President’s Message

By Ken Bratt

“Sparks of His Glory”

Welcome to a new year of programs in the Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning! We are delighted that you’ve chosen to join us for another exciting array of classes, lectures, trips, and special events to share with so many friends. Last year we set another membership record at 2,074, and we’re expecting to break that record again this year.

At our May luncheon, when we celebrated the 20th anniversary of CALL, English Professor Jennifer Holberg received our 2016 Distinguished Teaching Award and spoke eloquently on “The Abundant Life.” In teaching so many CALL classes over the years, she said, she loves to see our eagerness for lifelong exploration of the amazing world in which God has put us.

She quoted John Calvin (a contractual obligation in every speech, she said): “...wherever you cast your eyes, there is no spot in the universe wherein you cannot discern at least some sparks of his glory.” And yet, “...however much the glory of God shines forth, scarcely one man in a hundred is a true spectator of it.” (Institutes I.5.8) Our goal in CALL is to help each other pay attention to those “sparks of His glory,” to keep on finding delight as long as we have eyes to see, to love the Lord with all our minds.

More prosaically, our constitution says: “The purpose of CALL is two-fold: first, to enrich the life-long spiritual, intellectual, cultural, and social lives of its members; and second, to create an abiding partnership between Calvin College and senior citizens who wish to share knowledge, talents, and experience.”

Those of you new to CALL will soon discover that we are blessed with a wonderful staff and corps of volunteers. You’ll hear frequently from our Administrative Coordinator Sonja DeJong who handles a myriad of tasks beyond communications. Marjo Jordan is our Membership Assistant, keeping track of enrollments and class arrangements – for 273 courses last year!

More than 75 volunteers work on our 13 committees and 14 serve on our Board. Corrine Kass (past President) and Gord Van Harn (past Vice President) retired in June after sharing their clear vision and great enthusiasm for six years. Our executive board has six members: Agnes Kroese (our Vicar, who takes over whenever an officer is absent), Mike Van Denend (Calvin Alumni director), Ed Westenbroek (Treasurer), Arie Leegwater (Secretary), new Vice-President Barb Engbers (recently retired principal of Calvin Christian High School), and myself as the new President (retired Calvin professor of classics).

We’re grateful for all of you who keep CALL growing and we’re always looking for new committee members and presenters. If you have a special interest in some part of CALL and are willing to help out, please let Sonja or me know and we’ll be glad to sign you up (see pg. 8 for additional details). We wish you a wonderful year of “seeing those sparks” together!

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Five Films
$25 Season
Tickets or
$6 per film

Can’t get away right now? Trying to decide where to jet off to next? Have a few hours to spare? A travel movie might be your short-term solution! Now in its 51st season, our upcoming film series promises high definition quality in each of the five films, a first for this program.

When we watch travel movies, our mind is instantly transported to another place. We get to experience things we never thought possible, all through the eyes and body of another. Travelogues are a great way to find inspiration for future trips or to trick our minds into being away from home. Journey with us this year in our travels to faraway lands beginning with South and Central America on September 15. Enjoy time in six countries with stops at Mayan monuments, national parks, the Panama Canal, Machu Picchu, Caracas, the Amazon River, and Rio de Janeiro, to name a few.

Little compares to the splendor of springtime in the Netherlands. Imagine cruising through rivers, lakes and canals, past fields and farms, and seeing windmills turning slowly in the wind. Experience the contrasts between modern cities, ancient towns and peaceful, rural villages at our second film on Thursday, October 13, titled “Tulips, Windmills, and A Christmas Cruise.” The second part of the film provides viewers a rare opportunity to quaint and charming Christmas markets from several European countries. Vienna’s Christmas-market tradition for example, goes back to the 13th century and is one of the many markets you will see. It now has around 10 markets. More than 150 stalls fill the Rathausplatz in front of the neo-Gothic City Hall. Streets are laden with miniature wooden houses, puppets, gingerbread hearts, leather clothing and wool hats. The atmospheric lanes of the Spittelberg market near the Museums Quarter offer handblown glass, silverware and ceramics.

