THANK YOU FOR JOINING US
we'll see you in 2016!

festival.calvin.edu

#FFWGR
A hearty welcome. Our sincere thanks to those returning to the Festival and to those joining us for the first time. You, of course, provide the energy, substance, personality, and purpose of the Festival.

Thank you in advance for all of the ideas, questions, affirmations, challenges, stories, and laughs that you will stir into the Festival pudding this weekend. We count on you to give as much as you get, and you never let us down.

And, of course, we believe you will get a lot. On offer is a line-up of authors, editors, and book people of all stripes who will share the best and deepest of their writing lives and challenge you to seek and share the best of yours.

Surprises are the norm—and the most fun. Many of the authors featured this year seem to have a special talent for surprising us, rescuing basic universal truths from cliché and excavating the complexity beneath those simple truths. Anne Lamott sets Help, Thanks, Wow on the foundation “that there’s something to be said about keeping prayer simple,” but as she erects her simple frame, she asks how we can begin even to comprehend prayer when it is “so real, so huge, beyond mystery” and we are “so ruined, and so loved, and in charge of so little.” Gene Yuen Lang’s American Born Chinese deflects the exhortation to “be yourself” to the task of making us realize how hard it is to do that: How we can bend ourselves to the colossal challenge of being who we were created to be? In The Year of Biblical Womanhood, Rachel Held Evans converts our curiosity about how she will fare in her attempt to “live biblically” to the question of how biblical living reshapes the way we read the Bible—or any sacred text. And James McBride, fueled by his sustaining belief that humans have more in common than in division, couples the two main characters of The Good Lord Bird to test this article of faith; he pushes our noses into the mud and blood of a caricatured 1850s America, and we see how an irreverent, self-preserving, adolescent slave and America’s most important and outlandish religious fanatic, John Brown, reconceive the genius of Brown’s faith and hope in our common humanity.

McBride’s “whopper” also reminds us that we often learn best through eager, attentive play. So sport with G. Willow Wilson’s tech-savvy genies, Amy Leach’s famished but fussy pandas, Christopher Beha’s searching storytellers, Julia Spencer-Fleming’s winsome townsfolk, Okey Ndibe’s bewildered Ike, and so many more.

Please engage and enjoy yourself: listen, question, create, laugh, befriend, and “friend.” And let us know if there is anything—anything at all—we can do to help.

— the Festival 2014 planning team, on behalf of the Calvin College English Department
WITH GRATITUDE

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Grand Rapids Public Library
Grand Valley State University
Grandville Avenue Arts and Humanities
Pierce Cedar Creek Institute

DESIGN TEAM
Hyde Creative, graphic design
Sandy DeGroot, Kathy DeJong, Elaine Hannink, Jean Lappinga, Mary Meekhof, and Mihaela Apostol Webb, banner design
Eastern Floral, plant and floral design

TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANTS
PEC Technologies, website and database construction

FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL

ORGANIZATIONS
abookchick.com
Bruce Buursma Communications/ Words Well Done
Lipscomb University
nicholas-h2o
Oak Knoll Readers and Writers

INDIVIDUALS
Jessica Lueck and Jason Akin
Charlene Andrew
Jorella Andrews
M. Lynn Arwady
Dave and Mary Bardolph
Katelyn Beaty
John and Judy Bielema
Dan and Kate Bolt
Marcia Bosscher
Eve Bradshaw
Laura Lynn Brown
Kelly Boyte Brill
Annette Byl

GENERAL UNDERWRITERS
Baker Publishing Group
Center for Excellence in Preaching at Calvin Theological Seminary
Lion Hudson
Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company
WestBow Press
Zondervan

ENDOWMENTS
Henry and Ruth Baron Family Endowment
Wiersma Memorial Endowment

CALVIN PARTNERS
Asian Studies Program
Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning
Calvin Alumni Association
Calvin Campus Store
Calvin Institute of Christian Worship
Campus Ministries
Center Art Gallery
Classics Department
Hekman Library
Honors Program
Knollcrest East Apartments
Office of Admissions
Office of Multicultural Affairs
Sexuality Series
Student Activities Office
Student Life Division

ENDOWMENTS
Henry and Ruth Baron Family Endowment
Wiersma Memorial Endowment

Ann Byle
Sylvia Cooper
Rachel Craddock
Mary Anne Culbertson
Ed Cyzewski
Allison Duncan
Greg Dunn and Shelly LeMahieu Dunn
Roseann Dykstra
Shanda Blue Easterday
Lesa Engeltalier
Kathie Evenhouse
Susan Hudson Fox
Shirley Freeman
Brenda Gibson
Bee Gosnell
Dorothy Littell Greco
Melody Harrison Hanson
Trina Hayes
Richard and Sheila Henderson
Judith Henson
Laura Hoekstra
Merrie Sue Haltan
Kelly Hughes
Rachel Hyde
LaVerna B. Johnson
Randi Kawakita
Robert King
Deborah Kohn
Janette E. Kok
Mary Hulst and Drew Kromminga
Mary D. Lagerwey
Pamela Leggett
Donald and Linda LeMahieu
Rhonda Lubberts
Amy Maczuzak
Aaron Massung
MaryAnn McKibben Dana
Janice and Thomas McWhertor
Kristin A. Meekhof
Anne Mitchell
Bill Montgomery
Mavis Moon
Kris Opie
Robert and Judy Otte  
Sharon and Henry Ottens  
Don and Evonne Plantinga  
Diane and Herman Praamsma  
Kristy Quist  
Kathy Reinke  
Mardee Rightmyer  
Lois Hoitenga Roelofs  
Carol J. Rottman  
Jean A. Schreur  
Philip Sefton  
Chloe Selles  
Peg Carmack Short  
Ella Mae Smith  
Bruce Stambaugh  
Craig and Cindy Steffen  
Kerry and Ruthanne Stoltzfus  
Jerome Stueart  
Christina M. Tazelaar  
Janna Roop and Allen Timm  
Pauline Trembley  
Phyllis Van Andel  
Esther Van Zytveld  
Cynthia Vander Woude  
Karl and Connie Kuiper VanDyke  
Suzann Van Klompenberg  
Denise Vredevoogd  
Wanda L. Weber  
Cheryl Weeks-Rosten  
Helen Wentzheimer  
David Westendorp  
Mary C. Woodiwiss  
Mary Zwaanstra  
Abby Zwart  
Marlene and Paul Zwier  
…and many, many others who gave anonymously.

PLANNING TEAM
Beth Heinen Bell 
Gayle Boss 
Shelly LeMahieu Dunn 
Debra Rienstra 
Dean Ward

STUDENT COMMITTEE
Corrie Baker  
Sarah Kuipers Ball  
Becca Berends  
Lydia Beukelman  
Stephanie Bradshaw  
Sara Conrad  
Hayley Cox  
Lauren Cremean  
Maria Cupery  
Ben DeVries  
Sarah De Vries  
Audrey Enters  
Hayyoung Eom  
Anneke Eisenburg  
Daniel Feng  
Jenna Griffin  
Gabe Gunnink  
Trent Heille  
Christina Hill  
Max Howard  
Michael Kelly  
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Josiah Kinney  
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Evans Lodge  
Maryanne Loughran  
Tanice Mast  
Linnea McLaughlin  
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Sarah Nikkel  
Erin Smith  
Mary Snook  
Tom Speelman  
Natasha Strydhorst  
Erin Tanis  
Katie Van Kooten  
Kathryn Van Zanen  
Allie Vroegop  
Alex Westenbroek  
Cassie Westrate

STUDENT INTERN
Ellie Hutchison

THE CALVIN COMMUNITY
We are indebted to the entire Calvin community for providing the energy, resources, hospitality, and expertise needed to host the Festival and help it run smoothly.
Please join us in gratefully acknowledging the many individuals, offices, and departments who have worked so hard to put on this event. From the largest of tasks to the smallest, from the obvious to the unnoticed, their work has made this event possible, and for that we are immensely thankful. We are especially grateful to staff members in the following offices:
Audio-Visual  
Box Office  
Campus Ministries  
Campus Safety  
Campus Store  
Communications and Marketing  
Conferences and Campus Events  
Financial Services  
Food Service  
Instructional Graphics  
Media Relations  
Office of the President  
Office of the Provost  
Physical Plant  
Prince Conference Center  
Printing Services  
Student Activities Office  
Travel Services
We hope that the following information will help you to enjoy all that Festival 2014 has to offer. **If you have any questions or concerns, please stop by the registration desk in the Prince Conference Center.** You can also call the registration desk directly at 616.526.6770. We're happy to help.

**CHECKING IN**

**REGISTRATION DESK HOURS**
The registration desk—located in the lobby of the Prince Conference Center—is open from 8:00 am until 9:00 pm each day of the Festival.

**INFORMATION CENTER**
Staffed by student volunteers each day until 5:00 pm, the Festival Information Center is a great place to ask questions or get directions when attending sessions on the west side of campus. The Festival Information Center is located in the Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, right next to the Box Office.

**BADGES**
Your badge provides you with admission to all Festival 2014 sessions, including the keynote addresses. The only exception is The National concert on Saturday evening. Ticket information for that concert is on the next page.

**CALVIN’S CAMPUS**
To help you find your way around campus, we’ve included a detailed map (page 2) that indicates venues by building. Signs around campus should make orienting yourself relatively easy, but please don’t hesitate to ask for directions.

A map showing the location of elevators and accessible entrances for all campus buildings is available at the registration desk.

**STAYING IN TOUCH**

**FESTIVAL NEWS**
During Festival 2014 we will send out a daily newsletter, *Festival News*, by e-mail to keep you up to date on all the latest Festival happenings, including schedule adjustments, special opportunities, announcements, and more. A limited number of printed copies of *Festival News* will also be available at the registration desk and information center each morning.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**
During the Festival, staff and students will be posting updates and photos on Twitter (@ffwgr) and Facebook (facebook.com/FFWGR). Attendees are welcome to join these online communities to share information and stay up to date on happenings around campus. When tweeting about the Festival, please use the hashtag #ffwgr so that other participants can use this search tool to follow the happenings at Festival 2014.

**ADDRESS INFORMATION**
The Prince Conference Center’s address is 1800 East Beltline SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49546.

**INTERNET ACCESS**
You’ll find public computer kiosks located in several places on campus, including the Prince Conference Center, Spoelhof Center (second and third floors), Hiemenga Hall (fourth floor), Covenant Fine Arts Center (upper east lobby), Commons Dining Hall lobby area, and Johnny’s Café. In addition, the second floor of the Hekman Library has several computer stations available for Festival attendees.

A wireless network is also available for Festival guests throughout campus. To access the wireless network, look for “guest” in your computer’s list of available wireless networks. Then open an internet browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, Chrome, etc.), which should direct you to the guest registration page. Once there, you will need to confirm the usage policy, provide some contact information, and choose a method of registration (e-mail, text message, Calvin sponsor). Follow the remaining instructions to access the network.
DURING THE SESSIONS

CELL PHONES
As a courtesy to speakers and fellow participants, please turn off all cell phones during Festival sessions.

PHOTOGRAPHY
To minimize distractions for speakers and attendees alike, photography is not permitted during Festival sessions. In addition, because of time constraints, speakers are happy to sign books at their book signings but are unable to pose for photographs.

RECORDINGS
Almost every Festival 2014 session will be recorded, and as many as possible will be made available for download exclusively for Festival 2014 attendees soon after the event. (Please note that availability of the recordings is dependent upon contractual arrangements with Festival presenters, and may also be affected by technical difficulties and/or staffing constraints.)

Personal recording of Festival sessions is not permitted.

ROOM CAPACITY
Due to fire code regulations, we must closely monitor room capacities during the Festival. Sessions will be closed once they have reached room capacity. If you arrive after a session has closed, please select another session to attend.

ANYTHING ELSE?

FESTIVAL MARKETPLACE
The Calvin College Campus Store is the designated book seller for Festival 2014. Look for their Festival Marketplace locations across from the registration desk in the Prince Conference Center and on the first floor of the Commons. The Festival Marketplace carries books by all Festival 2014 presenters, plenty of Festival merchandise, and other items for book lovers. Both locations are open from 8:00 am to 7:30 pm on Thursday and Friday, and from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday.

The best part: When you purchase from them, a portion of each sale helps to support the Festival.

OPEN-MICROPHONE READINGS
Open-microphone poetry readings will take place on Thursday and Friday at 9:00 pm in the Hickory Room. A reading exclusively for students—and featuring work from any genre—will take place on Thursday at 9:00 pm in the Covenant Fine Arts Center Upper East Lobby. If you would like to participate, please sign up at the registration desk by 6:00 pm on the day of the reading.

POETRY CONTEST
Attendees are invited to participate in a poetry contest organized by the Festival’s student committee in conjunction with the Center Art Gallery. Several designated paintings in Ivan Fortushniak’s exhibition, “For His Highest,” invite responses in poetry from Festival attendees. Poems should be e-mailed to ffwcontest@gmail.com no later than noon on Saturday. In the subject line please include the title of the painting to which you are responding. Winners will be announced late in the day on Saturday, and the winning entries will be displayed in the gallery through the end of April.

CONCERT TICKETS
Pending availability, tickets ($40) for The National concert on Saturday evening can be purchased from the Calvin College Box Office, located on the first floor of the Covenant Fine Arts Center, on Thursday or Friday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

The concert takes place on Saturday at 8:00 pm in Van Noord Arena.

GALLERY EXHIBITIONS
Located on the first floor of the Covenant Fine Arts Center, the Center Art Gallery is currently hosting two exhibitions of interest to Festival attendees: “For His Highest” by painter Ivan Fortushniak and “Visual Essence” by illustrator and Festival 2014 presenter Michele Wood. The gallery is open from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm on Thursday and Friday and from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday. A book signing with Michele Wood will be held at the gallery on Friday from 4:45 pm to 5:30 pm.

PLACES OF WORSHIP
A list of places of worship is available at the registration desk.

ATM
An ATM is located at the eastern entrance to the Commons Annex.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION
If you need emergency assistance, please contact Calvin’s Campus Safety Office at 616.526.3333 or the Festival registration desk at 616.526.6770.

The nearest urgent care clinic is Spectrum Health Urgent Care, located at 3350 Broadmoor Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49512 (phone: 616.391.8020). It is open seven days a week from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.
ON-CAMPUS SHUTTLES
Shuttle vans will be running between all concurrent Festival sessions. Stops include the Prince Conference Center, Covenant Fine Arts Center, Meeter Center Lecture Hall, Spoelhof Center, Calvin Theological Seminary, and Van Noord Arena. At the conclusion of each concurrent session, one van will be at each designated shuttle stop. Each van will then loop around campus, stopping at each designated shuttle stop and continuing around campus until the next session begins.

