Faithful Readers,

We're overjoyed that you're here! We've been eagerly anticipating this celebration, our first in-person gathering in six years.

Welcome to Festival 2024. Thanks for coming to the party!

And thank you for joining us to celebrate the intersections between belief and literature, broadly defined. Without you, we would understand less about what a holy provision words can be, spurring us to take up the real work of compassion and praise, of repentance and change. Over its almost 35 years, Festival has intentionally cultivated a conversation that is generous and welcoming and inclusive. There's nothing else exactly like it!

That takes a lot of work. Indeed, we've long said that the Festival is the work of many hands, and we count yours in that number. Whether you're rolling up your sleeves for your first Festival or are one of the Calvin Center for Faith & Writing's heavy lifters, we're grateful to you for strengthening this community.

So thank you for joining us for what feels very much like a long-awaited family reunion. To spend Festival 2024 with you—our extended family—is a delight.

Every good thing,

Jennifer Holberg

Jane Zwart

Lauren Cooper

Kelli Scholten
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Campus Map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 With Gratitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Festival Basics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Getting Around</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Food @ the Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Exhibit Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Speakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 Sponsor Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56 About Us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57 Stay Connected</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Festival Basics
- Registration Desk 6
- Information Centers 6
- Have a Question? 6
- Announcements 6
- Wi-Fi 6
- Bookstore 6
- Festival Mobile App 7
- Etiquette 7
- Emergency Information 8
- Quiet Spaces 8
- Infants 8
- Smoking Areas 8
- Safer Spaces Policy 8

### Getting Around
- Wayfinding 9
- Shuttles 9
- Parking 9
- Ridesharing 9

### Food @ the Festival
- Coffee Breaks 10
- Festival Lunch Circles 10
- Boxed Lunches 10
- Other Options 10

### Exhibit Hall
- Exhibit Hall Map 11

### Schedule
- Thursday 12–15
- Friday 16–22
- Saturday 23–28
- Book Signings 29

### Stay Connected
- Newsletter & Socials 57
- Speaker Nominations for 2026 57
- Save the Date FFW 2026 57
Land Use Acknowledgement
The Calvin University campus sits on the traditional homelands of the Potawatomi, Odawa (Ottawa), and Ojibwe (Chippewa) nations.
WITH GRATITUDE

The Festival of Faith & Writing is made possible by the time, talent, and generosity of many people. We are especially grateful to the following partners for their support.

**Sponsors**

**PREMIER**

![IJM Logo]

**PRESENTING**

![The Christian Century Logo]

**MAJOR**

![Plough Logo]

![Collegeville Institute Logo]

![NavPress Logo]

![SOJOURNERS Logo]

**PATRON**

![January Series Logo]

**ENDOWMENTS & GRANTS**

- Bob & Shelley Hudson
- Henry and Ruth Baron Family Endowment
- Calvin Center for Faith & Writing Visiting Writers Fund
- Wiersma Memorial Endowment

**COFFEE BREAK SPONSORS**

- InterVarsity Press—in honor of Jennifer Holberg’s *Nourishing Narratives*
- Slant Books

**HOSPITALITY PARTNERS**

- Amway Grand Plaza Hotel
- Aperitivo/Art of the Table

**TRANSPORTATION SPONSOR**

- Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning (CALL)

**CONSULTANTS**

- Amanda Gibbons & Lindsey Gorveatte—Event Services, Calvin University
- Rachel Hyde, Hyde Creative
- PEC Technologies
FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL

Marlys Admiraal
Roy and Ellen Anker
Sarah Arthur
Marcia Bosscher
Ann Byle
Paige Cady
Kit Carlson
Ann Cavera
Lauren Cole
Laura DeGroot
Shirley Freeman
Maria Geleynse
Amy Gillard
Janet Greidanus
Kate Guichelaar
Robbi Hartt
Jesse Holcomb
Kelly Hughes
Katy Jensen
Randi Kawakits
Rachel King
Sybil Kolbert
Francene Lewis
Linda Mills
Woolsey
Mavis Moon
David Morris
Karon Morton
Bronwen Newcott
Patricia Paddey
Mary Post
Kristyn Quist
Kathy Reinke
Catherine Ristola Bass
Lois Roelofs
Natalie Rowland
Amanda Smartt
Ella Smith
Amy and Doug Sonheim
Cathy Starr
Lee Tanis
Nicholas Tolkien
Sarah Turnage
Linda Tuthill
Shirley Van Heukelem
Evangeline Van Huesen
Jim and Debbie Visser
Cheryl Weeks-Rosten
Stephen Woolsey

This list represents all individuals who have generously donated to the Festival as of March 1, 2024.

Calvin University

The Festival is deeply indebted to Calvin University—its many departments and offices, its faculty and hardworking staff. We could not take on the extensive planning & operations of this event without them.

Thank you for doing this work with us!

CALVIN PARTNERS

SPONSORS
Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning (CALL)
Development Office
English Department
William H. Jellema Chair in Christian Philosophy
Mellemo Program in Western American Studies
Office of the President
Office of the Provost
School of Business

SUPPORTING SERVICES
Advancement
Alumni Association
Audio-Visual
Box Office
Campus Ministries
Campus Safety
Campus Store
Calvin Prison Initiative (CPI)
Calvin Theological Seminary
Dining Services
Event Services
Facilities
Financial Services
Mail and Print Services
Marketing and Communications
Physical Plant
Prince Conference Center
Residence Life

2024 FESTIVAL OF FAITH & WRITING

STUDENT COMMITTEE
Nolan Cowan
Elisa Doudna
Julia Ellsworth
Eleanor Engel
Sebastian Grabill
Esther Jun
Sasha Kuhlmann
Emily Larson
Su Ji Lim
Alexis Mahler
Jessa Morren
Maya Oeverman
Dorothea Pangemanan
Hannah Parédez
Cynthia Peguero Elvas
Adalyn Pike
Abigail Ponstine
Jordan Freis
Ava Roush
Anna St. Clair
Elisabeth Stevens
Francesca Turnage
Chantale Van Tassel
Taylor Volstorf
Katherine Wilmot
Luke Zietse

WITH GRATITUDE
FESTIVAL BASICS

Registration
Prince Conference Center Fireside Room
Wednesday: 5–8pm
Thursday: 9–11:30am
1800 East Beltline SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Information Desks
Prince Conference Center Lobby & Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby
Thursday–Saturday: 8am–5pm

Have a Question?
All members of our hardworking student committee are wearing bright poppy shirts emblazoned with a large ampersand. If you have a question or need help, look for the ampersands! Or, stop by one of our two Information Desks, located in the Prince Center Lobby and Spoelhof Fieldhouse. Our wonderful student volunteers will be happy to assist you!

Announcements
To learn about special events and programming changes during the Festival:

① Download the Festival Mobile App (see instructions at right) and turn on notifications.
② Watch your email for the Festival Daily newsletter or pick up a print copy at one of the information desks.

Wi-Fi
To connect to the Festival’s Wi-Fi network, select the CalvinGuest network from the list of available wireless networks and click on I have an Event Code. Enter the Access Code: ffw2024 (all one word, all lowercase).

Festival Bookstore
A Festival-focused bookstore is set up in the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex, featuring titles by our speakers and workshop leaders. Situated next to the book-signing tables and Van Noord Arena, the bookstore is open 9am through the evening plenaries. See a full list of book signings on page 29.

For general Calvin merchandise, visit either the kiosk in the Van Noord Arena or the main campus store, located in Commons.
Etiquette

ROOM CAPACITY
Due to fire code regulations, we must closely monitor room capacities during the Festival, and sessions will be closed to further entry if room capacity is reached. If you arrive and discover a session is already full, please select another session to attend.

CELL PHONES
As a courtesy to speakers and fellow Festivalgoers, please silence and put away cell phones during sessions.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDINGS
For contractual reasons, personal audio or video recording of sessions is not permitted. No flash photography, please. If you do take pictures, use the hashtag #FFWgr to share your photos on social media and join in the fun!

FANS
Many of our speakers are also attending the Festival. Please respect their time and privacy, using discretion when asking for autographs or selfies.

Festival of Faith & Writing Mobile App
If you have a smartphone, we encourage you to download the free Festival App. With it you can customize your own Festival agenda, use interactive maps to guide you to sessions, connect with other attendees, and much more. Turn on notifications to receive real-time announcements and updates. To download the App, go to: https://whova.com/portal/webapp/fofw_202404/
or scan the QR code.
Emergency Information

If you need emergency assistance, please contact Calvin’s Campus Safety Office at 616-526-3333. Campus Safety can help emergency service providers get to your precise location on campus more quickly.

The nearest urgent care clinic is SHMG Urgent Care, located at 2750 East Beltline NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (616-391-6230). It is open every day from 8am–8pm.

Quiet Spaces

Calvin offers many quiet areas, including the Ecosystem Preserve, the Seminary Pond, and the Center Art Gallery. Consult the campus map for specific locations.

Infants

If you have a future reader in tow, we have facilities to serve you. Of course, you are welcome to feed your child whenever and wherever you are most comfortable. If you prefer to nurse in private, we have four rooms available across campus:

- Covenant Fine Arts Center, second floor, Room 233
- Seminary, Room 177
- Prince Conference Center, designated room (key at Information Desk)
- Chapel, lower level, Room 204

Smoking Areas

Smoking is prohibited inside all campus buildings. For the purpose of this policy, smoking is defined as the act of lighting, smoking, carrying a lighted or smoldering cigarette, pipe, or cigar, and use of e-cigarettes, vaporizers, and the like. Smoking is permitted only in these designated outdoor areas, clearly marked by signage and cigarette butt receptacles:

- Knollcrest Dining Hall, north side
- Hekman Library, south side (facing Seminary Pond)
- DeVos Communication Center, north side
- Prince Conference Center, east side

Safer Spaces Policy

We fully support Calvin's Safer Spaces policy, which includes and goes beyond Title IX to name all instances of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation based on race, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, ability, or any other marker of identity. You can report incidents or concerns directly to CCFW staff or to Campus Safety. For our full policy, please visit our website at CCFW.calvin.edu/about/safer-spaces.
GETTING AROUND

Wayfinding

We’ve included a detailed map (pages 2 & 3) that indicates Festival venues by building to help you find your way around campus, but please don’t hesitate to ask for directions. In addition, a detailed campus accessibility map is available from the Information Desks.

Parking

Parking for Festival attendees will be limited on Thursday and Friday as Calvin classes are in session. Please allow adequate time to park and make your way to Festival sessions.

Consult the campus map or the Festival app for parking locations.

Ada Bible Church (1640 E. Paris Ave. SE) has also graciously offered overflow parking, and a shuttle will run between that lot and the Prince Conference Center from 8am–7:45pm Thursday through Saturday.

Ridesharing

As on-campus parking for the Festival is limited, we encourage Festivalgoers to check with their hotel and other attendees to see if group rides to campus are available. Visit the Rideshare discussion board in the Community section of the Festival app to connect with other drivers and to offer or look for a ride. If you are driving to the Festival, please consider offering rides to others!