Read more about each of these films under the travel films tab of our website.

Tickets are only available online at www.calvin.edu/boxoffice until September 2 at which time you can call the box office at 526-6282 to order tickets. You may purchase either season or individual tickets and all seats are reserved.
These free lectures are scheduled at noon on Thursdays and have moved back to the Calvin Chapel. Parking is best in numbered parking lots 1 and 2 off the Burton Street Entrance.

Noontime Series
by Henry Baron, Chair

Thursday, September 15,
William Katerberg

American Scripture? The U.S. Constitution and American Political Culture

The U.S. Constitution is often viewed as holy writ by Americans, especially the original document and the Bill of Rights. How Americans approach the Constitution is related to other areas of life and culture, such as how they read, interpret, and apply Biblical texts. This lecture will focus on how American leaders and citizens have thought about the Constitution and brought it to life.

Thursday, September 29,
Buck Matthews

The Book in Each of Us

No life story should be left untold. With that conviction, Buck Matthews told his story in “Getting Here”, a memoir-anthology, available after the presentation. To him, too many people leave only the china and a box of snapshots when they depart, when their life stories are much more to be cherished. Hearing Buck tell about his own life will inspire the audience to tell about theirs.

Additional lectures are as follows:

Thursday, October 13,
The 2016 Election, a panel discussion, Todd Huizenga, Becca McBride, Joel Westra

Thursday, October 27
A Transformative Reading of James, Neal Carlson

Thursday, November 1,
Donkey Carts and Starbucks: Raising Disciples in a Changing China, Renee Aupperlee
Announcements
by Sonja DeJong

Membership Expiration
CALL welcomes back over 1300 of our renewed members for the 2016-2017 academic year. If you have not received the redesigned membership cards that replace last year’s name badges, you have not renewed membership in our program.

Membership is needed to continue the same pricing structure at MVP and to participate in CALL classes and some trips.

Forms can be found in the center of the fall curriculum guide or online at www.calvin.edu/call.

Fall Course Registration
Here are some helpful hints in signing up for fall courses:

1. Sign up for all courses at the same time regardless of which semester they meet.
2. Note the map in the back of the book to see where classes meet.
3. Double check your selection against the center insert to ensure no courses conflict.
4. Use the online form for signups so you see which classes have filled.

Each year the curriculum guide amazes us with its vast array of options. This year is no different. This fall we have several current event topics like the election, Zika virus, Brexit, and the European Union. Dig in with us on a deeper understanding of the issues shaping our world today.

If you would like additional copies of the catalog for friends, please email the office.

CALL Bible Study
Each fall the college offers a fall Campus-Wide Bible study. This year the study is on the book of Revelation.

N.T. Wright’s excellent Revelation for Everyone is the commentary. It’s a 10-week study with a guide for each week. CALL is looking for anyone who is willing to lead this study. We would provide the instructor material for free and a reserved space to meet. Please email the office if you wish to lead or simply to participate at call@calvin.edu.

Read this review: It’s amazing how this book unlocked passages of prophecy that I have wondered about for years in a readable and concise manner that was not based on his own thoughts, but rather the Old Testament prophecies, promises and themes. Instead of getting lost in literal thinking, he clearly proved the symbolism and hidden depths of the Revelation through Scripture itself (a much truer way of interpreting this book rather than trying to nail down the symbolism to exact people and warfare machines, as I’ve read in other end-of-the-world books). After the past few years of intense study through Genesis-Deuteronomy and most of the New Testament, his conclusions rang true for me, and I highly recommend this book.- Kristin, 2015. The book will be on sale in the campus bookstore for $11.99, normally $18.00.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Calvin Campus Store
If you are taking a course this fall and the description includes a recommended book available in the campus store, CALL members will receive a 10% discount on these books by showing your CALL membership card.
Member Events
by Shirley Lautenbach

Off to Chicago, Thursday and Friday, September 22 and 23

Our first visit in Chicago will be the Holocaust Museum in Skokie, Ill. This museum tells the story of the Holocaust through interactive exhibits that move and inspire. The museum is dedicated to preserving the legacy of the Holocaust by honoring the memories of those who died and by teaching universal lessons that combat hatred, prejudice and indifference. Our guided tour will show the story of the Holocaust from the past to the present. You will ask yourself “How could this happen?” It is a thoughtful, informative and reflective journey.

