



North Central RLRI 2024 Featured Speakers – Manhattan, KS

Friday Evening

January 19

Elizabeth Mendoza, DVM

Dr. Elizabeth Mendoza is a 2005 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Vet Med. After graduation she ran off to sunny southern CA and enjoyed small animal emergency and general practice there for 9 years. She met her husband Jaime in CA and shortly after they married, they moved back to TN to raise kids and cows in 2014. Elizabeth joined CVM's staff full time in 2018 as the North Central Region Rep. Her favorite surgery is a good old fashioned laceration repair and her life verse is Jeremiah 29:11.

Nancy Krutzsch, CVPM

Nancy has been working in the veterinary industry both as a Certified Veterinary Practice Manager and a veterinary manufacturer sales representative for over 12 years. A CVM Short-Term Mission trip to Haiti led to a transformed relationship with God. Nancy's involvement with CVM grew through Real Life Real Impact (RLRI) participation and multiple short-term mission trips to Honduras. Her passion for workplace ministry and short-term missions drew her full-time to CVM as the South Central Region Rep. Nancy's free time is spent working on the farm with her husband Jonathan and visits from her three grown sons.

Rocky Lindsey, DVM

Dr. Rocky Lindsey (LSU '98) and his wife, Alicia, live in southeast Arkansas. They have two adult sons, Isaac and Jonah. Dr. Lindsey previously owned and operated two busy small animal practices in which his goal was to offer high quality veterinary medicine at an affordable price. He is an active Associate with Christian Veterinary Mission in which he previously served as the South Central Region Representative. Dr. Lindsey currently still practices veterinary medicine, teaches pre-veterinary courses at the University of Arkansas at Monticello, operates a small farm, and serves with his family at Pauline Baptist Church in Monticello, Arkansas.

Devotion

Matt Basel, PhD

Dr. Matt Basel is an assistant professor of physiology at Kansas State University and is also a pastor of a local church in Manhattan, KS. His passions include showing how physiology is the basis of medicine, designing more targeted cancer treatments, and showing how the entire story of the Bible is about Jesus.

Session I

Adryanna S. Drake, Ph.D., LCMFT

Dr. Drake is a licensed clinical marriage and family therapist. She has been a mental health provider at the KSU CVM for 13 years supporting veterinary students in their mental health needs, teaching communication skills and self-care skills, and conducting research on veterinary student well-being. She is passionate about helping others finding their strengths and thrive in the midst of challenge.

Elizabeth Brehm, DVM

Dr. Elizabeth Brehm graduated from Iowa State in 2019. During vet school she was very involved in CVF and participated in 2 short-term trips to Nicaragua. She is currently practicing mixed animal medicine in northwestern Illinois. In her spare time she enjoys spending time outdoors and knitting.

Nancy Krutzsch, CVPM

See Above

Session II

Kelly Crowdis, DVM

Kelly is a 2000 graduate of Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine. Kelly first engaged with CVM as a veterinary student in 1996 and later as a member of short-term trips before going to Haiti full-time where she served for 17 years. Kelly and her son Ronald are now serving from Wichita, Kansas as Deputy Missions Director for the Americas. When she's not working or at church you can find Kelly at Ronald's soccer games or in the garden.

Brad White, DVM

Dr. Brad White received his D.V.M. from the University of Missouri-Columbia and worked for six years in a mixed animal practice in southeast Missouri. He then worked for two years in beef production medicine at Mississippi State concurrent with completion of his Masters degree. He is currently on faculty at the Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine and serves as director of the Beef Cattle Institute.

Trisha Kvasnica, DVM

Dr. Trisha Kvasnica has been in small animal practice for over twenty years (how did that happen so fast!?) working in corporate, private, shelter medicine and now diving into practice ownership! She has a loving and supportive husband and they are actively raising FIVE human children. They share their home with a dog, 2 cats, a couple frogs, leopard gecko, fish and a horse or two. She is passionate about gardening, scrapbooking and mentoring the next generation of veterinary professionals. Her goal is to shine the light of Christ brightly for all to see!

Session III

Edward Epp, DVM

Dr. Edward Epp graduated from Kansas State University and owned a mixed animal practice retiring in 2021. Following three short term mission trips to Mexico with his church building houses, he felt the call to use his profession. His first Christian Veterinary Mission trip to Haiti in 1998 was a life changing experience! CVM has been a very important and significant part of his life ever since.

