



Calvin Presbyterian Church

# *The Courier*

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## **Marc My Words: *Why I Love Calvin Presbyterian Church* Calvin Partners with the Pastor in Community**

**By Pastor Marc Andresen**

I love Calvin Church because of the way this community of Christ has always treated my family and me. To say this another way: being the pastor of Calvin isn't just a job. This church has always been a gift to me, personally.

Calvin has always let my wife and kids be themselves and serve as they were led. My wife and son and daughter have their own talents and gifts, and there has always been encouragement for them to use those gifts, and never any pressure for them to serve any other way.

The church never stood between my family and me. When my kids were in school, I had freedom to attend performances and sporting events at

any time. One December, a number of years ago, the school Christmas concert date for my daughter was changed so that it conflicted with a Session meeting. I called the Session members and each person was willing to meet later in the evening on that day so that I could attend the concert. THAT'S a Christmas gift.

I've never been treated as an employee of the church. I've not been regarded as a hireling, but as a valued family member. This was unmistakably clear in 2009 and 2010. In those years, which saw the deaths of my mom and brother, and my own go-around with cancer and surgery, I received significant pastoral care from the church.

I've always felt like a partner in ministry and never a lone ranger.

Calvin has strong lay leadership, and the members of the community step up to use their gifts as a team, and so often in very unselfish ways. Isn't it true that the gift of time is often more valuable than the gift of money?

The partnering-feel to the church includes knowing that we are all here to build this church on the Foundation of Apostles and Prophets; Christ Jesus being the cornerstone. As the pastor I've never felt like I had to convince the church of the truth, but rather that we have been of one mind regarding truth and the building of our lives on that truth.

Calvin Community: thank you for being you, and for walking together with the Lord.

## ***A Joyful Easter: He Has Risen!***



Easter Sunday was a joyful morning of music and worship, led by the choir and accompanied by piano, cello, violin, trumpet and French horn. Many thanks to Ken Roth, choir director, and all who planned and participated.



## Evangelism Workshop Make Our Love Increase

April 11-12, we enjoyed a weekend of teaching, Bible study and discussion on evangelism with John and Arlene Markowski, leaders of the Big Apple Church in Manhattan.

**Make Disciples:** Matthew 28:19

**Evangelion**

**Good Messenger**

In the New Testament the emphasis is on being and making *disciples* (what Jesus called His followers) as opposed to *Christians* (what others called them). *Disciples* is used 270 times, *Christians* is mentioned just 3 times. Disciple making is an important part of the Jewish culture; people “follow in the dust of their Rabbi.”



Like many things, such as baking or sewing, it takes work to make something good. It helps to follow a pattern or a recipe. We learn how to do it; then we can teach others. Participants experienced this firsthand as we attempted to make a starfruit out of



Playdoh - before seeing one, and then again after seeing what it really looked like.

**Make Known:** Ephesians 3:10, 6:19

**Why** am I talking to this person?

With the hope they can find God.

**When** should I introduce spirituality?

Go in the strength you have

Matthew 10:19

**What** is the end goal?

To help people find God and get to heaven. Acts 17:26-27

**Ask** people questions; don't make assumptions about their beliefs.

Arlene shared a picture of her ‘friendship’ circle that included the woman who first shared Christ with



## Latvia Beckons Again

**By Pastor Marc Andresen**

Calvin Church has once again been invited to help staff an English Language camp in Latvia, returning to Madona, the city where we worked during the summer of 2014.

Since 1998 we have conducted many camps and have shared the Gospel with hundreds of youth in Latvia. The opportunity is here again.

This year's team will be Carol, Katie, and Marc Andresen, and Aaron and Callie Newton. Paula Hewitt will join us from Ireland, and she is trying to recruit a couple of workers from her church there.

With airfare and in-country expenses, the cost is around \$2,000 per person. The team is appealing to the Calvin community for financial support to make the trip possible. Making sure NOT to take away from regular support for the Calvin budget, checks may be written to Calvin Church, with “Latvia” written in the memo line.

It is also essential - not just a “churchy” thing to say - that the team needs the prayer of the congregation. Speaking the gospel is a spiritual work, and it is foolish and fruitless to attempt that without the Holy Spirit. It is literally true that the prayer for the Spirit's work is completely necessary.

her and people who she then told about Jesus and studied the Bible with. These relationships developed over several years, with many stops and starts.

**Make Your Love Increase**

1 Thessalonians 3:12

Pray that God will increase your love more and more, and give opportunities to share His love.

