

Second Christian Reformed Church
Grand Haven, Michigan
Adult Enrichment · Winter/Spring
2017
Sunday 11:30

January 15

John Dykstra

With photography, narration and music, John explores locations in Michigan through the eye of a camera and as a lover of nature. From grand landscapes and seascapes to small, delicate flowers and butterflies, he sees God in His creation.

John had a portrait photography studio for 40 years, has won numerous awards, and continues working in the field by leading photography trips.

January 22

Kate Kooyman

Kate will continue a discussion of how our immigration policy has been shaped historically and what the current situation is for immigrants in the U.S., including how the church can respond.

Kate is an RCA pastor and serves in the Christian Reformed Church's Office of Social Justice.

February 5

John Barwis

John will review basics of how Earth's atmosphere works, how climate has changed both in the long and short terms (billions to hundreds of years), some of the methods used to reconstruct climate history, and some of the inconsistencies and unsolved problems in the current climate-change arena.

John, who has published extensively in scientific literature, worked for 34 years as a geologist all over the world and now lives in Holland with his wife, Susie.

February 12

Jan Carpenter

Jan is relationship manager for the Tri-Cities branch of 70x7 Life Recovery.

70x7 is an organization that believes in offering a hand-up and re-entry support to those who have felony backgrounds. Along with local churches, state agencies and other organizations, 70x7 provides mentorship, employment, job- and life-skills training and recovery support. Its mission is to restore dignity, purpose and hope.

February 19

Debra Rienstra

Atul Gawande's *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End*, a bestseller for more than two years, has clearly hit a nerve. Gawande describes with surgical precision and human compassion what is wrong with the way the American system handles end-of-life care, and he points us in a better direction. We'll discuss the book, share personal experiences with end-of-life issues, and consider how the church can help.

Debra is a professor of English at Calvin College, where she teaches early British literature and creative writing. She blogs regularly at *The Twelve*.

February 26 and March 5

Arie Leder

The merciful and compassionate God of the Old Testament.

Arie is the Johanna K. and Martin J. Wyngaarden Senior Professor of Old Testament Studies, Emeritus, at Calvin Theological Seminary.

March 12

Herman DeVries

In spite of overarching secularism in Northern Europe today, there appears to be a growing appetite – especially in Germany and the Netherlands – for the wisdom issuing from the Benedictine Order of the Roman Catholic church. This presentation will explore some of the themes of this trend reflect on reasons for the phenomenon.

Herm is professor of Germanic languages and literature and the Frederik Meijer Chair in Dutch Language and Culture at Calvin College.

March 19, March 26

Suzanne McDonald

Dementia challenges our usual ways of thinking about how God relates to us and how we relate to God, and tests the faith, hope, and love of all of us. In these two sessions we will explore how a rather neglected day in the Easter Season, Holy Saturday, can give us a "scriptural space" to think about the experience of dementia; we will reflect on how dementia can help us learn what it means to say that our lives are "hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3).

Suzanne is Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology at Western Theological Seminary. She has written books, articles, and essays on various theological topics and is ordained in the Christian Reformed Church.

April 23

David Hoekema

The Netherlands today: practicality and paradox.

The population density of the Netherlands is now the highest in Europe, twelve times higher than that of the U.S.; and yet the cycling paths leading out of all of its major cities lead to parks and farms within half an hour. The country is small enough to traverse in a few hours by car or train, but a few centuries ago it dominated global trade. Although its history has been profoundly shaped by religion, today it is a very secular society, yet one known for its openness and generosity.

David will share some his observations, stories and photos about the two months he and Susan spent living in Groningen last fall. David is a Professor of Philosophy at Calvin College, and Susan is retired from a career in law. They have been members of Second CRC since moving to the lakeshore in 2006.

May 7

Cal Keuning

Annual introduction and review of defibrillator use and cardiac compression technique.