Monday, July 6

1-1:45pm  Welcome and Opening Worship
Welcome: John Rottman
Devotions: Lisa DeYoung

2-3:15pm  Keynote Address: Mass Incarceration in the United States: The Past, Present, and Way Forward
Rev. Dominique DuBois Gilliard
Entering 2020, the United States had more people locked up in jails, prisons, and detention centers than any other country in the history of the world. Mass incarceration has become a lucrative industry, and our criminal justice system is plagued with bias and unjust practices. This session will unpack how we got here, the systemic realities that sustain mass incarceration, and how we bring about needed change.

3:15-3:30pm  Break

3:30-4:30pm  The Facilitation of Healing in a Multi-Faith Canadian Correctional (Incarceration) Context
Rev. John deVries Jr.
As an ordained pastor in the Christian Reformed Church, John served as Chaplain in the Federal Correctional Service of Canada. Working with “the least of these” from a wide variety of faiths and cultural backgrounds, John saw his role as one who facilitated healing for inmates who were faced with brokenness in their lives. Assisted by community volunteers and systemic multi-faith resources, his relational ministry aimed to nurture new life and healing. In this presentation, John will share his passion for serving the incarcerated and will provide some background on the present prison system in Canada.

4:30-7:30pm  Break

7:30pm  Just Mercy Film discussion
Todd Cioffi, Melinda Braman, Dominique DuBois Gilliard
NOTE: Just Mercy is available to watch for free on multiple digital platforms. Go here for more information.
Tuesday, July 7

8:45-9:00am  Welcome and Worship from Prison
   Devotions: Bob Arbogast

9:00-10:00am  Keynote Address: The Role and Response of the Church in the Age of Mass Incarceration
   Rev. Dominique DuBois Gilliard
   This workshop will explore how Christians can disciple those behind bars, walk alongside their family members, and advocate for criminal justice that offers opportunities for authentic rehabilitation, lasting transformation, and healthy reintegration. The church has the power to help transform our criminal justice system and learn how it can participate in advocating for justice that restores.

10:15-11:15am  Church Engagement in Prison Ministries
   Moderator: Jul Medenblik, President of Calvin Seminary
   Panelists: Rick Admiraal, Bob Arbogast, Rev. Dominique DuBois Gilliard and Mark Muller

11:30-12:15pm  Education in Prison: An Overview of Calvin Prison Initiative and Landscape of Higher Ed in Prison
   Todd Cioffi

12:15-1:00pm  Lunch break

1:00-1:45pm  Education in Prison
   Dewayne Burton and Todd Cioffi

1:45-2:45pm  Panel Discussion: Faculty Perspectives and Experiences of Education in Prison
   Moderator: Dr. Gary Burge
   Panelists: Prof. Stacia Hoeksema, Prof. Ken Bergwerff, Dr. Ronald Feenstra, and Dr. David Rylaarsdam
   In this session, Calvin Seminary and Calvin University faculty will offer insights on prison education at the Handlon Correctional Facility. The discussion will touch on their personal and professional experiences and perceptions and the impact of these experiences on their own teaching within and outside of prison.

2:45-3:00pm  Break

3:00-3:45pm  Reentry: Challenges Inside and Outside of Prison
   Moderator: Dale Cooper
   Students: Saulo Montalvo, Nick Nichols, and Michael Duthler
   This panel discussion will center around three primary questions: First, how did these men prepare for release? Specifically, what training and preparation did they receive from or through MDOC? Second, what challenges did they experience upon release? Third, what are some practical ways churches and individuals can support returning citizens during and after their time of transition?

3:45-4:30pm  Q&A with Dewayne Burton and Todd Cioffi
4:30-5:00pm  Presentation of Service Award, Closing Comments