Travel with CALL
by John Apol, Extended Trips Chairperson

Travel! What a gift! Ships, airplanes, trains, motor coaches (we used to call them buses) and automobiles offer us more opportunities to travel than our parents, perhaps, and certainly more than our grandparents. We are blessed with resources and opportunities to see the world beyond the space in which we live. Travel is a window on the world. It might take us to the next state, a neighboring country, or beyond and around the globe. To see places in person that we may have seen in photos, or learned about in school, or heard about from others, can lead to a broader appreciation of God’s incredible creation, including not only places, but people—people who live in different circumstances, look different, have different customs and different understandings of the world. Mark Twain said, “Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one’s lifetime.” Another perspective was offered by St. Augustine: “The world is a book, and those who do not travel, read only one page.”

This philosophy propelled the CALL board, led by then President Roger Griffioen, to offer expanded travel opportunities to its membership by creating, in 2007, the “Extended Domestic and Overseas Trips Task Force” to begin exploring options for offering travel to the CALL membership. After discussions with the Calvin Alumni Association, the two organizations agreed in October, 2009, to work together to offer a travel program that would draw from both the CALL membership base and the large body of Calvin alumni. The committee’s membership includes CALL members and a representative from the Calvin Alumni Association. Mike Van Denend very ably served in this capacity until his recent retirement and has been succeeded by Rick Truer, Calvin Director of Alumni and Community Relations. The committee meets several times a year, as needed, to plan tours, both domestic and overseas. It also reviews feedback from tour members after completion of a given tour. The committee’s ongoing goal is to repeat some tours and offer new trips as well. Since its inception, 29 tours have been completed.

One of the benefits of the travel program is that it provides a planned experience that is both recreational and educational and relieves the traveler from the time consuming, hard work of making arrangements. The planning is done by the tour leader working closely with a travel agency, usually Witte Travel, which has consistently provided excellent planning assistance and support when the trip is underway, all of which is provided at a reasonable cost.

Another benefit, often reported by travel participants, is that our tours attract people who enjoy traveling with others and new friendships are often gained during the course of travel. Join the traveling crowd when you can!
A Week in Paris, Thursday, Feb. 8, 7:00 pm.
There is no denying the allure and romance of the City of Light. Flamboyant and mysterious, Gothic and modern, refined and bawdy – Paris is all of these, with room for both grandeur and coziness. It’s a city imbued with history, a center of art and culture. But it’s also a city of gardens and cafes where people-watching is the raison d’etre. Our travels will feast on architectural splendors, the finest museums and small delights around every corner. Outside Paris, in the nearby Loire River Valley, our journey meanders through several glorious chateaus, with their meticulously designed and manicured gardens and courtyards. First-time viewers and seasoned travelers alike will enjoy this high-definition journey in this city of light.

Marlin Darrah is one of the most traveled filmmakers in the world. He's the executive director of International Film & Video, an award-winning film and HD video production company based in Portland, Oregon. His 35-year career has taken him to some 135 countries on all continents. Companies that have shown Marlin’s travel-adventure programs or stock footage include National Geographic, NBC, CBS, ABC, CNN, PBS, Discovery Channel, TBN, The Weather Channel and many others.

In January of 2017, Darrah wrote an article for Travel Adventure Magazine in which he describes the various venues around the country promoting travel films. He writes, my audience sizes have ranged between 100 to 700. Grand Rapids’ Calvin College appears to be the winner for the largest individual audience size. The college attracts 600 to over 1000 patrons to each show. St. Louis, Lititz, PA and Madison WI, Davenport, IA, and Omaha consistently draw large numbers as well. Thank you for your continued interest and strong engagement for the CALL Passport Series.

Parking is easiest in the DeVos parking lot on the east side of the East Beltline and using the overhead crosswalk including an elevator.

The Calvin Box Office is staffed from 10:00 am- 5:00 pm (7:00 pm on film nights). Single tickets for $6 for adults or $3 for students can be purchased in advance by phone at 526-6282 or in person the night of the film.

For more details, go to our main web page and click on the “Travel Film Series” tab in the left column at www.calvin.edu/call. If you have any questions about submitting an order, please feel free to contact the CALL office at 526-8777. We are happy to provide any assistance needed.
The Noontime lectures are concluded for 2017 and will resume in February of 2018. These 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 lots #1 and 2. All lectures are free and open to the community. Most lectures are videotaped and can be watched online by selecting the “Noontime” tab on our website.

A preview of the spring lineup is listed below. A full description will follow in the next newsletter.