Shuttles

Look for green “Shuttle” signs around campus when you’re ready to hop on the free, campus-wide Festival shuttles. Thanks to our generous transportation sponsor, we’ve upgraded to a 35-person shuttle and a wheelchair-accessible coach.

SHUTTLE STOPS ARE LOCATED AT:

- Prince Conference Center
- Covenant Fine Arts Center
- Calvin University Chapel (also use this stop for Calvin Seminary Auditorium)
- Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex (includes Van Noord Arena)
- Knollcrest Dining Hall (lunch break on Friday & Saturday only)
- Overflow Parking at Ada Bible Church

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

Thursday–Saturday: 8am–7:45pm

Shuttles will run in a continuous loop to Festival venue stops.

A separate shuttle will provide transportation between the Prince Conference Center and overflow parking at Ada Bible Church.

Thank you to our TRANSPORTATION SPONSOR Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning (CALL).
FOOD @ THE FESTIVAL

Coffee Breaks
Stop by a free coffee station (refer to the schedule section for times):

- Prince Conference Center
- Fireside Room
- Covenant Fine Arts Center
- West Lobby

Festival Lunch Circles in the Knollcrest Dining Hall
Festival attendees who pre-registered for a Festival Lunch Circle will meet in the Knollcrest Dining Hall for lunch at noon on Friday and Saturday. Each Circle will have a designated seating area in the dining hall. Please remember—no outside food or drink is allowed in Knollcrest Dining Hall.

Boxed Lunches
Festival attendees who pre-ordered boxed lunches for Friday and/or Saturday may pick up their meals at the Hogenboom Health and Recreation Center (located inside the Spoelhof Fieldhouse) between 11:45am–1:15pm. There is ample seating inside the Hogenboom Center for attendees to eat lunch together.

Off-Campus Dining
Find local restaurant recommendations in the Festival app.

On-Campus Dining

JOHNNY’S CAFE
Located on the first floor of the Commons
Small selection of hot and cold sandwiches, sushi, hamburgers, soup, salads, and snacks
Thursday & Friday: 9:30am–9pm
Saturday: 12pm–7pm

PEET’S COFFEE
Located on the first floor of the Spoelhof University Center
Fair-trade coffee and small snacks
Thursday & Friday: 8:30am–6pm
Saturday: 9am–2pm

KNIGHT FUEL MARKETS
Located in DeVos Communication Center & the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex
Self-service markets with a small selection of sandwiches, snacks, fruit, and drinks
Thursday: 7:30am–10pm
Friday: 7:30am–8pm
Saturday: 8am–5pm

SPOELHOF FIELDHOUSE CONCESSIONS
Located on the north side of the Fieldhouse
Small selection of concession foods including hot dogs, pretzels, popcorn, and drinks
Thursday–Saturday: 11am–5pm
Located in the Prince Conference Center, the Exhibit Hall is filled with major publishing houses, small presses, journals, booksellers, schools, and other organizations, all geared toward the interests of Festivalgoers. You are welcome to browse and to network here, and some exhibitors also offer merchandise for sale and host signings for the authors they represent. The Exhibit Hall is open from 9am–5pm each day.

**EXHIBIT HALL MAP**

**EXHIBITORS**

ACTA Publications — 10  
Baker Publishing Group — 1  
Christianity Today — 3  
Collegeville Institute — 2  
Creative Icons — 36  
Eighth Day Books — 13  
Fare Forward — 28  
Herald Press — 15  
International Justice Mission — 16  
InterVarsity Press — 20  
Kregel Publications — 21  
Leslie Leyland Fields: Memoir Masterclass — 33  
Luminescence, L.L.C. — 9  
Margot Starbuck — 32  
NavPress — 4  
Plough — 17  
Point Loma Nazarene University Master’s in Writing Program / Last Syllable — 34  
Presence: A Journal of Catholic Poetry — 27  
Redbud Writers Guild — 31  
Reformed Journal — 7  
Relief: A Journal of Art & Faith — 8  
Slant Books — 24  
Sonorous Flames Publishing — 25  
The Christian Century — 14  
The Englewood Review of Books — 19  
The Other Journal — 35  
The Perkipery Press — 5  
The Scholar’s Choice — 12  
Vita Poetica — 26  
We are LIT Multicultural Bookshop — 30  
Wesley Theological Seminary — 18  
Wildhouse Publishing — 29  
Wipf & Stock Publishers — 22  
Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. — 23  
Zondervan — 6
### SCHEDULE

**THURSDAY, April 11**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9–11:30am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prince Conference Center, Fireside Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9–11am</td>
<td><strong>COFFEE SERVICE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prince Conference Center, Fireside Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:50–10:10am</td>
<td><strong>Chapel Service—Sacred Self Care</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Festivalgoers are invited to join the Calvin community at this chapel service. Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9am–5pm</td>
<td><strong>Exhibit Hall open</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prince Conference Center, Great Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12pm</td>
<td><strong>Opening Celebration</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mitali Perkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rebecca Sheir &amp; Eric Shimelonis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>with Gregory Elzinga, Interim President, Calvin University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Calvin Gospel Choir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Van Noord Arena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td><strong>BOOK SIGNINGS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adam Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diane Mehta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mitali Perkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rebecca Sheir</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#FFWGR2024 #FFWGR
1:45pm

Neurodivergence & Storytelling
Daniel Bowman, Jr.
Bowman draws from his career, the work of contemporary autistic writers, recent scholarship, and artists from the past who would likely be considered autistic today. He explores how neurodivergence can shape literature in unique ways, what we can learn from autistic artists, and why it matters.
Introduced by David Urban, English Department, Calvin University
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium

The Knife Between God’s Teeth: Anya Silver’s Iconography of Faith
Andrew Silver & Lauren K. Watel
Silver and Watel, co-editors of Anya Krugovoy Silver’s final volume of poetry, converse about Silver’s turbulent relationship with God, her comfort in the world of the departed, and her sacramental approach to the present moment. Joining Silver and Watel are guests who explore what Jill Pelaez Baumgaertner calls the “stunning evidence of witness and lament” in Silver’s poems.
Introduced by Rose Postma, Academic Enrichment Center, Dordt University
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall

Mentioned but Not Heard: Writing the Marginalized Voice
Diane Glancy
What historical character have you wanted to hear from? What Biblical characters could you bring to life? Glancy finds similarities in Native American voices and the voices of Biblical women, finding ways to highlight erased accounts and to explore what they could have said. Here, she gives a perusal of the tools needed to give voice to those who did not have a chance to speak.
Introduced by Carol Bremer-Bennett, World Renew
Prince Conference Center, Willow Room

Taste and See—Becoming a Writer Who Lasts
Margaret Feinberg
Writers, some say, are lucky to have one book inside them. But Feinberg explores how writers can shape their lives around practices that produce rich, fresh content year after year, decade after decade—that is, how to taste and see the goodness of God and translate that to your readers for a lifetime.
Introduced by Barbara Bjelland, Porter Hills Village Chapel

Opening the Floodgates: Retelling Ancient Stories
Sarah Blake, Kent H. Dixon, Kevin Dixon
Dixon, Dixon, and Blake converse about the challenges of retelling canonical texts from new and sometimes unexpected angles.
Moderated and Introduced by Karen Sauge, English Department Emerita, Calvin University
Prince Conference Center, Board Room

Finding Our Voice in the Psalms
Leslie Leyland Fields
The psalmists penned intimate soul-deep prayers with God. But their prayers needn’t replace our own stories, prayers, and conversations; rather, they can inspire and guide us in writing our own. In this session, Fields explores writing into/out of a psalm, discovering our own voices, and entering into holy dialogue with the living God.
Introduced by Kathleen Merz, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company
Calvin Seminary, Auditorium

2:45pm
BOOK SIGNINGS
Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby
Sarah Blake
Daniel Bowman, Jr.
Kent H. & Kevin Dixon
Margaret Feinberg
Leslie Leyland Fields
3pm

A Conversation between Ruth Graham & Sarah Hurwitz

A speechwriter/author and a journalist from different faith backgrounds converse about the craft of writing in someone else’s voice, in one’s own voice, and in journalistic contexts. This session also explores the ongoing rise in antisemitism as a case study from both journalistic and personal perspectives.

Moderated by Daniel Silliman, Christianity Today
Introduced by Kevin den Dulk, Associate Provost, Calvin University
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium

How to be Half, Mixed, Everything, Both, Sort Of

Ayşe Papatya Bucak

We've all probably felt the benefit of boundaries and definitions at times. Constraint can yield originality. But, as writers, it can be equally fruitful to abandon overly prescriptive notions of who we are and what we write. This session will highlight how uncertainty, hybridity, and an open-borders-imagination can liberate and deepen your writing.

Introduced by Natalie Rowland
Prince Conference Center, Board Room

Literary Magic in the Writings of C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and J.K. Rowling

Matthew Dickerson

Underwritten by the Mellema Program in Western American Studies in honor of Dickerson's book, Voices of Rivers

In this look at the varying portrayals of magic in Middle-earth, Narnia, and Hogwarts, Dickerson explores the broader topic of enchantment, helping readers understand why fantasy is such a rich genre for Christian readers.

Introduced by Doug Sonheim, English Department, Calvin University
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall

A Conversation between Amy Julia Becker & Hilary Yancey

Becker and Yancey converse about the stories we tell, for good or ill, about people who have disabilities and those that care for them.

Moderated by Kevin Timpe, Philosophy Department, Calvin University
Introduced by Lisa Kooy, Center for Student Success, Calvin University
Chapel

A Conversation between Jessica Jacobs & Aviya Kushner

Jacobs and Kushner converse about the inspiration they find in the book of Genesis, focusing on how attention to the particularities of language can help us to be faithful to a text while also making it sound and feel fresh.

Moderated and Introduced by Clair Mesick, Religion Department, Calvin University
Prince Conference Center, Willow Room

Black Women Writing the Path to Healing

Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes

For Black women, writing is an act of defiance in a world that prefers their silence. Walker-Barnes explores how Black women’s writings on race and gender offer wisdom for all of us about systems of injustice and strategies for survival, resistance, and resilience.

Introduced by Kieychia Likely, Center for Intercultural Student Development, Calvin University
Calvin Seminary, Auditorium

4pm

BOOK SIGNINGS

Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby
Ayşe Papatya Bucak
Matthew Dickerson
Diane Glancy
Aviya Kushner
Chanequa Walker-Barnes
Hilary Yancey
4:15pm

**Talking To Strangers: How to Get the Eager, the Reluctant, and Even the Haters to Tell You Something Useful**

Dean Nelson

Interviewing is one of the most important ways writers (and social workers and doctors and lawyers and pastors and human resource staff, and, really, all of us) get good information. Yet to many, a good interview feels more like luck than skill. In this session, Nelson, who has been doing this for more than 40 years, and who literally wrote the book on it, will show you how to do it right every time.

Introduced by Rick Treur

*Princeton Conference Center, Willow Room*

**Move Slow and Fix Things**

Rabbi Elan Babchuck

*Underwritten by the Calvin University School of Business*

Thousands of years after the Egyptian Empire fell, today’s hierarchical leadership models continue to be shaped by the pyramids that it left behind. Building on years of research, writing, and practice, as well as his own faith, Babchuck argues that there is a better way to lead than with charisma and coercion, and it’s much less complicated than we think.

