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Mitch Albom

**JAN
21**

Finding Chicka: A Little Girl, an Earthquake, and the Making of a Family

Author, columnist, radio host, and philanthropist Mitch Albom is an inspiration around the world. His books, including the New York Times Bestselling *Tuesdays with Morrie*, have sold over 39 million copies. While nationally recognized for his sports writing at the Detroit Press, Albom is perhaps best known for the themes of hope and kindness that weave through his books, plays, and films. His latest book, *Finding Chicka*, is a memoir that celebrates Chika, a young Haitian orphan whose short life would forever change his heart. It is a book about the making of a family and our responsibility to abandoned children worldwide.

Ann Compton

**JAN
22**

Up Close and Very Personal: My 41 Years in the White House Press Corps

Ann Compton is a distinguished and highly respected veteran of the White House press corps. She joined ABC News in 1973 and was the first woman assigned to cover the White House by a television network. From her front seat at the White House for ABC News, Compton covered seven presidents as well as innumerable life-changing and globe-altering events – from the end of the Cold War to 9-11 to the political dramas that made the daily headlines. With her personal access for over four decades she is well equipped to provide audiences a historical perspective of the presidency and insights into today's global events and daily headlines.

Jeremy Everett

**JAN
23**

Solving America's Hunger Crisis

Jeremy Everett is the founder and executive director of the Texas Hunger Initiative, an organization that partners with the United States Department of Agriculture, Texas state agencies, the corporate sector, and thousands of faith- and community-based organizations to develop and implement strategies to alleviate hunger through policy, education, research, and community organizing. A noted advocate for the hungry, he served on the National Commission on Hunger, has spent over two decades ministering to the poor, and frequently speaks on poverty, hunger, community development, and social entrepreneurship.

Johan Norberg

**JAN
24**

Progress: 10 Reasons to Look Forward to the Future

Johan Norberg is an author, lecturer, documentary filmmaker, and a native of Sweden. He is a Senior Fellow at the Cato Institute in Washington D.C., and a Senior Fellow at the European Centre for International Political Economy in Brussels. While politicians, journalists and activists from all sides talk about how the world seems to be collapsing, Johan Norberg, in his book *Progress*, offers an illuminating and heartening analysis of just how far we have come in tackling the greatest problems facing humanity. In the face of fear-mongering, darkness and division, the facts are unequivocal: the golden age is now.

Karen Gonzalez

**JAN
27**

The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong

Karen Gonzalez is an immigrant from Guatemala, now living in Baltimore, Maryland, where she enjoys writing, cooking Latin food, traveling, and watching baseball (in that order). Karen is a former public school teacher and attended Fuller Theological Seminary, where she studied theology and missiology. For the last 10 years, she has been a non-profit professional, currently working for World Relief serving immigrants and refugees. Her book *The God Who Sees* is the story of her own immigration story intertwined with the stories of many of the immigrants found in the Bible.

Najla Kassab

**JAN
28**

The Reformed Church in the Middle East: Hopes and Challenges

Najla Kassab Abousawan is the president of the World Communion of Reformed Churches and is an ordained minister in the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon (NESSL). In 1993 she received the first preaching license offered to a woman by NESSL and in 2017 she became the second woman to be ordained as a minister in NESSL. She has worked for two-and-a-half decades with NESSL's women and children's ministries, including as Director of Christian Education and was elected to the WCRC Executive Committee at the 2010 Uniting General Council.

the **January Series**

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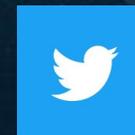
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The January Series is a free 15-day lecture series that takes place each January on the campus of Calvin College. The series is available for students, faculty, and the west Michigan community, and is also livestreamed to over fifty remote webcast sites across the country.

We hope you can join us!

