Called to Community

by Jolene De Heer-Hospitality Chair

There are so many aspects I love about the CALL program! I appreciate the opportunity to be challenged intellectually through the variety of classes offered, the chance to travel, as well as the special events and lectures. But one of the things I love most about CALL is the opportunity to meet new people. One of the tenets of my life is a quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson who said, “Every man I meet is in some way my superior.” I believe each person has something to teach me if I will but open myself up to receive it. Another saying that guides my approach to meeting people is, “There will always be a reason why you meet people. Either you need them to change your life, or you’re the one that will change theirs.” (Anonymous) So, every time I attend a CALL class or event, I look forward to learning something that will change me or to being used by God to bless someone else. What a gift of grace that is! I also enjoy making both former and new friends feel welcomed and included! There is nothing worse than feeling lonely in a crowd of people. It has been said that loneliness is not so much about feeling alone as it is about feeling nobody cares. The Hospitality Committee takes seriously its mandate to oversee and encourage the entire CALL program to be welcoming, so that every person who comes to CALL feels cared about and enfolded. Each year 250-300 new members join and a number of them have had no prior knowledge of Calvin College before joining, so members of the Hospitality Committee intentionally seek out new members and personally welcome them, so they feel highly valued.

Not limited to the Hospitality Committee, all of us should actively search for ways to welcome and enfold others. What could that look like? We could work at gaining a broader understanding of hospitality: “Hospitality means primarily the creation of free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy. Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines.” Henri J.M. Nouwen, Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life.

We could endeavor to gain a new appreciation of what it means to be welcoming: “Welcoming is not just something that happens as people cross the threshold. It is an attitude; it is the constant openness of the heart; it is saying to people every morning and at every moment, “come in,” it is giving them space; it is listening to them attentively. To welcome means listening a great deal to people and then discerning the truth with them.” Jean Vanier, Called to Community.

No matter why you have chosen to be a part of the CALL program, I invite you to enjoy the gift of meeting new people who can bless you and who you can bless. Let’s all open our arms wide to welcome all we meet and make a space.
We welcome our second passport film of the season on Wednesday, October 24, at 7:00 pm in the Covenant Fine Arts Center. We are well on our way to another well-attended film series with over 600 season tickets sold to date.

Each season we ensure that one film in the series is within the United States. To that purpose, this next film is titled “The Old Spanish Trail” by cinematographer Bill Behrenbruch.

The Old Spanish Trail is a historical trade route that connected the northern New Mexico settlements of (or near) Santa Fe, New Mexico with those of Los Angeles and southern California. The hazardous mule trade route stands as a testament to the epic story of the West, the struggles early frontiers people faced in the transport of goods, and the critical ties between the international economics and cultures of North America’s opposite coasts in the mid-1800’s.

This is a journey through history as we follow the American explorers and trappers, the Mexicans, the Spanish, and the Native Americans, and maybe even the Anasazi. Take in the beautiful mountains, canyons, rivers, waterfalls and wildlife. It’s all here, off the beaten track, along “The Old Santa Fe Trail.”

As a child, Bill Behrenbruch and his parents attended travel programs like the San Francisco Bay City Noon Optimist Travel and Adventure Series. “We would spend half a year planning the next trip,” the California resident said. “Travel was ingrained in me from my earliest memories and photography.”

The cost for single tickets is $6. Guests can order by calling the box office at 526-6282, after 10:30 am, Monday through Friday. You can also buy tickets as early as 6:00 pm the evening of the show. All seats are reserved.

We recommend parking across the Beltline and using the crosswalk to cross the road. The distance is short and easier than you would expect, including an elevator on the west end to avoid stairs.
The Noontime lectures are free and open to CALL members and the public. The location is the Calvin Chapel, located just east of the Burton Street entrance to the campus. Parking is best in lot #2, just left of this entrance. Please note the special date of the last lecture.

Our next lecture is Thursday, September 27, and covers the timely subject of gerrymandering. On the November 2018 ballot, voters in Michigan will be able to vote on a new way to draw the lines among state and congressional districts. The anti-gerrymandering ballot initiative came from a remarkably rapid volunteer-led effort which addressed how the lines of legislative districts reward the political party in power. This Noontime lecture will provide a broader history of the gerrymander and specific information about the choice facing the state’s voters this fall.

On Thursday, October 11, we have the privilege of hearing from Bing Goei, who will present Why has immigration become so controversial?

Mr. Goei, an immigrant from Indonesia and the former CEO of Eastern Floral and Gift Shop in Grand Rapids, recently retired after four years as the first director of the Michigan Office for New Americans (MONA) under the appointment of Governor Rick Snyder. The office serves as the frontline for partnering on immigrant issues with various refugee resettlement agencies, economic development groups, universities, state commissions and other agencies.