Introduced by Jim Ludema, Dean, School of Business, Calvin University

*Calvin Seminary, Auditorium*

**Writing Through a Fog of Fear: Finding Life-Giving Words in an Alarming Time**

Marilyn McEntyre

In a year of partisan conflict, when global challenges seem overwhelming, finding life-giving words is difficult. Many contend with deep fears, and speaking out can be costly. It’s a time to be “wise as serpents.” In this session, McEntyre explores how to write into the moment with clarity and hope.

Introduced by Paul Willis, English Department, Westmont College

*Calvin Seminary, Auditorium*

5:30pm

**An Evening with Tracy K. Smith**

*The Baron Lecture*

Introduced by Noah Toly, Provost, Calvin University

*Van Noord Arena*

6:30pm

**BOOK SIGNING**

Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby

Tracy K. Smith
8:30am

**Truth’s Table LIVE—Behind the Book: Sacred Self-Care**

**Truth’s Table with Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes**

Pull up a chair and have a seat at the table with Uwan and Edmondson as they sit down with Walker-Barnes to learn the key to sacred self-care, why it matters, and how we honor our bodies. How can we cultivate a “sacred self-care” lifestyle and guard it with all that is within us?

Introduced by Nygil Likely, Chief Diversity Officer, Calvin University
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

---

**Writing Our Way Home from the In-Between of a Cross-Cultural Life**

**Rachel Pieh Jones**

Jones has been writing about cross-cultural life for twenty years and strongly believes that seeking, telling, and creating stories helps us understand the unfamiliar and find meaning in the familiar. In this session, she explores how writing cultivates the humility, curiosity, and delight necessary for a sense of home when nowhere, or everywhere, feels like home.

Introduced by Mindy Beetham, SIM Global Education
*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

---

**Curating an Online Literary Community**

**Anne Bogel**

In this session, Bogel explores the whys and hows of building literary community and championing the work of other artists and creators in what can feel like a crowded marketplace—as well as offering insights about how to invite your audience to do the same.

Introduced by Amanda Matthysse, Hekman Library, Calvin University
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

---

**A Jewish Journey in the White House—and Beyond**

**Sarah Hurwitz**

After years as a political speechwriter for President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama, Hurwitz wrote a book—about Judaism—and no one was more surprised than she was. In this session, she explores her journey of rediscovering her religious tradition as an adult and reflects on how it’s shaped her life and career.

Interviewed by David Malone, Hekman Library, Calvin University
Introduced by Joel Westra, Politics & Economics Department, Calvin University
*Chapel*

---

9:30am

**BOOK SIGNINGS**

*Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby*

Anne Bogel
Mary DeMuth
Sarah Hurwitz
Rachel Pieh Jones
Truth’s Table

---

9am-5pm

**Exhibit Hall open**

*Prince Conference Center, Great Hall*
9:45 am

The Ecological Imagination: Why Stories Matter
Fred Bahnson & Matthew Dickerson

Bahnson and Dickerson converse about why good stories matter, and especially why stories (and art) help shape our embodied lives in a physical world. They discuss how they shape our ecological imaginations, which in turn shape our actions as image bearers of a creative God who has charged us with caring for creation.

Moderated and Introduced by Debra Rienstra, Faculty Fellow, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
Prince Conference Center, Willow Room

What Can Spiritual Poetry Teach Us About Living?
Kaveh Akbar

The search for the divine, for faith, for cosmic orientation, has been the great obsession of writers since Gilgamesh and the Mahabharata. Even today, when irony is the default posture of the public intellectual, many language artists remain relentlessly sincere in their explorations of spiritual yearning (and spiritual doubt).

In this session, Akbar will track the ways poets and others navigate faith in their work, beginning in ancient Mesopotamia and moving all the way into contemporary verse by writers like Wisława Szymborska and Lucille Clifton, pondering, from a craft standpoint, how writers are able to wrap language around the great unknowables—doubt, the divine, and the wide, mysterious gulf in between.

Introduced by Susanna Childress Banner, English Department, Hope College
Calvin Seminary, Auditorium

A Conversation between Rabbi Elan Babchuck & Dr. Natasha Sistrunk Robinson

Underwritten by the Calvin University School of Business

In this session, Babchuck and Robinson converse about the ways in which language, storytelling, and sacred texts inform the character and development of those who lead.

Moderated and Introduced by Craig Mattson, Faculty Fellow, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall

10:45 am

BOOK SIGNINGS
Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby
Kaveh Akbar
Elan Babchuck
Fred Bahnson
Kenneth Kraegel
Dean Nelson

10:45am

A Talkback with Tracy K. Smith

In this session, Smith engages a selection of questions from Festivalgoers.

Moderated by Scott Hoezee, Calvin Seminary & Center for Excellence in Preaching

Introduced by Lisa Hoogeboom, Calvin Theological Seminary

Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium
11 am

An Interview with M.T. Anderson
Interviewed by Joshua Mosey, Kent District Library
Introduced by Debbie Visser, Faculty Fellow, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium

A Conversation between Ayşe Papatya Bucak & Sonya Bilocerkowycz
Bilocerkowycz and Bucak converse about writing narratives set in places with which many readers from the States are unfamiliar, addressing the ways they seek to widen the readers’ perspectives, understandings, and sympathies.
Moderated and Introduced by Cynthia Slagter, Off-Campus Programs/World Languages, Calvin University
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall

Dante and Virgil: The Intensest Rendezvous
Diane Mehta
Mehta reflects on the centrality of the poetic friendship between Dante and Virgil—and the ways that the love it models has strengthened and deepened her own artistic friendships as well as her art.
Introduced by Jennifer Holberg, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
Prince Conference Center, Board Room

Isaiah and Power
Aviya Kushner
As a writer who often thinks about Isaiah’s incredible ability to convey both anger and comfort, Kushner delves into the roots of her interest in the prophet while also detailing other poets’ Isaiah obsessions. In this talk and reading, she explores how her fascination with the poetry of prophecy shaped her debut collection of poems.
Introduced by Susan Felch, English Department Emerita, Calvin University
Prince Conference Center, Willow Room

Raising up Sons and Daughters of Issachar in Complicated Times: One Small-Town Bookstore Owner’s Journey Through 40 Years of Bookselling
Byron Borger
In this session, Borger—who, with his wife, owns and runs the bookstore Hearts & Minds—explores his life’s work: nurturing culturally-aware and mostly Christian readers’ habits. He reflects on shifts in culture and publishing trends and on what he’s learned over years of trying to put meaningful (and sometimes challenging) books in the right hands.
Introduced by Kendra McNeil, We Are LIT Bookstore
Calvin Seminary, Auditorium

11:45 am-1:45 pm
Lunch Break
See page 10 for lunch options.
1:45pm

**Chumming the Epic: Bringing the Ancient Epic of Gilgamesh into Modern Sensibility**
Kent H. Dixon & Kevin Dixon
The Dixons converse about the trials and delights of translating the ancient Epic of Gilgamesh into a graphic novel intended to resemble the story the ancient Akkadians experienced more than earlier scholarly translations have. In doing so, they explore the range and sophistication of Sîn-leqi-unninni’s narrative as well as the question of human mortality.

_introduced by Karen Saupe, English Department Emerita, Calvin University
_Covenant Fine Arts Center, Willow Room_

**Once Upon a Story: How Folktales Entertain, Inspire, and Unite Us in a Noisy New World**
Rebecca Sheir
Full of magical beings, tricky animals, humble heroes and cunning villains, folktales have captivated humanity since time immemorial. As a modern-day storyteller drawing on age-old folklore, Sheir explores why these classic tales still resonate in today’s modern, noisy, high-tech world, and act as a bridge between cultures and communities.

_introduced by Lauren Cooper, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
_Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall_

**Writing as Mourning, Writing as Hope: A Conversation about Grief, Lament, and Honesty**
Bryan Bliss & James K. A. Smith
How do we write for the sorrows of today? What does the world need from writers right now? How can we be attuned to the moment in which we find ourselves, and perhaps especially to what young people endure in this world we’ve bequeathed them? How can writers bear witness to heartbreak with hope? In this session, Bliss and Smith explore how writers can respond to the sorrows of modernity with both intelligence and compassion.

_moderated and introduced by Josh Samarco, Admissions, Calvin University
_Covenant Seminary, Auditorium_

2:45pm

**An Interview with Suzanne Stabile**
_interviewed by Sam Gutierrez, Eugene Peterson Center for Christian Imagination
_introduced by Kelli Scholten, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
_Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium_

**Poetry Reading**
Jessica Jacobs & Lauren K. Watel
In this reading, Jacobs and Watel share a selection of their poems.

_introduced by Lauren Cooper, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
_Covenant Fine Arts Center, Board Room_

**Little Fire: Family, Blood and Chosen**
Silas House
House will explore the way his own experiences of being loved by and abandoned by blood kin have shaped his definition of family—and the ways these relationships have emboldened both his doubt and his faith. The novelist will share excerpts from his own work and stories from his travels to shed light on all the ways family can hurt us more deeply than anyone else, on why we need family, and on how our faith can be strengthened by family, both blood and chosen.

_introduced by Craig Hanson, Visual and Performing Arts/Honors Program, Calvin University
_Covenant Seminary, Auditorium_
3pm

**Panel Discussion: Imaginative History**
*Curtis Sittenfield, Martin Dotterweich, Kristine Johnson*

Sittenfeld explores the risks, thrills, and careful calculus of writing fiction about public figures in conversation with a professor of history and a professor of rhetoric and composition.

Introduced by Marlys Admiraal, English Department Emerita, Calvin University
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

**The Politics of Vulnerability: How Faith Inspires Us To Be “Black Sheep”**
*Asma T. Uddin*

Uddin, a lawyer specializing in religious liberty, has 15 years experience navigating the national conversation about what religion is, who is protected by religious liberty, and what types of beliefs are worth protecting. In this session, she will discuss how her faith guides her involvement—and helps her overcome obstacles—as she partakes in some of America’s most contentious debates.

Introduced by Andrew Mead, Church of the Servant
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

**The Power of Storytelling**
*Jennifer De Leon*

In this session, editor, author, and professor of creative writing De Leon will draw from her award-winning books to share some of the ways in which “story” can provide crucial insight into the complex intersection of race, class, and educational issues, dispelling myths and showcasing the diversity of our shared community’s experiences.

Introduced by Linda Naranjo-Huebl, English Department, Calvin University
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Chapel*

---

4pm

**BOOK SIGNINGS**
*Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby*
- Sonya Bilocerkowycz
- S. J. (Jim) Dahlman
- Jennifer De Leon
- Curtis Sittenfield
- Asma T. Uddin

---
4:15pm

Imagination: It’s Not Just Hobbits and Hobby Horses
Karen Swallow Prior
Drawing from her book, The Evangelical Imagination: How Stories, Images, and Metaphors Created a Culture in Crisis, Prior explores the role social imaginaries play in a culture, including the ways in which art and language shape our perceptions and form our assumptions. In particular, she ponders how, by examining the artifacts of the past, creators can consider the way their work can build a different future.

