

Calvin Connection

Summer 2018

A quarterly publication for friends of Calvin Community

Thoughts Upon “Passing the Baton”

When I began my service at Calvin Community ten years ago, I knew retirement would someday occur in my distant, future life. I now marvel at how fast time flies when you are involved in a work as rewarding as I have been privileged to perform here at Calvin.

As most of you already know, my last day as CEO will be November 16. My wife (who retired a year ago following 38 years of faithful teaching) and I are looking forward to our time together in this next phase of our life. More time with our distant children and grandchildren is high on our to-do list!

I will miss the many deep relationships that I have been privileged to enjoy with our residents and their families over the years. Those special times when someone has expressed to me how much they have appreciated the care and love they, or their loved one, has received while under Calvin’s care has meant more than you can imagine. Those heartfelt words of encouragement are the “fuel that keeps the fire burning.”

I have always been amazed by the devoted contributions of time, talent and treasure by our many volunteers, supporting churches, faithful contributors, and Board members.

Last, but certainly not least, I must say a special thank you to our

many, superb Calvin Community employees who care for, and serve our residents and their families in countless ways – 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. These faithful servants are too often the unrecognized, unsung heroes who devote their lives to all those who now call Calvin their home.



Mark Teigland

They are the ones who drive through the worst snowstorms to get to work (there is never a “snow day”

at Calvin!), begin their shift when most of us are going to bed, report to work on Christmas Day, sit at

the bedside of one of their beloved residents providing comfort during their final hours, and too often, sadly, hear only the critical and discouraging “nursing home news” as is portrayed in the media. To all these selfless, devoted persons I say – your efforts have NOT gone unnoticed - you are highly valued. Well done, good and faithful servants!

I will miss all of you, but the memories will last an eternity. Thank you for blessing me with the opportunity to have served you. To God be the glory for all He has done, and all He will continue to do at Calvin Community!

*Mark Teigland
President/CEO*



Switchback performs at Calvin's **President's Dinner** on Oct. 18. Space will be limited to 100 for this evening of fun, fellowship, great food and probably a few tears as we say farewell to our retiring President and CEO Mark Teigland and his wife Patrice. Call 515-277-6141 to make your reservations now.

A note from Pastor Lamberts

July 4 is Independence Day for America and a great opportunity to thank God for the freedoms we enjoy. My parents left Latvia in 1944 to escape from the Communists. My mother was a refugee in Germany and my father was a refugee in Sweden. Both came to America in 1948. They were married in Boston in 1950 and I was born in Chicago in 1951. When I started school I did not speak English. I understand the cry of oppressed people longing to be free. How are you using your freedoms for the benefit of our nation? The Great Commandment reminds us to love God and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. Don't ask who your neighbor is, because there is no one who is not your neighbor. Jesus said that we are even to love our enemies. Jesus



Pastor Lamberts

came to set us free, free from sin and free to love.

Jesus is the bondage breaker (John 8:36). He came to set the captives free (Luke 4:18). 2 Corinthians 3:17 says, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." Galatians 5:1, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us

free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Galatians 5:13, "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature, rather serve one another in love." What a privilege it is to serve one another in love. To do it consistently, I need God's help. Will you ask God to fill you with His love and to put that love in action?

Meet Haley Clifton

Haley Clifton joined Calvin in June 2018 as the Activities Department's new Wellness Coordinator.



Haley Clifton

She graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in kinesiology and health in May. While

attending Iowa State University, Haley held an internship as a Wellness Coordinator with the City of Ames, providing health screenings to City of Ames employees and their family members. She is a Certified Personal Trainer and SilverSneakers® instructor.

"I am looking forward to improving the health and wellbeing of Calvin residents," she said.

Haley enjoys working out and spending time in the gym. She's also planning her wedding for December 2018. Haley's fiancé is a teacher at St. Pius X in Urbandale, IA.

Welcome to the Calvin family, Haley!

Andy returns

Andy Heuer started at Calvin in 2011 as the Health Center's Quality Assurance Nurse. After leaving for a hospice job, Andy returned late last year to our Health Center and was promoted to Health Center Assistant Director of Nursing in July 2018.

His favorite part about working in long-term care is the opportunity to build lasting relationships with residents and their families.

Andy says he is proud to work here because of the great staff and great residents. "Calvin truly takes care of their staff," he says. "Calvin has given me opportunities to advance my education."



Andy Heuer

Andy grew up in Maquoketa, IA, where he raised and showed horses in gaming events such as barrel racing. He received his nursing degree (RN) from Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) in Dubuque.