We will enjoy dinner and theater at the Drury Lane Theatre. We will tap our toes to the music of “Smoky Joe's Cafe.” Friday will be spent at the beautiful Cantigny Gardens.

Our guided tour of the Robert McCormick historical home will acquaint us with the life and work of Chicago Tribune editor and publisher, Robert McCormick. This museum is a historic house museum that depicts the home of a family that made the Chicago Tribune the “World's Greatest Newspaper.”

We will tour the First Division Museum. This museum is an interactive and immersive museum honoring our military. It depicts American history through the eyes of the First Infantry Division. The museum features a WWI front line trench, the opportunity to board a WWII landing craft bound for Omaha Beach and a walk through a Vietnam jungle. Explore history through the eyes of those who served with the 1st Division and its units. Outside of the museum is an interesting display of tanks. The day will be enriched by the stunning sights and aromatic scents of the beautiful Cantigny gardens. Lunch is on your own.

Cost $269.00 (single supplement $55).

ArtPrize, Monday, October 3 or Thursday, October 6.

Choose one of two dates for our annual ArtPrize day tours in downtown Grand Rapids. This year we again will spend the day touring the top entries in this world class exhibit. We will leave Calvin at 9:00 a.m. and return around 4:00 p.m.


Lansing with Dick Harms, Wednesday, October 12.

CALL members and guests will appreciate the beauty of the fall colors and the colorful narration of Dick Harms on our trip to Lansing. Our first stop will be at Grand Ledge for coffee and rolls. At this stop Dick will highlight the Stevens Island resort. Dick will take us to additional landmarks including the Frank D. Fitzgerald home, the Seventh Day Adventist campground, Ransom E. Olds, Oldsmobile and Reo, the Turner Dodge Mansion, Old Towne, the Lansing Lugnuts and the State Capitol. The tour will conclude with a tour of the MSU campus, its facilities, architecture and interesting stories.

If you enjoy the tranquility of a scenic boat ride, the exhilaration of live music and delight in eating good food, you will enjoy our lunch cruise. We will marvel in the beautiful fall colors as we have lunch and cruise on the Grand River aboard the Lansing Princess riverboat.

Cost $89.

Christmas in October, Thursday, October 27.

Invite your friends and share an evening listening to the delightful music of The Voices of Freedom. The Voices of freedom is West Michigan's eight-part acapella voice ensemble. They are returning to us by the request of many people who heard them last year at our October event. You will be tapping your toes as you hear the lilting sounds of Carol of the Bells, Deck the Halls, White Christmas and other Christmas classics. You will be inspired by the beautiful sounds of Joy to the World, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, O Come All Ye Faithful and many more of our Christmas favorites.

Dinner is at 5:30 pm in the Undercroft of the Chapel. The concert will be at 7:00 pm in the college chapel. Invite your friends and enjoy this special evening with delicious food, warm fellowship and music that will entertain and bless.

Cost $30.00 dinner and concert.
Member Events Registration

Two ways to register:

1. Online: 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.

☐ Sept 22-2 Off to Chicago $269
   □ Chicago single supplement $55
☐ Oct 3 Monday ArtPrize $65
☐ Oct 6 Thursday ArtPrize $65
☐ Oct 12 Lansing with Dick Harms $89
☐ Oct 27 Christmas in October $30

Name: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________
Email: Confirm by email? □ Yes □ No, I don’t use email

Contact Shirley with questions: 299-3584 or lautenshirley@gmail.com
The cancellation policy is posted on the CALL website

Extended Trips
by John Apol

The majority of the extended trips offered through the CALL program are led by experts quite often who are professors or emeriti of Calvin College. These individuals bring a wealth of information and expertise to these travels. Add to that the knowledgeable guides representing Witte Travel and you have a learning adventure where you’ll meet fascinating people who learn together and share ideas, thoughts and new experiences.