Reported by Micah Watson, Politics & Economics Department/Henry Institute, Calvin University
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium

Hope in Worldbuilding
Sarah Blake
How can fiction both acknowledge and challenge hopelessness in the face of climate catastrophe? In this session, Blake explores her favorite parts of writing science fiction: taking narrative revenge on those who have failed us, provoking the reader to action, and creating worlds where healing can occur.

Introduced by Caitlin Finch, Center for Student Success, Calvin University
Prince Conference Center, Willow Room

Reporting on Politics and Mystery in American Religion
Ruth Graham
Graham reflects on her work as a New York Times correspondent reporting on the intersection of faith and culture. She explores the challenges of documenting the influence of religion on national politics, while also making room for stories about personal spirituality, belief in miracles, and the many other ways people experience and pursue faith across the country.

Introduced by Liana Hirner, Hudson-Townsend Student Fellow, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall

Reading with Pictures
Kenneth Kraegel
Picture books are a marriage of images and words, each part influencing our perception of the other. In this session, Kraegel explores how illustrations can extend and steer the meaning of words and how, at times, they are able to convey meaning more gracefully than words.

Introduced by Katherine Swart, Hekman Library, Calvin University
Calvin Seminary, Auditorium

An Interview with Dr. Jemar Tisby
Interviewed by Craig Mattson, Faculty Fellow, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing/Communication Department, Calvin University
Chapel

Revision... in art and in life
Peter Ho Davies
The author of five books of fiction, and most recently The Art of Revision: The Last Word, Davies explores both how we revise our stories and how they in turn revise us.

Introduced by Kristina Faust Kaminskas, writer
Prince Conference Center, Board Room
FRIDAY

5:30pm
An Evening with Yaa Gyasi
The Wiersma Lecture
Interviewed by Jane Zwart, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
Introduced by Sarah Visser, Executive Vice President for Student Experience & Strategy, Calvin University
International Justice Mission presentation hosted by Anu George Canjanathoppil, Chief Executive Officer, IJM Canada
Van Noord Arena

6:30pm
BOOK SIGNING
Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby
Yaa Gyasi

Little Women presented by Calvin Theater Company
Calvin Theater Company invites you to their production of Little Women by Kate Hamill, adapted from the novel by Louisa May Alcott. Tickets for Festival attendees are $14 using code FOFW24, and can be purchased through the Calvin University Box Office: calvin.universitytickets.com. Performances are Friday and Saturday at 7:30pm in the Gezon Auditorium.
8:30am

**Can AI Pray? Storytelling and Human Faith**

Laleh Khadivi

Khadivi has written extensively about human migration, states of exile and belonging, and the movements of belief in a tribal, global, and post-national world. Now she wonders: could a machine do all that? In this session, she explores her thoughts on AI, craft, and the role of faith in the artistic process—and how, at a time when our imaginations are often broadcast back to us by machines, the artist can find new ways to serve as a spiritual guide.

Introduced by Sam Smartt, Communication Department, Calvin University

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

**A Conversation between Meghan O’Gieblyn & Sarah Smarsh**

Drawing from their experiences in writing the stories of often-overlooked communities, O’Gieblyn and Smarsh converse about how they convince readers to pay attention to narratives from the margins and from excluded middles.

Moderated by S J (Jim) Dahlman, Communications & Journalism, Milligan University

Introduced by Chad Engbers, English Department, Calvin University

*Covenant Seminary, Auditorium*

**Rejection, Revision, Repetition: Lessons Learned from an Unpublished Novel by Madeleine L’Engle**

Charlotte Jones Voiklis

In this session, Voiklis explores the decade of rejection her grandmother experienced and how it shaped what would become her most famous novel, *A Wrinkle in Time*. Sharing insights and excerpts from an unpublished novel L’Engle wrote during that period (the 1950s), biographical information and incidents that illuminate how the novelist negotiated rejection and the fear of failure, Voiklis also discusses her perspective on her own creative inheritance.

Introduced by Sarah Arthur, author

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

**The Art of Faith, the Faith of Art**

*The Lionel Basney Memorial Session*

Christian Wiman

Wiman, whom *Poetry* once called “the greatest living devotional poet in the United States,” has written numerous works about the ways in which literature can be “equipment for living,” as well as the relationship between the language we use for faith and the kinds of experience that language enables or precludes. In this session, he discusses modern poems—his own and others—and how they can help us “live toward God.”

Introduced by Jacob Schepers, Writing Program, Notre Dame University

*Chapel*

9am-5pm

**Exhibit Hall open**

*Prince Conference Center, Great Hall*

BOOK SIGNINGS

Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby

Amy Julia Becker

Danielle Chapman

Laleh Khadivi

Karen Swallow Prior

Christian Wiman
9:45 am

**A Talkback with Yaa Gyasi**
In this session, Gyasi engages a selection of questions from Festivalgoers.
Moderated and Introduced by Jane Zwart, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

**“Picturing the Invisible:” Faith, Education—and the Power of Film with Both**
Randy Michael Testa
Flannery O’Connor wrote: “It is what is invisible that God sees and that the Christian must look for.” In this session, Testa explores the implications of O’Connor’s exhortation for education (especially faith education), focusing on the ways in which using novels with their film adaptations helps us to better “picture the invisible.”
Introduced by Ken Heffner, Student Activities Office (retired), Calvin University
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

**Around the Table: Remaking the World through the Creative Writing Workshop**
Paul Lisicky
While a writing workshop’s central project is to think about craft, it can also be a room in which we’re building something together as a group, cultivating openness, reaching collectively for what we can’t yet put into language. In this session, Lisicky explores the unforeseen glimmers of light in the charged space of the writing workshop and what they might mean for how we live.
Introduced by Emily Bosscher, Center for Student Success, Calvin University
*Calvin Seminary, Auditorium*

**The Old People: Poems About Ancestors and History in Place**
Maurice Manning
In this session, Manning reads poems from several of his books that tell handed-down tales and reflect on ancestors, the notion of birthright, and the unvarnished history of his family as early settlers of Kentucky.
Introduced by Dave Warners, Biology Department, Calvin University
*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

10:45 am

**The Heads of Gods and the Bones of Saints: Stolen Art and the Sacred**
M.T. Anderson
In this session, Anderson relates what he has learned in traveling around the world with repatriation teams working to return stolen sacred objects to their home countries and their own shrines—the inspiration for his forthcoming book, which recounts the strange but true story of the theft of the corpse of St. Nicholas (Santa Claus) from its tomb in Turkey. In doing so, he explores what these crimes might suggest about human belief and its role in the West.
Introduced by Sarah Turnage, Advancement, Calvin University
*Chapel*

**Peregrination: Writing the Inner and Outer Journey**
Fred Bahnson
Inspired by the peregrini, sixth-century Irish monks whose spiritual hunger took them far from home, Bahnson relates his recent journeys among modern-day monastics—from Mali and Ethiopia as well as the remote corners of the American West. He explores pilgrimage as the experience not of consuming but of being consumed in order to discover the porous borders between our inner and outer lives.
Introduced by Debra Rienstra, Faculty Fellow, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*
11 am

**After The Book Study: What Comes Next in the Struggle for Racial Justice**

*Jemar Tisby, PhD*

You’ve read the books. You’ve done the book study. Now what? What’s next in your journey of racial justice? Tisby helps you figure out what comes after the book study by walking through the ARC of Racial Justice—a framework that includes Awareness, Relationships, and Commitment—to help you find your unique place in the fight against racism. Come prepared to be challenged, inspired, and equipped!

Introduced by Kristin Kobes Du Mez, History Department, Calvin University

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

---

**Panel Discussion: Southern Writers**

_The W. Dale Brown Memorial Session_

*Danielle Chapman, S. J. (Jim) Dahlman, Silas House*

In this session, Chapman, Dahlman, and House converse about contesting stereotypes—both of and within the American South—and about how to cultivate new narratives that honor the complexity of this region of the United States.

Moderated and Introduced by Mary McCampbell, author

*Chapel*

---

**Fiction as Public Theology**

*Bryan Bliss*

The role of fiction as a public theology has a long track record in literature (even for authors who have no expressed theological agenda). In this session, Bliss explores the worlds of public ministry and publishing in order to help participants seek out prophetic voices in fiction.

Introduced by Jason VanHorn, Geology Department, Calvin University

*Calvin Seminary, Auditorium*

---

**Magnified Humanity: Why Disability in Literature Matters**

*Amy Julia Becker*

How does the presence of disabled characters in literature magnify the human condition? When is the humanity of characters with disabilities diminished? In this session, Becker explores the disruptive and illuminating presence of intellectual disability in literature and why this presence matters for anyone wrestling with what it means to be human.

Introduced by Becky Toly, World Languages (Spanish)/Education, Calvin University

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

---

**Pain as Portal: Discovering What Our Bodies Know**

*Nishta J. Mehra*

Born into a Hindu family and educated by Episcopalians, Mehra has an abiding love for poetry, ritual, and contradiction. In this session, she explores her personal experiences with chronic pain and grief, focusing on the spiritual relationship between pain and creation.

Introduced by Sara Leo, School of Education, Calvin University

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

---

**An Interview with Peter Ho Davies**

*Interviewed and Introduced by Sabrina Lee, English Department, Calvin University*

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*
11:45am-1:45pm
Lunch Break
See page 10 for lunch options.

1:45pm

Panel Discussion: Why Books Matter
Anne Bogel, Byron Borger, Karen Swallow Prior
Bogel, Borger, and Prior converse about the need for people of faith to understand the power of writing to shape us, both positively and negatively.
Moderated and Introduced by Jennifer Holberg, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium

On Crafting Narratives and Storytelling: The Truth Will Set Us Free
Dr. Natasha Sistrunk Robinson
In this session, Robinson explores writing as a means of resistance against those who don’t want us to talk about slavery or genocide or rape or violence against black and brown bodies. She points to writers’ obligation to read and know history, to insist upon revealing the truth.
Introduced by Deborah Bayard, Grand Rapids African American Museum & Archives
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall

A Nation of Outliers
John Wray
In this session, Wray explores what stories about extreme beliefs or fanatical loyalties—whether related to religion, mental illness, or even heavy metal—can tell us about our own stories: the way each of us, both as individuals and in a society, experience our ideologies and convictions.
Introduced by Caitlin Horrocks, Department of Writing, Grand Valley State University
Prince Conference Center, Board Room

Whose Manuscripts Burn? On the Role(s) of the Writer During Wartime
Sonya Bilocerkowycz
In this session presented in memory of Ukrainian writer Victoria Amelina, Bilocerkowycz explores the importance of artistic practice in the face of mass atrocities—and the responsibilities that come with it.
Introduced by James Vanden Bosch, English Department Emeritus, Calvin University
Prince Conference Center, Willow Room

2:45pm
BOOK SIGNINGS
Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby
Nishta J. Mehra
Natasha Sistrunk Robinson
Jemar Tisby
John Wray

2:30-4:30pm
COFFEE SERVICE
Sponsored by InterVarsity Press
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Lower West Lobby
Prince Conference Center, Fireside Room
3pm

**Reckoning, Discernment, Hope: How Narrative Helps Us Faithfully Inhabit Time**

*James K.A. Smith*

We face two different temptations today: nostalgia and despair. Both are forms of narrative failure. Nostalgia is a form of edited history that fails to tell the truth about our past. Despair tells a story about the future that can’t imagine resurrection and restoration. In this session, Smith explores how to tell stories that reckon with history and revel in hope.