PARKING
If you will be driving to campus each day for the Festival, parking is available in the lots nearest the Prince Conference Center (lots 14, 15, and 16) or in the lot north of the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex (lot 7). See the Calvin campus map on page 2 for locations.

Once those lots fill up, we recommend parking at the Church of the Servant, located less than one mile from campus (3835 Burton SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49546). Shuttles to and from Church of the Servant will be available as follows:

THURSDAY, APRIL 10
- On-call shuttle service will be provided between Church of the Servant and the Prince Conference Center throughout the day. When you arrive, please call the Festival registration desk at 616.526.6770, and a shuttle will be dispatched to pick you up.
- Continuous shuttle service will be provided to Church of the Servant from the Prince Conference Center from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.
- Shuttle service will be provided from Van Noord Arena to Church of the Servant after the James McBride plenary.
- Shuttle service will be provided from the Prince Conference Center to Church of the Servant after the post-plenary events.
- If you need shuttle service to Church of the Servant at any other time during the day, please inquire at the registration desk.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
- On-call shuttle service will be provided between Church of the Servant and the Prince Conference Center throughout the day. When you arrive, please call the Festival registration desk at 616.526.6770, and a shuttle will be dispatched to pick you up.
- Continuous shuttle service will be provided to Church of the Servant from the Prince Conference Center from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm.
- Shuttle service will be provided from Van Noord Arena to Church of the Servant after the Anne Lamott plenary.
- Shuttle service will be provided from the Prince Conference Center to Church of the Servant after the post-plenary events.
- If you need shuttle service to Church of the Servant at any other time during the day, please inquire at the registration desk.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
- Because there will be plenty of parking available on campus, shuttles will not be running between the Prince Conference Center and Church of the Servant on Saturday.
**Sharing Rides**

If you’ve driven to Festival, please consider carpooling and offering rides to other Festival attendees you meet.

**Taxis**

If you wish to call a taxi, you may encounter a wait of thirty to forty-five minutes. If the dispatcher requires an address, the Prince Conference Center is located at 1800 East Beltline SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49546.

**Calder City Taxi:** 616.454.8080

**Yellow Cab:** 616.459.4646

**Off-Campus Shuttles**

Shuttle service will be provided at the beginning and end of each day of Festival 2014 to the following hotels: Comfort Inn, Wyndham Garden, Hawthorn Suites, Holiday Inn, and Sleep Inn and Suites. Limited service will be available during the dinner hour. The schedule is as follows:

**Thursday, April 10**

- Shuttle buses will begin arriving at the hotels at 8:00 am and will continue until 12:30 pm. The drop-off location on campus is the Prince Conference Center (where the registration desk is located).
- Limited shuttle service will be provided to and from hotels during the dinner break. From 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, shuttle buses will run from the Prince Conference Center to Church of the Servant and hotels. From 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm, shuttle buses will run from hotels to Van Noord Arena.
- Shuttle buses will depart from Van Noord Arena after the James McBride plenary and will run until 9:30 pm. Shuttles will run to hotels, the Prince Conference Center, and Church of the Servant.
- Shuttle service will be provided from the Prince Conference Center to hotels and Church of the Servant after the post-plenary events.

**Friday, April 11**

- Shuttle buses will begin arriving at hotels at 7:30 am and will continue until 8:30 am. Upon their arrival on campus, shuttles will make two stops: one at the Prince Conference Center and one at the Covenant Fine Arts Center.
- Limited shuttle service will be provided to and from hotels during the dinner break. From 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm, shuttle buses will run from the Prince Conference Center to Church of the Servant and hotels. From 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm, shuttle buses will run from hotels to Van Noord Arena.
- Shuttle buses will depart from Van Noord Arena after the Anne Lamott plenary and will run until 9:30 pm. Shuttles will run to hotels, the Prince Conference Center, and Church of the Servant.
- Shuttle service will be provided from the Prince Conference Center to hotels and Church of the Servant after the post-plenary events.

**Saturday, April 12**

- Shuttle buses will begin arriving at hotels at 7:30 am and will continue until 8:30 am. Upon their arrival on campus, shuttles will make two stops: one at the Prince Conference Center and one at the Covenant Fine Arts Center.
- Limited shuttle service will be provided to and from hotels after the final concurrent session—beginning at 4:30 pm—and running until 7:30 pm. From 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm, shuttle buses will run from the Prince Conference Center to hotels. From 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, shuttle buses will loop between hotels and the Covenant Fine Arts Center.
- Shuttle buses will depart from the Covenant Fine Arts Center after the Rachel Held Evans plenary and will run until 7:30 pm. Shuttles will run to hotels and the Prince Conference Center.
- Shuttle service will be provided from Van Noord Arena to hotels after the concert by The National.
Coffee breaks (times noted in the schedule) will be held in four campus locations:

- Commons Lecture Hall Lobby (located just outside of the Commons Lecture Hall in the lower level of the Commons Annex)
- Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby (located on the first floor of the Covenant Fine Arts Center)
- Hekman Library Lobby (located outside the entrance to the third floor of the Hekman Library, near the fireplace area)
- Prince Conference Center Fireside Room

Coffee Shop

The Fish House (connected to Johnny’s Café) offers fair-trade coffee and some snack items. It is open on Thursday and Friday from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm and on Saturday from 9:00 am to 11:00 pm.

On-Campus Dining Facilities

The following facilities are open to Festival attendees; see the Calvin map on page 2 for exact locations. Hours and pricing information are below.

- All of Calvin’s retail dining facilities (Johnny’s Café, Spoelhof Café, DeVos Grab and Go, Knight Way Café, and Fish House) accept payment by cash, check, credit card, or debit card. The student dining halls (Knollcrest, Commons, and Uppercrust) accept cash or check only.
- The Commons Dining Hall (located on the second floor of the Commons) is one of the main campus dining facilities for students. It offers a wide range of fresh salads and hot foods and is open for lunch and dinner on Thursday, and for breakfast and lunch on Friday.
- The Knollcrest Dining Hall is the other main student dining facility. It offers a range of salads, sandwiches, and hot foods and is open throughout the Festival.
- Uppercrust (located on the third floor of the Commons) is a smaller student dining facility that offers specialty sandwiches and salads.
- Johnny’s Café (located on the first floor of the Commons) is a classic college café that offers hot and cold sandwiches, hamburgers, soup, salads, and more. It is open throughout the Festival.
- The Spoelhof Café (located on the east side of the Spoelhof Center, facing the Commons Lawn) offers one hot meal option, a salad bar, and various cold sandwiches for lunch on Thursday and Friday.
- The DeVos Grab and Go (located in the lobby of the DeVos Communication Center, near the entrance to Calvin’s Crossing) offers coffee and a small selection of sandwiches, granola bars, yogurt, and fruit, and is open through lunch on Thursday and Friday.
- The Knight Way Café (located on the upper floor of the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex, just outside Van Noord Arena) is a good place to stop for a healthy snack, beverage, or quick lunch on Thursday and Friday.
- At Knollcrest Dining Hall and Commons Dining Hall, Festival attendees are offered a discounted meal rate of $5.00 for breakfast, $6.00 for lunch, and $7.00 for dinner. To obtain this rate, please show your Festival name badge at the door. Please note that Knollcrest and Commons are able to accept cash or checks only.
**DINING FACILITIES SCHEDULE**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10**

**LUNCH**
- Commons Dining Hall (cost: $6.00) 11:00 am–1:00 pm
- Uppercrust (cost: $6.00) open at 11:00 am
- Knollcrest Dining Hall (cost: $6.00) 11:30 am–1:30 pm
- Johnny’s Café
- Spoelhof Café
- DeVos Grab and Go
- Knight Way Café open until 2:00 pm

**DINNER**
- Commons Dining Hall (cost: $7.00) 4:45 pm–6:00 pm
- Knollcrest Dining Hall (cost: $7.00) 5:00 pm–7:00 pm
- Uppercrust (cost: $7.00) open until 8:00 pm
- Johnny’s Café open until 11:00 pm

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**

**BREAKFAST**
- Commons Dining Hall (cost: $5.00) 7:15 am–10:30 am
- Johnny’s Café open at 7:30 am
- Spoelhof Café open at 8:30 am
- DeVos Grab and Go open at 8:00 am
- Knight Way Café open at 7:00 am

**LUNCH**
- Commons Dining Hall (cost: $6.00) 11:00 am–1:00 pm
- Knollcrest Dining Hall (cost: $6.00) 11:30 am–1:30 pm
- Uppercrust (cost: $6.00) open at 11:00 am
- Johnny’s Café
- Spoelhof Café
- DeVos Grab and Go
- Knight Way Café open until 2:00 pm

**DINNER**
- Knollcrest Dining Hall (cost: $7.00) 4:45 pm–7:00 pm
- Uppercrust (cost: $7.00) open until 8:00 pm
- Johnny’s Café open until 11:00 pm

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12**

**BREAKFAST**
- Knollcrest Dining Hall (cost: $5.00) 8:30 am–10:00 am

**LUNCH**
- Knollcrest Dining Hall (cost: $6.00) 11:30 am–1:30 pm
- Johnny’s Café open at 11:00 am

**DINNER**
- Knollcrest Dining Hall (cost: $7.00) 4:45 pm–6:15 pm
- Johnny’s Café open until 11:00 pm

**BOXED MEALS**

Festival attendees who pre-ordered boxed meals may pick up their meals in the Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby. Please be sure to present your tickets (which you received with your confirmation e-mail) when you pick up your meals.

Pick-up times for boxed meals are as follows:

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10**
- Lunch: 11:00 am–12:30 pm
- Dinner: 5:15 pm–6:30 pm

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**
- Lunch: 12:15 pm–1:15 pm
- Dinner: 4:30 pm–6:30 pm

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12**
- Lunch: 12:15 pm–1:15 pm
- Dinner: 4:30 pm–6:30 pm

A limited supply of boxed meals will be available on site for individuals who did not pre-order (cost: $8.50/boxed meal). Staff can accept only cash or checks for on-site boxed meal sales.
Below is a list of locally owned restaurants that are within a few miles of Calvin’s campus. There are also many chain and fast-food restaurants located on 28th Street and on the East Beltline, near Knapp Street.

**BOMBAY CUISINE**  
Authentic Indian Cuisine  
1420 Lake Drive SE. 616.456.7055.  
Monday–Tuesday: 11:30 am–10:00 pm;  
Wednesday–Friday: 11:30 am–10:30 pm;  
Saturday: 3:30 pm–10:30 pm;  
Sunday: 12:00 pm–10:00 pm.

**BRICK ROAD PIZZA COMPANY**  
Gourmet, Traditional, and Vegan Pizza  
1017 Wealthy Street SE. 616.719.2409.  
Monday–Saturday: 11:00 am–10:00 pm;  
Sunday: 10:00 am–4:00 pm.

**CHERRY DELI**  
Salads, Soups, Sandwiches, and a Large Selection of Vegetarian Items  
834 Cherry Street SE. 616.459.6182.  
Monday–Friday: 7:00 am–8:00 pm;  
Saturday: 8:00 am–11:00 pm;  
Sunday: 10:00 am–3:00 pm and 5:00 pm–11:00 pm;  
Saturday: 10:00 am–3:00 pm and 5:00 pm–11:00 pm;  
Sunday: 10:00 am–3:00 pm and 4:00 pm–11:00 pm.

**CHAPBOOK CAFÉ AT SCHULER BOOKS AND MUSIC**  
Soups, Sandwiches, and Coffee  
2660 28th Street SE. 616.942.0595.  
Monday–Saturday: 9:00 am–9:00 pm;  
Sunday: 10:00 am–7:00 pm.

**CHAPBOOK CAFÉ AT SCHULER BOOKS AND MUSIC**  
Soups, Sandwiches, and Coffee  
2660 28th Street SE. 616.942.0595.  
Monday–Saturday: 9:00 am–9:00 pm.

**CHAPBOOK CAFÉ AT SCHULER BOOKS AND MUSIC**  
Soups, Sandwiches, and Coffee  
2660 28th Street SE. 616.942.0595.  
Monday–Saturday: 9:00 am–9:00 pm;  
Sunday: 10:00 am–7:00 pm.

**CHAPBOOK CAFÉ AT SCHULER BOOKS AND MUSIC**  
Soups, Sandwiches, and Coffee  
2660 28th Street SE. 616.942.0595.  
Monday–Saturday: 9:00 am–9:00 pm;  
Sunday: 10:00 am–7:00 pm.

**BOOKS AND MUSIC**  
Coffee, Books, and Music  
1017 Wealthy Street SE. 616.719.2409.  
Monday–Tuesday: 11:00 am–1:30 pm;  
Wednesday–Thursday: 11:00 am–11:00 pm;  
Friday–Saturday: 11:00 am–11:00 pm;  
Sunday: 11:00 am–9:00 pm.

**MARIE CATRIB’S**  
Sandwiches, Desserts, and Many Vegetarian and Vegan Options  
1001 Lake Drive SE. 616.454.4020.  
Monday–Friday: 7:00 am–8:00 pm;  
Saturday: 8:00 am–4:00 pm.

**GOJO**  
Ethiopian Cuisine  
421 Norwood Avenue SE. 616.459.3383.  
Tuesday–Friday: 11:00 am–1:30 pm;  
5:00 pm–8:00 pm;  
Saturday: 5:00 pm–8:00 pm.

**THE GREEN WELL**  
American Gastro Pub  
924 Cherry Street SE. 616.808.3566.  
Monday–Friday: 11:00 am–3:00 pm;  
5:00 pm–8:00 pm;  
Saturday: 5:00 pm–10:15 pm.

**MARU SUSHI AND GRILL**  
Sushi and Asian Fusion Cuisine  
927 Cherry Street SE. 616.458.1900.  
Monday–Thursday: 11:30 am–9:30 pm;  
Friday–Saturday: 11:30 am–10:00 pm;  
Sunday: 11:30 am–9:00 pm.

**GAIA CAFÉ**  
Vegetarian Food  
209 Diamond Avenue SE. 616.454.6233.  
Tuesday–Friday: 8:00 am–8:00 pm;  
Saturday–Sunday: 8:00 am–3:00 pm.

**LE KABOB**  
Mediterranean Cuisine  
1551 Lake Drive SE. 616.233.0063.  
Monday–Saturday: 11:00 am–12:00 am;  
Sunday: 12:00 pm–12:00 am.

