First Day of School
by Carol J. Rottman-CALL Instructor

I always delight in those “first day of school” pictures. Expectation, confidence and pride are written all over those grinning young faces. Summer was fun, but fall is full of excitement: books, new friends, the smiles of teachers and always the challenge to begin again with a fresh slate.

The same excitement is in the air on our first days in our school, The Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning. Many of us who never really wanted to be done with school, have found a place full of possibilities at Calvin College. Each time we begin a new class, we are a little giddy as we find our room, join classmates and meet our teacher. We have chosen the subject based on a short description and are eager to be surprised.

A few of us went to this college or another where our hunger for learning was fed. Some of us never had a college experience but long to have our reading or listening enhanced by new ideas and fresh insight. Our teachers are hand-picked for excellence in their field, marked by a readiness to share their knowledge with seasoned, life-long students.

There may not be tests or grades in our college, but there are challenges, none-the-less. To get the most out of each experience demands an investment of time, attention and openness to the prospect of a new slant on old ideas.

Since 2001, it has been my great joy to lead a course called, “Creating Memoir: Telling your Stories on Paper.” There is more than a little trepidation for some incoming students, because they are asked to write each week and be ready to share their “chunks of memoir.” My goal is to help them craft the true stories of their lives in such a way that their friends and family will actually enjoy reading them. Students become teachers to the others by sharing written words with passion and persuasion. Each group of writers quickly becomes a community.

One woman wrote about wanting desperately to attend Calvin College when she was young. On a campus visit with her father, she was told that such an expensive education would be wasted on her as a woman. She never stopped dreaming of going to college. Today, enrolled in CALL, she shares that every day when she walks across campus, she knows she is finally the coed she always wanted to be.

We all have stories. One of my mentors, Frederick Buechner, has said: Maybe nothing is more important than that we keep track, you and I, of these stories of who we are and where we have come from and the people we have met along the way because it is precisely through these stories in all their particularity… that God makes himself known to each of us most powerfully and personally.

How you “keep track” of your life is very personal. One way might be by looking over the list of CALL classes that you have taken.

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Some among us have the equivalent of a master’s degree in history or art or literature, considering all the “hours” we’ve invested. Roger and Ruth Cole, exemplify ultimate lifelong learners: between 1999 and 2018, they have taken a staggering number--518 courses!

A new offering this semester was the poetry of Mary Oliver, taught by Esther Yff-Prins.

Using the anthology entitled “Devotions,” class members delight in wonders of nature and existence, led by Oliver’s awe. In a poem entitled “Sometimes,” Mary Oliver leaves us with:

Instructions for living a life:
Pay attention.
Be astonished.
Tell about it.

Every semester of every year, CALL is helping us live such a life--of attention, astonishment and telling. Of course we will be giddy with excitement on each first day of school!

Editor’s Note: Instructor Carol J. Rottman has taught 34 Memoir Writing courses for the CALL program since 2001 for a total of 411 students to date.

The legendary Old Santa Fe Trail spanned 900 miles and passed through five states; it was a vital part of spreading development throughout the Southwest, until the railroad became more widespread.

The Santa Fe Trail was the conduit which brought goods to New Mexico and the southwest and had sent back silver, furs, and mules. But ideas were also exchanged across this route along with culture. New Mexicans were exposed to “Yankees” and their way of doing business long before the invasion took place. Raw Missouri farm boys were fascinated with the exotic city of Santa Fe once they got over the shock of its appearance as a large brick kiln. They took back memories of a different world and even named towns after their adventures. The Santa Fe Trail was a route of commerce but quickly became a route of cultural exchange that still benefits us today.

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 the evening of the show and the box office opens at 6:00 pm, one hour in advance of the film. All seats are reserved.

We recommend parking across the Beltline and using the crosswalk to cross the road. The distance is shorter and easier than you would expect.