As part of his lecture, we will explore what facts we have when discussing immigration with our friends. Do we know our own personal history? How should followers of Christ contribute to the discussion?
Expired 2017-2018 CALL Memberships
Last week we mailed renewal letters to those households with an expired membership(s). Included was a letter offering three options to renew.

The CALL office continues to offer assistance to anyone having difficulty navigating the new software program.

PLEASE do not create a new account as we cannot merge two accounts.

Our office has been requested to join an advisory panel with the new software company and look forward to assisting them this year in enacting positive improvements to the program.

Registration for Second Session Courses
With our first session of courses well underway, we can now focus our attention to registrations for the second session of courses. This diversified group of courses represent a multitude of concentrations including music, history, geology, literature, physical fitness, economics, and astronomy. Below is a sampling of the courses available:

- The Music of Keith Green
- Shakespeare’s King Lear
- Creating Memoir
- Potpourri of Geology
- The Art of Traveling Well
- Germany- From Rubble to Riches
- Bach’s Christmas Oratorio
- All About the Crusades
- Spinning into Butter
- Android Basics
- Preserving God’s Creation
- Economics of Int’l Trade
- Life of Binary Stars
- Happiness as a Habit
- The Norman Kings, part 2
- God is a Missionary God

The course on Greece by Ken Bratt has been reopened and moved to a larger room- Science Bldg #110.

Our ever-popular Fridays at the Movies course begins this Friday, September 21, at Woodland Celebration Cinema, at 3:30 pm. We offer some of the best independent off-Hollywood films, including in-depth Q&A time directly following the movie with one of our expert film discussants. A CALL table is set up in the lobby of the theatre to check-in and pick up your ticket. We now have the details for the first three out of four films:

9/21: Puzzle. A dutiful middle-aged housewife discovers a talent she never knew she had, namely the ability to assemble jigsaw puzzles really fast. And with that she discovers a whole lot else that will turn her life very upside down, at least for a time. Rated R, 103 mins. Rotten Tomatoes score 83.

10/5: Love, Gilda. The film’s documentary look at comedian Gilda Radner makes for an unusual bio-doc that not only shows a remarkable and hugely memorable comedian but a rare human being possessed of a spirit, as one critic phrases it, “open, smiling, generous, euphoric.” The film relies on a trove of newly-discovered diaries and personal audio and videotapes documenting her childhood, her comedy career, her relationships and ultimately, her struggles with cancer (she died in 1989 at age 42). 86 mins. Not rated. Rotten Tomatoes: 100%. Discussant: Carl Plantinga

10/19 Pick of the Litter. This documentary is far more than a cutesy doggie movie. Rather, it follows the arduous two-year training of pups selected as candidates to live as guide dogs for the blind. One critic comments that the film is “unexpectedly suspenseful, even intense,” and another that amid the generally happy tale there are many bittersweet moments. 81 minutes. Not rated. Discussant: tbd. Rotten Tomatoes: 100%.

11/2 TBD. Discussant Jennifer Holberg.

NEW CALL Lanyards
If you are in Hiemenga Hall or see one of the office staff in the hallways for classes, be sure to ask for the new CALL lanyard to replace the strings on your plastic membership holder. These serve as name badges.

Interest Groups resuming:
The men’s support group on dementia begins Wednesday, Sept.19, from 3:00-4:30 pm and knitting resumes on Wednesday, Oct. 3, 1:00-3:00 pm. Both groups meet in the Youngsma building, second floor, next to the CALL office. Anyone interested in joining should contact us at 526-8777.
Member Events
Amy Shellenbarger, Chair

DEADLINE APPROACHING: Wednesday, September 26

ArtPrize 10
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
The registration deadline is approaching for our two ArtPrize member events on either Monday, October 1, or Tuesday, October 2.

Our guests will depart from the Prince Conference Center via coach bus transportation to the Sweet House, formerly the Women’s City Club, for coffee/tea and muffins. From there, we enjoy early access to the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) at 11:00 am, typically a large venue for ArtPrize exhibits. Following the GRAM, CALL guests will enjoy specific stops related to the prior weekend’s “top 20” announcement. A delicious catered lunch at the Pearl Street Holiday Inn is included in your afternoon activities with Chicken Florentine, house salad, vegetable, and carrot cake for dessert. (We have a Vegetarian Alfredo option if specified).

ArtPrize moves to a biennial schedule after this year so it won’t be available again until 2020!

The biggest negative of ArtPrize is parking downtown and figuring out where to go—all of which we take care of for you.

Cost is the same as previous years at $70 per person. If you have questions, either email Cherie Grunske at cherillusions@gmail.com or phone the CALL office at 526-8777.