Introduced by David Smith, School of Education/The Kuyers Institute for Christian Teaching & Learning, Calvin University

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

**An Interview with Maurice Manning**

Interviewed by Lew Klatt, English Department, Calvin University

Introduced by Ben Plantinga, Hudson-Townsend Student Fellow, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

**An Interview with Marilyn McEntyre**

Interviewed by Irene Kraegel, Center for Counseling & Wellness, Calvin University

Introduced by Esther Yff-Prins, Spiritual Director

*Calvin Seminary, Auditorium*

---

4pm

**When to Holler and When to Sing: Memory in Nonfiction vs. Poetry**

*Danielle Chapman*

In this session, Chapman pairs excerpts from her memoir, *Holler: A Poet Among Patriots*, and individual poems from her forthcoming book, *Boxed Juice*. In doing so, she explores the distinct lenses of poetry and nonfiction, as well as the particular demands of a poet’s memoir.

Introduced by John Poch, English Department, Grace College

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

**Bringing the News to Light**

*Sarah Smarsh*

As a journalist who, for more than 20 years, has written about socioeconomic divides, Smarsh has often called out her own industry’s blind spots. In this session, she explores why traditional news reporting is obsessed with disaster and binary conflict, the healing potential of creative journalistic forms that convey nuance and meaning alongside facts, and our shared civic and spiritual imperative to protect and evolve the free press.

Introduced by Jesse Holcomb, English/Communication Departments, Calvin University

*Chapel*

---

**BOOK SIGNINGS**

*Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby*

Marilyn McEntyre

Sarah Smarsh

James K. A. Smith
4:15pm

A Conversation between Mary DeMuth & Leslie Leyland Fields

DeMuth and Fields converse about why speaking the truth about the past, while difficult, is also crucial to memoir: ethically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Moderated by Shannon Jamal-Hollemans, First Congregational UCC of Lowell
Introduced by Stacia Hoeksema, Social Work Department, Calvin University
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium

It All Counts: Writing in the Margins of Life

Underwritten by the William H. Jellema Chair in Christian Philosophy

Hilary Yancey

Yancey has been writing in the margins—jotting notes in the carpool lines, setting aside twenty minutes during a lunch break, taking a breath between making book recommendations—for almost as long as she has been a writer. In this session, she explores how those moments of being “pressed” between and among responsibilities are not the hindrances to a writing life, but the stuff of it.

Introduced by Benita Wolters-Fredlund, Dean of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Calvin University
Prince Conference Center, Willow Room

A Conversation between Paul Lisicky & Nishta J. Mehra

Lisicky and Mehra converse about the challenges and gifts of chronicling personal stories with vulnerability for writers who belong to already vulnerable communities.

Moderated and Introduced by Jodi VanWingerden, Student Life, Calvin University
Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall

A Conversation between Kaveh Akbar & Christian Wiman

Drawing from their work as both writers and editors, Akbar and Wiman converse about the vision that shapes not only their poetry and prose but also their work in curating and championing others’ words.

Moderated and Introduced by Jane Zwart, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
Chapel

The Invisible Life of An Editor in the 21st Century

Kathy Pories

We’ve come a long way from Maxwell Perkins, often described as the greatest American editor. Many things have stayed the same, but so much has changed in the publishing world and in the daily life of an editor. In this session, Pories explores what happens behind the scenes before a manuscript becomes a published book.

Introduced by Sarah Kolk, Hekman Library, Calvin University
Prince Conference Center, Board Room

5:30pm

An Evening with Anthony Doerr

Introduced by Debra Rienstra, Faculty Fellow, Calvin Center for Faith & Writing
Van Noord Arena

6:30pm

BOOK SIGNING
Spoelhof Fieldhouse Lobby
Anthony Doerr
Book signings will take place in the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex, which houses the Van Noord Arena.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THURSDAY, APRIL 11</th>
<th>FRIDAY, APRIL 12</th>
<th>SATURDAY, APRIL 13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1:30PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:30AM</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:30AM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Day</td>
<td>Anne Bogel</td>
<td>Amy Julia Becker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Mehta</td>
<td>Mary DeMuth</td>
<td>Danielle Chapman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitali Perkins</td>
<td>Sarah Hurwitz</td>
<td>Laleh Khadivi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Sheir</td>
<td>Rachel Pieh Jones</td>
<td>Karen Swallow Prior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2:45PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:45AM</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:45AM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Blake</td>
<td>Kaveh Akbar</td>
<td>M.T. Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Bowman, Jr</td>
<td>Elan Babchuck</td>
<td>Paul Lisicky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent H. &amp; Kevin Dixon</td>
<td>Fred Bahnson</td>
<td>Maurice Manning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Feinberg</td>
<td>Kenneth Kraegel</td>
<td>Meghan O’Gieblyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Leyland Fields</td>
<td>Dean Nelson</td>
<td>Charlotte Jones Voiklis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>2:45PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>2:45PM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayşe Papatya Bucak</td>
<td>Bryan Bliss</td>
<td>Nishta J. Mehra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Dickerson</td>
<td>Peter Ho Davies</td>
<td>Natasha Sistrunk Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Glancy</td>
<td>Silas House</td>
<td>Jemar Tisby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aviya Kushner</td>
<td>Jessica Jacobs</td>
<td>John Wray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chanequa Walker-Barnes</td>
<td>Suzanne Stabile</td>
<td><strong>4PM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilary Yancey</td>
<td></td>
<td>Marilyn McEntyre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6:30PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>4PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>6:30PM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracy K. Smith</td>
<td>Sonya Bilocerkowycz</td>
<td>Marilyn McEntyre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>S. J. (Jim) Dahlman</td>
<td>Sarah Smarsh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jennifer De Leon</td>
<td>James K. A. Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Curtis Sittenfeld</td>
<td><strong>6:30PM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asma T. Uddin</td>
<td>Anthony Doerr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PLEASE NOTE:** Although we will make every effort to begin signings on time, start times may be affected if authors are delayed in leaving their sessions. Thus, we ask for your patience with any unexpected waits and that you courteously refrain from delaying authors as they depart sessions.

Books will be available for sale at the Festival Bookstore inside the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex. To save time, Festival participants may wish to purchase their books in advance of the signings they plan to attend.

This schedule does not include signings hosted by our exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall at the Prince Conference Center. Please check with individual vendors.
KAVEH AKBAR

FRIDAY, 9:45am
FRIDAY, 10:45am Book Signing
SATURDAY, 4:15pm

M.T. ANDERSON
M.T. Anderson is the author of books for children and adults, including the satirical science fiction novels Feed and Landscape with Invisible Hand; The Pox Party, a Gothic novel of the American Revolution; the illustrated novel The Assassination of Brangwain Spurge; and Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad, a nonfiction book about Russia during the Second World War. His nonfiction writing has appeared in The New York Times, the Washington Post, Slate, and Salon. He lives in a small, haunted, 18th-century house in the hills of Vermont.

FRIDAY, 11am
SATURDAY, 9:45am
SATURDAY, 10:45am Book Signing

ELAN BABCHUCK
Rabbi Elan Babchuck serves as Executive Vice President at Clal–the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, and is the Founding Director of Glean Network. He is the co-author of Picking Up the Pieces: Leadership After Empire (2024, Fortress Press).

THURSDAY, 4:15pm
FRIDAY, 9:45am
FRIDAY, 10:45am Book Signing

FRED BAHNSON
Fred Bahnsen is the author of Soil & Sacrament. His essays and journalism have appeared in Harper’s, Orion, Image, The Sun, Emergence, Best American Spiritual Writing, and Best American Travel Writing. His writing awards include a Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting grant and an artist fellowship in creative nonfiction from the North Carolina Arts Council.

FRIDAY, 9:45am
FRIDAY, 10:45am Book Signing
SATURDAY, 9:45am

AMY JULIA BECKER
Amy Julia Becker is an award-winning writer and speaker on disability, faith, and family. She is the author of four books and hosts the Love Is Stronger Than Fear podcast. Becker is a graduate of Princeton University and the Princeton Theological Seminary (MDiv).

THURSDAY, 3pm
SATURDAY, 9:30am Book Signing
SATURDAY, 11am

SONYA BILOCERKOWYCZ
Sonya Bilocerkowycz is a 2022 National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellow and the author of On Our Way Home from the Revolution: Reflections on Ukraine, winner of the Gournay Prize for a debut essay collection.

FRIDAY, 11am
FRIDAY, 4pm Book Signing
SATURDAY, 1:45pm

SARAH BLAKE
Sarah Blake is the author of In Springtime, Clean Air, Naamah, Let’s Not Live on Earth, and Mr. West. She’s the recipient of the National Jewish Book Award for Debut Fiction and of a literature fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts for her poetry.

THURSDAY, 1:45pm
THURSDAY, 2:45pm Book Signing
FRIDAY, 4:15pm
BRYAN BLISS
Bryan Bliss is a writer, theologian, and sub-par snowboarder. His work has been nominated for the National Book Award, the Minnesota Book Award, and many other regional and national recognitions. He lives and works as an Episcopal priest in St. Paul, MN.

Friday, 1:45pm
Friday, 2:45pm Book Signing
Saturday, 11am

ANNE BOGEL
Anne Bogel is the creator of the blog Modern Mrs. Darcy as well as the host of the Modern Mrs. Darcy Book Club and the What Should I Read Next? podcast. She’s also the author of five nonfiction books, including her most recent, My Reading Adventures: A Book Journal for Kids.

Friday, 8:30am
Friday, 9:30am Book Signing
Saturday, 1:45pm

BYRON BORGER
Byron Borger worked in campus ministry in the 1970s in Pittsburgh, there learning how books could enhance faith and discipleship and developing a vision of how reading widely is central to formation and cultural witness. He and his wife, Beth, became small town booksellers in 1982 in Dallastown, in south-central Pennsylvania. Hearts & Minds is ecumenical and diverse, carrying all sorts of books, serving local customers, conferences and events, and, increasingly, an online, mail-order community of friends. He writes the BookNotes newsletter nearly every week.

Friday, 11am
Saturday, 1:45pm

DANIEL BOWMAN, JR.
Daniel Bowman, Jr. is the author of A Plum Tree in Leatherstocking Country: Poems; the 2021 memoir On the Spectrum: Autism, Faith, & the Gifts of Neurodiversity; and a forthcoming graphic novel from Oni Press called The Autism Journals, a collaboration with artist Rinnah Shaw.

