



St. George's Univ RLRI 2026 Featured Speakers – Grenada

Friday

March 20

Briana Blackwelder, DVM

Dr. Bri is a 2025 graduate of NC State. She has been very active with CVM, including multiple Real Life Real Impact events like this one! Bri has also been part of short term mission trips through CVM. In school, Bri was an equine focused vet student. Before starting vet school she worked for several years as a physical therapist assistant. She started and continues to run her own equine body work business. Bri was very active at NC State, sat on the E-board for several clubs, the student body government, and hosted a weekly devotions meeting.

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Saturday

March 21

John Mauterer, DVM

Dr. Mauterer graduated from LSU in 1987. He completed a small animal surgical residency at The Ohio State and became a board-certified surgeon. He has worked in university and private practice settings for 30 years. He was raised in New Orleans in the Presbyterian faith. At the age of 39 he had a life-changing experience with Holy Spirit. He has since worked with CVM and his local church in using veterinary medicine in mission work locally and around the world.

Deb Mauterer, DVM

Deb Mauterer earned her Degree of Veterinary Medicine in 1989 from Iowa State University. After finishing her Small Animal Internship at Kansas State University, she completed a Residency in Small Animal Surgery at Ohio State University in 1993. She practiced small animal surgery in Louisiana for several years before she moved into a management position where she oversees their two practices for the past 7 years. In her free time she is a breeder of English Cocker Spaniels, and enjoys showing her own dogs. She has been on several short term mission trips including Costa Rica, Vietnam, Cambodia, China, India, Haiti and Thailand.

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Page Wages, DVM, MA

Dr. Page Wages is the lead veterinarian at Care First Animal Hospital; a busy, progressive small animal practice in Raleigh, NC. She graduated veterinary school at NC State in 2005, completed her Masters in Executive Leadership through Liberty University in 2014, and a Bachelors in 2001 from St. Lawrence

University. Dr. Wages is passionate about rescue animals and has been actively involved in community service; serving as the overseeing veterinarian for Second Chance Pet Adoptions and intermittently for the Wake County SPCA. She is also highly involved with the veterinary students at NC State, as the Advisor of the Christian Veterinary Mission Fellowship group. She has been leading trips through Christian Veterinary Mission for the last 23 years to the Navajo Nation, to Cherokee in North Carolina, and serving the Yup'ik Eskimo Villages in Alaska. She is currently serving as the past Chairman of the Board for Christian Veterinary Mission. For fun, Dr. Wages has a little Funny Farm of 92 animals including 2 pigs, 12 dogs, 4 ducks, 7 peacocks, 7 rabbits, 70 something chickens, and 5 goats -many of the animals have special medical needs and keep her busy at home! She was nominated 2 years in a row and won 3rd place as America's Favorite Veterinarian and recently won 2nd place in Raleigh's Favorite Veterinarian.

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Ginger Pelc, DVM

Dr. Ginger Pelc is a 2017 graduate from NC State University, who braved the cold and moved north for a mixed animal job outside of Erie, PA. She has been involved in CVM participating in and now helping to lead trips to the Native American people of Navajo, Cherokee, and Alaska. When not working with every kind of species that walks through the clinic door, Ginger and her husband spend time keeping up with the border collies, cats, and cows on the farm.

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Bliss Steele

Bliss Steele lives in Lancaster, South Carolina with his wife, Jessica, and five dogs. Bliss has worked with teenagers and adults for over three decades in both the church, mission field and corporate world. Bliss is currently the Senior Corporate Chaplain for Nutramax Laboratories in Lancaster, SC serving their 800+ employees. Bliss uses his unique experiences from growing up on the mission field traveling the world, to serving in the local church and corporate world, 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.

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Sunday

March 22

Curtiss Gibbs, M.Div

Curtiss Gibbs joined the CVM team as a Region Rep in 2017. He serves as the West Region Rep and Assistant Director of Workplace and Student Ministries, after having spent 5 years serving as the Northeast Rep. Previously, Curtiss served in pastoral ministry for 13 years in the local church, mostly focused on youth, college students, and missions. He studied at the University of Georgia for his undergraduate degree and at Fuller Theological Seminary for his Master of Divinity. Curtiss loves connecting people to their calling and working to see individuals and groups thrive as they serve God. He and his wife, Shannon, have been married since 2003, and love to spend time outdoors and in the company of family and friends.

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