

**Because of the generosity of God, we have  
overflowing understanding**

*By Jon Barnes for Higher Education and Leadership  
Ministries*



The HELM Fellows program, one of the ministries of Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, supports young people as they deepen their understanding and openness to our world. As part of this program, six Disciples undergraduate students traveled to Cuba to visit Disciples partners and learn about the country's cultures, history, and religious and political life. Partner visits included the Martin Luther King Center, the Cuban Council of Churches, the Evangelical Seminary of Theology in Matanzas and Sunday worship with a local congregation of the Pentecostal Church of Cuba. Cultural visits included the old city of Havana, Revolution Square, a conversation with local youth and an organic farm. Throughout the trip, participants had assumptions challenged and left with a new appreciation and understanding of the lives and faith of our sisters and brothers in Cuba.

The Leadership Fellows Program aims to develop leaders through an intentional focus on four major areas during the years of undergraduate study: Community, Transformation, Global Awareness and Mentoring. International experiences such as this help students understand the obligations and responsibilities of faithful leadership in a global and interconnected world, including the call to stand in solidarity with those from diverse backgrounds and contexts.

Your gift to Disciples Mission Fund supports the work of HELM, including leadership development programs such as Leadership Fellows. As we seek to be good stewards of the grace of God, may we give generously to support the work of raising up leaders ready to use their gifts to serve God and the world.