



Calvin Presbyterian Church

Courier

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July/August 2015

THAILAND TREK



FREE VBS at Calvin
August 10-13, 9 a.m.—noon
For grades K-5

Registration link on our
Facebook page (/Calvinpres)
and website (calvin-church.org)
beginning July 10

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

Celebrating Pastor Marc's Retirement

The Open House June 27 was a time of joyful reunions with many, including staff members and Dean Olleman.



Marc My Words

By Pastor Marc Andresen

Thank you -x- 1,000,000,000 =

Beloved Calvin Family,

Thank you for the great send-off this past weekend; for a party that was just perfect, and for gathering once again on Sunday to worship our Lord.

As is so often the case, I fear naming names when it comes to 'thank you's' because I'm sure to miss someone, or not know about the efforts of others. I will, however, thank Angela Edwards for heading it up. I know there were hours and hours of work put into the retirement bash, and it come off magnificently.

Thank you for doing life together for 25 years and 4 months. Thank you for participating in the work of the

Kingdom of God. Thank you to each one who freely gives of time, talent, and treasure for the cause of Christ.

How absolutely true it is for me to quote Philippians 1 when Paul tells the church in Philippi: *"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now."*

Sunday morning I did not try to express my feelings for you all, simply because I knew I would not be able to do so without falling apart. But I am so thankful for the mutual love and respect I clearly sense between us all in the Calvin family. And I do believe our friendship will continue, even though I am no longer Calvin's pastor.

AND - as Paul continues in Philippians 1, *"For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus."* I can't wait to see what the Lord is going to do next in and through Calvin Church. I know Zach is a man of God who will be able to lead Calvin into God's future for the church.

The Lord bless you, and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

For You and His Kingdom,

Marc

Sunday School Parables of Jesus

By Pastor Craig Kulonis

It was Jesus' practice to teach in parables when speaking to the crowds as well as to his disciples during his three years of public ministry. This summer we will get a sampling of some of these stories and what He wanted to impart to those who had ears to hear. Each week we will look at a new parable, so if you happen to miss a Sunday, you can always come the next week and join. Since it is summertime, we want to take advantage of the beautiful weather by meeting out on the patio grass under a big tree for shade. Join us from 9-9:45 a.m.

July 12 *Wise & Foolish Virgins*
Matthew 25:1-13

July 19 *Workers in the Vineyard*
Matthew 20:1-16

July 26 *New cloth/new wine*
Matthew 9:16, 17

August 2 *Sheep, gate, shepherd*
John 10:1-5, 7-18

August 9 *Lowest seat at the feast*
Luke 14:7-14

August 16 *Weeds among good plants*
Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43

August 23 *Shrewd Manager*
Luke 16:1-8

August 30 *Servants remain watchful*
Luke 12:35-40
Mark 13:35-37

Sept. 13 *Sheep & goats separated*
Matthew 25:31-46

Sept. 20 *Invitation to banquet*
Matthew 22:2-14



"I AM the Good Shepherd."
John 10:14

Latvia Mission Trip Please Pray!

Latvia team members are Aaron & Callie Newton, Katie Andresen, Marc & Carol Andresen, and Paula Hewitt. They will be teaching an English language camp in Madona from Monday, July 20 through Friday, July 24. Please be in prayer during that week as often as Latvia comes to mind. Thank you to those who have contributed to the mission fund; about \$5,000 has been raised to help cover costs.

* Pray for the hearts of the kids who come to camp to be open to hearing about Jesus.

* Pray for opportunities to talk about the Lord to the kids.

* Pray for our team to be well prepared for teaching.

* Pray for good team-work and communication

* Pray for flexibility. (Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be broken.)

* Pray for safe travel and good airplane connections.

A Word from Pastor Zach

Galatians: Transforming Our Lives

By Pastor Zach Washburn

Happy summer everyone! The time grows near- on Monday I will point our minivan's wheels west. I hope to arrive by next Friday, and will see many of you on July 12th.

Beginning that Sunday, we will be working through Paul's Letter to the Galatians, which should take us through the rest of the summer. I would encourage all of you to read through the letter a few times in the coming weeks. For any overachievers, Timothy Keller (*Galatians for You*) and N.T. Wright (*Paul for Everyone: Galatians and Thessalonians*) have excellent, but not at all technical commentaries.

In the letter, Paul writes polemically, targeting the circumcision party. We'll get into the details of the dispute, but for now, it boils down to this: the

circumcision party did not believe that Jesus made much of a difference in people's lives. They expected Jesus to function as a sort of forgiveness vending machine, which they could visit on occasion and then go about their business.

Paul vehemently disagreed. He saw Jesus and the Gospel as holistic; transforming every aspect of believers' lives here and now as well as assuring us of our eternal destiny.

So my challenge to us as we read is to ask ourselves the following question: **What difference does Jesus make in our lives?**

Try to avoid answers that center around church activities (on Thursday evenings I go to a small group), and don't settle for vague answers like 'peace' or 'joy'. Think about the different arenas of your life (work,

friendships, hobbies, family) and the specific ways Jesus affects them. How are you different as an employee, as a husband, as a mother, as a student?

I have found this a hard question to answer. If I am honest, a lot of the time Jesus doesn't make that much of a difference. I come to church on Sundays, I read the Bible, I pray a bit, and I go about my business. And that uncomfortable reality makes me think I am actually much closer to the circumcision party than I would like to be.

My hope and prayer for us as we study this letter is we would better understand Jesus as Paul did, and that we would be made new. I pray that if anyone were to ask any of us 'what difference does Jesus actually make?' our honest answer would be 'let me tell you; more and more every day.'

A Few Pictures from June 28

In Pastor Marc's final sermon, "The Power of the Towel," he compared a 'selfie stick' and a towel, which represented Jesus washing the disciples' feet. Which do we want to be known by? During worship we celebrated communion and foot washing. The Andresen family was surrounded and sent out with prayer. Many people then adjourned to the Willamette River to celebrate the baptisms of Lizzie Heidrich and Jeremy Andresen.



"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Mark 10:45



Women's Summer Coffees

All women are invited to our summer get-togethers. Invite a friend and come enjoy time with the women of Calvin.

Tuesday, July 14, 10 a.m.—noon

Debbie Zuidema's

Tuesday, August 18, 10 a.m.—noon

Doris Magedanz'



Ordination and Installation of Zach Washburn

Sunday, August 16
5 p.m.

Calvin Presbyterian Church

Notes for the Andresens

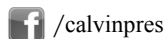
As part of the farewell to the Andresens, notes and pictures were collected and put together in a scrapbook. It's not too late! You can still send a note to be added to the book via email (office@calvin-church.org) or mail.



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/calvinpres

Office Hours

M-Th: 8:30-3; F: 8:30-12

Sundays at Calvin

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