



Calvin Presbyterian Church

The Courier

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Good News: Gospel Sharing in Our City

By Pastor Marc Andresen

There's one thing Christians and non-Christians have in common: they're both nervous about evangelism.

So wrote Rebecca Manley Pippert in her book *Out of the Salt Shaker and Into the World*.

Why? What's the reason for this shared nervousness? Perhaps Misconceptions and Misunderstandings.

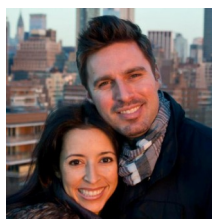
We all talk about exciting news when it comes our way; who's silent when they find out they're going to become a parent or grandparent? It's ok to talk with passion and exuberance about our favorite team or what our children have accomplished. But we've been convinced by society that it's not ok to be speak with excitement or enthusiasm about the love of God the Creator.

Have Christians been a little over-the-top on occasion when talking about the Lord? Probably. We must own the possibility that enthusiastic Jesus-followers can push too hard. Are Christians nervous about evangelism because of negative associations connected to strangers knocking at our front door with tracts? Or are we nervous because we think we don't know enough or that we'll get asked a question we can't answer?

But, as Jesus said, *"The Truth will set you free."* That statement of the Lord has a specific context regarding spiritual truth and salvation. But there may be other ways and arenas in which truth sets us free.

Undoing misconceptions and misunderstandings could be a function of learning truths about sharing the good news of Jesus. Learning the true nature of Gospel-ing, learning that there are many ways to be and to articulate the Good News, can set us free. Are you willing to have some of your misunderstandings and misconceptions done away with?

We have a wonderful opportunity coming our way April 10-12. John Markowski, son of Michael and Jacquie, is a pastor in New York City. He and his wife Arlene have seen great success in sharing the good news of Jesus with people who live in that city, and they have agreed to come and share some of their stories and give us helpful training on how to be reporters of the good news. John loves to help people see how Gospel-sharing works in the context of their own city and culture. Don't miss out!



Friday, April 10, 7-9 p.m.
Q&A with church leaders

- Saturday, April 11, 9—2 Evangelism Workshop**
- 9 Make Disciples
 - 10 Make Known
 - 11 Make Your Love Increase
 - 12 Make Lunch
 - 1 Make the Most

Lunch provided. RSVP to the church office by Wednesday, April 8, so we have enough food.

- Sunday, April 12**
- 9 a.m. Sunday School
 - Make It Salty
 - 10 a.m. Worship
 - God Makes It Grow

Holy Week at Calvin

Maundy Thursday

April 2

5:45 Soup Supper

7 Worship



Easter Sunday

April 5

9 a.m. Sunday School

10 a.m. Worship



Marc My Words: Why I Love Calvin Presbyterian Church

Calvin has a Clear Purpose and Plan

By Pastor Marc Andresen

For an arrow to pierce, it must have a sharp point. Flat, blunt tips just don't get through.

For an organization, the sharpness of the arrow is determined by having a clear and concise purpose. Being precise about what a group seeks to accomplish determines its effectiveness. There's no room for "Why are we here?"

Calvin Church has a clear purpose and a good strategic plan. I love our purpose and what it says about the church. Our purpose places our focus on Jesus and His mission.

Our purpose is to know and love Jesus Christ and equip His disciples to transform the world one life at a time. Hopefully it is obvious that the purpose centers on Jesus, and that it calls us to His purpose of life-transformation.

You may also notice that this single statement has three segments: love, equip, and transform. It's obvious that loving Jesus is primary, and from that love flows everything else. We also seek to provide training and equipping for HIS followers, and the equipping we provide should move toward that outreach and life-transformation. We want to equip all of His disciples because this ministry belongs to all of the saints, not just the pros.

Our Strategic Plan, which is the fruit of a year's work by the elders, resulted in a renewed vision and strategy. This strategy ties to the three parts of our purpose statement and works the purpose. It focuses on Worship, Community within Calvin, and Compassionate Outreach.

