Message from the Office
by Marjo Jordan and Sonja DeJong,

CHANGE. All of life is change.

At a lifelong learning conference in Florida last summer, keynote speaker Gary Mormino, Professor Emeritus of History at the University of South Florida, noted the major changes in his state—how 1,000 people move to Florida each day. How one in every five Florida residents are senior citizens. How Medicare, established in 1965, addressed the needs of the elderly who were the poorest in the nation, and how the elderly are today the richest in the nation, and children, the poorest.

Change occurs in our natural world right now. Tulips and primroses have already pushed through the earth’s surface. Red-winged Blackbirds have been belting out their conk-la-ree song for a few weeks (Marjo’s sign of spring), and Sandhill Cranes have performed their annual dances. Warblers will soon migrate north, and woodland wildflowers will emerge. Nests will be constructed, and new life will populate our world. We so welcome this change of season!

Spirituallly, this Lenten season holds change too. We simplify and give up some excess. Maybe we change a habit or two. We reflect on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We focus on what’s important. Perhaps we pray more.

The Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning (CALL) experiences change on a daily basis, even on an hourly basis. We are aware of this pace in the CALL office. But, we were still quite surprised when we recently crunched membership numbers that focused on the length of one’s membership. Is it really possible that 1,225 of our current members joined CALL in the past five years? We know hundreds of our members have been with CALL for a decade or more, including 58 original members from 1996, however, that number represents just under 20%. Changes!

And Grand Rapids has changed before our very eyes. We’re experiencing a booming housing market, an ever-expanding Medical Mile downtown on Michigan Street and a recent designation as Beer City USA. In addition, AARP has listed Grand Rapids as one of the top 10 cities in which to retire.

Some of you must have known that. We’ve noticed members moving from warmer climates in order to be closer to family and also closer to the Calvin College campus and CALL. In fact, the Michigan demographics are not much different than Florida’s. 10,000 Michigan residents reach retirement age every month; in 2020, that monthly number will only escalate. 2016 statistics of Grand Rapids and the Wyoming suburb place 20% of the population at age 60 or older.

We are among that older generation who navigate change every day. We retire. We downsize. We pursue interests that took a back seat for a season. We travel. We parent. We grandparent. We point the way for those who are younger. We seek spiritual answers. We continue learning. We embrace opposites.

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(cont.) We adjust to aging bodies. We grieve losses. We hold things loosely. We've lived for 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 decades.

Blogger Ronda Lee sums it up this way: Who are you to be afraid of a little change after all you've been through?

Change is constant. Here at CALL, we’re happy to be among all these changes, providing the venues, the courses, the events, the trips, the travel films, the lectures, the communication, and the service grants to the places where you volunteer.

Thank you for all the ways you have navigated change and for all the ways you’ve changed CALL and our community. You are an amazing group of lifelong learners.

Public Events
Bob DeBruin, Chair

Guatemala:
The Land of the Maya
Monday, April 16, 7:00 pm.

If you ask him what was his largest travel mistake, he would say it was when he flew from Chicago to New Delhi…without a visa. It was a long return flight.

Guatemala is a land of amazing natural and cultural diversity that is just beginning to emerge from the shadow of a long civil war. A high-definition and beautiful travelogue, this film begins by exploring the achievements of the ancient Maya by visiting fabled places like El Mirador, Tikal and Yaxha. The film examines the historic tension between Mayan traditions and Spanish colonialism, using the religious pageantry of Antigua’s Easter Week celebration to provide a cinematic backdrop for the fascinating conversation. An excursion to Lake Atitlan portrays Mayan culture where weavers spin cotton by hand and rely on the natural dyes and back strap looms to create world-class textiles.

This documentary provides important context for understanding and exploring the fascinating Land of the Maya.

Single tickets are $6 for adults or $3 for students and can be purchased in advance by phone at 526-6282 or in person the night of the film. Seating is reserved. Many participants park on the east side of the Beltline and walk the Calvin Crossing to the main campus.

Our latest season of Passport Travel films comes to a close next month with a journey to Guatemala by photographer and filmmaker Brent Winebrenner. A self-described wanderer in his college days including two dropout periods, Brent became a CPA for a prestigious world-wide accounting firm. With hard work, he moved up the corporate food chain. But his left brain was dying, and he notes he could never find a tie he liked. So he quit, to become a photographer and filmmaker.
Thursday, March 22 and Thursday, April 12

Noontime lectures are scheduled from 12:00 to 1:00 pm in the Calvin Chapel. The Chapel is the second building to your right as you enter the campus from Burton Street. Parking is best in lot 1&2. All lectures are free and open to the community.