We welcome our second passport film of the season on Wednesday, October 24, at 7:00 pm, in the Covenant Fine Arts Center. The film is titled “The Old Spanish Trail” by cinematographer Bill Behrenbruch.

Public Events
Bob DeBruin, Chair
Public Events,
Bob DeBruin, Chair

The Noontime lectures are free and open to anyone who wish to join us, including CALL members, the general public, and friends. We meet in 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 last lecture on November 1 is just one week later rather, than the normal two-week gap.

Our next lecture is Thursday, October 25, with Judge William Kelly, of the Kentwood District Court, sharing insights to changes in our judicial system. Judge Kelly will share his experience on nearly forty years as a Kentwood District Court Judge.

Included in his presentation are the changes he has seen over the years, the challenges to be fair and effective, the recent rise of addiction and opioid use, and the programs that have benefitted our community.

Judge Kelly worked for the Peace Corps in Ghana from 1970-1972 as a math teacher, the Kalamazoo Prosecutor’s Office from 1975-1977, and the Kent County Office for the Private Defender from 1977-1978, prior to his election as District Court Judge in 1978.

He has served as a faculty member for the Michigan Judicial Institute, the Nation Judicial College, Cooley Law School, and National Center for State Courts.

**The final fall lecture is Thursday, November 1. Please note this lecture is the very next week after the October 25 lecture. We welcome Quentin Schultze to our lecture series with a presentation titled “Leadership Communication in the Age of Facebook, Twitter, and 24-hour News Channels.**

This relevant lecture asks how traditional and social media are changing the ways that national and world leaders communicate? What are the major challenges for leaders in business, education, church, and civil society? How can we all communicate more faithfully in an age of declining trust and growing conflicts?

Quentin Schultze is emeriti professor of Communication at Calvin College. He is the author of over a dozen books on the relationship between faith and communications. He writes, speaks, and consults about communicating with heart and soul.

His most recent book, “Communicate Like a True Leader,” offers daily meditation that provides a key to life-changing communication for both personal and professional relationships, including how to deal with conflict, how to persuade without offending, and how to listen to avoid self-deception.

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>25-Oct</td>
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<td>1-Nov</td>
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Second Session Classes ready to start!

Tuesday marks the beginning of our second session of classes. A large lineup, we have 32 classes beginning next week! This powerful group of courses is dizzying with the depth of subjects available. This month’s announcements will focus on providing more details about those courses with openings still available.

If you have difficulty signing up online for courses, you can mail a check or phone us in the office most anytime at 526-8777. We welcome the opportunity to help!

Course #33- The Music of Keith Green, provides CALL members the rare and first-ever opportunity to learn from singer and songwriter Glenn Bulthuis and Tom Moss. Glenn performed concerts at Calvin since 1977 and is a dynamic and energetic instructor.

#34- Churches in China has only three seats left and the instructor, Wayne Ten Harsmels, recently returned to the U.S. after 11 years in China.

#35- King Lear is taught by seasoned CALL instructor David Huisman, who always receives great feedback.

#36- Creating Memoir is the course offered by Carol Rottman, who wrote this month’s cover article. Four seats are available.

#37- Potpourri of Geology provides hands-on rock examination with a former high school geology teacher.

#38- Beginner Strength has been popular with both male and female students and has four available openings.

#39- Create Your Own Nativity Set has just two openings. It is an art course requiring no experience where you wash and mold wool in creating felt manger characters.

#40- Bach’s Christmas Oratorio is taught by a popular CALL instructor, Cal Stapert, and is timely in preparing our hearts for the Christmas season.

#41- From Rubble to Riches. Registration is already at 44 for this course that teaches the details of Germany’s reconstruction after WWII and the human cost.

#42- There and Back: The Art of Traveling Well, brings a unique opportunity to learn how to enjoy a deeper and richer framework when traveling. Our instructor has lived and worked in multiple countries and leads the off-campus programs for Calvin.

#43- Yoga embodies a calming and stress-relieving experience- perfect for those with busy schedules and the upcoming holidays. Seven openings available.

