



RLRI Midwest 2024 Program Summary – Delta Lake

Friday Evening

January 26

CVM Hosts

Dr. Mike McTigue

Evening Challenge

“The Meaning of Life” – Dr. Mike McTigue

"What is your Purpose? What is Success? How do you live a good life? These are foundational questions that need to be explored, in search of truth, but often go unanswered. But in the Bible, specifically in the wisdom literature, they are specifically addressed, and God’s wisdom is revealed to those who open their hearts to His truth. "

Worship/Prayer

Dr. Ginger Pelc and Students

Saturday

January 27

Breakfast

8am

Devotional

9am

“The Word and the Light” - Dr. Charlie Gardner

In the first fourteen verses of John, two words are used to represent Jesus. One word is “word”, and the other one is “light”. What meaning is conveyed to you by those words. My presentation will consist of how I interpret them, and how I have tried to apply them to life and to veterinary practice.

Session One

10am

“To the Edge and Back” – Dr. Rob Cafaro

After over 7 years in the profession, I entered a battle I didn’t feel prepared to fight... within my mind. By sharing my own experience through depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideology, we will discuss what makes veterinarians more susceptible to mental health crises and what can be done to transform our profession.

“The Long-Term Impact of Short-Term Missions - Dr. Maria Syska Garrett

The impact of short-term missions is not just on the community that you go to serve. My first trip to Nicaragua as a vet student was a very formative event in my life-one that I pray all students would have the opportunity to experience. Join me to hear how short term missions, both international and domestic, have shaped my faith and how I chose to practice veterinary medicine.

Session Two

11am

“How can we let God’s light shine in our daily lives and out in practice?” - Dr. Tara Zentner

"Whether in vet school, out in practice or outside of work, we struggle with trusting in God and seeking His light. Often times we think that we are being overcome by the darkness in the midst of the trial we’re facing. How quickly we let the outwardly dark things of this world control us.

Lessons learned in darkness, and how God’s light shines through. Will share scripture, stories and cases about how the Lord God gives us light .

“The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.” -Psalm 19:8

“The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.” -Psalm 119:30"

“Burma, War, and Light in the Darkness” – Dr. Steven Marks

With the world focused on the war in Ukraine, the humanitarian needs of thousands of families suffering from the effects of a decades-long war in Burma have drawn little attention from the media and international humanitarian support is severely lacking. In this session, we will learn what those humanitarian needs are and find out what you can do as a veterinary student or veterinary professional to bring hope and light into the darkness.

Lunch and CVF Updates

12pm

Lunch Devotional

1pm

“This Little Light of Mine – Are You Letting it Shine?” – Paul Yurksaitis

We are commanded to let our light shine, so we will take look at John 1:5 and Matthew 5:16 on just how significant the light of Christ is in our lives and how we are to let it shine in the world around us.

Session Three

1:30pm

“Let Your Light Shine Before Men... Me? Now?.” – Dr. Jerry Kolb

It’s so easy to be “Too Busy”; to be distracted by school, work, family, responsibilities, the pursuit of career, competence, and success. Life happens and we struggle to “Seek FIRST the kingdom of God and His righteousness” to be the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus Christ NOW, every day, in whatever we are doing, in whatever season of life we find ourselves.

“Shining His Light in the Philippines” – Dr. Helen Noble

With God, all things are possible! God does not call the equipped He equips the called. Hear how God has used people who are willing to seek God, listen and then be obedient to what He has called them

to do to build His kingdom! Christian Veterinary Mission Philippines was a dream in 2014 and in 2023 it became a reality!

Session Four 2:40pm

“The Power of Significance” – Paul Yurksaitis

Our value is not dependent on our ability to earn the fickle acceptance of people, but rather, its true source is the love and acceptance of our creator, God. When we’ve tasted significance, there’s no going back. And as leaders, as people who influence others, it’s never been more important to live and inspire a life of significance.

“Oreo vs Chocolate Chip Ministry” - Dr. Karen Stouffer

Using real-life stories from Nepal, we will look at examples of ministry that we can apply to our own lives here in the USA. Are we more like Oreos or like chocolate chip cookies?

Session Five 3:50pm

“Seeking God’s Plan After Veterinary School” – Dr. Ginger Pelc

Starting the job search process can be very daunting. There are so many practices looking to hire and many practices can look very similar. In this talk we'll discuss how to narrow down the field of options and keep God front and center in the process. Whether it's landing in a Christian practice, or being the only Christian in a practice, God has a place for you and an opportunity to minister where He has placed you.

Dinner 5:30pm

Evening Challenge 7:00pm

“The Boundary Lines Have Fallen for me in Pleasant Places” - Dr. Mike Atchison

This title is the first clause of Psalm 16 verse 6, attributed to King David. Well of course the boundary lines have fallen in pleasant places... he’s king! But is that conclusion valid? A closer look at David’s life reveals trouble, betrayal, and hardship. Maybe your life too. Making your light shine in the midst of trouble, betrayal, and hardship on the surface seems ridiculous. Yet it is possible. And it is liberating.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. Ps 16:6

Worship and Prayer 8:00pm

Sunday **January 28**

Breakfast 8am

Worship and Message 9am

“John 1” - Dr. Joseph Bove

