



RLRI Western Canada 2024 Program Summary – Pioneer Camp, AB

Friday February 16

CVM Host Lisa Balzer

Dinner, riding sign-up 6:30pm

Introductions/ Icebreakers 7:30pm

Evening Challenge 8:15-8:45pm

He calls us friend – Dr. Rick Graber

A deeper relationship with the Lord moves us from servant to friend (John 15:15). A servant doesn't know what his master is doing, but friendship, although it requires intimacy, reveals the thoughts and plans of God.

Worship 8:45pm

Saturday February 17

Prayer Walk 7:00am

Breakfast, riding sign-up 7:30am

Morning Challenge 8:30-9:00am

This Little Light of Mine – Are you letting it shine? – Pastor Bliss Steele

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 I 9:15-10:05am

Work-life Balance – Drs. Sarah and Brent Wagner

Is there such a thing as work-life balance? What do we get wrong? what might we get right? Work is a hugely important aspect of life and careers are very important. Although each person or family walks a different path, there are a few other things that probably should be prioritized. Sarah and Brent

will be talking about some of their experiences and lessons learned during 20-some years of marriage and children and community and careers. All this in the context of walking in “The Light”.

Healing from Anxiety and Depression with God – Webinar with Dr. Christiane Orsini

Hopelessness? Depression? Anxiety? These are common sentiments for all of us. However, within the veterinary community, there is a crisis of veterinary wellness. The path of becoming a veterinarian is challenging and can feel overwhelming at times. Finding support and mentorship is critical, as is perseverance and resilience. The Christian veterinary community at CVM is here to help you. You are not alone. God has taught me so much through the last 9.5 years of veterinary medicine. He has brought me to a place of healing through intense transformation. I want to share my story with you and encourage you on your professional and personal journeys. Invite Jesus into your daily life in veterinary medicine. Mindfully make Him a part of every exam, consultation, treatment plan and surgery. Pray for your patients. Watch God work. You were not meant to do veterinary medicine alone. God is with you. God is ready to help you and bless you.

Session II

10:15-11:05am

Marriage lived in the Light – Dr. Becky Holvik

With 22 years of marriage and 25 years of veterinary practice under her belt, Becky understands the challenges of growing a God-honouring, healthy marriage amid a demanding career. Join her for insights and practical steps (delivered with a good dose of humour!) to help bring Christ to the center of the life that you and your spouse are building.

Living as a Full-Time Disciple – Dr. Jessica Semper

From prepping for appointments, to meeting new clients and patients, to dealing with emergencies and interacting with clients about things in their lives – practice is such a massive opportunity for sharing Jesus with people. Jessica will share how the Lord is leading and teaching her to walk out her calling, offering encouragement for you wherever God has placed you within the veterinary industry.

Session III

11:15am-12:05pm

Mongolia, mutton, and missions – Dr. Celine and David Newton

Is God calling you to serve Him here at home or abroad? In 2022, after Celine graduated from UCVM, she and her husband David (an engineer) went on a 6-week long apprenticeship program in Mongolia, exploring what long-term missions looks like (and eating a lot of mutton in the process) and to determine if overseas missions is where God is leading them. Come and hear about what they learned, what the CVM apprenticeship program is all about, and how we are called to serve God wherever He places us, both at home and abroad.

Are you looking up? – Dr. Mark Wickstrom

Almost all Christians believe in the literal, physical second coming of Jesus Christ to earth, and we are commanded to look for that event with anticipation (Luke 21:27-28, Titus 2:13). The exact timing of His return is not known, but Bible prophecy gives us some idea of what the world will look like in the last days. Are we seeing events and conditions in our world today that could fit these end-times prophecies, and if so, are you looking up?

Lunch

12:15pm

Activity Block 1: 1:15-2:45pm
Riding, Archery, Climbing, Hiking

Activity Block 2: 3:00-4:30pm
Riding, Archery, Climbing, Hiking

Session IV 5:00-5:45pm

Walking in the Light – Dr. W. Ben Stoughton

In this session, the aim is to discuss how following King Jesus, the Light of the World, brings us out of darkness and begins the transforming journey of walking as children of light, even in the face of pain and suffering.

Short-term missions – Lessons Learned – Drs. Colleen and Clark Bertagnolli

We both feel blessed to have gained an education with few obstacles. We also believe that education is one of the key tools useful to alleviate poverty. Veterinary missions has allowed us to teach others, but God has also used these times to teach the both of us as well. We would like to share with you lessons learned, both practical and spiritual.

Dinner 6:30pm

Evening Challenge 7:30-8:00pm

The Scalpel and the Sword – Dr. Neil Connery

Dr. Neil takes us on a surgeon's journey into God's Word

CVF updates and prayer 8:00-8:30pm

Worship 8:30pm

Fellowship by the campfire 8:45pm

Sunday February 18

Breakfast 8:00am

Morning Devotion 9:00-9:30am

Abiding in the Light – Lisa Balzer

Thoughts about 'being' and 'doing' in our relationship with Jesus

Worship 9:30am

Clean up and departure 10:00am

