion on **Wednesday, October 30**, around forgiveness—a necessary concept to employ if we are to be in community with people who have wounded us.

Dr. Mary Hess from Luther Seminary will lead discussions of Healing the Heart of Democracy by Parker Palmer on **Wednesdays, November 6, 13, and 20**. Mary is well-acquainted with Palmer and his work and is excited about this opportunity to explore an important book as we hear daily of challenges to our democracy. Books are available on Sundays for $17.

Rabbi Marcia Zimmerman will be with us again on **Sunday, October 27**, to talk about challenges facing our nation, particularly in light of growing anti-Semitism. How do we create community in such an atmosphere?

Dr. Dirk Lange from Luther Seminary will return on **Sunday, November 3**, to talk about his experience as a Taizé brother and the importance of trust in creating community. On **Wednesday, November 6, 13, and 20**, Rev. Kathy Michael will facilitate a conversation to bring together many of the ideas that have been presented in these fall classes and explore where we go from here.

Rabbi Zimmerman said when she was here in September, “Prayer is us talking to God. Study is God talking to us.” Come and see what God has to say to you as you honor God with your mind and your heart through Adult Education classes.

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Gifts for Seniors
*by Angelique Kingsbury, Coordinator, Magnet Senior Center*

Help us remember our isolated seniors with a gift this winter season. Beginning December 1, look for the “Gifts for Seniors” signature blue gift barrel near the reception desk, which make it easy to donate the gifts most requested by seniors and the agencies who serve them.

Gifts for Seniors provides donated gifts and life-affirming personal contact during the winter holidays to isolated seniors in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area. With the critical support of volunteers, donors, and community partners—people like you—we can stop the spiral into loneliness, isolation, and early death. Visit giftsforseniors.org for more information.

This year’s donation drive is supported by The Magnet Senior Center as part of Westminster’s senior ministries. Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Questions? Contact Angelique Kingsbury, akingsbury@wpc-mpls.org or call 612.332.3421 x211.
Christmas Pageant
*by Sonja Dziekciowski, Director, Children’s Ministries*

Do you have a preschooler through high schooler who wants to participate in the retelling of the Christmas Story at the Christmas Eve worship service? Attend the Christmas Pageant informational meeting on **November 17** at noon in the garden room for parents/caregivers who want to sign up their three-year-old through 5th grade students.

We are seeking volunteers to help with costuming, serve lunch before rehearsals, and help our little ones with transitions during the Pageant. We are also looking for middle and high school students to dress in character as lead sheep, angels, magi, and shepherds. If youth are interested in helping our younger pageant members, please email Sonja at sonja@wpc-mpls.org.

Westminster member Richard Flint sponsored boys from Troop 100 on a seven-day Boundary Waters canoe trip this summer, in memory of his son. Facing the challenges of the wilderness, the boys came to know themselves and each other on a new level.

Pre-K Communion Workshop
*by Marie Kruskop, Coordinator of Early Childhood and Family Ministries*

On **October 6**, World Communion Sunday, our pre-K students and their grown-ups took part in a Communion Workshop. They learned the story behind this special meal that we celebrate as a church family. They experienced communion and learned that central to the sacrament is the message that this special meal, described as “bread in juice” by one of our young ones, is a reminder that God loves us. One of the pre-K teachers (and grandparent to this child) later shared: “This is what we hope for our children and grandchildren.” And so it is—that our children, God’s children—will know that they are loved.