Thursday, 1:45pm
Thursday, 2:45pm Book Signing

AYŞE PAPATYA BUCAK
Ayşe Papatya Bucak is the author of the collection The Trojan War Museum which was awarded the Spotlight Award by the Story Prize. Her writing has been published in a variety of journals and reprinted in the O. Henry and Pushcart Prize anthologies. She teaches at Florida Atlantic University.

Thursday, 3pm
Thursday, 4pm Book Signing
Friday, 11am

DANIELLE CHAPMAN
Danielle Chapman is the author of two books of poems, Delinquent Palaces and Boxed Juice (forthcoming, fall 2024), and a memoir, Holler: A Poet Among Patriots. She teaches Shakespeare and creative writing at Yale University and lives in Hamden, CT, with her husband, Christian Wiman, and daughters, Eliza and Fiona.

Saturday, 9:30am Book Signing
Saturday, 11am
Saturday, 3pm

S. J. (JIM) DAHLMAN
S. J. Dahlman (aka Jim) is professor of communications and journalism at Milligan University, the author of A Familiar Wilderness: Searching for Home on Daniel Boone’s Road, and an award-winning magazine editor, columnist, and freelance journalist who has written for numerous British and American publications.

Friday, 3pm
Friday, 4pm Book Signing
Saturday, 11am
PETER HO DAVIES
Peter Ho Davies’ most recent works are the novel *A Lie Someone Told You About Yourself* and *The Art of Revision: The Last Word*. Other books include *The Fortunes*, a *New York Times* Notable Book; *The Welsh Girl*, long-listed for the Man Booker Prize; as well as two acclaimed collections of short stories.

**F** FRIDAY, 2:45pm Book Signing  
**F** FRIDAY, 4:15pm  
**S** SATURDAY, 11am

ADAM DAY
Adam Day is the author of *Illuminated Edges* (Kelsay Books, 2024), *Left-Handed Wolf* (LSU Press), and of *Model of a City in Civil War* (Sarabande Books), and is the recipient of a Poetry Society of America Chapbook Fellowship for *Badger, Apocrypha*, and of a PEN Award.

**T** THURSDAY, 1:30 pm Book Signing  
**T** THURSDAY, 4:15 pm

JENNIFER DE LEON
Jennifer De Leon is the award-winning author of the YA novels, *Borderless* (featured on the TODAY show) and *Don’t Ask Me Where I’m From*, as well as *White Space: Essays on Culture, Race, & Writing*. She is a speaker, presenter, and educator who loves to connect with readers of all ages.

**T** THURSDAY, 4:15 pm  
**F** FRIDAY, 3 pm  
**F** FRIDAY, 4 pm Book Signing

MARY DEMUTH
Mary DeMuth is a literary agent, daily podcaster at *PrayEveryDay.show*, Scripture artist, speaker, and the author of 50+ books, including *90 Day Bible Reading Challenge*. She lives in Texas with her husband and is the mom to three adult children.

**F** FRIDAY, 8:30 am  
**F** FRIDAY, 9:30 am Book Signing  
**S** SATURDAY, 4:15 pm

MATTHEW DICKERSON
Matthew Dickerson is the author of a number of books in a variety of genres including historical fiction, fantasy, nature and outdoor writing, mythopoeic and eco-critical studies, spiritual theology, and apologetics. His most recent books include *Aslan’s Breath* and *The Salvelinus, the Sockeye, and the Egg-Sucking Leech*.

**T** THURSDAY, 3 pm  
**T** THURSDAY, 4 pm Book Signing  
**F** FRIDAY, 9:45 am

KENT H. DIXON
Kent H. Dixon was educated at the University of North Carolina; MA at Johns Hopkins, Ph.D. from University of Iowa – the Writers’ Workshop. Until retiring, he taught creative writing and literature at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, where he lives with his writer wife, her spectacular garden, and where he continues to teach whitewater kayaking at Wittenberg.

**T** THURSDAY, 1:45 pm  
**T** THURSDAY, 2:45 pm Book Signing  
**F** FRIDAY, 1:45 pm

KEVIN DIXON
Kevin Dixon lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina and is a prolific cartoonist, musician, and visual artist. Kevin joins the Festival this year along with his father Kent to discuss their collaboration on the full length graphic novel adaptation of *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, published by 7 Stories Press in 2018.

**T** THURSDAY, 1:45 pm  
**T** THURSDAY, 2:45 pm Book Signing  
**F** FRIDAY, 1:45 pm
ANTHONY DOERR
Anthony Doerr is the author of the story collections *The Shell Collector* and *Memory Wall*, the memoir *Four Seasons in Rome*, and the novels *About Grace*, *All the Light We Cannot See*, and *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, as well as numerous short stories and essays. Doerr's work has been translated into over forty different languages and has been recognized with a variety of prestigious awards, including the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for fiction and the 2015 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction for *All the Light We Cannot See*.  
SATURDAY, 5:30pm  
SATURDAY, 6:30pm *Book Signing*

BRYAN R. DYER
Bryan R. Dyer (PhD, McMaster Divinity) is senior acquisitions editor at Baker Academic and adjunct professor of Religion at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan.  
FRIDAY, 3pm

MARGARET FEINBERG
Host of the podcast *The Joycast*, Margaret Feinberg is a popular Bible teacher and speaker at churches and leading conferences. Her books, including *Scouting the Divine*, *Fight Back With Joy, Taste and See*, and their corresponding Bible studies, have sold over one million copies and received critical acclaim. She was recently named one of 50 women most shaping culture and the church today by *Christianity Today*. Margaret lives in Utah with her husband, Leif, and their superpup, Zoom.  
THURSDAY, 1:45pm  
THURSDAY, 2:45pm  
THURSDAY, 4:00 PM *Book Signing*  
SATURDAY, 4:15pm

LESLEY LEYLAND FIELDS
Leslie Leyland Fields is the author of 14 books including the just-released *Nearing a Far God: Praying the Psalms with Our Whole Selves*. She teaches an online Memoir Masterclass with 1000+ writers and leads writing workshops around the world as well as on an island in Alaska, where she lives and works in commercial salmon fishing each summer with her family.  
THURSDAY, 1:45pm  
THURSDAY, 2:45pm *Book Signing*  
SATURDAY, 4:15pm

DIANE GLANCY
THURSDAY, 1:45 PM  
THURSDAY, 4:00 PM *Book Signing*

RUTH GRAHAM
Ruth Graham is a national correspondent covering religion, faith, and values for *The New York Times*. She graduated from Wheaton College and previously worked as a writer and reporter at *Slate*.  
THURSDAY, 3pm  
FRIDAY, 4:15pm

YAA GYASI
Yaa Gyasi is the author of two novels: *Homegoing* and *Transcendent Kingdom*, which was an instant *New York Times* bestseller. Born in Ghana and raised in Huntsville, Alabama, Gyasi is the winner of the National Book Critics Circle John Leonard Prize, the PEN/Hemingway Award for Best First Novel, and was a finalist for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Fiction and the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize.  
FRIDAY, 5:30pm  
FRIDAY, 6:30pm *Book Signing*  
SATURDAY, 9:45am
SILAS HOUSE
Silas House is a journalist, playwright, and the New York Times bestselling author of seven novels. He is a Grammy nominee and is the 2022 Duggins Prize recipient. House's work has appeared recently in Time, The Washington Post, The Atlantic, and many other leading national publications.

F FRIDAY, 1:45pm
F FRIDAY, 2:45pm Book Signing
S SATURDAY, 11am

RACHEL PIEH JONES
Rachel Pieh Jones writes about life at the crossroads of faith and culture. Her work is influenced by living in the Horn of Africa, raising Third Culture Kids, and adventurous exploration of the natural world. She has been published in the New York Times, Christianity Today, Runner’s World, Deadspin, and more. She is the author of six books, including Stronger than Death: How Annalena Tonelli Defied Terror and Tuberculosis in the Horn of Africa, the Djiboutilicious Cookbook, and Pillars: How Muslim Friends Led Me Closer to Jesus.

F FRIDAY, 8:30am
F FRIDAY, 9:30am Book Signing
S SATURDAY, 1:45pm

SARAH HURWITZ
Sarah Hurwitz is the author of Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life--in Judaism (After Finally Choosing to Look There). From 2009 to 2017, she served as a senior speechwriter for President Barack Obama and then as head speechwriter for First Lady Michelle Obama.

T THURSDAY, 3pm
F FRIDAY, 8:30am
F FRIDAY, 9:30am Book Signing

LALEH KHADIVI
Laleh Khadivi is an author of fiction and nonfiction. Her work explores themes of migration, belonging, and the poetics of exile.

S SATURDAY, 8:30am
S SATURDAY, 9:30am Book Signing
S SATURDAY, 4:15pm

JESSICA JACOBS
Jessica Jacobs’ third collection unalone, poems in conversation with the Book of Genesis, was published this March by Four Way Books. Winner of the New Mexico Book Award in Poetry and finalist for the Lambda Literary Award, Jacobs is the founder and executive director of Yetzirah: A Hearth for Jewish Poetry.

T THURSDAY, 3pm
F FRIDAY, 1:45pm
F FRIDAY, 2:45pm Book Signing

KENNETH KRAEGEL
Kenneth Kraegel is an author and illustrator of picture books. His books have been awarded such distinctions as the New York Times Book Review’s Notable Children’s Book of the Year, the Wall Street Journal’s Children’s Best Book of the Year, Amazon’s Editor’s Pick and Kirkus Reviews’ Best Book.

F FRIDAY, 10:45am Book Signing
F FRIDAY, 4:15pm

KATHERINE JACOBS
Katherine Jacobs has been a children’s book editor for nearly 20 years and currently works at Zonderkidz, an imprint of HarperCollins Christian Publishing. She is a graduate of Calvin College (now University) and the Center for the Study of Children’s Literature at Simmons College.

F FRIDAY, 9:45am
F FRIDAY, 3pm
AVIYA KUSHNER
Aviya Kushner is the author of WOLF LAMB BOMB and The Grammar of God. She is The Forward’s language columnist and writes On Being and Timelessness, a newsletter on literature, translation, and ideas (on Substack). She teaches at Columbia College Chicago, where she directs the MFA Program in Creative Writing.

THURSDAY, 3pm
THURSDAY, 4pm Book Signing
FRIDAY, 11am

NISHTA J. MEHRA
Nishta J. Mehra is the proud first-generation daughter of Indian immigrants and the author of two essay collections: The Pomegranate King and Brown White Black. A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Mehra lives & writes in Houston, TX, with her partner, their pre-teens, and two goofy dogs.

SATURDAY, 11am
SATURDAY, 2:45pm Book Signing
SATURDAY, 4:15pm

PAUL LISICKY
Paul Lisicky is the author of seven books including Later, The Narrow Door, and the forthcoming The Sky in It: A Life with Joni Mitchell. His honors include Fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the NEA, and the Fine Arts Work Center. He teaches in the MFA Program at Rutgers University-Camden.

