



Central RED Society Class Schedule & Registration Spring 2022

In January, we will be tapping into the “January Series” broadcast by Calvin College in Grand Rapids and viewed at Third Reformed Church. Join us for the lecture and lunch/discussion afterwards in the Third Church Café following the January 20 & January 26 presentations. Lunches are pay on your own.

“WHY TRAVEL MAKES US BETTER GLOBAL CITIZENS” with Rick Steves

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 14

Third Church Chapel

No Cost, no need to register—just show up!

Rick Steves is a popular public television host, best-selling guidebook author, and outspoken activist who encourages people to broaden their perspectives through travel. For over 40 years he has been traveling, researching, and teaching and will share his experiences as he talks about being better global citizens.

“MAKING PEACE WITH STORIES” with Colum McCann

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 20

Third Church Chapel

No Cost, no need to register—just show up!

International bestselling author Colum McCann braves the darkness within his stories’ subject matter in order to reach the light on the far side, and his mission is to help others do the same. Through his global charity Narrative 4, young people across 20 states and 12 countries have shared over 48,000 stories in order to develop a generation of radically empathetic leaders.

“HARNESSING HEADWINDS OF CHANGE” with Col. Nicole Malachowski

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 26

Third Church Chapel

No Cost, no need to register—just show up!

Colonel Nicole Malachowski draws on stories from her career and personal life to inspire audiences to rethink the challenges they face every day. She urges them to go beyond resilience and become resurgent, empowering them with three key beliefs: Failure and risk are the price of entry for achieving something great, sometimes you need to yield to overcome, and don’t lead a scripted life.

"RESTORING AND RECONSTRUCTING IOWA'S ENDANGERED NATIVE ECOSYSTEM AT NEAL SMITH WILDLIFE REFUGE" with Scott Gilje, Karen Viste-Sparkman and Nancy Corona

11:30 a.m. lunch, noon presentation, Thursday, Feb. 24

Dave and Ardie Sutphen Common Room, Graham Annex

Cost: \$10; Class limit: 50

Refuge staff will present an overview of Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, their mission, and the management practices that are being implemented to restore and reconstruct Iowa's native ecosystems. Due to federal government regulations, all attendees must wear a mask.

Scott, refuge manager, has been with Neal Smith since 1998. Scott served in the army from 1988-1992 with his first job after the military being a wildland fire fighter with the US Fish & Wildlife Service. He graduated in 1996 from Warnell School of Forestry & Wildlife at the University of Georgia.

Karen, refuge biologist, received her B.A. in biology from Willamette University and her masters at Oregon State University. Her love of prairie, oak savanna, and grassland birds led her to her current position as wildlife biologist where she has served since 2006.

Nancy, visitor services manager, spent her 30-year career working as a federal park ranger for both the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Her work centers around engaging and connecting the public with their natural resources. She has been with the refuge since 2016.

"MUSCO LIGHTING-WE MAKE IT HAPPEN" with Tom Morrison

11:30 a.m. lunch, noon presentation, Tuesday, March 8

Dave and Ardie Sutphen Common Room, Graham Annex

Cost: \$10

Since 1976, Musco Lighting has specialized in the design and manufacture of sports and transportation/infrastructure lighting solutions around the world. Our new and retrofit, permanent and temporary lighting solutions can be found from Little League fields to Olympic Games. Learn about major projects, development in the community, and team accomplishments.

Tom is a 2003 graduate of Central College and has been with Musco for 16 years. While in international operations, he traveled to over 40 countries. Tom currently leads the Americas division for all Musco Lighting sales and strategic focus on airports, railyards, shipyards, and industrial business.

"EXPANDING EMERGENCY FOOD ACCESS-THINKING BEYOND FOOD PANTRIES" with Aubrey Alvarez

5:30 p.m. dinner, 6 p.m. presentation, Tuesday, March 22

Dave and Ardie Sutphen Common Room, Graham Annex

Cost: \$15 Cash Bar Available

With hundreds, if not thousands, of food pantries and free meal sites throughout Iowa, how are 1 in 5 children and 1 in 8 adults still food insecure? During this session, we'll explore opportunities available within every rural, suburban, and urban community to put more quality food where individuals and families are already located.

Aubrey Alvarez is co-founder and executive director of Eat Greater Des Moines, a nonprofit organization based in Des Moines. Eat Greater Des Moines unites the community in providing quality food access for all through connection, advocacy, and collaboration. Aubrey graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a degree in health promotion and a master's in public administration from Drake University.

"FIGHTING BACK AGAINST PARKINSON'S" with Natasha Nikkel

11:30 a.m. lunch, noon presentation, Tuesday, April 5

Dave and Ardie Sutphen Common Room, Graham Annex

Cost: \$10

The Parkinson's Foundation estimates there are more than 1 million people in the United States diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, and more than 60,000 people diagnosed each year. Hear first-hand experiences on how your local community is fighting back against this disease with a program called Rock Steady Boxing. You will get a chance to learn from a trained Rock Steady instructor, participant, family member, and volunteer to hear their unique viewpoints on this disease. At Rock Steady Boxing, Parkinson's disease is the opponent, and you will leave inspired from those in the fight!

Natasha is a graduate of Central College with a degree in Health and Exercise Science. She earned her MBA with Marketing certificate from the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business. As the director of wellness at Hearthstone, a Ministry of WesleyLife, she leads the holistic health and well-being programs across the levels of living as well as community education programs.

"A GLIMPSE INTO CENTRAL COLLEGE'S FASCINATING EARLY HISTORY" with Bruce Boertje

5:30 p.m. dinner, 6 p.m. presentation, Tuesday, April 19

Harry and Bernice Vermeer Banquet Hall, Graham Conference Center

Cost: \$15 Cash Bar Available

Central University of Iowa was founded in 1853 and officially open on October 8, 1854. The first class totaled 37 people. This presentation will provide a high-level overview covering highlights of the first half of Central's history from 1853-1938.

Bruce Boertje is a local historian, focusing on Pella's history. A lifelong resident of Pella and a 1979 graduate of Central College, Bruce serves on the board of the Historic Pella Trust and contributes a weekly Facebook post regarding some facet of Pella's unique heritage.

"LIBERAL ARTS IN PRISON PROGRAM" with Emily Guenther

5:30 p.m. dinner, 6 p.m. presentation, Tuesday, May 24
Dave and Ardie Sutphen Common Room, Graham Annex
Cost: \$15 Cash Bar Available

Founded in 2003, the Liberal Arts in Prison Program enrolls students at a local prison in a challenging, robust curriculum that offers up to 60 credits from Grinnell College. Students from campus provide crucial support by tutoring, coordinating a professor lecture series, performing in concerts and other special events, and editing an annual literary anthology by incarcerated writers. Through this work, we foster reciprocal learning that enriches our lives and affirms the power of a liberal arts education.

Emily Guenther is director of the Prison Program at Grinnell College. She volunteered in the program and became its director after graduating from Grinnell in 2007. Emily will be joined by a Grinnell professor who has taught in the program, and a former incarcerated student who has since been released from prison.