



Calvin Presbyterian Church

# The Courier

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## Marc My Words: **Why I Love Calvin Presbyterian Church** **Calvin has the Spiritual Gift of Being There**

By Pastor Marc Andresen

You may have not seen that gift in Paul's list of Spiritual Gifts in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12, but "being there," also known as "just showing up," does find expression in Scripture. I think it has something to do with steadfastness.

**1 Corinthians 15:58**

*"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord."*

To say it another way, I believe a core character in the spirit of this church is just being **steady, dependable, stable, consistent**... Because of the solid nature of this church, we have often been able to be a support to individuals and other ministries, especially in time of need or crisis.

We live in a world that changes rapidly, and for some of us it seems like the rate of change is even speeding up. I'm convinced of the increasing value of simply being a steady presence. When the waves swell in size and the wind blows, and the sun becomes obscured by storm clouds, **people need something solid to which they can tether their lives**. By God's grace and presence in this family of believers, I think Calvin Church is such a place and community.

**The Lord has made us steadfast in our commitments: first, of course, to the Lord Himself and His Word.**

This unswerving commitment moved us to complete an arduous process of transferring denominations two years ago. He has demonstrated His steadfastness in us and through us for others, seen in part by faithful financial support of missions and

missionaries. The dependable nature of the church has enabled us to host the Korean Presbyterian Church for over 18 years. God works through steadfastness.

I think the steady nature of this church also shows itself in that you have faithfully walked with me as your pastor for 25 years, and with Peter Hutton before me for 22 years. That kind of steadiness is so rare. (Two long pastorates in a row says more about the church than the pastors.)

Thank you for being so consistent and so steady. Thank you for being immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. Thank you for your tenacious commitment to Truth. Thank you for being there.

*"My heart is steadfast, O God; I will sing and make music with all my soul."*

**Psalms 108:1**

Day after Valentine's Day Event!!

**Principles of Christian Marriage**

A time to come and listen to ideas on how to make a good marriage even better!

Speaker, **Dave Jackson**

from Marriage Works, Family Matters

Sunday, February 15th

11:30-1:00 in Olleman C & D

Light lunch and child care provided

Sponsored by the Calvin Peacemaker Team

**Adoration**

**A Community-wide**

**Worship Event**

**Sunday, February 8**

**6 p.m.**

**Calvary Chapel**

All are welcome to this unique, once-a-year opportunity when the city-wide Body of Christ joins together for worship. Calvary Chapel is at 2125 NW Lester Ave.



## Annual Meeting

# Praising God for His Work at Calvin in 2014

The annual meeting took place on January 25 immediately following the worship service.

Mark Edwards provided an update from the Pastor Search Team. They are grateful for the ongoing prayers of the congregation. Some Skye interviews have taken place and more applications are being received.

Scott Leavengood reviewed the strategic plan that was presented at last year's annual meeting and some of the ways this plan has been implemented over the past year. He touched on highlights related to Worship, Community/Small Group Ministry and Mission/Compassion Ministry near and far. These included an increase in the number of prayer meetings, excellent sermons by a number of our church members, discipleship groups for high school students, quarterly meetings for small group leaders, more Calvin members

with plots in the Community Garden, our 3rd Garfield Park Block Party and a mission trip to Latvia. Judy Kraft gave a brief update on Asante Kids.

The business meeting portion of the meeting was opened by Janet Magedanz. Marsha Hill is retiring as treasurer; Janet Magedanz will be taking on Treasurer responsibilities. Janet outlined new expenses anticipated for 2015 including pastor search and making deposits into the building and maintenance trust for larger upcoming expenses associated with the building. Janet also reviewed budget implications for giving in 2015, which would require a 17% increase from 2014 giving levels for those who are able.

Pastor Marc Andresen reviewed retirement plans. Currently working toward retirement date of July 1, 2015. Marc also provided a brief review of the guidelines of separation ethics

from the recent Presbytery meeting.

Elders and Deacons were elected. Kim Oxsen and Marta McCracken were elected to serve as at-large members of the Nominating Committee. Copies of the 2015 budget and Strategic Plan are available in the church office.

### 2015 Elders

Angela Edwards  
Mel Kelsey (1-year term)  
Judy Kraft  
Scott Leavengood  
Janet Magedanz  
Mel McCracken, Clerk  
Skip Rung  
Michelle Schultz

### 2015 Deacons

Linda Keller  
Vikki Leavengood  
Ineke Loux  
Audra Mote  
Maggie Polizzo

**We believe God planted *this* church in *this* town and in *this* neighborhood at *this* time for His Kingdom purposes.**

Statement from our Strategic Plan

## Baby Bottle Boomerang



As we have for many years, Calvin is participating in Option Pregnancy Resource Center's annual fundraiser to help support the local offices in

Corvallis and Albany. Tina Mills, OPRC's Director of Outreach, shared this recent update.

*"Options PRC saw 600 clients during 2014. There are currently 22 churches participating in Baby Bottle Boomerang this year. It is amazing how each bottle adds up and makes such a big impact! Over the last year specific*

*attention was given through prayer to increase the number of clients who come to Options who are considering abortion by 25%. God answered that prayer and it is exciting to announce that God brought those clients through the door. Lives have been touched and Saved. God is SOOO good!"*

Baby bottles are available in the sanctuary each Sunday and in the office during the week. Fill the bottle with loose change, cash or a check. Return it to church by Sunday, February 22. More information about Options can be found on their website: [www.optionsprc.org](http://www.optionsprc.org).

