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THE GRETCHEN R. IBEN SERIES

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The Art and Architecture of  
**WESTMINSTER CHURCH**

A lecture by  
**Dr. Kevin Harrington**

Friday evening, November 30  
at seven-thirty o'clock

**Westminster Church**

*(a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA))*

**1420 West Moss Avenue**

**Peoria, Illinois 61606**

**WELCOME to the Gretchen R. Iben Arts Series and this lecture on the origins of this beautiful building and its designer, Ben Weese of Chicago. This lecture will concentrate on architect Ben Weese and his design for the Westminster Presbyterian Church. Using the building as well as projected images to explain the ideas informing the design, the talk will explore the history of the congregation, its fire destroyed building, and the planning by the building committee with their architect. Weese's deep religious convictions in the importance of protestant dissent, his respect for individual beliefs, and his belief in the importance of service to the larger community have all informed his work for the Westminster congregation. In all his religious work he has also had a serious interest in the role of music in religious liturgy, including a sophisticated knowledge of acoustics. Weese distinguished between detail and ornament, and the talk will explore what he meant here as well as in two other church buildings he designed. One, the Evelyn Chapel at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, IL, was completed before and the other, the Chapel at Wartburg College in Waverley, IA, was completed after the Peoria church.**

**OUR SPEAKER ... Dr. Kevin Harrington**

**Kevin Harrington is Professor Emeritus of Architectural History at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. He has also been a visiting professor at the University of Illinois Chicago, the Brandenburg Technological University in Germany, the University of Texas Austin, and the Escola da Cidade in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Born in Rochester, NY, he majored in history at Colgate University (BA) and studied the History of Architecture & Urban Development at Cornell University (MA, PhD). Between college and graduate school he served as an officer in the United States Air Force. His publications include *Changing ideas on architecture in the Encyclopedie, 1750-1776*, *Mies van der Rohe: architect as educator*, *Chicago's famous buildings*, and *Lake Point Tower: a design history*, and two essays, one on his church designs, for a forthcoming book on the career of Ben Weese. His research focuses on Chicago's architectural and urban development in relation to modern architecture and the modern city, especially considering the ways Chicago is typical or unique.**

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*This list was correct to the best of our knowledge as of noon,  
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*Eighth Note (50-99)*

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