**HARMONY BREWING COMPANY**  
Brewing Pub and Fresh, Creative Pizza  
1551 Lake Drive SE. 616.233.0063.  
Monday–Saturday: 11:00 am–12:00 am;  
Sunday: 12:00 pm–12:00 am.

**ROSE’S**  
Award-Winning Casual Dining  
550 Lakeside Drive SE. 616.458.1122.  
Monday–Saturday: 11:00 am–11:00 pm;  
Sunday: 11:00 am–9:00 pm.

**LEATHER CAFE**  
American Gastro Pub  
924 Cherry Street SE. 616.808.3566.  
Monday–Friday: 11:00 am–3:00 pm;  
5:00 pm–8:00 pm;  
Saturday: 5:00 pm–10:15 pm.

**SAN CHEZ**  
Traditional Spanish Cuisine and Tapas  
38 West Fulton Street. 616.774.8272.  
Monday–Thursday: 5:00 pm–11:00 pm;  
Friday: 8:00 pm–11:00 pm;  
Saturday: 9:00 am–11:00 pm;  
Sunday: 9:00 am–10:00 pm.

**YESTERDOG**  
Hot Dogs  
1505 Wealthy Street SE. 616.262.3090.  
Monday–Saturday: 11:00 am–2:00 am;  
Sunday: 12:00 pm–2:00 am.

**MARIE CATRIB’S**  
Sandwiches, Desserts, and Many Vegetarian and Vegan Options  
1001 Lake Drive SE. 616.454.4020.  
Monday–Friday: 7:00 am–8:00 pm;  
Saturday: 8:00 am–4:00 pm.

**OLIVE’S**  
Tapas-Style Eatery Featuring International Dishes  
2162 Wealthy Street SE. 616.451.8611.  
Monday–Friday: 11:00 am–10:00 pm;  
Saturday: 5:00 pm–11:00 pm.

**GAJA CAFE**  
Vegetarian Food  
1033 Lake Drive SE. 616.742.0600.  
Monday–Thursday: 4:00 pm–10:00 pm;  
Friday–Saturday: 4:00 pm–11:00 pm;  
Sunday: 4:00 pm–9:00 pm.

**BOOKS AND MUSIC**  
Coffee, Books, and Music  
1017 Wealthy Street SE. 616.719.2409.  
Monday–Monday: 11:00 am–2:30 pm;  
Thursday–Saturday: 11:00 am–11:00 pm.

**SEUL GARDEN**  
Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Food  
3321 28th Street SE. 616.956.1522.  
Monday–Thursday: 11:00 am–10:00 pm;  
Friday–Saturday: 11:00 am–11:00 pm.

**TERRA GR**  
Fresh, Seasonal, Handcrafted Cuisine  
1249 Lake Drive SE. 616.301.0998.  
Monday–Friday: 11:00 am–3:00 pm  
and 5:00 pm–11:00 pm;  
Saturday: 10:00 am–3:00 pm and 5:00 pm–11:00 pm;  
Sunday: 10:00 am–3:00 pm and 4:00 pm–11:00 pm.

**THE ELECTRIC CHEETAH**  
Soups, Salads, and Sandwiches  
1015 Wealthy Street SE. 616.451.4779.  
Monday–Wednesday: 11:00 am–9:00 pm;  
Thursday–Saturday: 11:00 am–10:00 pm;  
Sunday: 10:00 am–4:00 pm.

**THE WRENCH**  
American Food with a Twist  
1600 East Beltline NE. 616.301.8171.  
Monday–Thursday: 11:00 am–11:00 pm;  
Friday–Saturday: 11:00 am–12:00 am;  
Sunday: 11:00 am–10:00 pm.

**THE WINCHESTER**  
Soups, Salads, and Sandwiches  
648 Wealthy Street SE. 616.451.4969.  
Monday–Saturday: 11:00 am–2:00 am;  
Sunday: 12:00 pm–2:00 am.
KEY: Speaker's Name @twitter handle

Here is a brief note about each presenter and the days(s) and time(s) he or she will be speaking. Check out the corresponding schedule pages to learn the location and speaker's topic.

THURSDAY {PAGES 27-30}  FRIDAY {PAGES 31-37}  SATURDAY {PAGES 38-42}

Uwem Akpan
Uwem Akpan is the author of the story collection Say You’re One of Them. A Catholic priest, Akpan is currently a fellow at the New York Public Library’s Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers, where he is working on a novel.

THURSDAY 1:45 PM
FRIDAY 10:00 AM

Swati Avasthi @swatiavasthi
Young adult author Swati Avasthi has published two novels: Split and Chasing Shadows. She teaches creative writing at Hamline University in Minnesota.

FRIDAY 3:30 PM
SATURDAY 3:30 PM

Fred Bahnson
Fred Bahnson is the author of Soil and Sacrament: A Spiritual Memoir of Food and Faith. He directs the Food, Faith, and Religious Leadership Initiative at Wake Forest University School of Divinity and lives with his wife and sons in western North Carolina.

FRIDAY 8:30 AM
SATURDAY 11:30 AM

Carlene Bauer

FRIDAY 10:00 AM
FRIDAY 2:00 PM

Karen Beattie @Karen_Beattie
Karen Beattie is the author of Rock-Bottom Blessings: Discovering God’s Abundance When All Seems Lost, as well as numerous essays about art, faith, and culture. She lives with her husband, daughter, and geriatric cat on the north side of Chicago.

SATURDAY 2:00 PM

Christopher Beha @chrisbeha

THURSDAY 4:30 PM
FRIDAY 10:00 AM

Christine Berghoef @BerghoefC
Christine Berghoef is the author of the memoir Cracking the Pot: Releasing God from the Theologies That Bind Him. She currently lives in Washington, DC, where she works for the Faith and Politics Institute.

THURSDAY 4:30 PM

Daniel Bowman, Jr. @danielbowmanjr
Daniel Bowman, Jr., is the author of A Plum Tree in Leatherstocking Country and Beggars in Heaven: A Novel. He teaches at Taylor University in Indiana.

FRIDAY 2:00 PM

Donna Bowman @donnadb
An associate professor and associate dean in the honors college at the University of Central Arkansas, Donna Bowman is co-editor of Handbook of Process Theology. Her pop culture reviews appear in the A.V. Club, an entertainment newspaper and website published by The Onion.

SATURDAY 8:30 AM
SATURDAY 2:00 PM

Emily Brink
Emily Brink is a senior research fellow with the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship at Calvin College and the co-author of Wise Church: Exploring Faith and Worship with Christians Around the World.

FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Sharon Garlough Brown
Sharon Garlough Brown is the author of the novel Sensible Shoes: A Story About the Spiritual Journey. She currently serves as pastor of Redeemer Covenant Church in Michigan.

FRIDAY 8:30 AM
SATURDAY 8:30 AM

Christine Byl
Christine Byl is the author of the non-fiction book Dirt Work: An Education in the Woods. Her stories and essays have appeared in numerous publications, including Glimmer Train Stories, Crazyhorse, and The Sun. She lives in Alaska.

THURSDAY 1:45 PM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM
Scott Cairns @ScottCairnsPoet

THURSDAY 1:45 PM
SATURDAY 2:00 PM

Thom Caraway @t_caraway
Thom Caraway is a poet, editor in chief of *Rock and Sling,* and the publisher of *Sage Hill Press.* He teaches at Whitworth University in Washington.

FRIDAY 11:30 AM

Angela Doll Carlson @mrsMetaphor
Angela Doll Carlson is a Chicago-based writer, essayist, and poet. Her memoir, *Nearly Orthodox: On Being a Modern Woman in an Ancient Tradition,* will be published later this year.

SUNDAY 2:00 PM

Susanna Childress
Susanna Childress, whose books include *Jagged with Love* and *Entering the House of Awe,* writes poetry, essays, and short fiction. She is a member of the music group Ordinary Neighbors, whose album *The Necessary Dark* draws on her writing.

FRIDAY 11:30 AM

Jeff Chu @jeffchu

FRIDAY 2:00 PM
SATURDAY 3:30 PM

Hugh Cook @HughCook_ca
Hugh Cook is a writer of both short stories and novels, including his most recent, *Heron River.* Retired from full-time teaching, Cook lives in Ontario, where he spends most of his time writing.

THURSDAY 3:15 PM

Lil Copan @LilCopan
Lil Copan is senior acquisitions editor for Abingdon Press, where she focuses on titles for both Christian and general markets.

FRIDAY 11:30 AM

Richard Cowdrey
Richard Cowdrey has illustrated many children’s picture books, including *Bad Dog, Marley,* and four other Marley books. He also painted the covers for the middle-grade fantasy series *Guardians of Ga’hoole.*

THURSDAY 4:30 PM
FRIDAY 8:30 AM

Greg Daniel @DanielLiterary
Greg Daniel is former vice president and associate publisher at Thomas Nelson and now a literary agent at Daniel Literary Group.

FRIDAY 11:30 AM

Benjamin Dueholm @bendueholm
Benjamin Dueholm is a Lutheran pastor and a writer on topics including faith, politics, culture, sex, and family life. His writing has appeared in *The Christian Century* and *TheAtlantic.com,* among others.

THURSDAY 3:15 PM

David Ellens
A graduate of Calvin College with a degree in theatre, David Ellens has written and produced a series of three pieces of verbatim theatre revolving around the idea of intimacy. He has also co-written two verbatim theatre pieces, including *Seven Passages: Stories of Gay Christians.*

SATURDAY 2:00 PM

Rachel Held Evans @rachelheldevans
Rachel Held Evans is a blogger and the author of two books: *Evolving in Monkey Town: How a Girl Who Knew All the Answers Learned to Ask the Questions* and *A Year of Biblical Womanhood: How a Liberated Woman Found Herself Sitting on Her Roof, Covering Her Head, and Calling Her Husband “Master.”*

FRIDAY 3:30 PM
SATURDAY 5:00 PM
Leslie Leyland Fields @lesielfields
Leslie Leyland Fields is a contributing editor for Christianity Today and the author or editor of eight books, including The Spirit of Food: 34 Writers on Feasting and Fasting Toward God and, most recently, Forgiving Our Fathers and Mothers: Finding Freedom from Hurt and Hate.
- THURSDAY 1:45 PM
- FRIDAY 11:30 AM
- FRIDAY 2:00 PM
- SATURDAY 10:00 AM

Suzanne Woods Fisher @suzannewfisher
Suzanne Woods Fisher is the author of several Amish fiction and non-fiction books, including Amish Values for Your Family: What We Can Learn from the Simple Life and Amish Proverbs: Words of Wisdom from the Simple Life. She has written several Amish fiction book series, including Stoney Ridge Seasons, Lancaster County Secret, and Petticoat Row.
- THURSDAY 1:45 PM
- SATURDAY 11:30 AM

Brett Foster
Brett Foster, associate professor of English at Wheaton College, is the author of two poetry collections. His writing has appeared in numerous journals, including Books and Culture, Boston Review, Image, Kenyon Review, Shenandoah, Southwest Review, and more.
- SATURDAY 8:30 AM

Richard Foster
Richard Foster is the author of several books, including Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth and, most recently, Sanctuary of the Soul: Journey into Meditative Prayer. He is also the founder of Renovaré, a Christian organization committed to the renewal of the church.
- FRIDAY 10:00 AM
- SATURDAY 2:00 PM

Amy Frykholm
Amy Frykholm has written about religion, culture, and spirituality for numerous publications. She is an associate editor for The Christian Century and the author of several books, including Julian of Norwich: A Contemplative Biography and See Me Naked: Stories of Sexual Exile in American Christianity.
- THURSDAY 3:15 PM

Edward Gilbreath @EdGilbreath
An editor at large for Christianity Today, Edward Gilbreath is the author of Birmingham Revolution: Martin Luther King Jr.’s Epic Challenge to the Church and the mini-ebook Remembering Birmingham: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s Letter to America—Fifty Years Later.
- FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Marlena Graves @MarlenaGraves
Marlena Graves writes for Christianity Today’s Her.meuntics blog. Her book, A Beautiful Disaster: Finding Hope in the Midst of Brokenness, will be released later this year.
- FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Eliza Griswold @elizagriswold
Journalist and poet Eliza Griswold is the author of The Tenth Parallel: Dispatches from the Fault Line Between Christianity and Islam and a book of poetry, Wideawake Field. She is also the translator and editor of a new collection of poems, I Am the Beggar of the World: Landays from Contemporary Afghanistan.
- FRIDAY 8:30 AM
- FRIDAY 2:00 PM

Tracy Groot @TracyGroot
Tracy Groot is the author of several works of historical fiction, including Flame of Resistance, Madman, and, most recently, The Sentinels of Andersonville. She lives in Michigan, where she runs a coffee shop with her husband.
- THURSDAY 3:15 PM
- FRIDAY 8:30 AM
- SATURDAY 3:30 PM

David Harrity @daveharrity
David Harrity is the author of the writing guide Making Manifest: On Faith, Creativity, and the Kingdom at Hand. As the director of Antler, he conducts workshops and lectures on the intersection of faith and imagination.
- FRIDAY 2:00 PM

Deborah Heiligman @DHeiligman
Deborah Heiligman is the author of thirty books of fiction and non-fiction for children and young adults, including Charles and Emma: The Darwins’ Leap of Faith, Intentions, and, most recently, The Boy Who Loved Math: The Improbable Life of Paul Erdos.
- THURSDAY 3:15 PM
- FRIDAY 8:30 AM
SPEAKERS

Karen Hering
Karen Hering is the author of *Writing to Wake the Soul: Opening the Sacred Conversation Within* and a pastor serving in a literary ministry of words, story, and poetry in Minnesota.

FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Barbara Herndon
Barbara Herndon has written and produced children’s television and film programming. She is currently the picture book acquisitions editor for HarperCollins Christian Publishing.

FRIDAY 8:30 AM

Donald Hettinga
Donald Hettinga is a professor of English at Calvin College, where he teaches courses in journalism as well as children’s and adolescent literature.

THURSDAY 4:30 PM
SATURDAY 8:30 AM

Sean Hill
Poet Sean Hill has authored two collections: *Blood Ties and Brown Liquor* and the recently released *Dangerous Goods*. His poems have been anthologized in four different volumes, including *Black Nature: Four Centuries of African American Nature Poetry*.

SATURDAY 2:00 PM
SATURDAY 3:30 PM

Robert Hosack
Robert Hosack is an executive editor with Baker Publishing Group and a freelance writer and reviewer.