**Make the Most:** Colossians 4:5

The early church was filled with small groups that were a place to strengthen the saints and reach out to others. How can we mobilize our small groups to reach the lost in Corvallis?

Small groups provide:

Community—people seek to belong

Strength in numbers

Mobility—easier to gather small numbers of people

One approach is to alternate group times between personal growth and intimacy and outreach events such as a book study, bowling, or a brief presentation on a topic of interest.

**Make it Salty:** Mark 9:50

Salt is used to:

Improve Palate: Colossians 4:6

Preserve: Romans 5:3

Purify: 2 Corinthians 7:1

## Save the Date!



**VBS @ Calvin**

**August 10-14**

**9 a.m.—noon**

Talk to Mindy Aithwaite to find out how you can help!





## Craig's Corner

# Remember, Jesus is in the Boat

By Pastor Craig Kulonis

One of my favorite stories in the gospels is in Mark 4:35-41, where Jesus is asleep in the boat with his disciples when a fierce storm begins to rage on the lake. The disciples are overwhelmed with fear that they are going to die and they come to Jesus and wake him up shouting, "Teacher, don't you care that we're going to drown?" Jesus wakes up and immediately rebukes the wind and says to the waves, "**Peace, be still.**" At that moment there is **a great calm**. Jesus then addresses his disciples and asks "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?" The disciples are terrified and wonder "Who is this man? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

There are many lessons we can take from this story to apply to our lives, but for me, it would be to ask myself the question, "Am I really trusting God (especially in the stormy parts

of life) or am I living and reacting to life with a heart of fear?"

Our posture in times of uncertainty is usually either faith or fear. Which one tends to control our lives? Is it faith in God, the Sovereign One, who with a word can calm the storm; or fear, because I question if God will bring me through the storm.

The disciples didn't know it at the time, but they were in the ultimate "lifeboat." The Creator of the wind and waves was in the boat with them. He told them as they left the shore in Mark 4:35, "Let's cross over to the other side of the lake." When Jesus told them they were going to the other side, **NOTHING** would prevent that from happening. We can trust God that what He promises He will do.

Each day I know it is important to posture my life with the knowledge that God is for me, and if God is for me who can be against me? What

storms are overwhelming your life at this time? Be of good courage, the Sovereign Lord is with you, and He is speaking, "**Peace, be still.**" Can you hear Him? Why not turn off the fearful voices speaking and listen to the One who will bring us through to the other side?

In our home group at the start of a new year, we all find a verse or verses that we personally will meditate upon for the coming year. My verse is Psalm 37:5 which says, "Be still in the presence of the Lord, and wait patiently for him to act." I am finding that it takes courage and trust to be still when the stormy circumstances are raging around me threatening to drown me. But **God promises to act on our behalf** to bring us through the storm. To God be the glory.

**PEACE  
BE STILL**

## Women's Spring Brunch

By Jacquie Markowski

Tables were set with colorful fresh flower bouquets as nearly 50 women enjoyed wonderful fellowship, a delicious brunch, and program on April 25th. Debbie Zuidema welcomed all with prayer along with singing accompanied by Marilyn Platt on piano.



Dawn DeGarmo spoke about three women who have shaped her life as a Christian. Retelling the fascinating Bible stories of courageous Rahab

and Mary, the mother of Jesus, Dawn remarked how their trust in God reminds her not to fear in trying times. The third woman, Laura, impacted her life when Dawn was a young child.

Laura showed loving hospitality and true interest in Dawn, planting seeds of faith in Dawn's life by which her own faith has grown.

Several other guests also shared about women who have influenced their lives in Christ.

Janet Magedanz announced that a "serious roast" was at hand in honor of Carol Andresen. Cathy Shreeve, Rachel Eby, Debbie Miller and Laura Rung told of meaningful moments in their lives as Carol



has lovingly offered to help them and many others in her service to the Lord. Janet then spoke of sewing adventures the two have shared over the years. We were in "stitches" with laughter and thanksgiving for Carol. Nancy Davis read a poem she penned especially for the day (see p. 5). The rhyming retrospective covered many details of Carol's life with the Calvin family.

Many thanks to Debbie Zuidema, Marilyn Platt, Cathy Shreeve and many helpers who blessed all the women with a joy-filled and memorable morning.