Spring Noontime Lecture Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8-Feb</td>
<td>Tara Aday</td>
<td>The Challenges of Universal Forgiveness in the Face of Domestic Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-Feb</td>
<td>Gordon Olsen</td>
<td>West Michigan in The Great War</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-Mar</td>
<td>Scott Westhouse, Muriel Zandstra, and Larry Gerbens</td>
<td>The Eyes of the Artist: Macular Degeneration</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-Mar</td>
<td>Warden Burton and Todd Cioffi</td>
<td>Reforming a Prison: One Warden’s Reflections on the Power of Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-Apr</td>
<td>Festival of Faith and Writing</td>
<td>Opening Plenary Session in the Calvin Fieldhouse</td>
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Announcements
by Sonja DeJong, CALL Administrative Coordinator

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

No January Newsletter
CALL publishes 10 newsletters per year, excluding the months of January and August. The February newsletter is published next and will be mailed on January 16.

Curriculum
For the first time in CALL history, we filled over 2,000 seats for fall classes. We are so thankful for all your involvement and continued thirst for lifelong learning!

We do not have a special January class with Karin Maag in 2018. The next courses will begin the week of February 12. The spring curriculum guide is estimated to include 55 courses and guides are scheduled for mailing the first week of January. An online copy will be available to read a few days earlier. Registration will open on Friday, January 5.

Here is a sneak peak at some of the spring courses:

- Ancient Israel
- Choral Music
- the TET Offensive
- Middle East Literature
- English Kings
- Gardening
- Disability and Social Inclusion
- C.S. Lewis
- Women’s Spirituality
- Living an Authentic Life
- The Grand River
- This is My Father’s World
- and so much more...

Winter Weather
The staff would like to remind members to use caution in traveling to campus if weather conditions are hazardous. Classes will meet as scheduled unless the Calvin College campus is closed. Watch your local news for closings or check the main web page from Calvin College at www.calvin.edu.

Membership fees on January 1
For the third year, CALL offers a ½ year membership beginning January 1, 2017, for the reduced price of $25, a $10 savings. Both the application online and the membership form in the spring curriculum guide will reflect the ½ year pricing.

Committee Volunteers
CALL is seeking volunteers interested in marketing or public relations. Anyone interested should call or email the office.

January Series
CALL is proud to be a sponsor of the January Series. We support the series with a $5,000 donation and this year our sponsored lecture is Confident Pluralism: Surviving and Thriving Through Deep Differences with John Inazu on Wednesday, January 10. Read more under the Member Events section of this newsletter.

A list of the lectures is available at www.calvin.edu/january-series. See also the remote viewing locations and which lectures are available by webcast.

Service Grants
Two grants for $200 each were recently approved by the Service Grant Committee. These grant requests were submitted by CALL members who volunteer at these charity organizations.

The first grant supports the van maintenance for Samaritan’s Carriage. This organization has provided monthly outings since 2002 for residents with limited mobility from nine local nursing homes and their volunteer hosts.

If you are interested in learning more about Samaritan's Carriage, visit their web page at samaritanscarriage.org.

Samaritan’s Carriage

The second grant was approved for New Village Designs, a local nonprofit group that creates products which are handcrafted by local refugees and sold through various venues. This program mentors and develops refugee women so they can grow in language skills, relationships, and professional leadership skills. The grant will be used towards the purchase of raw materials for these women.

New Village Designs
Member Events
by Marjorie Goosen and Amy Shellenbarger, Co-Chairs

January Series Brunch
Wednesday, January 10, 2018
Prince Conference Center
Doors open at 9:30, brunch at 10:00.

John Inazu, Confident Pluralism: Surviving and Thriving through Deep Differences

This newsletter is the last issue to communicate a member event that includes a powerful and timely January Series lecture on Wednesday, January 10, 2018, in the Prince Conference Center with John Inazu discussing the dissension in our country today.

Mr. Inazu is the Sally D. Danforth Distinguished Professor of Law and Religion at Washington University in St. Louis. He teaches courses in criminal law, law and religion, and the First Amendment.

The brunch begins at 10:00 with a unique, deep-dish French toast made from sourdough bread baked in cinnamon and brown sugar, served soufflé style with hash browns, crispy bacon, and fresh fruit. Vegan options are available when requested in advance.

Confident Pluralism argues that we can and must live together peaceably in spite of deep and sometimes irresolvable differences over politics, religion, sexuality, and other important matters. We can do so in two important ways – by insisting on constitutional commitments that honor and protect difference and by embodying tolerance, humility, and patience in our speech, our collective action (protests, strikes, and boycotts), and our relationships across difference. Confident Pluralism suggests that it is often better to tolerate than to protest, better to project humility than defensiveness, and better to wait patiently for the fruits of persuasion than to force the consequences of coercion. Confident Pluralism will not give us the American Dream. But it might help avoid an American Nightmare.

Why attend?

