



RLRI Midwest 2024 Program Summary – Michigan State University

Friday Evening

February 9

CVM Hosts

Drs. Lee Myers and Lauren Charles

Praise & Worship

The Horn Section 7

Evening Challenge

“More Than Medicine: A Veterinarian’s Calling” – Dr. Eunice Low

As veterinarians we give our all for the animals we swore an oath to help. In the midst of our careers, we often forget the real purpose of our lives. Our calling as veterinarians is far more than just taking care of animals and practicing good medicine and is a holistic calling to care for animals, our staff, and the people we get to serve. Journey with us as Dr. Low shares about how God is working in her life and career to reflect the light of Jesus through her calling as a veterinarian.

Saturday

February 10

Devotional

8:30am

“Shining the Light on Anxiety and Stress” - Dr. George Moore

God knows we will have difficult and stressful times in this fallen world we are in. His Word is light to us on this journey (Ps. 119:105), and we will learn insights from the Bible to help combat anxiety and fear from stress!

Session One

9:30am

“Finding the Light in the First Five” – Dr. Catie Southerton

Tools to survive, persevere, and shine brightly to those around you in the first years of practice, from a small animal veterinarian's perspective.

“Doing Life with a Sense of Purpose and Significance – Is That Possible?” – Dr. Rob Vliestra

It is common to settle for a mental state of ‘mediocrity’ after achieving your lofty goal of becoming a veterinarian. Disillusionment, depression, and issues related to neglected and unreasonable feelings of anxiety can lead to poor work performance and a life of lesser significance than is intended for

you and for those close to you. You may find Dr. Vlietstra's journey beneficial to you as you begin practicing medicine and surgery with a daily attitude of joy and peace.

Session Two

10:30am

“... Not Another Colic!” – Dr. Emily Singh

Things to avoid and nuggets of wisdom/encouragement from the first year out in large animal ambulatory practice – a practical look at difficult cases, tough client interactions, and dealing with the aftermath of mistakes.

“Trusting God with Jeremiah” – Dr. Megan Peterson

What does it look like to trust God when your situation doesn't make sense? In Jeremiah chapter 32, Jeremiah was in a desperate situation. He needed to trust God and take steps of faith forward in the midst of uncertainty.

Session Three

11:30am

“From New Grad to Trusted Professional: Mastering Trust” – Dr. David Chase

During this session, I'll provide valuable insights on making the transition from student to practitioner and laying a solid foundation for your veterinary career. I'll offer practical advice on how to swiftly build trust with clients, making you an indispensable part of their pet care team. Additionally, we'll explore approaches for serving your clients as a "light-filled" clinician, particularly when you are the new doctor in the office.

“Don't Forget to Remember” - Dr. Rebecca LaDronka

We learn many important things in vet school and throughout our veterinary careers. More importantly, there are many lessons God teaches us in our lives as believers. Forgetfulness is our default as humans. If we want to remember what we've learned - and not have to relearn lessons the hard way - we need to intentionally, periodically stop for the express purpose of remembering who God is and what he has done for us.

Lunch and CVF Updates

12:30pm

Session Four

2:30pm

“Commuting for God – Let your BUTS become Blessings!” – Dr. Lee Ann Berglund-Fosdick

A description of my life in God and a word of encouragement for those who have desires and a heart for service, BUT there are obstacles in the way.

“Fight or Flight? Trust in the Light!” – Dr. H

What is our natural tendency when there is unknown, when we are stressed, when we are hurt or in pain? In this session, I will share my personal testimony of how I found The Light in my life and how

we can be encouraged through God's Word in the book of John that there is one true Light that will give us life.

Session Five 3:30pm

“Leadership Workshop – The Answer is in the Room”–Dr. Lauren Charles

Join our conversation about different leadership styles, techniques, and habits. We all lead in different areas of our life, and we all have something to contribute to this conversation. Let’s increase our impact and influence for Christ together through this workshop.

“First Years Out Panel” - Drs. David Chase, Chris Tadych, and Megan Peterson

Join a group of recent graduates to ask questions and hear from them about what has surprised them since starting out in the real world.

Fellowship Time 4:30pm

MSU Vet School Tours 5:30pm

Dinner 6:30pm

Praise & Worship 7:30pm

The Horn Section 7

Evening Challenge 8:00pm

“Strength to Carry On” – Pastor Matt Ginter

Having worked with pre-vet students for years now, I have unfortunately seen time and again “youths grow faint and weary”... but what of the Lord’s promises in Isaiah 40:31, that those same “shall mount up with wings like eagles”? What exactly could that—should that—look like in the midst of a grueling season of preparation (and beyond)?

Sunday

February 11

Visit Area Churches