# May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study
3 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship	4  6:30 Deacons	5 12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study	6 12 Prayer  6:30 Pioneer Club	7 6:30 Men's Prayer Gathering	8  4 All Church Spring Work Day	9 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study
10 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship	11	12 12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study  5:30 Session	13 12 Prayer  6:30 Pioneer Club	14 6:30 Men's Prayer Gathering	15  EPC Presbytery—Jacksonville, OR	16 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study
17 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship	18	19 12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study	20 12 Prayer  6:30 Pioneer Club	21 6:30 Men's Prayer Gathering	22 Deadline for June Courier articles	23 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study
24 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship	25 Memorial Day Office Closed	26 12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study	27 12 Prayer	28 6:30 Men's Prayer Gathering	29	30 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study
31 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship	1	2 12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study	3 12 Prayer	4 6:30 Men's Prayer Gathering	5	6 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study

## To Carol

How does one capture a lifetime of work?  
Or in painting a still life, a hummingbird's wing?

To honor our Carol and the Lord's working through her,  
We Bless her, embarrass her, but sing.....

(Of moments in time her gifts to us)  
By counting ... the blessings  
Remembering.

We think of The mother  
The teacher  
The friend.

Our ambassador to places God knows.  
With puppets in Latvia, songs in Uganda,  
The message and seeds of love grow.

We relished her desserts at pie social times.  
And listened to praise harmonies too.  
At Christmas, she costumed each shepherd and angel,  
And helped make the old story seem new.

Dancing with disabled was amazing ...  
A Chicken Dance with wings,  
And tending to the sound board  
As the congregation sings.

Remember the 'hat days' with Paula?  
The campout at Beverly Beach?  
When Katie and Jeremy were just little kids?  
When retirement was way out of reach?

The blessings of Madeline, Larida, and Don  
The knowing, the grief, and the caring ...  
The joy of their legacy, strength, and compassion  
Your family has blessed us in sharing.

In taking this walkway together  
With living stones marking the way  
You've made our lives richer with laughter  
Wonder, and tears, and praise.

God bless you and keep you forever.  
The Master's Plan is waiting for you.  
A plan just tuned in to your talents  
So others may see Jesus too.

And may the sweet memories of Calvin  
Follow you like the Heavenly Dove.  
And our gratitude, so overflowing,  
Wrap you ever in arms of God's love.

Nancy Pace Davis, 4/24/15



**Light Corvallis  
May 1-2, 2015**

Light Corvallis is a 26-hour prayer and worship gathering. Everyone is welcome to come together to worship Jesus with one heart and pray for our city with one voice. All prayer times are at King's Circle Church, 2110 NW Circle Blvd.

**Schedule**

6-8 p.m. Psalm 27 Meditation  
8-10 p.m. International Students  
10 p.m.-12 a.m. Injustice  
12-2 a.m. OSU Campus  
2-4 a.m. Revival & Awakening  
4-6 a.m. Healing for Brokenness  
6-8 a.m. Scripture Meditation  
8-10 a.m. Praying for Salvation  
10 a.m.—12 p.m. Listening Prayer  
12-2 p.m. Scripture Meditation  
2-4 p.m. Family  
4-6 p.m. Redeem My City: Youth  
6-8 p.m. Church Unity

**National Day of Prayer  
Thursday, May 7**

**12 noon**

**Benton County Courthouse**

**Friends of the Family  
Annual Fundraising Dinner  
Tuesday, May 12, 5:30 p.m.  
CH2M Hill Alumni Center  
Call 541-757-1761 or go to  
fofm.org for more information  
or to reserve your spot.**

**Listening Prayer Conference  
Friday, May 29, 1-6 p.m.  
Saturday, May 30 8:30—4  
Suburban Christian Church  
Registration fee of \$50 includes  
materials, beverages and a catered  
luncheon. For more information talk  
to Pastor Craig or email  
prayer@suburbanchurch.com  
or call 541-753-2802.**

***Come Celebrate  
25 years at Calvin!*  
Open House Retirement  
Party for Marc Andresen  
and family  
Saturday, June 27  
4-8 p.m. @ Calvin**

RSVP by June 1st  
office@calvin-church.org


As a blessing to the family, we are gathering testimony from people about their spiritual growth while attending Calvin. Please send notes or memorabilia to Calvin by June 1 via mail or email.

**Calvin Presbyterian Church  
1736 NW Dixon Street  
Corvallis, OR 97330**

**Return Service Requested**

**Church Staff**

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 /calvinpres

**Sundays at Calvin**

8:30 Prayer in the Prayer Room  
9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
10 a.m. Worship