SATURDAY, 9:45am
SATURDAY, 10:45am Book Signing
SATURDAY, 4:15pm

DIANE MEHTA
Diane Mehta’s poetry collections include Tiny Extravaganzas (Arrowsmith Press, 2023) and Forest with Castanets (2019). Her essay collection Happier Far comes out in 2024. She is writing a poetry cycle connected to The Divine Comedy and collaborating with musicians to invent a new way of working through sound together.

THURSDAY, 1:30pm Book Signing
THURSDAY, 4:15pm
FRIDAY, 11am

MAURICE MANNING
Maurice Manning has published eight books of poetry, most recently Snakedoctor. He lives and works in Kentucky.

SATURDAY, 9:45am
SATURDAY, 10:45am Book Signing
SATURDAY, 3pm

DEAN NELSON
Dean Nelson can talk to anybody. As an award-winning journalist who has written for the New York Times, the Boston Globe, magazines and books, he is a pro at extracting information. As the host of the annual Writer’s Symposium By The Sea, he focuses on how to get writers to articulate how the writing process works—he’s interviewed Anne Lamott, Ray Bradbury, Amy Tan, Christian Wiman, Alice Walker, David Brooks, Billy Collins, Cornel West, Maria Hinojosa, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and dozens of others. He is the founder and director of the journalism program at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, and his latest book is Talk To Me: How To Ask Better Questions, Get Better Answers, and Interview Anyone Like a Pro, published by HarperCollins. He conducts writing and interviewing workshops around the world.

THURSDAY, 4:15pm
FRIDAY, 10:45am Book Signing

MARILYN McENTYRE
Marilyn McEntyre’s books include Caring for Words, Speaking Peace in a Climate of Conflict, Word by Word, When Poets Pray, Where the Eye Alights, and The Mindful Grandparent. She teaches in programs at Western Seminary, Oblate School of Theology, and New College Berkeley, coaches writers, and leads retreats and workshops.

THURSDAY, 4:15pm
SATURDAY, 3pm
SATURDAY, 4pm Book Signing
MEGHAN O'GIEBLYN
Meghan O’Gieblyn is the author of God Human Animal Machine and Interior States.
S SATURDAY, 8:30am
S SATURDAY, 10:45am Book Signing

MITALI PERKINS
Mitali Perkins served as Calvin University’s inaugural Distinguished Writer-in-Residence in 2023. She has written many books for young readers, all of which explore crossing different kinds of borders. Her goal in fiction is to make readers laugh or cry, preferably both, as long as their hearts are widening. She lives and writes in the San Francisco Bay Area.
T THURSDAY, 12pm
T THURSDAY, 1:30pm Book Signing
T THURSDAY, 4:15pm

KATHY PORIES
Kathy Pories is an Executive Editor at Algonquin Books and has worked with a slew of talented authors who have been winners and finalists for numerous awards including the National Book Award and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize. She received her Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
F FRIDAY, 3pm
F SATURDAY, 4:15pm

KAREN SWALLOW PRIOR
F FRIDAY, 4:15pm
S SATURDAY, 9:30am Book Signing
S SATURDAY, 1:45pm

NATASHA SISTRUNK ROBINSON
Dr. Natasha Sistrunk Robinson is an author of books and host of A Sojourner’s Truth podcast. She is CEO of T3 Leadership Solutions, Inc., and Visionary Founder of the 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Leadership LINKS, Inc. A former Marine Corps Officer, Robinson serves as an international speaker, consultant, and executive leadership coach.
F FRIDAY, 9:45am
S SATURDAY, 1:45pm
S SATURDAY, 2:45pm Book Signing

REBECCA SHEIR
Rebecca Sheir is the host, writer, and producer of Circle Round: the beloved family folktales podcast from WBUR, Boston’s NPR station. She has brought thousands of stories to life as a host and reporter for NPR and is the author of the Circle Round picture book series.
T THURSDAY, 12pm
T THURSDAY, 1:30pm Book Signing
F FRIDAY, 1:45pm

ANDREW SILVER
Andrew Silver, Page Morton Hunter Professor of English at Mercer University, is the lead interviewer and playwright for IV: Our Lives. He is the author of Combustible/Burn: A Play (Mercer University) and Minstrelsy and Murder: The Crisis of Southern Humor 1830-1930 (LSU Press), and he is the co-editor of his late wife Anya Krugovoy Silver’s final book of poetry, Saint Agnostica.
T THURSDAY, 1:45pm
CURTIS SITTENFELD
Curtis Sittenfeld is the bestselling author of seven novels: Prep, The Man of My Dreams, American Wife, Sisterland, Eligible, Rodham, and Romantic Comedy. Her first story collection, You Think It, I’ll Say It, was published in 2018. Her books have been selected for numerous “Ten Best Books of the Year” lists, optioned for television and film, and translated into thirty languages. Her short stories and essays have appeared in numerous publications and on This American Life. She is a graduate of Stanford University and the Iowa Writers’ Workshop.

FRIDAY, 3 pm
FRIDAY, 4 pm Book Signing
SATURDAY, 8:30 am

SARAH SMARSH
Sarah Smarsh is an author, speaker, and journalist who focuses on socioeconomic class and rural America. Her book Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth, an instant New York Times bestseller and a finalist for the National Book Award, examines economic inequality through her upbringing among the working poor on a Kansas farm.

SATURDAY, 8:30 am
SATURDAY 3 pm
SATURDAY, 4 pm Book Signing

JAMES K. A. SMITH
James K.A. Smith is professor of philosophy at Calvin University and editor-in-chief of Image journal, a literary quarterly at the intersection of art, mystery, and faith.

FRIDAY, 1:45 pm
SATURDAY, 3 pm
SATURDAY, 4 pm Book Signing

TRACY K. SMITH
Tracy K. Smith is a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, memoirist, editor, translator and librettist. She served as the 22nd Poet Laureate of the United States from 2017-19. Smith is the author of the poetry collections Such Color: New and Selected Poems, Wade in the Water, Life on Mars, Duende, and The Body’s Question. Her memoir, Ordinary Light, was a finalist for the 2015 National Book Award in nonfiction. A Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Smith teaches at Harvard University.

THURSDAY, 5:30 pm
THURSDAY, 6:30 pm Book Signing
FRIDAY, 9:45 am

SUZANNE STABILE
Suzanne Stabile is an Enneagram Master Teacher. Known as a “priceless source of wisdom” and a “grace-filled truth teller,” she has been a student of the Enneagram for more than 30 years. Her winsome, narrative style of teaching connects with audiences of all sizes and ages.

FRIDAY, 1:45 pm
FRIDAY, 2:45 pm Book Signing

RANDY MICHAEL TESTA
Randy Testa works in Professional Education at Harvard Graduate School of Education, overseeing non-degree programming for teachers from around the world. He’s an award-winning developer of creative professional development presentations, workshops, and materials, and invigorating online media courses, earned-media campaigns, and innovative, standards-based curricula, melding film entertainment and education.

FRIDAY, 3 pm
SATURDAY, 9:45 am
SPEAKERS

JEMAR TISBY
Jemar Tisby, PhD is the author of the bestselling book The Color of Compromise and founder of The Witness, a Black Christian Collective. He is a professor of history at Simmons College of Kentucky and writes frequently on Substack. His forthcoming book The Spirit of Justice is available for pre-order.

FRIDAY, 4:15pm
SATURDAY, 11am
SATURDAY, 2:45pm Book Signing

TRUTH’S TABLE
Truth’s Table is a podcast hosted by two Black Christian women who love truth: Christina Edmondson and Ekemini Uwan.

Dr. Christina Edmondson is a NAACP Image award-nominated author and her co-authored book Faithful Antiracism is Intervarsity Press’s 2023 justice book of the year. Her work in antiracism, restorative justice, and organizational health grants her opportunities to serve in nonprofit, faith-based global missions and educational spaces.

Ekemini Uwan (pronounced Eh-keh-mih-knee Oo-wan) is a public theologian, international human rights activist, and co-author of the 2023 NAACP Image Award-nominated book Truth’s Table: Black Women’s Musings on Life, Love, and Liberation. She co-hosts the award-winning podcast Truth’s Table and Get In The Word With Truth’s Table. Uwan is a 2022 Aspen Ideas Festival Fellow and a fellow at The Aspen Institute, where she serves as a Special Advisor for The Aspen Institute’s Racial Justice and Religion Collective.

THURSDAY, 4:15pm
FRIDAY, 8:30am
FRIDAY, 9:30am Book Signing

ASMA T. UDDIN
Asma T. Uddin is the author of When Islam Is Not a Religion: Inside America’s Fight for Religious Freedom and The Politics of Vulnerability: How to Heal Muslim-Christian Relations in a Post-Christian America. She is Visiting Assistant Professor of Law at Catholic University of America. Uddin is also a Fellow with the Aspen Institute’s Religion & Society Program in Washington, D.C., where she created a data-based approach to reducing Muslim-Christian polarization in the U.S. She was formerly legal counsel at the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty and has held fellowships at Harvard, Georgetown, and UCLA. Uddin served two terms as expert advisor on religious freedom to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and was a term-member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

FRIDAY, 3pm
FRIDAY, 4pm Book Signing
SATURDAY, 1:45 pm

CHARLOTTE JONES VOIKLIS
Charlotte Jones Voiklis is Madeleine L’Engle’s granddaughter and executor of her estate. She is the co-author of Becoming Madeleine and A Book, Too, Can Be a Star. She has a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature.

FRIDAY, 9:45am
SATURDAY, 8:30am
SATURDAY, 10:45am Book Signing
CHANEQUA WALKER-BARNES
Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes is a prominent psychologist, theologian, and author whose work focuses upon healing the legacies of racial and gender oppression. She is a professor at Columbia Theological Seminary and the author of *Sacred Self-Care*, *I Bring the Voices of My People*, and *Too Heavy a Yoke*.

THURSDAY, 9:50am
THURSDAY, 3pm
THURSDAY, 4pm Book Signing
FRIDAY, 8:30am

LAUREN K. WATEL
Lauren K. Watel’s debut book, a collection of prose poetry, was awarded the Kathryn A. Morton Prize in Poetry, selected by Ilya Kaminsky, and will be published in October 2024 by Sarabande Books. Her poetry, fiction, essays, and translations have appeared widely.

THURSDAY, 1:45pm
FRIDAY, 1:45pm

CHRISTIAN WIMAN
Christian Wiman is the Clement-Muehl Professor of Communication Arts at Yale Divinity School. He has written a dozen books and edited several others, including *My Bright Abyss: Meditation of a Modern Believer* and *Zero at the Bone: Fifty Entries Against Despair*. Raised in west Texas, he has traveled widely and worked at several different institutions, including the Poetry Foundation in Chicago, where for a decade he was editor of *Poetry*. He lives in New Haven, CT, with his wife, Danielle Chapman, and their twin daughters.

SATURDAY, 8:30am
SATURDAY, 9:30am Book Signing
SATURDAY, 4:15pm

JOHN WRAY
John Wray is the author of the novels *Gone to the Wolves*, *Godsend*, and *Lowboy*, among many others. The recipient of a Guggenheim Foundation grant, a Whiting Award, and the Cullman Fellowship from the New York Public Library, he is a regular contributor to *The New York Times Magazine*.