## A Semester in Jordan

Emily Edwards is studying in Amman, Jordan this spring. She is participating in an intensive language program to improve her Arabic, taking a couple other courses, and living with a host family. If you would like to follow her adventures, she is keeping a blog. The url is: [arabspringabroad.wordpress.com](http://arabspringabroad.wordpress.com).

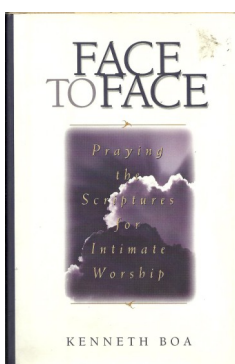


## Craig's Corner

# Praying Scripture Together as a Church for Lent

By Pastor Craig Kulonis

For Lent Season this year I am really excited about challenging our WHOLE church to pray Scripture together. We would begin on Ash Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, and pray different Scriptures together each day for 40 days. This can be done anytime that fits into your day when you spend some quiet time with the Lord.



We will be using the book entitled **Face to Face (Praying the Scriptures for Intimate Worship)** by Kenneth Boa. This book was recommended to me about 2 years ago and I have

used it to help in my own prayer life.

When I talk to people about prayer, I often hear the comment that they don't seem to have words to pray. By praying the Scriptures you are praying the Word of God and also allowing the Word of God to be hidden away in

your heart. "The *Face to Face* prayer book helps you bring new richness to your devotional times. Connecting the Bible reading with personal prayer helps you approach both in a new way. Get ready to rediscover the Bible as your most treasured prayer book--guiding you into prayers that are alive, faith-filled, and powerful because they're grounded in God's word." (quote from inside book flap.)

Imagine what God may do if 100 people at Calvin commit to praying the same passages of Scripture each day for 40 days! What excites me about this idea for Lent is I think God has led me to challenge our church to do this! This is not a program, it is God's heart to see His kingdom come and transform our lives and the lives of others we know.

Boa, in this book, takes various types of prayer--adoration, confession, renewal, petition, intercession, affirmation and thanksgiving--and connects Scriptures to each one. After praying the Scripture he writes about how to add your own words as the

Holy Spirit leads you. Here is one example of this from his book:

*"Like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, a great multitude will shout, Hallelujah! For You reign, Lord God Almighty. Let us rejoice and be glad and give You glory! For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His bride has made herself ready. Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."* (Revelation 19:6-7,9)

*"Lord Jesus, You are the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright Morning Star."* (Revelation 22:16)

*Pause to express your thoughts of praise and worship.*

If you would like to purchase a book, email me or sign up at church and then I will order them all at once. The price will be somewhere around \$10. The deadline to let me know is Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. You can also order your own copy on Amazon or through another source. I truly hope you catch the vision of praying God's Word together as Christ's body.

## Outreach Partner Update: InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Sharing Jesus' Love at Oregon State

By Dawn DeGarmo, IVCF staff



*"So excited to be starting an outreach focused Bible study in my dorm at OSU with my roommate! If all of you prayer warriors could be covering us*

*in prayer today and asking God's spirit to move in Sackett (our dorm) that would be much appreciated."*

-A recent post made by our new freshman leader to her friends and classmates on Facebook.

The first study led by Alicia and Marina (pictured at left) was well attended. They followed up with a taco and game night the next week to create avenues for more relationship and invitation to join in on the study.

We have seen students return from Winter Break with a new enthusiasm to get involved in the things God is doing on campus. We continue to see new faces at our large group gathering on Thursday night and we are praising God for the returning and new students who are attending Bible studies.


Our winter conference is coming up from February 13-15. We would love your prayers for the preparation of this

conference as both Michael and I are teaching seminars. Please pray also for our invitations: that we would be bold and courageous in who we invite, and that people would see the value of devoting a weekend to seeking the Lord and join us!

We are so grateful for the support and partnership of Calvin. Thank you for your partnership in reaching the students at OSU.

# February 2015

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

<p><b>1</b> 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> 1 Women's Bible Study Pastor Marc &amp; Pastor Craig @ COV Prayer Summit, Cannon Beach 4 SSYO</p>	<p><b>4</b> 6:30 Pioneer Club</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study</p>
<p><b>8</b> 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship  6 Adoration @ Calvary Chapel</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b> 8:45 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>11</b> 12 Prayer 6:30 Pioneer Club</p>	<p><b>12</b> 6:30 Men's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b> 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study  </p>
<p><b>15</b> 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship 11:30 Marriage Event &amp; Lunch</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> 8:45 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Session</p>	<p><b>18</b> 12 Prayer 6:30 Pioneer Club Ash Wednesday</p>	<p><b>19</b> 6:30 Men's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study</p>
<p><b>22</b> 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship</p>	<p><b>23</b> 6:30 Deacons</p>	<p><b>24</b> 8:45 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>25</b> 12 Prayer</p>	<p><b>26</b> 6:30 Men's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study</p>



# Pioneer Club Toymakers

As part of their Toymakers skill unit, students made marionettes. Many thanks to all who donated supplies for future projects.



**Calvin Presbyterian Church**  
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**Return Service Requested**

## Church Staff

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## Sundays at Calvin

8:30 Prayer in the Prayer Room

9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10 a.m. Worship