Katie Carpenter, DVM

Dr. Katie Carpenter is a mixed animal private practitioner in rural North Texas. She and her husband, Dr Brant Carpenter, own and operate Carpenter Veterinary Clinic in Nocona, TX. They have been married for 18 years, have three children and live on the family ranch. Dr. Katie is a 2009 graduate of Oklahoma State University, where she was very active in CVF and ignited her passion for veterinary mission. She and Dr. Brant participated in their first short term mission trip to Nicaragua in 2007 and have since continued attendance almost yearly, sometimes twice a year. Dr. Carpenter is a full time veterinarian/owner, as well as the youth leader at church and active volunteer at her children's school and community.

Aric and Toni Brandt, DVMs

Aric ('05) and Toni Brandt ('07), born in Nebraska, met through Kansas State CVMF and were married in Manhattan, KS in 2005 and are parents of Zane (14 yrs), Caliber (13 yrs) and Graysha (11 yrs). They are celebrating their 2nd year owning a small animal veterinary practice in Southeast Nebraska. Starting in 2019, Toni began a mobile large animal practice in rural Arkansas that was closed in early 2022. They have served as associates together and independently in several practices in Arkansas and Nebraska since 2007. Currently Toni homeschools 2 children, practices part-time, and loves to remodel the facility, while Aric is learning how to lead the team, manage finances, and optimize the caseload. The family enjoys being outdoors maintaining the family acreage, raising a garden and animals, running, and floating scenic rivers.

Session IV

Christine White, DVM

Dr. White is a 1997 graduate of the University of Missouri. She now does exclusively small animal practice. She has been married to a veterinarian for 28 years and has 4 children.

Alex Grieves, DVM

Dr. Grieves graduated in 2016 from the University of Kansas. She practices small animal exclusively. She has 2 children and has been married for 9 years.

Walter Renberg, DVM, MS, DACVS

Walter Renberg is a faculty member at Kansas State in the Small Animal Surgery section. He has been here for 26 years in various capacities. He has been involved with CVM since veterinary school almost one hundred years ago. He has mentored the CVMF group, let short-term teams, and served on the CVM board.

Session V

Bliss Steele

Bliss Steele lives in Lancaster SC with his wife, Jessica, their son and seven dogs. Bliss has worked with teenagers and adults for nearly three decades in both the church and corporate world. Bliss is currently the Corporate Chaplain for Nutramax Laboratories in Lancaster, SC serving their nearly 800 employees. Bliss uses his unique experiences from growing up on the mission field traveling the world, to serving in the local church, along with his years as a dog trainer to combine biblical truths and practical application showing what it means to be in an obedient and dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ.

Mary Peter, DVM

Dr. Mary Peter is a 2013 graduate of Iowa State University Veterinary school. A native of Nebraska, she went to Georgia after vet school for a one-year equine internship and ended up staying for 10 years. While in Georgia she worked on equine exclusively for 8 years then did mixed animal for 2 years. She also acted as an advisor to the UGA CVF group and had the honor of leading the group's mission trip to the Navajo and Apache reservations each summer. Now back in Nebraska to be close to her family, she is working in small animal only and enjoying family time and working on her small acreage.

Corey (DVM) and Kaethe Gallagher

Dr. Corey and Kaethe Gallagher have a son, daughter and daughter-in-law. They have lived in Ohio, New York, St. Kitts, Iowa, and eventually back in Wisconsin. Corey earned a BS in Chemistry from U of M in 1996 and graduated from Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine in 2010. They both came to Christ while Corey was in vet school and took their first short-term trip to Nicaragua in 2010. In 2011 they purchased a small animal clinic back near Corey's hometown in Wisconsin and Kaethe became the office manager. Corey and Kaethe led and participated in numerous short-term trips with their two children to Nicaragua, Ghana, and Honduras. They are currently in the deputation process to serve as long term missionaries in Honduras and are hoping to be in the field by the summer of 2025.

Session VI

Panels

Evening Challenge

Bliss Steele

See Above

Paul Yurksaitis

Paul Yurksaitis and his wife Sydney live on their small homestead south of Charlotte, NC with their 5 children, 3 dogs, 6 cats, chickens, turkeys, rabbits and sheep. Since graduating with a Biblical Studies degree in 2001 from Liberty University, Paul has been in ministry in different churches and organizations from New Hampshire to North Carolina. Paul's desire is to continue to be transformed into the image of Christ staying faithful to His Word, and help as many people as possible do the same. Paul also enjoys gardening, fruit trees, hunting and performing on stage at Narrowway Productions in Fort Mill, SC.

Sunday

January 21