- The January Series is an award-winning lecture series with gifted speakers from around the world and overflow rooms often need to accommodate all the guests trying for a seat in the Fine Arts Center (maximum capacity 1005).
- No other large groups receive reserved seating in the Fine Arts Center for these lectures.
- Parking is easy at the Prince Conference Center and a coach bus brings you to and from the main lecture in the Fine Arts Center.
- A mini-lecture at our brunch enhances your knowledge of the subject and the speaker.
- The meal is crafted to perfection by an experienced culinary team.
- Special music complements the brunch.
- The cost is less than last year.

Join us at this highly engaging and riveting event as John Inazu draws us back to an America that can hold civil conversation despite deep differences.

Cost of $17 per person includes brunch, guest lectures, bus service both directions and reserved seating at the January Series lecture.

Remember this is the last time you will see this event advertised in a newsletter so be sure to send in the form on the next page.

For any questions, please contact Darlene Meyering at meyrda1@gmail.com.
**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.

- **Wednesday, January 10**
  - **January Series Brunch**
  - **$17**

  Name (s): __________________________________________
  Phone: __________________________________________
  Confirm by email?  □ Yes  □ No, I don’t use email

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**Extended Trips**

*by John Apol*

Two U.S. trips have opened for registration; *North and South: The Civil War* and *Acadia Hiking and Biking Adventure* in Maine.

**North and South: The Civil War**

The Civil War trip is scheduled with Calvin history emeriti and CALL professor Dan Miller from May 4-May 13. The trip cost is $2,375 based on double occupancy.

Guests will walk where armies won momentous triumphs and suffered catastrophic losses. During this ten-day tour, with Washington D.C. and Richmond, Virginia, as your base, you will visit northern and southern Civil War sites which include:

- John Brown Wax Museum to see abolitionist John Brown’s attempt to take arms from the armory for freed slaves
- National Museum of American History, to see the Civil War Exhibit
- Washington D.C., with several evenings to explore the nation’s capital at your leisure
- Battlefield of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania, the site of Gen. Robert E. Lee’s second invasion of the north
- President Lincoln’s Cottage, where Lincoln spent time with wounded soldiers and self-emancipated men, women and children, and drafted the Emancipation Proclamation
- Museum of the Confederacy and the Confederate White House in Richmond, VA.
- Clara Barton’s Missing Soldiers Museum

*(cont. pg. 7)*
Leader Dan Miller first became fascinated with the Civil War in middle school and his interest has not abated since that time.

If you are interested in this trip or even this subject, be sure to look for Dan’s Civil War course in the spring curriculum guide titled *After the Civil War: What Ken Burns and Steven Spielberg Didn’t Mention*. The class will explore what happened when former slaves were granted not only freedom, but also civil and political rights. You will also look at some popular presentations of this period to see how this history has been misrepresented. Finally, you’ll consider what this Reconstruction has meant for our nation.

**Acadia Hiking and Biking Adventure**

For several months we have had preliminary details available for the Acadia trip from August 2-8. Registration is now open for this summer trip to Maine. Cost is $3,155 per person based on double occupancy. This trip includes some physically challenging opportunities. If you are regularly active, you should be prepared for hikes from 2-4 miles and one leisure-pace bike ride of 11 miles.

**Highlights:**
- Scenic hikes to beautiful locations such as Cadillac Mountain, Acadia Mountain and Jordan Pond
- Trolley tour of Bar Harbor
- Afternoon tea and popovers at the Jordan Pond House
- Leisurely bike ride around Eagle Lake and Witch Hole Pond
- Lobster-boat tour
- Frenchman Bay cruise
- Rockefeller gardens

**Peru**
March 26-April 10, 2018  
Neal Bierling- Open for registration

**Netherlands**
April 6-19, 2018  
Henk Aay- 2 spots open.

**Alaska Cruise**
May 13-23, 2018  
Ellen and George Monsma- 4 on the waitlist

**The Civil War**
May 4-13, 2018  
Dan Miller- Open for registration

**Acadia National Park**
August 2-8, 2018  
Roy Zuidema- Open for registration

**Canadian Rockies**
September, 2018  
John Apol

**South Africa**
October, 2018  
John Apol
Your tour leader, Roy Zuidema, is a proud alum of Calvin College. Roy has a passion for combining physical activity and travel. He has led groups of Calvin faculty, staff, and CALL members on several hiking trips to the Grand Canyon and Spain’s Camino de Santiago, as well as a recent biking trip in the Netherlands. He has vacationed on Mount Desert Island, where he has biked, hiked, climbed, and explored many of the trails. If you are up for it, and you ask him, he may even take you on an optional challenging hike to see views that are even more spectacular!

Update on other trips
An update on the three previously advertised trips are as follows: 2 spots remain for the Netherlands, a waitlist is available for Alaska, and Peru continues to accept registrations with 10 persons registered to date.

See our website under “Extended Trips” for more details. If you are interested in receiving a brochure, please call our office.