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calvin.edu/january



Amber Warners	JAN
<i>The Fierce Humility of Winning</i>	8
<p>Amber Warners is in her 18th year as head coach of the Calvin volleyball program with three national championships in 2010, 2013, and 2016. Her latest milestone is reaching the 500-collegiate victory mark. Off the court, Dr. Warners has connected her love of volleyball with her degree in sports psychology, creating a technology to help players develop their game. The device captures a player's thoughts out loud and allows them to receive feedback during practice. Warners continues to research what makes a volleyball player tick.</p>	

Jonathan Haidt	JAN
<i>The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas are Setting up a Generation for Failure</i>	13
<p>Jonathan Haidt is a social psychologist at New York University's Stern School of Business. Haidt's research examines the intuitive foundations of morality, and how morality varies across cultures—including the cultures of American progressive, conservatives, and libertarians. His four TED talks have been viewed more than 6 million times and he is the author of over 90 academic articles and 3 books.</p>	

The 5 Browns in concert	JAN
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<p>The 5 Browns – Ryan, Melody, Gregory, Deondra and Desirae – all attended New York's Juilliard School, becoming the first family of five siblings ever accepted simultaneously. The piano playing quintet received their first wave of attention in 2002 when People magazine dubbed them the "Fab Five" and they were featured on Oprah and 60 Minutes. The 5 Browns have released 3 CDs that each went to #1 on Billboard Magazine's Classical Album Chart. The 5 Browns tour extensively and have performed in numerous venues including Carnegie Hall, Grand National Theater in China, and Suntory Hall in Japan.</p>	

Todd Charles Wood & Darrel R. Falk	JAN
<i>The Fool and the Heretic: How Two Scientists Moved Beyond Labels to a Christian Dialogue about Creation and Evolution</i>	9
<p>A deeply personal story of two respected scientists who hold opposing views on the topic of origins, share a common faith in Jesus Christ, and began a sometimes-painful journey to explore how they can remain in Christian fellowship when each thinks the other is harming the church. These two scientists provide a model for how faithful Christians can hold opposing views on deeply divisive issues yet grow deeper in their relationship with each other and to God.</p>	

Cathy O'Neil	JAN
<i>Weapons of Math Destruction: How Big Data Increases Inequality and Threatens Democracy</i>	14
<p>Cathy O'Neil earned a Ph.D. in math from Harvard, was a postdoc in the MIT math department, and a professor at Barnard College. After working in the private sector for several years, she started working as a data scientist in the New York start-up scene, building models that predicted people's purchases and clicks. She is the founder of ORCAA, an algorithmic auditing company, a regular contributor to Bloomberg View, and author of 2 books.</p>	

Bob Fu	JAN
<i>When Caesar Demands to be God: Religious Freedom in China</i>	17
<p>Bob Fu is a leading voice for persecuted faith communities in China. Born and raised in mainland China and a student leader during the Tiananmen Square demonstrations in 1989, Fu became a pastor of an illegal underground church in Beijing until he and his wife fled to the US as religious refugees in 1997. He founded ChinaAid in 2002 to bring attention to China's human rights violations and to promote religious freedom in China. He has served as a distinguished professor on religion and public policy at Midwest University and serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the Chinese Law and Religion Monitor.</p>	

Sandra Postel	JAN
<i>Replenish: The Virtuous Cycle of Water and Prosperity</i>	10
<p>A leading authority and prolific author on global water issues, Sandra promotes the preservation and sustainable use of freshwater. She directs the independent Global Water Policy Project, and is the co-creator of Change the Course, a national water stewardship initiative which works to transform the way society uses, manages, and values freshwater. A Pew Scholar in Conservation and the Environment and a Fellow of the Post Carbon Institute, Sandra has been named one of the Scientific American 50.</p>	

Deborah & James Fallows	JAN
<i>Our Towns: A 100,000 – Mile Journey into the Heart of America</i>	15
<p>Deb & Jim Fallows spent five years visiting small towns in America, flying a modest propeller airplane, to capture firsthand a surprising portrait of the civic and economic reinvention happening across the country, outside the spotlight of national media. The result was <i>Our Towns</i>, the bestselling book Publishers Weekly called "an eye-opening, keenly optimistic reminder of the strength of America's vital center." It is a tonic for what ails us as a nation, a captivating story of energy and renewal across the land.</p>	

Alice Marie Johnson	JAN
in celebration of MLK Day	20
<i>After Life: My Journey from Incarceration to Freedom</i>	
<p>Alice Johnson was convicted of nonviolent drug trafficking in Memphis, Tennessee. After she served twenty-one years, her life sentence was commuted in 2018 by President Donald Trump, with the help of Kim Kardashian West. An ordained minister, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Johnson shares her dramatic story of hope, mercy and gratitude while making the public aware of the realities of life behind bars and the importance of the ongoing struggle to end mass incarceration.</p>	