SATURDAY 10:00 AM

Al Hsu
Al Hsu is senior editor for IVP Books at InterVarsity Press and the author of *Singles at the Crossroads: A Fresh Perspective on Christian Singleness; Grieving a Suicide: A Loved One’s Search for Comfort, Answers, and Hope;* and *The Suburban Christian: Finding Spiritual Vitality in the Land of Plenty*.

FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Bob Hudson
Bob Hudson is a senior editor at large for Zondervan. He has authored or co-authored three books, including *The Christian Writer’s Manual of Style*. His poems and essays have appeared in *The Seneca Review, Christianity Today*, and many other journals.

FRIDAY 11:30 AM

Mary Hulst @PastorMary2U
Mary Hulst is the chaplain of Calvin College and an assistant professor of preaching at Calvin Theological Seminary.

SATURDAY 11:30 AM

Katherine Bolger Hyde
Katherine Bolger Hyde is a novelist as well as an acquisitions editor for Ancient Faith Publishing.

SATURDAY 2:00 PM

Randal Maurice Jelks @drjelks
Randal Maurice Jelks is professor of American Studies and African and African American Studies at the University of Kansas. He is also the author of the biography *Benjamin Elijah Mays: Schoolmaster of the Movement*.

THURSDAY 3:15 PM

Al Hsu
Al Hsu is senior editor for IVP Books at InterVarsity Press and the author of *Singles at the Crossroads: A Fresh Perspective on Christian Singleness; Grieving a Suicide: A Loved One’s Search for Comfort, Answers, and Hope;* and *The Suburban Christian: Finding Spiritual Vitality in the Land of Plenty*.

FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Kimberly Johnson @MarciRaeJohnson
Kimberly Johnson is a poet, translator, literary critic, and a professor of Renaissance literature and creative writing at Brigham Young University in Utah. She is also the author of two collections of poetry: *A Metaphorical God* and *Leviathan with a Hook*.

FRIDAY 10:00 AM
FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Marci Johnson
Marci Johnson teaches in the English department at Valparaiso University in Indiana, where she serves as poetry editor for *The Cresset*. She is also the poetry editor for WordFarm Press. Her poems have been published in numerous literary journals, and her first poetry collection, *The Eyes the Window*, was released last year.

SATURDAY 11:30 AM

Devin Johnston
Devin Johnston is the author of several collections of poetry, including *Sources and Traveler*, as well as a book of essays on the natural world titled *Creaturely*. With Michael O’Leary, he directs Flood Editions, a non-profit publishing house, and is a professor of English at Saint Louis University in Missouri.

SATURDAY 8:30 AM
SATURDAY 11:30 AM
Linn Maxwell Keller
Mezzo-soprano Linn Maxwell Keller has performed with major orchestras and opera companies across the United States and in twenty-five foreign countries. She has performed her one-woman show, Hildegard of Bingen and the Living Light, more than eighty-five times, accompanying herself on authentic medieval instruments.
FRIDAY 2:00 PM

Ron Koertge @ronkoertge
Ron Koertge is the author of several books of poetry as well as numerous young adult novels, including Stoner and Spaz, Shakespeare Bats Cleanup, The Arizona Kid, and, most recently, Coaltown Jesus. He lives in California and is on the faculty of Pasadena City College.
THURSDAY 1:45 PM
FRIDAY 10:00 AM

Kimberly Kolbe
Kimberly Kolbe is a poet and the managing editor of New Issues Poetry and Prose. Previously, she served as poetry editor for Third Coast.
SATURDAY 11:30 AM

Andrew Krivak
Andrew Krivak is the author of the novel The Sojourn and the memoir A Long Retreat: In Search of a Religious Life. He has taught at Harvard University, Boston College, and the College of the Holy Cross, and currently lives with his family in Massachusetts.
FRIDAY 10:00 AM
FRIDAY 11:30 AM

William Kent Krueger @WmKentKrueger
William Kent Krueger is the author of the recent novel Ordinary Grace, as well as the thirteen books in the Cork O’Connor mystery series. Krueger lives in Minnesota and is currently working on a companion novel to Ordinary Grace.
FRIDAY 8:30 AM
SATURDAY 2:00 PM

Johanna Kuyvenhoven
Author of In the Presence of Each Other: A Pedagogy of Storytelling, Johanna Kuyvenhoven is an associate professor of education at Calvin College.
FRIDAY 2:00 PM

Anne Lamott @annelamott
Anne Lamott is the author of more than a dozen books of fiction and non-fiction, including Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life, Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith, Imperfect Birds, and, most recently, Stitches: A Handbook on Meaning, Hope, and Repair.
FRIDAY 7:30 PM
SATURDAY 11:30 AM

Amy Leach
Amy Leach’s non-fiction work has appeared in A Public Space, Tin House, Orion, and The Los Angeles Review, among others. Her first book, a collection of essays titled Things That Are, was published last year.
SATURDAY 11:30 AM
SATURDAY 3:30 PM

John Leax
John Leax has published several volumes of poetry, including Remembering Jesus: Sonnets and Songs; a collection of nature essays; and several non-fiction works, including Writing Home. He is an emeritus professor of English at Houghton College in New York.
FRIDAY 10:00 AM
SATURDAY 11:30 AM

Helen Lee @HelenLeeAuthor
A former editor at Christianity Today, Helen Lee is the author of The Missional Mom: Living with Purpose at Home and in the World. She is a speaker and frequent contributor to several books, devotionals, and other publications.
FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Bret Lott
Bret Lott is the author of fourteen books, including the essay collection Letters and Life: On Being a Writer, On Being a Christian and the novels Jewel and Dead Low Tide. He also serves as the non-fiction editor for Crazyhorse and is a professor of English at the College of Charleston in South Carolina.
FRIDAY 8:30 AM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM
**Ashley Lucas**  [@razorwirewoman](https://twitter.com/razorwirewoman)
Ashley Lucas is the author of an ethnographic play about the families of prisoners, *Doin’ Time: Through the Visiting Glass*, and co-editor of the essay collection *Razor Wire Women: Prisoners, Activists, Scholars, and Artists*. She is an associate professor at the University of Michigan, where she directs the Prison Creative Arts Project.

- **Thursday 4:30 PM**
- **Thursday 7:30 PM**
- **Saturday 2:00 PM**

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**Charles Marsh**
Charles Marsh is a professor of religious studies and the director of the Project on Lived Theology at the University of Virginia. He has also authored numerous books, including *God’s Long Summer: Stories of Faith and Civil Rights* and, most recently, *Strange Glory: A Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*.

- **Thursday 4:30 PM**
- **Friday 10:00 AM**
- **Saturday 10:00 AM**

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**Peter Marty**
Peter Marty is the senior pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Iowa and the author of *The Anatomy of Grace*. He is a frequent contributor to *The Christian Century* and is lead columnist for *The Lutheran*.

- **Friday 11:30 AM**
- **Saturday 10:00 AM**

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**James McBride**
Writer, musician, and screenwriter James McBride is the author of numerous books, including the memoir *The Color of Water: A Black Man’s Tribute to His White Mother* and the novels *Song Yet Sung* and, most recently, *The Good Lord Bird*, which won the National Book Award for fiction.

- **Thursday 3:15 PM**
- **Thursday 3:15 PM**

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**Bromleigh McCleneghan**
Bromleigh McCleneghan is a pastor and the associate for congregational life at Rockefeller Memorial Chapel at the University of Chicago and the co-author of *Hopes and Fears: Everyday Theology for New Parents and Other Tired, Anxious People*.

- **Thursday 3:15 PM**

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**Okey Ndibe**  [@okeyndibe](https://twitter.com/okeyndibe)
Fiction writer, journalist, and poet Okey Ndibe is the author of two novels, *Arrows of Rain* and *Foreign Gods, Inc.*, and the founding editor of *African Commentary*. He is currently a visiting professor at Brown University in Rhode Island.

- **Friday 2:00 PM**
- **Saturday 3:30 PM**

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**Marilyn Nelson**
Poet Marilyn Nelson is the author of numerous books for both adults and children, including *Carver: A Life in Poems*, *A Wreath for Emmett Till, Faster Than Light*, and, most recently, *How I Discovered Poetry*. She is professor emerita of English at the University of Connecticut and the founder of Soul Mountain Retreat.

- **Saturday 8:30 AM**
- **Saturday 11:30 AM**

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**Hannah Faith Notess**
Hannah Faith Notess is the author of the poetry chapbook *Ghost House*, editor of the essay collection *Jesus Girls: True Tales of Growing Up Female and Evangelical*, and managing editor of Seattle Pacific University’s *Response* magazine.

- **Friday 11:30 AM**

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**Geoffrey Nutter**  [@geoffreynutter](https://twitter.com/geoffreynutter)
Geoffrey Nutter is the author of four poetry collections, the most recent of which is *The Rose of January*. His poems have been widely published in journals and anthologized. He teaches creative writing at New York University.

- **Thursday 1:45 PM**
- **Thursday 3:15 PM**

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**Peter Orner**  [@Peter_Orner](https://twitter.com/Peter_Orner)
Peter Orner is the author of the short story collections *Last Car over the Sagamore Bridge* and *Esther Stories* as well as the novels *Love and Shame and Love* and *The Second Coming of Mavala Shikongo*. He teaches in the creative writing program at San Francisco State University in California.

- **Saturday 11:30 AM**
- **Saturday 2:00 PM**
Mitali Perkins @MitaliPerkins
Mitali Perkins is the author of several books for young adult readers, including *The Not-So-Star-Spangled Life of Sunita Sen*, *Bamboo People*, and the forthcoming *Tiger Boy*. 
FRIDAY 10:00 AM
FRIDAY 3:30 PM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM

Cornelius Plantinga, Jr.
Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., is senior research fellow at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship. His books include *Engaging God’s World: A Christian Vision of Faith, Learning, and Living*, *Not the Way It’s Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin*, and *Reading for Preaching: The Preacher in Conversation with Storytellers, Biographers, Poets, and Journalists*. 
FRIDAY 2:00 PM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM

Shannon Huffman Polson @ABorderLife
Shannon Huffman Polson is the author of the memoir *North of Hope: A Daughter’s Arctic Journey*. Her essays and articles have appeared in the *Huffington Post*, *High Country News*, and *Alaska Magazine*, and have been anthologized in *More Than 85 Broads* and *Be There Now: Travel Stories from Around the World*. 
THURSDAY 3:15 PM
FRIDAY 10:00 AM
FRIDAY 11:30 AM

John T. Price
John T. Price is the author of three memoirs, the most recent of which is *Daddy Long Legs: The Natural Education of a Father*. Forthcoming in June is his edited volume, *The Tallgrass Prairie Reader*. A professor of English at the University of Nebraska–Omaha, he lives with his family in western Iowa. 
FRIDAY 11:30 AM
SATURDAY 11:30 AM

Karen Swallow Prior @LoveLifeLitGod
FRIDAY 11:30 AM
FRIDAY 2:00 PM

Sarah Ruden
Classics scholar Sarah Ruden is a translator, poet, and author. Her books include *Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time* and a collection of poems, *Other Places*. She has also published translations of several Greek and Roman classics, including *The Aeneid*. 
THURSDAY 1:45 PM
SATURDAY 8:30 AM

Tania Runyan @TaniaRunyan
Tania Runyan is the author of four poetry collections, the most recent of which is *Second Sky*. Her poems have appeared in numerous publications, including *Poetry*, *Image*, *The Christian Century*, and *Indiana Review*. 
FRIDAY 2:00 PM
SATURDAY 8:30 AM

Pam Muñoz Ryan @PamMunozRyan
Pam Muñoz Ryan has written more than thirty books for young people, including *Esperanza Rising*, *Becoming Naomi León*, *The Dreamer*, and, most recently, *Riding Freedom*. 
FRIDAY 11:30 AM
FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Stephanie Sandberg
Stephanie Sandberg is a director and dramaturge of new plays at Calvin College, where she has developed more than a dozen new scripts for the stage. Currently, she is a guest artist at Western Michigan University, where she is developing a new play on the subject of white privilege. 
FRIDAY 2:00 PM
SATURDAY 2:00 PM
Karen Saupe @ksaupe
A professor of English at Calvin College, Karen Saupe teaches English literature and directs the college’s Rhetoric Center.
FRIDAY 3:30 PM

Valerie Sayers
Valerie Sayers is the author of six novels, including *Who Do You Love*, *Brain Fever*, and, most recently, *The Powers*. She is chair of the English department at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana.
SATURDAY 8:30 AM
SATURDAY 11:30 AM

James Schaap
James Schaap is the author of more than twenty books, including *Things We Couldn’t Say*, *Romey’s Place*, and *Touches the Sky*. A new collection of stories, *Up the Hill*, will be released this summer.
SATURDAY 8:30 AM
SATURDAY 11:30 AM

Luke Schelhaas
Luke Schelhaas is a writer and producer best known for his work on the television series *Law and Order*. Currently, he is co-executive producer of the CBS drama *The Good Wife*. He also co-wrote the feature film *Lockport*, which he hopes to produce in the fall.
FRIDAY 3:30 PM
SATURDAY 2:00 PM

Luci Shaw
Luci Shaw has published several volumes of poetry, including *What the Light Was Like*, *Harvesting Fog*, and, most recently, *Scape*. She has also written several non-fiction works, including *Adventure of Ascent: Field Notes from a Lifelong Journey*. She is writer in residence at Regent College in British Columbia.
FRIDAY 11:30 AM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM

Raymond Singer
Raymond Singer is a screenwriter whose work includes Disney’s *Mulan*; HBO’s *Iron Jawed Angels*; Dreamworks’ *Joseph, King of Dreams*; and several made-for-television movies. His most recent project is the documentary film *Ground Operations: Battlefields to Farmfields*.
THURSDAY 4:30 PM
FRIDAY 11:30 AM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM

C. Christopher Smith @ERBks
C. Christopher Smith is founding editor of *The Englewood Review of Books* and co-author of the forthcoming *Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus*.
THURSDAY 1:45 PM

Julia Spencer-Fleming @JSpencerFleming
Mystery writer Julia Spencer-Fleming is the author of the eight books in the *Millers Kill* mystery series, including *In the Bleak Midwinter*, *A Fountain Filled with Blood*, and, most recently, *Through the Evil Days*.
THURSDAY 4:30 PM
FRIDAY 8:30 AM

Margot Starbuck @MargotStarbuck
Margot Starbuck is the author of five books, including *Not Who I Imagined: Surprised by a Loving God* and *The Girl in the Orange Dress: Searching for a Father Who Does Not Fail*. She is also a regular contributor to *Today’s Christian Woman* and an editorial advisor for *Gifted for Leadership*.
THURSDAY 3:15 PM
SATURDAY 3:30 PM

Rachel Marie Stone @Rachel_M_Stone
Rachel Marie Stone is a professor of writing at Zomba Theological College in Malawi, Africa, and the author of several books, including *Eat with Joy: Redeeming God’s Gift of Food*. Her writing has appeared in several publications, including *The Huffington Post*, *Relevant*, and *Christianity Today*.
THURSDAY 1:45 PM
FRIDAY 2:00 PM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM
John Suk  @DrJohnSuk
Formerly the editor of The Banner, the magazine of the Christian Reformed Church, John Suk is the author of Not Sure: A Pastor's Journey From Faith to Doubt. He is currently pastor of the United Church of Canada's Lawrence Park Community Church in Ontario.