Here are the dates and registration timelines for our 2017 trips:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trip</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>March 20-April 1, 2017</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>May 19-31, 2017</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>May 9-19, 2017 (tentative)</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Southwest</td>
<td>September 7-18, 2017</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Protestant Reformation, Germany, and Switzerland</td>
<td>September 12-22, 2017</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Our 2017 travels begin with a repeat trip to Israel in March.
The Bible becomes so real that it literally stands up and takes on a third dimension as an accurate, historical account from which we learn many spiritual lessons. Walking where Jesus walked, hearing His words anew, seeing the illustrations from everyday life that He used, and understanding His teachings at new levels often leads to special encounters and even healings that stay with the traveler when they return home.
In May we offer our members and friends the rare opportunity to travel to Iceland. The dramatic terrain of Iceland, known as the land of fire and ice, encompasses volcanoes, glaciers, geysers, waterfalls and fjords. Iceland is also home to Vatnajokull— one of Europe's largest glaciers, the famous Blue Lagoon—a mineral-rich geothermal pool set within a large lava field, and traditional horse farms and ancient Viking sites. Iceland’s capital, Reykjavik, includes the 19th-century Parliament House, Austurvollur Square and Tjornin Lake.

Because tourism requests to Cuba have increased significantly, determining the details of the spring Cuba trip are still being finalized. At this time the expected dates are May 9–19, give or take a day. You’ll learn all about Cuban culture, history and have opportunities to experience everyday Cuban life first-hand. Plus you see lush tropical settings, unique landscape, fascinating cities, and antique cars. This is sure to be an unforgettable experience exploring Cuba on the edge of change! Join our interest list to ensure you receive the details as soon as they are available.

Jumping over the summer months, we skip to September’s U.S. trip to the American Southwest on September 7–18. The tour is a repeat, led by John Apol, of the 2012 trip. Deserts, mountains, and red rock canyons provide an amazing new view around every bend.

But it’s not just the scenery that’s compelling. Behind every beautiful landscape, there is, inevitably, an interesting story or bit of history that adds to the richness of the experience.

We wrap up our travels for 2017 in late September with our popular instructor Karin Maag as our guide to Germany and Switzerland to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. It has been 500 years since Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. Although there is no historical proof of this happening, it was an event that changed the world, and this great anniversary in 2017 will be marked in fitting style, not just in Wittenberg and Eisleben but across the country.

Follow in the footsteps of Martin Luther throughout Germany and embark on a fascinating journey to the great distant age of the Reformation.

We also have a number of trips shaping up for 2018 which include tours to Peru, South Africa, and the Canadian Rockies. Potential tours under discussion include the Netherlands, Civil War sites, an Alaska cruise and Greece. Keep these 2018 tours in the back of your mind as you look towards future travel.

Potential travelers may place their names on an “interest list” for the 2017 trips not yet open for registration with the CALL office or the Calvin Alumni at call@calvin.edu. See our website for additional information as it is available.
Did you know 74 of our members are original CALL members beginning in 1996? Of those, many have also participated on one of our 13 committees. Just like any year, volunteers are retiring from these committees, and we look to our members who might have gifts in these areas. There are several specific areas which we are looking for new committee members. The Public Events committee needs people to view and select films for our travel film series and people to suggest and research possible lectures for our free Noontime Series. The nominating committee needs one or two individuals who can work with the office staff to recommend new board members. If your gifts are planning events and you enjoy socializing, our hospitality committee is looking to grow by several persons. And finally, the service grants committee needs one additional member who will review and approve funds to support charity work by our members.

Our committees meet monthly or bi-monthly and welcome your involvement. Please email Sonja in the office at call@calvin.edu if you would like to join.