A Day in Hyde Park
8:00 am - 12:00 (midnight)
Friday, October 26, CALL members have the opportunity to spend the day in Hyde Park, Chicago. Several activities are located at or near the University of Chicago.

We begin our day at the Frank Lloyd Wright Robie with a one-hour tour followed by a boxed lunch provided by the Robie House. At 1:00 CST, we begin our tour at the Oriental Institute of Chicago. After spending a couple hours at the museum, CALL members can spend an hour at the Seminary Co-Op Library and coffee shop on the campus. Widely regarded as one of the best academic bookstores in the world, the Co-op houses an extensive collection of scholarly titles.

We conclude with a 5:00 CST Carillon bell recital at the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel where you can either hear and view the recital in the Chapel or climb with the carillonneur the 271 steps to the bells. After the one-hour recital, we board the bus to return to Grand Rapids with dinner en route.

Cost is $135 per person. Call our office if you have questions.

Previous ArtPrize Winning Entries
The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe
12:30 pm-6:00 pm

Saturday, November 17, CALL will offer a lunch and matinee performance to Master Arts Theatre of The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe, from the story by C.S. Lewis.

This dramatization of C.S. Lewis’ classic, set in the land of Narnia, faithfully recreates the magic and mystery of Aslan, the great lion, his struggle with the White Witch, and the adventures of four children who inadvertently wander from an old wardrobe into the exciting, never-to-be-forgotten Narnia.

Join other CALL members and guests for a delectable lunch at the Calvin Chapel Undercroft. During lunch, Daniel Denk of Master Arts provides background on the play. He is a life-long student of C.S. Lewis and his topic will be “C.S. Lewis: The Man and His Writings.” With a performance time of 3:00 pm, our day is expected to conclude before 6:00 pm. Guests will first meet at the college and then drive on their own to Master Arts Theatre at 76th and Division. There is an option for lunch only if you are already a season ticket holder for Master Arts.

Cost is $37.00 per person. For questions, email borgondy@gmail.com or call the CALL office.

CALL members are invited to join Calvin Alumni for the Grand Rapids Broadway production of Jersey Boys on Friday, November 30. The evening begins with a brief happy hour and plated dinner at the University Club at 6:00 pm. Guests will walk across the street to the DeVos for the 8:00 pm show. Your ticket includes post-show conversation with cast and free park at the University Club lots. The cost is $100 per person. Registration is now at www.calvin.edu/alumni, under their events tab.

Member Events Registration

Two ways to register:

1. Online: www.calvin.edu/CALL > My Account> Semester drop-down tab>Fall 2018 Event Registration
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.

- Monday, October 1  ArtPrize 10  $70
- Tuesday, October 2  ArtPrize 10  $70
- Friday, October 26  A Day in Hyde Park  $135
- Saturday, November 17  The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe  $37
- Saturday, November 17  The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe-lunch only  $21

Name(s): __________________________________________________________
Phone: _____________________________________________

Confirm by email?  □ Yes  □ No, I don’t use email
**Extended Trips**
by John Apol

**2019 Destinations**
Southern Spain is our first 2019 destination from March 14-24. Travelers will journey with Calvin Spanish professor Cynthia Slagter to some of the best sites in Spain. Exceptional in her knowledge of Spain, Cynthia spends time yearly in this country and has established deep connections with local guides and experts to provide a rich and expansive experience.

The trip includes the typical stops in Granada, Cordoba & Sevilla, but also allows us to discover hidden gems in tiny town and off-the-beaten-path rural villages. One of the highlights of trips like these is the food and wine.

The train trip to Cordoba is on the AVE, the Spain high-speed rail, a fun and fast way to travel.

The walking in the Alpujarras is especially breathtaking because you won’t see the landscape through the frame of a bus window, but instead you’ll get out and experience impressive panoramic views.

The second trip of 2019 is the Greece tour with Ken Bratt. This trip is full and waitlist only.

Our third trip will open this month for *Cultural Jewels of the United Kingdom*, scheduled for July 25-August 8, 2019. Leading the trip is Calvin Communications professor Debra Freeberg. Debra has directed 16 Calvin Theatre productions at Calvin, and she led the CALL/Alumni trip to Sweden and Norway in 2015. Guests will experience theatre, music, and history in England, Scotland, and Ireland!


Tour participants will attend theatre performances in each of the main cities on the itinerary. Continued., pg. 8
(Cont.)
Join the interest list for either 2019 or 2020 by emailing call@calvin.edu, alumni@calvin.edu, or phoning the CALL office at 526-8777.

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2020 TRIPS

Hawaii, Israel, Italy (Dante with Jennifer Holberg), Vietnam and Cambodia, and Oberammergau Passion Play.