Susan vine  @susan_vine

Mary Szybist
Mary Szybist is the author of two poetry collections: Granted and Incarnadine, which received the National Book Award for poetry. She is a professor in the English department at Lewis and Clark College in Oregon.

Daniel Taylor
Daniel Taylor is the author of several books, including The Myth of Certainty, Letters to My Children, Tell Me a Story: The Life-Shaping Power of Our Stories, and, most recently, The Skeptical Believer: Telling Stories to Your Inner Atheist. He is also the co-founder of the Legacy Center and a contributing editor for Books and Culture.

David Urban
David Urban is a professor of English at Calvin College, specializing in Renaissance and seventeenth-century British literature. He is the co-editor of Visionary Milton: Essays on Prophecy and Violence and is at work on a book titled Through the Real: Embracing or Evading the Finite in Shakespeare, Milton, Hawthorne, and Modern Drama.

Jon Sweeney  @jonmsweeney
Jon Sweeney is the editor in chief of Paraclete Press, as well as the author of several books, including The Pope Who Quit: A True Medieval Tale of Mystery, Death, and Salvation. He has also co-authored two books: Mixed-Up Love: Relationships, Family, and Religious Identity in the 21st Century, with his wife, Rabbi Michal Woll, and The Spirit of the Age, with Phyllis Tickle.

Randy Testa
Randy Testa is vice president of education and professional development at Walden Media, a film production company based in Massachusetts.

James Vanden Bosch
James Vanden Bosch is a professor of English at Calvin College whose areas of specialization include grammar and linguistics.

Thomas Troeger
A professor at Yale Divinity School, Thomas Troeger has written twenty books in the fields of preaching, poetry, hymnody, and worship. He is a frequent contributor to journals dedicated to these topics and is a monthly columnist for Lectionary Homiletics and The American Organist.

Kirsten Vander Giessen-Reitsma
Kirsten Vander Giessen-Reitsma is the author of Eat Well: A Food Road Map and the editor of Catapult magazine, a bi-weekly, online publication of *culture is not optional, whose work also includes an intentional community in Michigan.

Miroslav Volf  @MiroslavVolf
Theologian Miroslav Volf is the author of numerous books, including Exclusion and Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation and A Public Faith: How Followers of Christ Should Serve the Common Good. He is a professor at Yale Divinity School and the founding director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture.
Jeanne Murray Walker  
@jmurraywalker
Jeanne Murray Walker is the author of seven volumes of poetry, several plays, an edited volume on literature and the life of faith, and a memoir, *The Geography of Memory: A Journey Through Alzheimer’s*. She is a professor of English at the University of Delaware.

- **FRIDAY 3:30 PM**
- **SATURDAY 10:00 AM**

Valerie Weaver-Zercher
Valerie Weaver-Zercher is the author of *Thrill of the Chaste: The Allure of Amish Romance Novels*. She is a regular book reviewer for *The Christian Century*, a contributing editor at *Sojourners*, and managing editor of trade books for Herald Press.

- **THURSDAY 1:45 PM**
- **FRIDAY 2:00 PM**

Carolyn Weber  
@CarolynWeber
Carolyn Weber is an author, speaker, professor, wife, and mother of four who has published two memoirs: *Surprised by Oxford: A Memoir* and *Holy Is the Day: Living in the Gift of the Present*.

- **FRIDAY 11:30 AM**

Sarah Wells  
@sarah_wells
Sarah Wells is the author of the poetry collection *Pruning Burning Bushes* and the managing editor for Ashland Poetry Press and for *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*.

- **SATURDAY 11:30 AM**

Laura Lapins Willis  
@SewaneeLaura
Laura Lapins Willis is a writer, a community organizer, and the author of *Finding God in a Bag of Groceries: Sharing Food, Discovering Grace*. She is also the editor and co-publisher of the *Sewanee Mountain Messenger*, a free, weekly community newspaper.

- **FRIDAY 2:00 PM**

John Wilson  
@jwilson1812
John Wilson is the editor of *Books and Culture* and an editor at large for *Christianity Today*. His reviews and essays have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Boston Globe*, and *First Things*, among others.

- **THURSDAY 1:45 PM**
- **SATURDAY 8:30 AM**

G. Willow Wilson  
@GWillowWilson
G. Willow Wilson is the author of the novel *Alif the Unseen*, the memoir *The Butterfly Mosque: A Young American Woman’s Journey to Love and Islam*, and the graphic novel *Cairo*. She is currently writing the monthly comic book series *Ms. Marvel* for Marvel Comics.

- **SATURDAY 10:00 AM**
- **SATURDAY 2:00 PM**

Gene Luen Yang  
@geneluenyang
Graphic novelist Gene Luen Yang is best known for his book *American Born Chinese*, which was the first graphic novel nominated for a National Book Award. His two-volume graphic novel, *Boxers and Saints*, published last year, was also a National Book Award finalist.

- **THURSDAY 12:00 PM**
- **THURSDAY 4:30 PM**

Addie Zierman  
@addiezierman
Addie Zierman is a faith blogger and the author of the debut memoir *When We Were on Fire*. Her writing has appeared in numerous journals, including *The Literary Bohemian*, *Rock and Sling*, and *Relief*.

- **FRIDAY 11:30 AM**

Michele Wood
Artist Michele Wood is the illustrator of several children’s books, including *Going Back Home: An Artist Returns to the South*, *I See the Rhythm*, and *I Lay My Stitches Down: Poems of American Slavery*.

- **FRIDAY 8:30 AM**
- **FRIDAY 2:00 PM**

Adrianna Wright  
@adriannawright
Adrianna Wright, an online publicist for InterVarsity Press, is responsible for creating online publicity for all the books that InterVarsity Press publishes. She also coaches IVP authors on how to develop a strong online presence and capitalize on their networks.

- **SATURDAY 10:00 AM**
Below is the schedule of book signings for Festival 2014 presenters. Note that some of the signings will take place in the Prince Conference Center Lobby, while others will be in the Calvin College Campus Store.

Signings for James McBride and Anne Lamott will take place after their solo sessions at Van Noord Arena. Signings for Miroslav Volf and Rachel Held Evans will take place after their solo sessions in the Covenant Fine Arts Center. Books will be for sale in both venues before and after the lectures.

Michele Wood will sign books at the Center Art Gallery on Friday at 4:45 pm. Her books will be available for sale at the gallery during the signing.

Although books will be available for sale at all of the signing venues, we strongly encourage Festival participants to purchase their books in advance of the signings they plan to attend. This will save everyone some time and help the signings go smoothly.

To meet all your book-buying needs, both Festival Marketplace locations—at the Prince Conference Center and in the Campus Store—will be open from 8:00 am to 7:30 pm on Thursday and Friday, and from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday.
We are pleased to welcome the following exhibitors to Festival 2014. Please be sure to visit them in the exhibition hall, located in the **Prince Conference Center Great Hall**.

**EXHIBITION HALL HOURS**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10**
9:00 AM–6:00 PM

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**
9:00 AM–6:00 PM

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12**
9:00 AM–6:00 PM

Abingdon Press: 30
Antler/The Other Journal: 13
Ave Maria Press: 14
Baker Publishing Group: 7, 8, 9
Book Rescue Ink: 32
Calvin College Admissions Office: 52
Calvin Institute of Christian Worship: 51
Christian Century: 42
*culture is not optional: 26
Discovery House Publishers: 38
Doulos Resources: 25
Earlham School of Religion: 28
Eighth Day Books: 20, 21, 22, 23

The Englewood Review of Books: 5
Fresh Air/Upper Room Books: 2
God’s Song: 29
Harvester Island Wilderness Workshop: 44
InterVarsity Press: 36
James Lamborn: 33
Lion Hudson: 18
Loyola Press: 10
New Issues Poetry and Prose: 35
Principia Media, LLC: 4
Relief: A Christian Literary Expression: 12
Rock and Sling: 31
Ruminate Magazine: 24

Seattle Pacific University MFA Program/ Image Journal: 11
smallsmallacts.com: 6
WestBow Press: 43
Whidbey Writers Workshop/ Breathe Christian Writers Conference: 27
Wipf and Stock Publishers: 3
Windhover: A Journal of Christian Literature: 37
Wiseblood Books: 34
Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company: 15, 16, 17
WordFarm: 19
Zondervan: 1
Aspiring writers may want to attend our exhibitor presentations. These sessions provide an informal way to find out more about particular publishers and organizations, and to explore other writing-related opportunities. Participants will hear from staff members from represented organizations, learn more about their aims and their audience, and ask practical questions.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10**

**BOOK RESCUE INK**
10:30-10:50 am  
President’s Dining Room

**WESTBOW PRESS**
10:50-11:10 am  
Prince Board Room

**BAKER PUBLISHING GROUP**
11:10-11:30 am  
President’s Dining Room

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**

**CULTURE IS NOT OPTIONAL**
12:40-1:00 pm  
President’s Dining Room

**EARLHAM SCHOOL OF RELIGION**
1:00-1:20 pm  
Prince Board Room

**WORDFARM**
1:20-1:40 pm  
President’s Dining Room

**INTERVARSITY PRESS**
5:05-5:25 pm  
Prince Board Room

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12**

**RUMINATE**
12:40-1:00 pm  
Prince Board Room

**LION HUDSON**
1:00-1:20 pm  
President’s Dining Room

**SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY**
LOW-RESIDENCY MFA IN WRITING
1:20-1:40 pm  
Prince Board Room
Festival Circles are small groups that meet twice during the Festival to discuss a topic of common interest. The circles run from 6:00 to 7:00 pm on Thursday and from 12:45 to 1:45 pm on Saturday. While some circles filled up during the pre-registration period, others are still open to additional participants. These open circles—noted with an asterisk—welcome additional members to join the conversation.

The Art and Science of Memoir
S.J. Holsteen
Covenant Fine Arts Center 222

*Author-Audience Relationships
Deborah Leiter Nyabuti
Covenant Fine Arts Center 227

Building a Platform
Jacci Turner
Covenant Fine Arts Center 230

Calling All Slow Dazzlers:
Why Literary Writing Matters
Susanna Childress
Covenant Fine Arts Center 251

*Contemporary Film Criticism
Josh Larsen
Covenant Fine Arts Center 254

ECOntemplation: Nature as Writing
Discipline and Inspiration
Cindy K. Steffen
Covenant Fine Arts Center 255

Editors’ Roundtable
Martie Bradley
Covenant Fine Arts Center 264

*Expert Writer, Lay Audience
Marcia Bosscher, Sara Phillips
Hiemenga Hall 315

Go NaNoWriMo! How National Novel Writing Month Fuels Motivation, Accountability, and Creativity
Sarah Arthur
Hiemenga Hall 316

*Journal-Keeping for Writers
Louise Monacelli
Hiemenga Hall 317

Keep Writing That Book
Heather Bouwman
Hiemenga Hall 320

*The Narrative of Leaving Fundamentalism
Liz Boltz Ranfeld
Hiemenga Hall 321

*The Part-Time Writer
J. Brent Bill
Hiemenga Hall 323

*The Search for Inspiration
D.S. Martin
Hiemenga Hall 334

*The Spiritual Life of the Writer
Tara M. Owens
Hiemenga Hall 335

*Suffering and Salve: Writing and Believing in Seasons of Illness and Pain
Kristin Brace, Kendra Juskus
Hiemenga Hall 336

*Trash: Genre Fiction, Pulp, and Other Maligned Writing
Tiffany Eberle Kriner
Hiemenga Hall 366

Troll-Proofing Your Online Writing
Ellen Painter Dollar, Jennifer Grant
Covenant Fine Arts Center 252

*Writing and Motherhood
Julia Roller
Hiemenga Hall 429

Writing from Faith: How to Do It and How to Teach It
Patty Kirk
Hiemenga Hall 430

*Writing on Faith and Religious Wounding
Margaret Manning
Hiemenga Hall 431
9:00 AM  
REGISTRATION DESK OPENS  
*Prince Conference Center Lobby*

10:00-10:20 AM  
CHAPEL SERVICE  
Scott Cairns leads a time of prayer and reflection for the Calvin community and Festival guests.  
*Chapel*

10:30-11:15 AM  
PRE-FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES  

♫ **festival sampler**  
In this session, several authors offer a preview of Festival 2014 by reading brief excerpts from their work.  
*Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium*

♫ **new attendee reception**  
If this is your first time at the Festival, we’d like to welcome you and answer any questions you may have about how best to enjoy all that Festival 2014 has to offer.  
*Willow Room*

12:00-1:15 PM  
OPENING PLENARY SESSION  
Is Art Selfish?  
GENE LUEN YANG  
The Wiersma Memorial Lecture  
*Van Noord Arena*

1:45-2:45 PM  
CONCURRENT SESSIONS  

SUZANNE WOODS FISHER, VALERIE WEAVER-ZERCHER  
What makes Amish fiction so popular? Is it the simple life, the innocent romance, the pastoral setting? Amish fiction writer Suzanne Woods Fisher and researcher Valerie Weaver-Zercher dig deep into the Amish fiction phenomenon for answers that go beyond the popular novels and offer us a look into our own psyches.  
*Seminary Chapel*

♫ **Inside Out: Writing in Place**  
CHRISTINE BYL  
A seasonal trail worker with the National Park Service, Christine Byl worked in parks in Montana and Alaska for twelve years before she began writing a book about her experience. In doing so, she encountered a number of questions: What are an author’s responsibilities to a community she is both a member of and an observer of? Is it possible to write on behalf of wilderness? Join a discussion at the intersection of culture, work, language, and land.  
*Seminary Auditorium*