Andy's interests include attending music festivals; his favorite is the Austin City Limits Festival. He recently adopted Millie, a chihuahua-pug dog.

Welcome back to the Calvin family, Andy!

Resident spotlight: meet three new Calvin couples

Marvin and Lorna Johns moved into Calvin West Independent Living at the end of May. The Johns have one son and daughter-in-law, Mark and Mary, who live in Minneapolis, as well as two graddaughters in Minneapolis and Kansas City, and four great-grandchildren who they are very proud of. Marvin attended



Lorna and Marvin Johns

classes at the University of Iowa and AIB, and Lorna took classes in the Air Tech Service Command at AIB during World War II. Marvin is a World War II Navy veteran. Marvin worked in Industrial Leasing in Finance in addition to 79 years as a church organist! Lorna worked as a secretary under two presidents

of Grand View University, and currently volunteers her time with Iowa Lutheran Hospital making hats for newborn babies. Their home church is Grace Lutheran Church. Welcome to the Calvin family, Marvin and Lorna!

Armond and Betty DeFino just moved into Assisted Living at Calvin Community in June! Armond and Betty have lived in Des Moines their whole lives and are childhood sweethearts! Together they have raised 4 children and 8 grandchildren, who live in Iowa and California. When asked how they like to spend their time, Betty said, "Our main thing is family and church!" Their home church is Saint Anthony Catholic Church. Welcome to the Calvin family, Armond and Betty!

Harold and Virginia Varce just moved into Calvin West Independent Living in May, from Windsor Heights where they had lived for several decades. They love to spend time with family, including 4 daughters,

3 son-in-law's, 7 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren! They have also enjoyed many travels together including 13 Road Scholar



Virginia and Harold Varce

Tours and trips abroad to England, Switzerland, France, Italy, and Norway. Harold's career included time as the Executive Director of the Des Moines Area Religious Council, and Virginia worked as the Director of Christian Education at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Their home church is Immanuel United Methodist Church. Welcome to the Calvin family, Harold & Virginia!

Building Calvin's Good Samaritan Fund

For many seniors, including residents of Calvin, dealing with the financial realities of long term care are challenging. Our Good Samaritan Fund reflects the philosophy of our founders, in that anyone who chooses to live at Calvin will never be asked to live because their financial resources have been depleted. To makeup the difference between Medicaid reimbursement rates and the actual costs of delivering our quality care, we draw on funds from the Foundation's Good Samaritan Fund. However, because we are all living longer and healthier, the economic pressures on our residents and their families are becoming more challenging.

To help alleviate this, the Foundation is directing all it fundraising efforts toward building the Good Sam Fund.

Currently the fund totals \$1.2 million dollars. While the Foundation delivers approximately \$100,000 annually to Calvin for helping residents in need, we have set a goal to double the fund over the next 5 years. To do that we will continue our two important fundraising events – The President's Dinner, and our Good Samaritan Awards Luncheon, and to it we will be adding

several other good will offerings, including our Classic Car Event for residents, families and the neighborhood. We hope everyone reading this article will support each of these events with your own private contribution.

See Ann's Activity Calendar in this issue for details on events supporting the Good Samaritan Fund.



In 2018, we honored the staff and volunteers from Westminster Presbyterian Church with Calvin's Good Samaritan Award. Mark your calendar for Calvin's Good Samaritan Awards Luncheon scheduled for June 12, 2019.



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Ann's Activity Calendar

Join us for summer events and more!

All events held in the Main Lounge unless otherwise stated; visit calvincommunity.org for the full calendar

Music by Merymaker Rob Lumbard
Thursday, August 2 at 2 pm

Floats Wednesday, August 15 at
2 pm

President's Dinner with music by
Switchback and wine bar by
Summerset Winery on Thursday,
October 18; proceeds benefit
Calvin's Good Samaritan Fund

Annual Classic Car Show returns
Saturday, August 4 from 11 am to
1:30 pm on the South Lawn with
music by Jim and Jerry and food
with free-will donation to Calvin's
Good Samaritan Fund

Voter Registration for residents
Tuesday, September 11 at 10 am

Iowa State Fair Week features:

Hovick Family Farms Petting Zoo on
the South Lawn Tuesday, August 14
9:30-11:30 am

Employee Cookie Bake Off on
Wednesday, August 15 at 10 am

One Man Band and Ice Cream



In 2018, we honored the staff and volunteers from Holy Trinity Catholic Church with Calvin's Good Samaritan Award. Mark your calendar for Calvin's Good Samaritan Awards Luncheon scheduled for June 12, 2019.