#44- All About the Crusades, with instructor Karin Maag, is at 107 registrants with only 13 seats remaining. The course meets off campus at Raybrook.

#46- Prayer, with Randall Hekman, encourages and teaches us how to make prayer more central in our life.

#49- The Nicene Creed course studies primarily the historical context of the creed in the first four centuries.

#50-One of Ours, by Willa Cather, is a novel that won the Pulitzer prize and is split between the settings of frontier Nebraska and France in WWI.

#52-Preserving God’s Creation is an opportunity to attend a rare course in the Calvin Nature Preserve and learn efforts underway to improve our natural surroundings.

#54- Homes- Community or Commodity will address efforts to reduce the inequity of local housing under a theological framework. It is taught by Ryan VerWys who leads the Inner City Christian Federation (ICCF.)

#55- The Economics of International Trade is a timely course as the U.S. negotiates changes in trading agreements.

#56- Closing the Forgiveness Gap teaches the relationship between forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration. Learn from an associate pastor and certified professional life coach, Janathan Austin.

#57-Greece, by Ken Bratt, has been reopened due to high popularity and moved to a larger room- Science Bldg #110.

#58- The Maggie Bright, is a novel taking place in Dunkirk in 1940
during WWII and has two seats open.

#59- The Life of Binary Stars has five openings and is taught by Calvin Physics and Astronomy professor Larry Molnar. Professor Molnar has received recent attention with his prediction that a binary star (two stars orbiting each other) he is monitoring will merge and explode in 2022, give or take a year; at which time the star will increase its brightness ten thousand-fold, becoming one of the brighter stars in the heavens for a time.

#60- Toning with Tubes is an exercise class to strengthen muscles with provided rubber tubes. The tension is adjustable to meet any level needed and teaches easy techniques to use at home.

#62- Happiness as a Habit is an uplifting course by repeat CALL instructor Pat Latus-Kennedy. All her courses center on brain functions and therapy techniques to improve social, emotional, neurological, and physical components of our thoughts.

#63- The Norman Kings of England is part of a series of courses on the British monarchy for all those history buffs who enjoy English medieval royalty.

#64- The Living God is a Missionary God has 43 students to date and is taught by popular CALL instructor Daniel Kroeze, a professor at Kuyper College, and pastor in the RCA.

#67- Feature Films About Latinos is our only evening course beginning this Monday at 6:00 pm in the Bytwerk Theatre. Dan Miller, Calvin History emeriti professor, has taught several Civil War courses for our program and led an Extended Trip to Cuba in recent years.

Member Events Registration
(Descriptions follow on page 6)

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.

- [ ] Saturday, November 17 The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe $37
- [ ] Saturday, November 17 The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe-lunch only $21
- [ ] Tuesday, January 8, 2019 January Series Brunch and Lecture $21
  
  Check for ham quiche ☐, vegetarian quiche ☐, or vegan quiche ☐

Name (s): ____________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________

Confirm by email?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No, I don’t use email
Member Events
Amy Shellenbarger, Chair

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. Based on C.S. Lewis’ first book in The Chronicles of Narnia, this classic tale is filled with adventure, betrayal and forgiveness, and speaks of the ultimate sacrifice. With humble beginnings in 1985, the mission of Master Arts Theatre is to positively impact West Michigan artists and audiences through community theater that is wholesome, enlightening, and enriching, guided by a Christian worldview.

The CALL program has enjoyed numerous memorable events with this theater including the 2016 production, “The Beams are Creaking,” the dramatic representation of the tumultuous life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

CALL members and all guests will enjoy a catered lunch before the performance in 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.” Guests will first meet at the college and then drive on their own to Master Arts Theatre at 77th 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.