At the next lecture Thursday, March 22, the presentation will feature reflections from Warden DeWayne Burton, warden of Richard Handlon prison in Ionia, MI, and Calvin Professor Todd Cioffi, co-director of the Calvin Prison Initiative, on the power of education in rehabilitating inmates and reforming prison culture. In part, these reflections by Burton and Cioffi will focus on the Calvin Prison Initiative, which offers an accredited B.A. in Ministry Leadership for 60 inmates at Handlon Prison.

Students in the Calvin Prison Initiative take the same liberal arts core courses as students at the Knollcrest campus, such as Oral Rhetoric, Principles and Perspectives in Philosophy. Students then take courses specifically oriented towards ministry leadership, such as Christian Formation, Practice of Discipleship and Foundations for Pastoral Care.

There are currently 57 inmates enrolled and 100% of student inmates passed every class in 2016-2017.

This March 22 Noontime Lecture falls during the campus spring break, and parking opportunities are vastly improved. Come join us for information on this growing partnership.

CALL members are invited to attend for free the opening plenary session of the Festival of Faith and Writing at noon on Thursday, April 12, in the Calvin Fieldhouse, with keynote speaker Kwame Alexander. He is a poet, educator, New York Times Bestselling author of 21 books and recipient of the 2015 Newbery Medal for his novel, T.

This biennial celebration of literature and belief draws 2,000 people from across the world. Rooted in the Christian Reformed belief in common grace, the Festival of Faith & Writing creates space for meaningful discussion among people with different religious beliefs and practices.

This will conclude our series of free lectures until we resume again in September. If you missed any of the lectures and wish to watch them online, visit https://livestream.com/calvin-college/events/7722011.
NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Spring Courses

It’s time for the kickoff of the second session of spring courses beginning next Monday with Early Netherlandish Art. 23 courses still have openings if you were waiting for better weather or returning from warmer climates.

Courses still available are as follows:

21. Disability and Social Inclusion
22. An Extra Mile
25. This is My Father’s World
28. Beginner Line Dancing
30. The Vietnam War
31. Current Issues, As Old as the Psalms
32. The Novels of Edwidge Danticat
34. Living and Authentic Life
35. Healthy Aging, Healthy Habits, part II
38. C.S. Lewis, The Magic Never Ends
39. Women’s Spirituality
41. The American Civil War
42. Ritual and Liturgy in an Age of Informality
43. Understanding Mozart
44. Let’s Get Organized
45. English Reformations
46. Smart Investing
47. The Seven Themes of Richard Rohr
48. Creating the Stuff of the Universe: From Big Bang to Planets
49. Four Portraits of One Savior
51. Toning with Tubes
53. Why Some Muslims Hate the West
54. Stories Behind the Amendments of the U.S. Constitution
55. Early Netherlandish Art

Read the full course descriptions on our main web page.

Festival of Faith and Writing
CALL members receive a reduced price of $200 to attend the conference from April 12-14. Registration can be found at www.festival.calvin.edu/festival-2018/registration/. When signing up, enter call2018 at the bottom of page 1 and select regular registration on page 2.

Annual Meeting and Luncheon
Registration is open for the Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Tuesday, May 22 at a cost of $12.50. (CALL covers a portion of the cost of this event.) Doors open at 11:30 am. This annual event includes a 15-minute business meeting, presentation of the Distinguished Service Award, and special entertainment. A catered hot lunch is expertly prepared by the culinary staff of the Prince Conference Center. Signup information is listed under the Member Events section on pg. 7.

Calvin 5K
Walk or run for a reason! When you sign up for the 5K Spring Classic, you support scholarships which directly benefit Calvin students. The race begins at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 28, and the cost is reduced to just $15 for CALL members until April 1. Visit https://calvin.edu/events/spring-classic/ to register. CALL pays $10 of your race fee. In the Registration Cart, enter CALL2018 in the Coupon Code box. If the T-shirts provided aren't your style, gift the shirt to a grandchild in their size or another student you know.

Maintaining excellent health becomes harder with age, but running has been shown to slow the aging process, allowing you to lead a more independent lifestyle.