SATURDAY, 1:45pm
SATURDAY, 2:45pm Book Signing
SATURDAY, 4:15pm

HILARY YANCEY
Hilary Yancey is a writer, philosopher, and bookshop manager in Waco, Texas. Her first book, *Forgiving God*, chronicles her pregnancy with her oldest child and their NICU stay as they learn more about his unique needs. She loves to ask big questions about disability, justice, and faith in her writing, both philosophically and personally.

THURSDAY, 3pm
THURSDAY, 4pm Book Signing
SATURDAY, 4:15pm
YOU ARE INVITED
to the 2024 Poiema Poetry Series Reception
presented by Wipf and Stock Publishers

Thursday, April 11th at 7:30 p.m.
East Lobby | Covenant Fine Arts Center

MEET SERIES POETS AND HEAR THEM READ:
Brad Davis • Barbara Crooker • Susan Cowger • Diane Glancy • D.S. Martin
Jane Clark Scharl • Marjorie Maddox • Jen Stewart • Jill Peláez Baumgartner
Julie L. Moore • Paul Willis • Tania Runyan

www.wipfandstock.com • (541) 344-1528 • available in bookstores • orders@wipfandstock.com
Rajeshwari was just ten years old when her family took out a loan to pay for her grandfather’s funeral. For three years, they were trapped in brutal conditions at a brick kiln until IJM investigators heard about their plight. Rajeshwari drew an incredibly detailed map and sent it to the rescue team via a smuggled smartphone. It was a creative solution from a scared child – but it was the one act that led to the family’s freedom.

“Today, after rescue, my dreams are coming true...I am back at school studying. I want to become a teacher and make sure every child in my community values education.”

— Rajeshwari

International Justice Mission is a global organization that protects people in poverty from violence by rescuing victims, restoring survivors to safety and strength, and helping local law enforcement protect their citizens.

Since 2014, IJM has been working in a region of South Asia to protect families from bonded labor slavery. Support from people like you helped lead a dramatic decrease of 82% in the prevalence of bonded labor slavery where we partnered with local authorities. This means nearly 400,000 people just like Rajeshwari and her family have been set free!

Join us. Become a Freedom Partner today.
Your monthly gift will help send rescue to children like Rajeshwari.

Visit IJM.org/Festival to sign up.
Exceptional Books from Brazos Press

Featured 2024 Festival Speakers

New from

Forthcoming from

These and Other Titles Are Available at

the Baker Publishing Group Booth
EXCEPTIONAL BOOKS FROM BRAZOS PRESS

Featured 2024 Festival Speakers
New from
Forthcoming from

These and Other Titles Are Available at
the Baker Publishing Group Booth

Forthcoming from
Baker Academic

These and Other Titles Are Available at
the Baker Publishing Group Booth
Research into the Human

JOIN US for a free reception in honor of Jeanne Murray Walker’s new memoir, *Leaping from the Burning Train*. After brief remarks by Dan Bowman, Leslie Fields, and Paul Willis, Jeanne will sign books. Refreshments will be served.

Friday, April 12 | 7:30 – 9:30pm | Center Art Gallery
located on the first level of the Covenant Fine Arts Center

S L A N T B O O K S
Visit our booth in the Prince Conference Center
www.slantbooks.org
VOICE OF THE DAY:
Though we do not wholly believe it yet, the interior life is a real life, and the intangible dreams of people have a tangible effect on the world.
— JAMES BALDWIN, “Nobody Knows My Name” (1961)

The Christian Century magazine for only $9.95

Each of us is an original. Live creatively, friends.
Galatians 5:25-6:3 | The Message

VISIT OUR BOOTH

INSPIRATION IN YOUR INBOX

VOICE OF THE DAY:
Though we do not wholly believe it yet, the interior life is a real life, and the intangible dreams of people have a tangible effect on the world.
— JAMES BALDWIN, “Nobody Knows My Name” (1961)

Sign-up at sojo.net/verse

Photograph by Allan Warren

SPONSOR ADVERTISING
Come Writers and Dreamers!

Perched on the Kittatinny Ridge in the Pocono Mountains, Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center is a place of beauty and wonder. A space to wander and rest where the land listens and the stones speak. A place to kindle courage and stumble upon kindred spirits. A place tingling with spirit summoning the work of justice. It is a place to ask, “what does it mean to be human?” and “how do we tend to our souls?”

To see a full list of our programs or to book a private retreat, visit www.kirkridge.org

Gay Magic
A workshop for queer and gender-fabulous folks.

Writing Table Retreat
Writing time, craft sessions, & sharing circles.

Silent Wilderness
Led by the creatures, beings, & elements around.

Embodied Decoloniality
Come cultivate critical consciousness.

Tending Our Fear
Tend your fear to work toward collective liberation.

Playing and Praying with Clay
Take some clay in your hands and listen to your life.

Bangor, PA
Wise, observant, and compassionate, Jennifer Holberg's *Nourishing Narratives* is a beautiful book that celebrates the readerly life of stories, novels, and poetry. She inspires us to hold on to a 'vision of a light-filled world, full of sometimes difficult things,' as she puts it so well. I shall cherish this book.

Michelle Kuo, author of *Reading with Patrick*

Buy your copy today in the Festival bookstore or from your favorite independent bookseller.
The Memoir Masterclass
Instructor Helps You Pray the Psalms with Your Whole Body

Leslie Leyland Fields
is an award-winning author, an international speaker, a creator of online writing courses, and the founder of soul-deep writing retreats. With three graduate degrees, she taught undergraduate and graduate students and now focuses on leading writing and psalms-based spiritual formation events on Kodiak Island and Harvester Island in Alaska, around the world, and online. In the summer, Leslie works in commercial salmon fishing with her family.

Come to the Launch Party!
Thursday 7:30-9:30 pm, Art Gallery (Fine Arts Center)
Giveaways, discounted books, readings, desserts (her own smoked salmon!)
CALL
CALVIN ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Experience Enrichment
616-526-8777 • calvin.edu/call
The Center for Excellence in Preaching (CEP) at Calvin Theological Seminary provides preachers and Bible study leaders with fresh and vibrant resources to enhance preaching and teaching. Explore our vast and filterable library of 2,200+ commentaries including new commentaries made available each week in English, Spanish, and Korean.

Our content is free and is trusted by individuals in many denominations, reaching the worldwide church.

cepreaching.org
eloquent and discerning . . .
provocative
Publisher’s Weekly

reads like master class in
spiritual memoir
Barbara Mahany, The National Book Review

Richard Lischer is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Duke Divinity School

Order your copy at
global.oup.com/academic
or by using the QR code.
Use code AAFLYG6 for 30% off!
The C.S. Lewis Festival & Madeleine L’Engle Writing Retreats present

The Seeker & the Storytellers

Madeleine L’Engle, C.S. Lewis & Thomas Merton for a new generation

September 12–15, 2024 | Petoskey, Michigan

A collaborative weekend of à la carte events featuring authors Sarah Arthur & Sophronia Scott with L’Engle’s granddaughters, Léna Roy & Charlotte Jones Voiklis

Register Online!

September 12–13
lenglewritingretreats.com

September 13–15
cslewisfestival.org

Enjoy panel discussions, authors in conversation & much more.

Check the website for details and registration requirements.

@hs_bookfest
complexity found in every adoptee's journey. We've Been There illustrates the uniqueness and If you're a teen with adoption in your story, there are probably a lot adopted—someone who would totally get it? of things your friends and family just don't understand—no matter You'll see your story in their stories. Do you struggle to believe you are ing to trust again? Find hope in this honest book. worthy? Are you at a loss for dealing with grief and forgiveness, or learn-

—Corey Mettler, MA, LPC, adoption therapist, Families Forever Counseling

Susan TeBos

Susan is an adoption advocate and the coauthor of Siberia, and the family makes their home in Grand Rapids, Michigan. "[In Mine: Discovering Your Adopted Child's Lifestory We've Been There Kati Pohler demonstrates that when our stories connect, we find a little bit more community and a little bit more hope that we'll be okay." —Corey Mettler, MA, LPC, adoption therapist, Families Forever Counseling

We've Been There

Kati Pohler is a writer, speaker, Bible study leader, and adoptive, some adoptees] disclose the trauma they

The Divine Surprise of Adopting My Daughter

978-0-8254-4731-0

Before You Were

978-0-8254-4621-4

Made Like Martha

CELEBRATING LOCAL AUTHORS

Kregel Publications is an evangelical Christian publisher whose mission is to develop and distribute—with integrity and excellence—trusted, biblically based resources that lead individuals to know and serve Jesus Christ.
Discover how publishers think.
Deliver what publishers want.


MargotStarbuck.com
Daily coaching from @MargotStarbuck

Complete the course, complete your proposal.

At the Collegeville Institute, we foster community, creativity, connection, collaboration, spiritual renewal and reflection. We offer time, place, and space for our residents to advance their work, thinking, research, and writing.

2475 Ecumenical Drive • Collegeville, MN • 320-363-3366

hope is the thing with handlebars
it looks to the path ahead
and when the way grows weary
it travels in tandem instead
—Nancy Reinders

Celebrating the Festival’s vibrant community since 2006
Please make sure to visit the **FESTIVAL BOOKSTORE**

- Purchase titles by featured speakers and workshop leaders.
- Snag some limited-edition, Festival-branded merchandise.

**Hours:**
9am–7pm

*Located in the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex*
Launched in 1990 by Calvin’s English department, the Festival of Faith & Writing is now the flagship initiative of the Calvin Center for Faith & Writing (CCFW). Produced by the CCFW’s team of faculty, staff, and students, the Festival continues to thrive thanks to the generosity of donors, the dedication of faculty, staff, and students across Calvin University; and partners throughout our community and beyond.

The Calvin Center for Faith & Writing's mission is to celebrate a Reformed engagement with the written word, championing faithful and intelligent conversation about the intersections of religious belief and literature, both broadly defined. In all its activities, the CCFW endeavors to create spaces wherein people from many faith traditions are welcomed warmly, listened to with respect and generosity, and inspired to deeper engagement with the common good.
If you haven’t already, sign-up for our monthly newsletter, *Faithful Reader*, at [ccfw.calvin.edu](http://ccfw.calvin.edu). The newsletter includes the latest CCFW happenings all year round, and it’s the first place to hear about what’s in store for the 2026 Festival!

Follow Us on Social Media

Follow the CCFW on Instagram and Facebook [@CCFWgr](https://www.facebook.com/CCFWgr) to stay up to date on our latest news and events.

Help Us Find Speakers for Festival 2026!

One thing we’ve learned over the last 30 years: an amazing number of people do compelling work at the intersection of faith & writing. Each year, we receive hundreds of nominations from Festival attendees, publishers, campus faculty and students, teachers, and readers from around the country and, literally, the world.

If you’d like to suggest someone, we’d love to hear from you starting September 1, 2024. Our nomination period ends January 1, 2025. Full details at [ccfw.calvin.edu](http://ccfw.calvin.edu).

[ccfw.calvin.edu](http://ccfw.calvin.edu)