In the midst of the discouraging reports about the aging and decline of churches today, what steps do savvy churches take that help them best love and serve teenagers and young adults? Kara Powell is the executive director of the Fuller Youth Institute and associate professor of youth and family ministry at Fuller Theological Seminary who will be addressing this question and many like it in her talk. Named by Christianity Today as one of “50 Women to Watch,” she is the author or coauthor of several books, including “Growing Young” and “Sticky Faith,” and a regular speaker at national leadership and youth ministry conferences across the country.

The brunch will begin at 10 a.m. with your choice of ham or vegetarian or vegan quiche along with potatoes, fruit, croissants, coffee, tea and juices.

Cost of $21 per person includes brunch, guest lectures, bus service both ways between the Prince Conference Center and the Covenant Fine Art Building and reserved seating at the January Series lecture.

January Series Brunch
Tuesday, January 8, 2019
Prince Conference Center
Doors open at 9:30 am

CALL members and guests are invited to a member event that includes a powerful and timely January Series lecture on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, in the Prince Conference Center with Kara Powell discussing ways to bring young people into the Church.

GROWING YOUNG: HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE DISCOVER AND LOVE THE CHURCH

Underwritten by Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning.

Kara Powell
Extended Trips
by John Apol

2019 Destinations
Southern Spain remains open for registration for the scheduled trip date of March 14-24, 2019.
Travelers will journey with Calvin Spanish professor Cynthia Slagter to some of the best sites in Spain. Rarely do we have a leader with so many connections in a foreign country to schedule an itinerary as thorough and well-supported as this trip!

Andalusia is a region of great cultural richness, where history and traditions blend. Much of the unique charm of this part of Spain comes from the long centuries of coexistence between the Christians, Jews, Muslims and Gypsies, offering unique surroundings and remarkable landmarks.

The trip includes visits to what is known as the “Cities of Light”: Granada, Cordoba & Sevilla. Granada is one of the pearls of Spain, most visited by tourists from all over the world. Walk through beautiful gardens, charming narrow streets filled with flowers, sit down in one of those typical taverns to have some of that famous "Trevélez" ham and local wine, and breathe the centuries of history around you anywhere.

The ancient city of Cordoba boasts world-famous Moorish architecture, beautiful courtyard patio houses, and a revitalized riverside full of cafes. Here you will be fascinated by a visit to the Mosque-Cathedral, the attraction that everyone talks about. Built in the 10th century originally as a mosque, it later became a cathedral.

Sevilla is the capital of the Andalusia region of Spain. The Plaza de Espana was built in 1929 for the Ibero-American Exposition and boasts a complex system of mini-canals and bridges. Its Gothic architecture contributes to the Seville’s majestic skyline. The Alcázar palace, another hallmark of Seville's cityscape, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Seville is also known for flamenco, a rhythmic song and dance style dating back to the 9th century.

Besides visits to these fascinating cities, guests will enjoy travels to off-the-beaten path locations to experience first-hand the unique culture and history of this remarkable region of southern Spain.

Our third trip, Cultural Jewels of the United Kingdom, scheduled for July 25-August 8, 2019, is now open for registration. Leading the trip is Calvin Communications professor Debra Freeberg.

Explore the rich cultural and literary history of Ireland, England, and Scotland. You will walk the footsteps of famous writers, go behind the scenes at multiple theatres, and be a part of the audience in world-famous venues. You’ll have a chance to shop at Harrods Department Store, tour the Guinness factory, as well as London’s Parliament building.

The trip culminates with attendance at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. This yearly event takes place at Edinburgh Castle Esplanade. Set with the castle as a backdrop, you’ll enjoy the music, performances and festivities. The Tattoo started in 1950 and has grown to be a worldwide event and has sold out the last eighteen years.

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Specific tour activities of this British Isles trip include:

- Premier seating at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo
- Two or three hand-selected theater performances
- Literary sightseeing, including a literary walk in Dublin
- Behind-the-scenes tour of the National Theater (London) and The Royal Shakespeare Company Theater (The Globe Theatre)
- Tour Westminster Palace

Full itinerary details are available on our website or call us at 526-8777 to be mailed a brochure.