Additional benefits of continuous exercise include:

- Lowers risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer, and diabetes
- Controls weight and steadier metabolism
- Reduces depression and anxiety
- Increases mobility and coordination
- Strengthens muscles, bones, and joints
- Improves coordination to lower your risk of a dangerous fall
- Builds cardiovascular health
- Prevents cognitive decline
- Sleep more soundly

To begin exercise, always check with your doctor first and begin walking around your neighborhood for 30 minutes, three times week. Preparations should be gradual.
Member Events

by Marjorie Goosen and Amy Shellenbarger, Co-Chairs

Dinner and a Play
Sense and Sensibility
Performed by Calvin Theater Company
Thursday, April 19, 5:30 pm
41 registered

Jessica Swale’s cleverly-written, fast-paced and delightful adaptation of Jane Austen’s novel follows the fortunes of the Dashwood sisters as, cheated of their inheritance by their selfish brother, they pursue their dreams.

We will enjoy a delectable dinner at the Chapel Undercroft before the play and enjoy a short lecture by the play director, Professor Debra Freeberg. The meal features rosemary roasted pork loin, topped with a gorgonzola cream sauce and served with parmesan mashed potatoes, fresh vegetables, salad, rolls and tiramisu for dessert.

Following the dinner and lecture, it is just a short walk to the Gezon Theater where we will have the pleasure of watching one of Jane Austin’s great period dramas, Sense and Sensibility.

Cost: $35 per person, includes dinner and play. Dinner is at 5:30 pm followed by the play at 7:30 pm.

If you have any dietary restrictions, please contact the CALL office.

For questions, contact Edy Borgondy at borgondy@gmail.com or phone at 313-247-3537.

Grand Rapids Broadway’s
The King and I
Thursday, June 7, 5:00 pm
Signup Deadline April 15
17 registered

Two worlds collide in the Lincoln Center Theater production of this “breathtaking and exquisite” (*The New York Times*) musical. One of Rodgers & Hammerstein’s finest works, *The King and I* boasts a musical score of beloved classics. Set in 1860’s Bangkok, the musical tells the story of the unconventional and tempestuous relationship that develops between the King of Siam and Anna Leonowens, a British schoolteacher whom the modernist King, in an imperialistic world, brings to Siam to teach his many wives and children.

Winner of the 2015 Tony Award® for Best Musical Revival, *The King and I* is “too beautiful to miss” (*New York Magazine*)

There are many reasons to attend this Grand Rapids Broadway production in June:

The show, *The King and I*, is a wonderful trip down memory lane for many CALL members who remember the show’s film debut in 1956 with Yul Brynner.

The highest of talent is represented with this national New York Broadway touring company.

*The Huffington Post* writes “In a day and age when producers think nothing of imposing their so-called artistic vision on Broadway’s masterworks that were pretty good to begin with, it is heartening to see producers, directors, and executors just do the show as written.”

This event embraces the Orient with a buffet dinner at First Wok and an insightful background and cultural presentation on Thailand by Calvin Asian Studies expert Larry Herzberg.

There is no need to hurry downtown to park or worry how far you will walk from your parking space. We provide bus transportation to the front door of the De Vos Performance Hall. If going downtown has been a hassle, join us for this special night!

We have some of the best seats in the Hall in zone 1 of the mezzanine.

The deadline for registration is April 15. We need 16 additional persons to sign up to meet cost. CALL members are welcome to bring any friends or family members to this memorable evening.

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Cost: $118 per person, includes dinner, transportation, and performance. The performance time, including intermission, is three hours. If you have any dietary restrictions, please contact the CALL office.

For questions, contact Darlene Meyering at meyrda1@gmail.com or phone the CALL office at 526-8777.

Two new events join our schedule:

**An American Pastime: The Detroit Tigers, Thursday, June 14, 8:30 am-7:30 pm**
The Detroit Tigers will play the Minnesota Twins at Comerica Park on Thursday, June 14, at 1:00 pm. CALL members are welcome to bring kids, grandkids, and friends to our day at the ballpark.

The bus leaves the Prince Conference Center parking lot at 8:30 am and refreshments are provided in route. At the ball game, you have a voucher for a hot dog and soft drink. We expect to return around 7:30 pm.

The cost is $89 (same as last year) and includes bus transportation, food at the game, game ticket, and snacks on the drive home. For questions, contact Marjorie Goosen at mlgoosen@mail.com or phone at 231-557-5037. May 14 is the deadline to register.