♫ **The Novel in Verse and the Reluctant Reader**  
RON KOERTGE  
Why would an author who writes for young adult readers—a group that can be difficult to engage—choose to write a novel in verse that engages serious questions about belief? What is it about this form that attracts young adults, even as it both challenges and amuses them? This session explores the advantages and disadvantages of addressing serious issues in verse form.  
*Alumni Association Board Room*
A Reading: Geoffrey Nutter
*Swets Choral Hall*

Rediscovering, Representing, and Re-Presenting the Bible: Finding a Place Between Sensationalism and Sentiment
SARAH RUDEN
What is behind the text of the Bible? And what does the Bible really mean—in history, for modern society, and for you? How can authors who write about the Bible, or present the Bible within writing on other topics, deal with issues of scholarly authenticity and personal belief while addressing a range of readers’ spiritual needs—and the simple desire for more information? Translator, poet, and essayist Sarah Ruden shares her experiences and invites insights on the gifts and boundaries that the Bible offers to writers.
*Commons Lecture Hall*

**Resisting Speed: The Benefits of Slow Reading**
LESLIE LEYLAND FIELDS, C. CHRISTOPHER SMITH, RACHEL MARIE STONE, JOHN WILSON
Amid a growing tide of “slow” movements that seek to resist the destructive powers of speed in Western culture (Slow Food, Slow Money, Slow Parenting, Slow Church, and so on), there has been an emerging interest over the last few years in Slow Reading. Panel members introduce Slow Reading, discuss their own experiences with it, and explore its benefits for both readers and writers.
*Recital Hall*

Writing About Human Tragedy from a Spiritual Space
UWEM AKPAN
How do writers of fiction effectively explore human tragedy in their work? And what kinds of spiritual resources are needed to do that well? Akpan discusses his own experiences of creating stories out of difficult and overwhelming themes.
*Chapel*

Writing as a Way of Knowing
SCOTT CAIRNS
Many readers are under the impression that writers begin with an idea and that their writings are simply a means by which they express those ideas to others. The truth, more nearly, is that writers have developed a particular discipline by which the act of writing leads them to new apprehension. Using examples and readings from his own work, Scott Cairns discusses the discipline of writing as a way of knowing.
*Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium*

**2:45–3:15 PM**
**COFFEE BREAK**
*Commons Lecture Hall Lobby, Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room*

3:15–4:15 PM
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Book Proposal 101: The Nuts and Bolts of Crafting an Effective Proposal**
MARGOT STARBUCK
For participants who pre-registered.
*Hickory Room*

**An Interview with James McBride**
Historian Randal Maurice Jelks talks with James McBride about the task of the writer—and about the explorations of American slavery, gender identity and inequality, and religion in McBride’s novel *The Good Lord Bird*.
*Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium*

**Negative Capability and Radical Uncertainty**
GEOFFREY NUTTER
A kind of radical uncertainty is necessary to connect to ourselves and to the world around us. It allows us to feel sympathy with the world and to experience beauty. Poetry, with its ambivalences—its special sort of resistance to being readily reduced and comprehended—can enact the spontaneity of the mind at play and allow us to hear the music of consciousness. This discussion touches on poets from Vaughan and Herbert through Wordsworth, Keats, Dickinson, Stevens, and Ashbery, and explores how they have turned this radical uncertainty into an art that bodies forth that music, revealing direct evidence of an intangible soul’s contact with the tangible world.
*Swets Choral Hall*
Old Facts, Fresh Stories: A Conversation
TRACY GROOT, DEBORAH HEILIGMAN
Writers of historical fiction wrestle with the past while creating a story for the present. Successful writers frequently discover that old facts trigger new ideas. In this conversation, authors Deborah Heiligman and Tracy Groot share the secrets and challenges of creating historical stories for audiences both young and old.
Recital Hall

Picturing the Invisible: Notes on the Power of The Giver
RANDY TESTA
In this preview of the film version of Lois Lowry’s The Giver, Randy Testa explores the story as an important paradox for Christian audiences. Set in a world without God and without “love,” The Giver nonetheless powerfully explores how God’s presence is gradually made known to the story’s hero in the futuristic community in which the book is set. The film underscores the observation by Flannery O’Connor that “it is what is invisible that God sees, and that the Christian must look for.” This session examines how this story helps people of faith—and young people in particular—“picture the invisible.” (This session is repeated on Friday at 10:00 am.)
Bytwerk Theatre

Pushing the Boundaries: Writing Faithfully About Sex
BENJAMIN DUEHOLM, AMY FRYK HOLM, BROMLEIGH MCCLEN EG HAN
When faithful people want to write about sex, they have some tools and models at their disposal: the descriptions of both the Song of Songs and Teresa of Avila, the pastoral theology of Rob Bell and Lauren Winner. But questions abound: What’s appropriate? What should remain private? What will my pastor or mother or community think? What stories reflect my theology? The panelists reflect on best practices, both theological and narrative, for writing about this most personal and universal topic.
Willow Room

The Use of Story in Popular Apologetics: Why It Works and How to Do It
DANIEL TAYLOR
There has been an explosion of books of popular apologetics in the last twenty years. In our postmodern context, these books have increasingly used story and memoir as their central strategy, as opposed to close propositional reasoning. In this session Daniel Taylor explores why stories work better than propositions in our time and offers specific strategies for using story to speak powerfully of the things of faith and the spirit.
Chapel

Writing as Lament
SHANNON HUFFMAN POLSON
Writing about a traumatic experience brings not only unique challenges but also unique gifts. When writing leads us deep into difficult places, what can we learn from the process, and how can we share those emerging lessons with readers? Shannon Huffman Polson considers how the writing of her recent memoir brought her deeper into lament—and into a changed understanding of her faith.
Commons Lecture Hall

Ground Operations: Battlefields to Farmfields
RAYMOND SINGER
America’s veterans are returning from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with a host of physical, psychological, and emotional issues, taxing the diminishing and unprepared resources of the Veterans Administration. But the veterans themselves are finding ways to help their own. This documentary film tells the story of a growing number of veterans who’ve discovered farming to be a healing transition and, through the creation of a safe, local food supply, a worthy new mission of service to America. A Q&A with filmmaker Raymond Singer follows the screening.
Bytwerk Theatre

An Illustration of Grace
RICHARD COWDREY
Artist Richard Cowdrey shares God’s intervention in his life, his journey as a Christian illustrator, and his desire to honor Christ through excellence in his artwork and in his life. His story illustrates that artists of all kinds find peace and joy when they walk in the gifts and talents that God has given to them.
Prince Board Room

Imagining Justice: Arts Programming and Incarceration
ASHLEY LUCAS
The child of a prisoner, Ashley Lucas discusses the arts work that she, her students, and their collaborators do with currently and formerly incarcerated artists in Michigan prisons and beyond. The session focuses on the vital need for arts work that addresses the many issues surrounding mass incarceration and explores the idea that art is a human right to which all people, including those in prison, should have access.
Swets Choral Hall
An Interview with Gene Luen Yang
Gene Luen Yang talks with Don Hettinga about the graphic novel’s linkage of text and illustration. In a form dominated by superheroes and larger-than-life villains, Yang creates characters who are frightened, needy, and puzzled by the world around them—and then throws them together with the miraculous defined in a very different way. The conversation explores those meetings and their meanings, and the ways in which Yang’s work is affecting this dynamic form.
Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Shoots, Prays, Loves: The Clerical Mystery in the Modern World
JULIA SPENCER-FLEMING
Clerical mysteries have traditionally been "cozies"—gentler stories in which blood is absent and justice is served. Julia Spencer-Fleming’s Rev. Clare Fergusson, however, inhabits a world filled with violence, economic exploitation, and imperfect resolutions. This session explores how—and why—a deeply imperfect cleric and a darker milieu resonate with today’s readers.
Chapel

The Statues and the Temple: Some Notes on (the Absence of) Literary Culture
CHRISTOPHER BEHA
There is a great debate among today’s religious writers about the loss of a religious literary culture over the past half century. But perhaps these writers have it backwards. Has America’s literary culture lost its faith, or has our culture simply lost its faith in literature?
Willow Room

Writing a Compelling Spiritual Memoir
CHRISTINE BERGHOEF, JOHN SUK
Any editor will tell aspiring writers that manuscripts for “spiritual memoirs” abound—and that most go straight to the recycle bin. Still, there is a large market for this type of writing. What does it take to write a compelling, timely, thoughtful memoir, at either article or book length? Two writers who have published both books and articles about their lives provide some advice.
Recital Hall

Writing the Lives of Others
CHARLES MARSH
What unique challenges do biographers face in researching, writing, and telling other people’s secrets, especially when their subjects are beloved and inspiring—yet complex and imperfect? Historian Charles Marsh discusses his portrait of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and explores how to write fully and graciously about complicated individuals with saintly images.
Commons Lecture Hall

6:00-7:00 PM
FESTIVAL CIRCLES
For participants who pre-registered. (See full listing, with room locations, on page 26.)

7:30-8:30 PM
PLENARY SESSION

Faith and American Slavery: The Life of John Brown
JAMES MCBRIDE
The Baron Lecture
Van Noord Arena

9:00 PM
EVENING ACTIVITIES

poetry readings
These open-microphone poetry readings are limited to ten minutes each. Sign up at the registration desk by 6:00 pm. Listeners are welcome.
Hickory Room

student readings
Hosted by the Festival 2014 student committee, these open-microphone readings—of work in any genre and open to all undergraduate students—are limited to five minutes each. Refreshments will be served. Sign up at the registration desk by 6:00 pm.
Covenant Fine Arts Center Upper East Lobby
8:30–9:30 AM
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

The Ecology of Narrative: On Nature as Analogue for Spiritual Writing
FRED BAHNSON
Like Walt Whitman, the genre of literary non-fiction is large—it contains multitudes. In this session, Fred Bahnson explores the ways in which the demands of a narrative—in his case, a spiritual pilgrimage among Trappist monks, Jewish organic farmers, Mayan coffee growers, and Pentecostal convicts—can lead to the effective use of various non-fiction forms and techniques. He also shares why mycelium is his favorite metaphor for prayer.
Commons Lecture Hall

The Facts About Faith: Journalism and Living a Meaningful Life
ELIZA GRISWOLD
In her work as a poet and investigative journalist, Eliza Griswold focuses on themes of social justice and personal belief. In this session, she discusses the way in which three of her books—from her own poetry, to her reportage on religion in Africa, to her latest foray into the folk poetry of Afghan women—have shaped her personal understanding of faith and challenged readers to consider what it means to live a meaningful life.
Seminary Auditorium

How Much Is Too Much? Religion in Literature for Young Adults
DEBORAH HEILIGMAN
How do writers decide how—and how much—to engage with issues of faith in their work, especially when that work is written for a young adult audience? When faith is central to—but not the focus of—a story, how do authors not overwhelm young readers with too many details about religion or about God? Deborah Heiligman explores how she has answered these questions in both her non-fiction and fiction for young adult readers.
Swets Choral Hall

In His Image: Why Precision Matters
BRET LOTT
Precision is the most important element in crafting a piece of prose and in crafting a poem—in fact, in crafting any piece of writing, from an obituary to a grocery list to the name we give a new file on our computer. Novelist Bret Lott discusses how our being created in God’s image means that what we create must not be simply good enough and why courage, intuition, and faith are the foundations of precise writing.
Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Listening to Our Best Inner Critic: Musical Texts and the Writer
THOMAS TROEGER
How do writers of musical texts evaluate their work? In this session, Thomas Troeger explores three principles for evaluation—musicality, meaning and structure, and theological depth—and considers how work that manifests these qualities can give voice to the gospel amid what poet Geoffrey Hill calls “the acoustical din that surrounds us all.”
Recital Hall

Mortal Flesh: A Conversation
WILLIAM KENT KRUEGER, JULIA SPENCER-FLEMING
Those who acquire a taste for crime novels, whether readers or writers, tend to be avid and ardent fans. What is so compelling about human depravity? How might excellent crime fiction help us reflect on how people cope in extreme situations, at their worst and their best? Two prolific and award-winning crime/mystery writers discuss the challenges and opportunities of genre fiction, including engaging with current events and issues, mastering the craft, and creating community among authors and readers.
Chapel
**SCHEDULE: FRIDAY APRIL 11**

**Through a Child’s Eyes: The Process of Creating Picture Books**
RICHARD COWDREY, BARBARA HERNDON, KRISTINE NELSON, MICHELE WOOD
The interplay of text and pictures can delight young and old audiences alike. But what goes into the making of a picture book? And how do illustrators, authors, designers, and editors work together to create books that engage and enlighten even the youngest readers? Two illustrators, a designer, and an editor discuss the making of picture books.
*Prince Board Room*

**What Fiction Can Do**
SHARON GARLOUGH BROWN, HUGH COOK, TRACY GROOT
Why read fiction? Why write it? If it offers us more than entertainment, how do we describe its value for our lives and therefore know how much of ourselves to invest in it? Three authors of three very different novels talk about what fiction—both reading and writing it—can do for us and what they hope their own books will accomplish in the lives of their readers.
*Seminary Chapel*

**9:30-10:00 AM**
**COFFEE BREAK**
*Commons Lecture Hall Lobby, Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room*

**10:00-11:00 AM**
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Goad to Discovery: Reflections on Form**
JOHN LEAX
Choosing to write in closed forms often leads poets to frustration: “I can’t say what I want.” This session explores how openness to the demands of form can lead writers to possibilities larger than what they initially imagined. Using the context of Denise Levertov’s “Notes on Organic Form,” Wendell Berry’s “On Poetry and Marriage,” and the personal experience of writing sonnets in the voices of New Testament characters, John Leax illustrates how working in a predetermined form can make the process of writing more vital and the final voices of the poems more interesting.
*Willow Room*

**The Humiliation of the Word in Our Day**
RICHARD FOSTER
Focusing on the intimate relationship between the *debar Yahweh*—the Word of God—and human words, this session explores the many life-giving, even beautiful ways that relationship can help us overcome the trivialization and debasement of words occurring in our day.
*Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium*

**Loss Illuminating Hope: A Conversation**
ANDREW KRIVAK, SHANNON HUFFMAN POLSON
This conversation focuses on the ways in which genre, narrative structure, and tone can shine light through the clouds of grief, illuminating hope. Shannon Huffman Polson and Andrew Krivak discuss the task of writing about traumatic experience, both real and invented, and the attendant responsibility to both truthfulness and restraint.
*Bytwerk Theatre*