As we became a part of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, the elders sought to answer the question "Where would God have us go, and what would God

have us do now?" As a result of the process we zeroed in on the unique calling on this particular church.

Our work and conversations helped us realize: "*We believe God planted this church in this town and in this neighborhood at this time for His Kingdom purposes.* The uniqueness of Calvin is wrapped up in this statement. There is not another church in the world that is positioned as we are to reach two schools and the Garfield Neighborhood.

We have a good, clear purpose and a strategy filled with vision. I love Calvin Church because of our deep and abiding commitment to know and love Jesus and equip His disciples to transform the world, one life at a time.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, April 19

11:30 a.m.

The meeting will take place immediately following the worship service to vote on calling a new pastor.

Save the Date

Andresen Farewell Celebration

Saturday, June 27

Sunday, June 28, will be Pastor Marc's last Sunday.

Spring Sunday School

Joshua

By Pastor Craig Kulonis

God's People Enter the Promised Land: "What Can We Learn?"

Beginning Sunday, April 19, we will be offering a 12-week study through the book of Joshua. The Sunday school team thought this particular Old Testament book would be timely as our church goes through a time of pastoral transition. In the book of Joshua we see the reins of leadership passed from Moses to Joshua. We can learn so many valuable lessons here from the experiences of Joshua and the people of Israel. After 400 years of Egyptian captivity and

another 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, God is bringing his people into the promised land of Canaan. This will be a time of great change for the people as they are called to faithfully obey His commands. God will bring them through many tests along their way into the land of promise.

You are invited to join us on a journey through this great Old Testament book and discover important lessons in how to grow spiritually through times of change. We meet in Olleman Hall D from 9-9:45 a.m.

April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1 12 Prayer 6:30 Pioneer Club	2 Maundy Thursday 6:30 Men's Prayer 5:45 Soup Supper 7 Worship Service	3	4 7 Women's Precepts Bible Study
5 Easter Sunday 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship	6	7 12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study 4-7 SSYD Dinner 6:30 Becky Velasco Baby Shower	8 12 Prayer 6:30 Pioneer Club	9 6:30 Men's Prayer	10 7 Evangelism Q&A	11 7 Women's Bible Study 9 Evangelism Workshop
12 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship	13 Pastor Marc @ West Coast Presbyterian Pastors Conference →	14 12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study	15 12 Prayer 6:30 Pioneer Club	16	17	18 7 Women's Bible Study
19 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship 11:30 Congregational Meeting	20	21 12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Session	22 12 Prayer	23 6:30 Men's Prayer	24	25 7 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Women's Brunch 2-4 Davis Anniversary Celebration
26 8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship	27	28 12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study	29 12 Prayer	30 6:30 Men's Prayer	1	2 7 Women's Bible Study

God's Word—A Guide to Solving Conflict

By the Peacemakers Team

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.” 2 Timothy 3:16

Here is a saying that you may have heard:

“There are two sides to every story, and the truth is somewhere in the middle.”

When disagreements arise, “the middle” for a Christian needs to be the Bible, God's Word, the source of objective truth.

God's Word is a lamp so our stubborn feet can find the way again to peace. The next time you are involved in a disagreement, go to the Bible to see what light God will shed on the problem. Then go and talk with the other person face-to-face to work toward an agreement.

Taken from The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict by Ken Sande.



Baby Shower for Becky Velasco

Tuesday, April 7, 6:30 p.m. @ Calvin
Becky and Fernando are expecting a baby boy! They are registered at Target and also would appreciate diapers. All women are invited to come celebrate.

Women's Spring Brunch

Saturday, April 25, 9:30 a.m.

Enjoy delicious food and a guest speaker with the women of Calvin in Olleman Hall. Tickets available from Marilyn Platt, Cathy Shreeve or Debbie Zuidema beginning April 12.

60th Anniversary Open House for Don & Nancy Davis

Saturday, April 25, 2-4 p.m. @ Calvin
All are welcome to drop by with your good wishes.

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Return Service Requested

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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