**Experience Detroit: Greektown—Eastern Market—DIA, Saturday, July 14, 8:00 am-9:00 pm**

Join us Saturday, July 14, as we travel to three of Detroit's most popular sites.

**11:30 Greektown:**
Our adventure begins in this historic commercial and entertainment district in Detroit. We will have lunch at the Pegasus Taverna.

The menu:
- Flaming Saganaki cheese (one per every four guests)
- Greek salad
- Greek Duo (choose two of three):* Moussaka, Pastitsio, or Spinach Pie
- Choice of Coffee, Tea, or Soda

Further Descriptions
*Moussaka - Thinly sliced eggplant, layered with potato and ground meat seasoned with special spices. Baked with a Béchamel custard and topped with tomato sauce.
*Pastitsio - Large macaroni, mixed with spiced ground beef and lamb and grated cheeses. Baked with a béchamel custard and topped with tomato sauce.
*Spanakoteropeta (Spinach Pie) - Fresh leaf spinach, imported feta cheese and spices, baked in thin delicate layers of phyllo dough.

**1:00 Eastern Market:**
The Market began in the 1800's. It is in the heart of Detroit and has fresh food, flowers, restaurants, businesses, art and culture. The unwavering mission is to enrich Detroit nutritionally, culturally and economically. We will have the pleasure to hear Joseph Kuspa who is a founding member and former Vice-Chairman of the Eastern Market Corporation

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He will give us a short lecture about the Market and will be on hand to answer any questions before we meander on our own through the market.

3:00 Detroit Institute of Arts:
The DIA is home to the Diego Rivera Mural, Van Gogh’s Self Portrait, Bouguereau’s The Nut Gatherers and The Wedding Dance by Pieter Bruegel the Elder. Upon arrival, we will divide into two groups for a one-hour tour led by a museum docent. After the tour, you will be able to view more works of art or the DIA gift shop. Departure will be at 5:00.

5:30 Whole Foods:
Detroit did not have a chain grocery store for many years. Whole Foods has been here for five years. It has brought real change to Detroit, delivering jobs to residents and new food alternatives.

This is a great place for you to buy something to eat and drink on the bus as we make our way back to Grand Rapids.

We'll arrive home by 9:00 pm with great memories of Detroit.

Cost: $75.00 per person includes lunch, DIA admission with tour, and coach bus transportation. For questions, contact Edy Borgondy at borgondy@gmail.com or phone at 313-247-3537.

Member Events Registration
Two ways to register:

1. Online: [www.calvin.edu/CALL](http://www.calvin.edu/CALL) > Member Events
2. Complete this form (make checks payable to CALL) and send to CALL, Youngsma Center, 3201 Burton St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. Event fees are per person. CALL will notify you if an event has filled. A reminder is sent two weeks before the event.

- □ Thursday, April 19              Sense and Sensibility              $35
- □ Tuesday, May 22           Annual Meeting and Luncheon           $12.50
- □ Thursday, June 7            The King and I                $118
- □ Thursday, June 14          An American Pastime: Detroit Tigers $89
- □ Saturday, July 14           Experience Detroit                $75

Name (s): __________________________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________
Confirm by email?  □ Yes  □ No, I don’t use email
Extended Trips
by John Apol

The Civil War and Acadia, Maine, trips were canceled recently due to low enrollment.

We continue to accept registrations for the two fall trips. View full trip brochures online or call us to receive an itinerary by mail.

Canadian Rockies, Sept. 8-17
Travel into the heart of incredible scenery on a Canadian Rockies vacation and experience stunning vistas ranging from verdant river valleys and dramatic rock sheds to lush rainforests and deep canyons with the peaks of the majestic mountains, which span more than 69,000 square miles across two provinces, looming high above. This trip includes Calgary, Banff, Lake Moraine and Lake Louise, Yoho National Park, Emerald Lake, Athabasca Glacier, Maligne Lake and Canyon and the mountain town of Jasper before ending our tour in Edmonton.

South Africa- Oct 5-19
Our itinerary includes the two largest cities, Johannesburg and Pretoria, as well as Cape Town, visits to townships and remote villages, and two days in the village of Kgautswane. We will spend three days in Kruger National Park viewing African animals in the wild from guided, open-air vehicles as well as from our motor coach. While in the Cape Town area, we will take a cable car to the top of Table Mountain magnificent views. We will also take a boat trip to Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for many years. Along the way, we will visit a penguin colony and take a boat trip to a small island, home to hundreds of seals.