**Picturing the Invisible: Notes on the Power of The Giver**
RANDY TESTA
In this preview of the film version of Lois Lowry’s *The Giver*, Randy Testa explores the story as an important paradox for Christian audiences. Set in a world without God and without “love,” *The Giver* nonetheless powerfully explores how God’s presence is gradually made known to the story’s hero in the futuristic community in which the book is set. The film underscores the observation by Flannery O’Connor that “it is what is invisible that God sees, and that the Christian must look for.” This session examines how this story helps people of faith—and young people in particular—“picture the invisible.”
*Bytwerk Theatre*
Portraying Faith-Fraught Lives: The Limits and License of Genre
CARLENE BAUER, CHRISTOPHER BEHA, CHARLES MARSH
Fiction, biography, memoir, and journalism each offer possibilities and challenges for constructing characters—characters real, fictional, and blended versions of real and fictional. This panel explores three writers’ experiences with genre and character, with their characters’ stories of faith and doubt and devotion and dejection, asking how various genres augment and abate a writer’s palette.
Recital Hall

Power of the Word: Writing Toward Justice
UWEM AKPAN, ASHLEY LUCAS, MITALI PERKINS
Written work that demonstrates a concern for the poor, the marginalized, or the disenfranchised can sometimes be easily dismissed as preachy or moralistic. And yet this writing attempts something worthwhile. In this session, three writers from three different genres share their experiences of writing to effect change in their readers and in the world.
Seminary Chapel

A Reading: Ron Koertge
Prince Board Room

Reverence Without Curtsying: A Conversation
KIMBERLY JOHNSON, MARY SZYBIST
In this session, poets Mary Szybist and Kimberly Johnson discuss what motivates their religiously themed books Incarnadine and A Metaphorical God. They explore, among other things, the tension between reverence and irreverence in poetry, as well as the rewards and risks of the theologically loaded poem.
Commons Lecture Hall

Exposed: Stronger Writing Through Sharing Weakness
KAREN SWALLOW PRIOR, CARYN RIVADENEIRA, CAROLYN WEBER
Vulnerability—through telling stories others are too ashamed to tell, voicing opinions others are afraid even to think, creating characters steeped in our most secret thoughts and feelings—lies at the heart of great writing. But for Christians, risking vulnerability extends beyond the wish to be great writers. This panel discusses why Christian writers must risk vulnerability—and how to do it effectively.
Recital Hall

Going It Alone? The Role of Publishers in a Do-It-Yourself Marketplace
LIL COPAN, GREG DANIEL, BOB HUDSON, JON SWEENEY
With so many avenues available these days to aspiring writers who want to publish their work, what good are publishing houses to authors? And what is good—or not so good—about the new, flattened playing field for publishing? Three editors share their views on the changing role of publishing and its implications for both authors and the reading public.
Seminary Auditorium

Loving Our Neighbors and Enemies: Writing Toward Reconciliation
LESLIE LEYLAND FIELDS
For participants who pre-registered.
Hickory Room

Making Every Word Heart-Deep
PETER MARTY
George Herbert’s wise counsel to preachers that words be seasoned in the heart before getting released through the mouth makes beautiful sense for writers hungry for depth. In an age when external information shapes so much of how we think and act, how might character and other interior virtues lend promise to our writing? If we can avoid confusing holiness with morality and being nice, there is a good chance that our heart-deep words may actually affect the lives of others.
Commons Lecture Hall

Ground Operations: Battlefields to Farmfields
RAYMOND SINGER
America’s veterans are returning from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with a host of physical, psychological, and emotional issues, taxing the diminishing and unprepared resources of the Veterans Administration. But the veterans themselves are finding ways to help their own. This documentary film tells the story of a growing number of veterans who’ve discovered farming to be a healing transition and, through the creation of a safe, local food supply, a worthy new mission of service to America. A Q&A with filmmaker Raymond Singer follows the screening.
Bytwerk Theatre

11:30 AM–12:30 PM
CONCURRENT SESSIONS
**SCHEDULE: FRIDAY APRIL 11**

**The Nature of Spirit: Writing from the Wilder Side of Faith**  
JOHN T. PRICE
Where can we find the language with which to explore and express spiritual experiences? The answer might be crawling in the grass at our feet. In this session, John T. Price shares excerpts from his work and discusses the ways in which the natural world—whether individual creatures or entire ecosystems—has, from our childhoods on, been providing us with ways to better understand and share some of our most profound spiritual questions and experiences, ranging from joy to despair, laughter to lamentation.

*Seminary Chapel*

**What’s the Use of an MFA?**  
THOM CARAWAY, SUSANNA CHILDRESS, HANNAH FAITH NOTESS, SHANNON HUFFMAN POLSON, ADDIE ZIERMAN
Hundreds of colleges and universities now offer opportunities for graduate study in creative writing. But what do these programs offer? Are they tickets to literary fame and fortune (not likely), tenure-track jobs (hmm), or lifelong communities of writers (we hope)? Hear from panelists who earned graduate writing degrees at both low-residency and traditional programs. They discuss the benefits and drawbacks to their graduate education and answer questions about their experiences.

*Willow Room*

**Work That Enfaiths: Writing as an Entrance to Seen and Unseen**  
LUCI SHAW
How does exercising the gifts we’ve been given open us up to God’s spirit? Luci Shaw explores how writing can fulfill our relationship with God, helping us to see with him the world we inhabit together. If we have an open ear to receive what God is suggesting, our writing can become our spiritual discipline.

*Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium*
**2:00-3:00 PM**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**The Blessings of the Process**
**MICHELE WOOD**

When ideas come to artists, how do they know whether those ideas are worth pursuing? How do they know if the ideas are from God? Often, pursuing the seeds of an idea requires stepping out in faith, realizing that the process itself can be a blessing. Artist Michele Wood shares her journey of faith in the creation of one of her books.

*President's Dining Room*

**Fiction as an Act of Faith**
**CARLENE BAUER**

Now that science has explained pretty much everything we’d ever need to know about being human, and the internet allows us to constantly document even the most insignificant of moments, why do writers persist in making things up? Even when some of us suspect the novel might have exhausted its possibilities as a compelling art form, why do we continue to take to fiction as a way to comprehend our existence? It could be that fiction is one of the last places where both believers and non-believers, both writers and readers, can attempt to see the world in a sacramental light. Carlene Bauer discusses the leap of faith that is imagining characters and situations in a disenchanted world.

*Prince Board Room*

**Hildegard: The Trumpet of God**
**LINN MAXWELL KELLER, STEPHANIE SANDBERG**

This one-woman play with music examines Hildegard of Bingen’s uncanny and timely prophetic utterances about today’s world. Well known during her own lifetime for her gift of prophecy, she has an urgent message for the church today.

*Recital Hall*

**An Interview with Okey Ndibe**

Educator Jo Kuyvenhoven talks with Nigerian master storyteller and writer Okey Ndibe about God and the journeys we make—to buy and sell, find and lose, discover and hide, trample and raise . . . God in our lives.

*Seminary Chapel*

**Journalistic Journeys: The Writer as Guide**
**JEFF CHU, ELIZA GRISWOLD**

What role do journalists play in raising awareness of a topic or cause? As journalists, Jeff Chu and Eliza Griswold are committed to objectivity. But they have also written books that seek, in some way, to shine a light on a particular issue or place that is intimately tied to faith. When a journalist’s work intersects with religion or faith, what special challenges exist? Where is the line between advocacy and objectivity? And how do these writers view their own role in the stories they tell? Chu and Griswold talk candidly about these issues and what they hope their work in this arena accomplishes.

*Chapel*

**Palatable Words: Writing About Food with Sizzle and Grace**
**LESLEY LEYLAND FIELDS, RACHEL MARIE STONE, KIRSTIN VANDER GIESEN-REITSMA, LAURA LAPINS WILLIS**

Food is a topic of great and growing interest, but writing about it can be tricky. It’s easy to rhapsodize over that perfect meal in ways that alienate (or just plain annoy) those outside the “foodie fold.” Concerns over food justice and health sometimes lead writers to pen sanctimonious sermons. Sacramental writing about food runs the risk of over-spiritualizing one of the earthiest of topics. This panel explores how to write about food in such a way that readers are fed, body and soul, without feeling judged, marginalized, irritated, or overwhelmed by changes that they can’t—or don’t want to—make.

*Willow Room*

**Reading for Preaching: The Preacher in Conversation with Storytellers, Biographers, Poets, and Journalists**
**CORNELIUS PLANTINGA, JR.**

If, beyond Scripture and commentaries, preachers pursue a program of more general reading, they will reap impressive benefits. This presentation details some of those benefits.

*Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium*

**Self-Publishing: Straight Talk About Choices, Costs, and Companies**
**JANA RIESS**

What does the explosion of self-publishing options mean for authors today? What are the creative and financial pros and cons of self-publishing, and how can authors get their self-published books into bookstores and generate media coverage? In this session, Jana Riess shares practical insights from her own experiences and provides guidance for those considering self-publishing.

*Commons Lecture Hall*
Writing Both Sides: When Faith and Doubt Collide
DANIEL BOWMAN, JR., DAVID HARRITY, KAREN SWALLOW PRIOR, TANIA RUNYAN
While the Psalmist expresses his fear and anger openly, many writers of faith struggle with how to share their confusion and disappointment with God. How does writing about doubt strengthen or weaken our faith? In what ways should we consider audience when exploring our unbelief? Four writers from various genres discuss how they’ve written about doubt within the bounds of faith.
Alumni Association Board Room

Writing “Close”: When Your Best Research Happens at Potlucks and Reunions
VALERIE WEAVER-ZERCHER
Scholarly writing about a subject close to home requires a blend of detached analysis and honesty about one’s proximity. Is it possible to blend the intimate voice of the insider with the wide-angle view of the scholar? Mennonite writer and editor Valerie Weaver-Zercher reflects on researching and writing about Amish-themed fiction and on the possibilities of narrative scholarship.
Swets Choral Hall

3:00-3:30 PM
COFFEE BREAK
Commons Lecture Hall Lobby, Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room

3:30-4:30 PM
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

All the Work That Metaphor Can Do
JEANNE MURRAY WALKER
Knowing the different ways of making and using metaphor gives a writer energy and authority in various genres: fiction, theatre, creative non-fiction, and poetry. Poet and memoirist Jeanne Murray Walker explores craft techniques for formulating metaphor and considers the fact that metaphor is more than a writing technique; it is central to our existence. It is one of the fundamental ways we think about the world and “read” one another—which is why it is so powerful in writing.
Recital Hall

A Cold, Dark Place? The Writer in Hollywood
LUKE SCHELHAAS
Ever wondered what it takes to write and produce a television series? Want to know the difference between a co-executive producer and a consulting producer (or, for that matter, a gaffer and a best boy electric)? Where do episode ideas come from? Who writes the dialogue? And why in the world would a Christian ever want to live in a place like Hollywood? Luke Schelhaas talks about the quirks and joys of a television writer’s life and explains why he thinks Hollywood is a great place to live and work.
Bytwerk Theatre

An Interview with Rachel Held Evans
Rachel Held Evans talks with Karen Saupe about biblical womanhood, the future of evangelical Christianity, faith questions, Alabama football, social justice, and yes, the craft of writing.
Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

An Interview with Thomas Troeger
Hymn writer and theologian Thomas Troeger converses with Emily Brink about his quest for beauty and wonder both in preaching and in his hymns—public poetry that sings, sometimes without words, in a world hungry for beauty.
Meeter Center Lecture Hall

Issues Facing Writers of Color in Christian Publishing
EDWARD GILBREATH, MARLENA GRAVES, AL HSU, HELEN LEE
What are the challenges and opportunities of being a minority voice in Christian publishing, both in print and in online media? This panel’s authors and editors provide both a big-picture view of the landscape of Christian publishing for writers of color as well as practical tips to help these writers meet their publishing goals.
Prince Board Room

Of Beggars and Kings: Effective Characterization in Fiction
HUGH COOK
 Literary agents and editors state that the number one reason they turn down fiction manuscripts is three “uns”: unsympathetic, uninteresting, and unmemorable characters. This session focuses on improving authors’ chances of writing success by presenting some basic strategies for effective characterization. Hugh Cook provides advice for developing characters who leap off the page and into readers’ imaginations.
Willow Room
Playing in a Thousand Different Places: Encounters with the Spiritual in Narratives for Young Adults

SWATI AVASTHI, MITALI PERKINS, PAM MUÑOZ RYAN

Three authors talk about the ways that their novels for young readers bring their characters—and those readers—face to face with the presence of the spiritual. How to make this vivid and real to such readers in a culture that rarely accepts such claims and the questions they raise as credible?

Chapel

William Vande Kopple Memorial Reading

This session is held in memory of Bill VandeKopple, professor of English, who passed away last year. The session opens with some readings from Bill’s published writing, after which we invite former students, professional colleagues, and friends to read pieces explicitly about Bill, pieces somehow inspired or influenced by Bill, or simply things that Bill would appreciate. Join us as we remember this good man.

Swets Choral Hall

The World Made Flesh

KIMBERLY JOHNSON

Often as writers we get so excited by the ideas we want to share that we overlook the building blocks of our art—the raw materials: words. Words have heft and history, and they engage our minds and bodies together. In this session, Kimberly Johnson considers words in all their strange particularity and reflects on the mechanisms by which the word on the page registers the materiality of the world and makes presence.

Commons Lecture Hall

Writing as Sacred Listening

KAREN HERING

For participants who pre-registered.

Hickory Room

4:45-5:30 PM

vespers

Join fellow Festival participants in a time of worship and reflection, led by Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., and featuring the work of several Festival 2014 presenters.

Chapel

artist signing

Illustrator Michele Wood will be on hand to sign books and talk with guests about her work. Books will be available for purchase at the gallery.

Center Art Gallery

7:30-8:30 PM

PLENARY SESSION

On Meaning, Hope, and Repair

ANNE LAMOTT

Van Noord Arena

9:00 PM

EVENING ACTIVITIES

poetry readings

These open-microphone poetry readings are limited to ten minutes each. Sign up at the registration desk by 6:00 pm. Listeners are welcome.