Youth Group Fall Update
*by Matt Lewellyn-Otten, Director, Youth Ministries*

With our Confirmation gatherings, led by Eric Caugh, in full swing, the program year has begun for our youth group! The Education Hour on Sunday mornings has been well attended, with the youth highly engaged. The High School Youth Group has been exploring the topic of anxiety, while our Middle School Youth Group continues to bond as a group. As the fall semester continues, there are a few things to keep on your family’s radar: The Middle School lock-in is **Friday, October 25**, beginning at 6 pm and ending Saturday morning at 10 am. The High School group will gather that same weekend for a bonfire at my home in South Minneapolis on Sunday evening from 5 pm to 7 pm. High School house groups will continue into November with the Alexanders hosting at their home on **November 10**. The much-anticipated High School retreat takes place **Friday, November 15–Sunday, November 17**. Finally, the Youth Group will usher in Advent with the hanging of the greens on **Saturday, November 30**, beginning at 9 am.

Thank you for the warm welcome my husband and I have received as I begin my ministry here at Westminster. We have been greeted with generous hospitality and radical love. I’m praying for the years ahead as the youth program at Westminster continues to grow and expand.
Gathered at Five Gratitude Diaries
by Sarah Brouwer, Associate Pastor

Gathered at Five will do a series of dialogue sermons in November with some of our frequent worshippers. The theme is “Gratitude Diaries,” which is a nod to what happens in our culture during November: Thanksgiving! We will go deeper, though, and explore what gratitude, thanksgiving, and blessings really mean to us as people of faith. Our society tells us that wealth, power, and privilege are the source of our blessings, but we trust, as Christians, that God is at the heart of all we are grateful for.

We will begin the month on November 3, All Saints Sunday, in thanking for the saints who have died but who are still a blessing in our lives. Please submit a photograph of someone who was a saint in your life so it can be part of our worship. We will create a digital ofrenda of sorts, which is a traditional Mexican practice for Dia de Muertos (Day of the Dead). The ofrenda will show the images of our loved ones on the screen in Westminster Hall, and there will be an opportunity to light a candle in honor of those we love.

Join us November 3, send in a photo, or worship with us for “Gratitude Diaries.” Email Sarah Brouwer with your photo by November 1, or if you have questions, at sbrouwer@wpc-mpls.org.

More Clean Water for Cuba
by Dan Parten, Clean Water Team

In early December, eight Westminster members will travel to Matanzas, Cuba, to install two clean water systems, one in Versalles Church, our partner congregation, and one in the local pediatric hospital. Ed Cunnington reports that all 55 clean water systems installed in Cuba are operating daily and serving their communities.

Doris Wong, Laurie McBane, Janet Dixon, and Elaine Wilson will prepare community leaders to teach their communities about the best uses for the limited supply of safe water and procedures for keeping the water safe for use. Mark Schulze, Duncan King, and Dan Parten will work with Ed to help our Cuban partners first build and then learn to operate the systems so they can take pride in what they have built and have a strong sense of ownership. While in Cuba we will check on the five systems we have previously installed in churches.

We will also deliver cards and letters when we visit with our friends in the Versalles Church. To contribute, please leave your note or letter at the reception desk by November 30. The Clean Water Team is grateful for the support that we have received from our community over the past eight years.
The Gift of Art

by Rodney Allen Schwartz, Director, Westminster Gallery and Archive

Artists in general and sculptors in particular make sketches and models of their designs, especially when they are creating work for a commission. Paul T. Granlund followed this design process when he made the Birth of Freedom for Westminster. Several early studies were made in bronze before the final design was achieved.

The Westminster Collection has recently been gifted a wonderful and rare study made by Granlund titled “Birth of Freedom Second Study.” This study looks similar to the final piece except that the three-dimensional shapes that eventually appear are shown here as flat planes and the figures appear to be droopy. The Thomas Crosby family sponsored the commission of the Birth of Freedom as a gift to the City of Minneapolis and Westminster, and was influential in the evolution of the design. The final arrangement and posture of the figures became more triumphant to better tell the message of freedom.

This study was given by Granlund to Don Meisel at the time of the installation. Meisel later gifted it to his friend James Buskirk, who in turn gifted it to Westminster. This provenance, the record of ownership, is valuable information for a collection. The sculpture is currently on view in the Heller Commons near the Chapel.