Hickory Room
8:30-9:30 AM  
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Conversations with Scripture: Writing Poetry to a Deeper Faith  
TANIA RUNYAN  
For participants who pre-registered.  
*Hickory Room*

The Distance a Fiction Writer Travels  
VALERIE SAYERS  
Writers and readers who explore new landscapes and settings in their work may also be exploring new approaches to their art and their sense of the divine. Using examples from her own development as a writer, Valerie Sayers describes how varied landscapes, aesthetics, and approaches to faith entered and continue to enter her life, and she invites readers and writers on a journey to discover new territories.  
*Willow Room*

Everyone’s a Theologian: Pop Culture Criticism in a World Full of Gods  
DONNA BOWMAN  
A theologist and television critic explores the surprising methodological intersection of her two jobs, where creators spin realities and deliver revelations that cry out for interpretation.  
*Commons Lecture Hall*

9:30-10:00 AM  
COFFEE BREAK  
*Commons Lecture Hall Lobby, Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room*

10:00-11:00 AM  
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Commanding Our Attention: Inspiration and the Non-Fiction Writer  
CHRISTINE BYL, PETER MARTY, JOHN T. PRICE  
What subjects are worthy of a non-fiction writer’s attention? As a writer sorts through possible subjects, how does he or she decide whether something is significant or interesting enough? Are there subjects that are too simple or simply trivial? To what does a writer give attention? Three authors of non-fiction books—and very different books—discuss both how they choose their subjects and how they approach them.  
*Bytwerk Theatre*

A Reading: Devin Johnston  
The Basney Memorial Reading  
This reading is held in honor of the late Lionel Basney, professor of English at Calvin College.  
*Alumni Association Board Room*

A Reading: James Schaap  
Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium  

Writing as the Beloved  
SHARON GARLOUGH BROWN  
What does it mean to write as a response to the lavish and uncontainable love of God? What kinds of holy habits help us deepen our intimacy with Jesus? Pastor and spiritual director Sharon Garlough Brown speaks about spiritual formation and the writer, exploring spiritual practices such as attentiveness and imaginative prayer, besetting sins and spiritual obstacles common to writers, and the path toward freedom and courage.  
*Recital Hall*
The Ends of Our Lives
MIROSLAV VOLF
World religions are resurgent today, and at their heart is an account of the purpose of human life. Partly in the trail of the market-driven globalization, the exploration of the purpose of life is gradually being squeezed out of university curricula. A major responsibility of Christians today is not simply to offer compelling answers to the question of the proper ends of our lives but to keep that question alive.
*Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium*

Giving the Reader a Voice in Memoir
LESLEY LEYLAND FIELDS, LUCI SHAW, JEANNE MURRAY WALKER
Writers of memoir often desire to tell the true story of their “burden of witness,” to bring language to significant life passages. More than this, they also hope their writing will inform and empower their readers through their own difficult terrain. What craft decisions and techniques can successfully enlarge the memoir to accomplish both? Three authors who have written memoirs share narrative and composition techniques that enlarge the writers’ “burden of witness” into the readers’ empowerment.
*Seminary Chapel*

Humble Before Words: A Discussion
BRET LOTT
What does it mean to be a writer of faith? And how does a writer navigate the tension inherent in being a Christian in the public square—and being an artist made in the image of God? In this session, Bret Lott answers audience questions on the role of the writer and the call to excellence.
*Chapel*

An Interview with G. Willow Wilson
Graphic novelist and memoirist G. Willow Wilson talks with Jana Riess about conversion narratives, identity, women in comics, and the launch of Marvel’s first-ever Muslim-American superhero.
*Recital Hall*

It’s Just Fiction: Reading and Writing About Race, Culture, and Power
MITALI PERKINS
What are the messages sent and received “under the waterline” of a story about poverty and injustice? When and how can writers cross borders to tell stories? This session explores the world-changing power of fiction and encourages participants to develop an informed imagination that is able to read and write across cultures.
*Prince Board Room*

Publishing While Christian: How Not to Lose Your Soul as You Write and Promote Your Book
ROBERT HOSACK, RACHEL MARIE STONE, ADRIANNA WRIGHT
In this interactive session, an acquisitions editor, publicist, and author will share their collective wisdom for helping authors to not lose their souls during the process of writing and promoting their books. Specific virtues that inform the process will be highlighted, as will practices that can lead to a soul-encouraging—rather than soul-discouraging—writing life.
*Seminary Auditorium*

Remaking the Annunciation
MARY SZYBIST
The iconic scene of the Annunciation has been portrayed in numerous works of art over the years. Sharing some of her own work that re-engages, re-applies, and re-imagines the Annunciation, poet Mary Szybist explores why it holds such potential for artists and writers—and such inspiration for readers.
*Commons Lecture Hall*

How Poetry Manuscripts Find Their Publishers
MARCI JOHNSON, DEVIN JOHNSTON, KIMBERLY KOLBE, SARAH WELLS
To aspiring poets, the process that various publishers and journals use to select poetry manuscripts can seem mystifying. This panel of poetry editors sheds some light on that process, focusing on numerous practical and aesthetic considerations and offering advice for aspiring poets in the quest for publication.
*Commons Lecture Hall*

An Interview with Anne Lamott
Anne Lamott and Calvin College chaplain Mary Hulst talk about the hard beauty of writing, prayer for regular people, the grace of poor first drafts, and the messiness of ordinary life.
*Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium*

Looking, Loving: The Nature Writer, Wild and Tamed
FRED BAHNSON, AMY LEACH, JOHN T. PRICE
“Nature writing” is a difficult category—amorphous, wide-ranging, hard to define. Whether focused on landscape and history, community farming, or the quirks of quarks and quail, perhaps varieties of nature writing have the common aspiration of directing our gaze and our affections. In this session, three writers of literary essays and memoirs explore how various forms of nature writing engage with science, literary tradition, human community, spirituality, advocacy and activism, and the ever-flexible essay form.
*Willow Room*

A Reading: Valerie Sayers
Alumni Association Board Room
SCHEDULE: SATURDAY
APRIL 12

Risks and Rewards: Writing Your Best Work
Suzanne Woods Fisher
Writing well means facing risk: fear of failure, rejection, self-promotion, and, surprisingly, even success. Sharing her own journey to publication and a few battle scars she has collected along the way, Suzanne Woods Fisher explores how individuals can successfully face their own risks and answer the call to write.
Prince Board Room

Unlost Souls: From Memory to the Page
Peter Orner
Sometime in the 1980s Peter Orner’s family lost Uncle Harry. The man just vanished. For years Orner carried the man around with him in his mind until one day he returned—on paper. Using Primo Levi’s book Moments of Reprieve as a point of departure, this session focuses on how one writer looks at the people we carry in memory and how they can be reborn as characters on the page.
Swets Choral Hall

Wearing Our Trousers Rolled: Writing into the Years
John Leax, James Schap, Daniel Taylor
Writers often continue to work long after their peers in other professions have retired. But for writers, aging affects both the writing process and the nature of work they do. In fact, what they write about, how they write, where they seek to publish, to whom they can appeal—all of that changes. Three writers discuss the changes that come with writing into the years.
Recital Hall

Writing the Faith Journey
Marilyn Nelson
Writing an autobiographical history in poems—especially when that history is intertwined with one of America’s most turbulent decades—presents both challenges and opportunities. In this session, poet Marilyn Nelson discusses the writing of her life journey in poems and the lessons she learned along the way.
Chapel

12:30-2:00 PM
LUNCH BREAK
FESTIVAL CIRCLES
For participants who pre-registered. (See full listing, with room locations, on page 26.)

12:45-1:45 PM
LUNCH FORUMS
During the lunch break, we’re offering several informal sessions—some readings, some discussions, some presentations. Grab your lunch and enjoy!

Best Words, Best Order: Strategies for Assembling Your Poetry Manuscript
CX Dillhunt, Gerry Lafemina, Mary Ann B. Miller, Susan Blackwell Ramsey
Spoelhof Center 202

From Life to Lectures to Books: Translating Religious/Political Treatises into Popular Books
James Lamborn
Spoelhof Center 203

Getting Noticed: How to Convince Reporters to Pay Attention to Your Book
Judith Valente
Spoelhof Center 204

The Nuts and Bolts of Getting Published in Literary Magazines
Staff from RUMINATE
Spoelhof Center 312

Off the Page and in the Flesh: Video and Presentation Tips for Authors
Maryann McKibben Dana
Spoelhof Center 318

A Reading by Robert Vander Lugt
hosted by Wiseblood Books
DeVos Center 130

Tips for Self-Publishing and a Reading
Sandy Betgur
DeVos Center 160
2:00-3:00 PM
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**Corpus Linguistics: A Tool for the Analysis of Language**
*JAMES VANDEN BOSCH*
In this session, James Vanden Bosch describes and explains the basic features of corpus linguistics, providing several illustrations of how this tool can be used for the analysis and description of texts, including both fiction and non-fiction literary works. No texts will be harmed in the performance of these applications.

_Alumni Association Board Room_

**Crime and the Spirit: Writing About Faith in Popular Fiction**
*WILLIAM KENT KRUEGER*
Mindless thrills, chills, and suspense are the staples of today’s literary market. In this session, however, mystery author William Kent Krueger argues the risk and reward of exploring spirit, faith, and grace in popular fiction.

_Chapel_

**Frodo Lives! Speculative Fiction and Belief**
*G. WILLOW WILSON*
When writing about issues of belief, an author’s choice of genre provides both opportunities and constraints. In this session, G. Willow Wilson explores not only the ways in which allegory is well suited to communicate belief in an increasingly secular world but also the fascinating connection between speculative literature and belief, from C.S. Lewis to Superman—and beyond.

_Recitation Hall_

**In Other [People’s] Words: Writing and Performing Interview-Based Plays**
*DAVID ELLENS, ASHLEY LUCAS, STEPHANIE SANDBERG*
Interview-based theatre—work that is based in part or whole on interviews with real people, usually about a particular theme or historical event—is a relatively new form with decidedly uncommercial aims and origins. Yet, in works as varied as the plays of Anna Deavere Smith, Moises Kaufman, Eve Ensler, and Michael Keck, it’s proven to be an adaptable, durable, and popular genre. Three interview-based playwrights talk about the power and limits of this exciting form, its relationship (or lack thereof) to the “reality hunger” that critic David Shields has discerned in much contemporary art and culture, the special responsibilities that foist themselves on a playwright who uses other people’s words, and ways to get total strangers to tell you their business.

_President’s Dining Room_

**It’s Not You; It’s Me: Navigating Relationship and the Fine Art of Rejection**
*KAREN BEATTIE, SCOTT CAIRNS, ANGELA DOLL CARLSON, KATHERINE BOLGER HYDE, GREGORY WOLFE*
While the digital age has made the process of submitting work to journals, publishing houses, and agents more accessible and streamlined, it has also opened the door to a greater possibility of “rejection letters” flooding our e-mail in-boxes. How should writers handle “rejection” when it comes? What are the repercussions of “no,” and should we let them influence our work going forward? How do we use the persistent “no” to guide us into better, deeper relationship with publishers, editors, and fellow writers, as well as with our own work?

_Prince Board Room_

**Speaking in Good Faith: Stories of a Community**
*SEAN HILL*
What responsibility do writers have toward the communities and people whose stories they are telling? And how can writers appropriate and represent places and people without exploiting them? Sean Hill explores the ethics of world building.

_Swets Choral Hall_

**Visual Storytelling—Writing For and About Television: A Conversation**
*DONNA BOWMAN, LUKE SCHELHAAS*
In this session, a screenwriter meets a pop culture critic for a conversation about what makes for good storytelling on the small screen—and how people of faith view their responsibility to tell the truth in their work, whether as screenwriters or as critics.

_Willow Room_
3:00-3:30 PM  
COFFEE BREAK  
Commons Lecture Hall Lobby, Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room

3:30-4:30 PM  
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

▷ In Praise of Bias  
JEFF CHU  
Has objectivity become an idol in modern journalism? In a time of complex cultural and societal conflict, is the journalist a reliable—and moral—guide? And what role can—or should—a reporter’s faith play in his or her work? Jeff Chu leads a candid conversation on journalism in the modern age.  
Recital Hall

▷ An Interview with Miroslav Volf  
Theologian and writer Miroslav Volf talks with Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., about the resurgence of religions, the centrality of the religious question of life’s purpose, the gradual disappearance of this question from daily life, and some perennial themes in Volf’s theology, including giving and forgiving.  
Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

▷ More Things in Heaven and Earth  
AMY LEACH  
Regarding the Reformation, which was no longer new in his time, John Milton wrote, “This light which we have gained was given us, not to be ever staring on, but by it to discover onward things more remote from our knowledge.” It can be easy to go on staring back at old enlightenment, old reformation, personal and general, until one’s thoughts ossify. It can be difficult to think new, messy, living thoughts. But difficulty is an invitation, and this session considers the pleasures of difficulty, the pleasures of surprise, and the pleasures of discovering things remote from our knowledge.  
Willow Room

▷ Negotiating Between the Visible and the Invisible: Deities and Writing  
OKEY NDIBE  
The Igbo people of southeastern Nigeria believe in a Supreme God that corresponds in interesting ways with the Christian God. However, they also have numerous deities, often with assigned portfolios, and they desire that these deities have some form of physical manifestation so that worshippers know where to offer sacrifice and supplication. In this session, Okey Ndibe discusses this desire for sacred “materiality” in relation to the Christian/Igbo idea of an invisible God and explores the ways in which writing is a material birthing of invisible ideas.  
Seminary Chapel

▷ Non-Fiction Book Proposal Basics: What You Need to Know  
MARGOT STARBUCK  
Wouldn’t it be fabulous to know what would delight the editor reading your non-fiction book proposal? Or what could cause him or her to toss it in the recycling bin? While every editor is looking for great writing, there’s a lot more that goes into a publisher’s decision to say “yes.” This session explores the features integral to a winning book proposal as well as some of the practical steps you can take to create one.  
Swets Choral Hall

▷ A Reading: Sean Hill  
Prince Board Room

▷ Writing Across Religions  
SWATI AVASTHI  
How can authors write about a religious faith that is different from their own without co-opts it? What are the challenges and opportunities of this approach? This session focuses on how—and whether—writers can remove their own religious biases when approaching and portraying characters of another faith.  
Seminary Auditorium

▷ Writing Historical Fiction: Fashioning Facts into Compelling Stories  
TRACY GROOT  
Facts and figures are great, but if writers can’t fashion them into a compelling narrative, then there is no historical fiction. This session explores key research techniques along with different ways to “open a vein” in order to blend the two elements of historical fiction—research and craft—into one.  
Commons Lecture Hall

5:00-6:00 PM  
CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

“If Only I Had Her Verbs!” On Jealousy, Creativity, and a Generous God  
RACHEL HELD EVANS  
Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

8:00 PM  
EVENING ACTIVITIES

concert: The National  
Van Noord Arena  
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