

Christian Veterinary Mission

Southeast RLRI - Camp Kulaqua: Hosted by University of Florida
January 8-10, 2027
Featured Speakers
(alphabetical order)

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Faculty Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth Maxwell



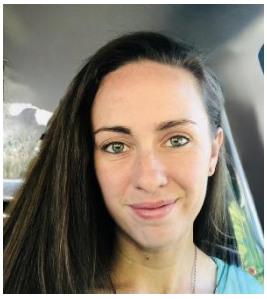
Rebecca Black, DVM

Dr. Rebecca (Becca) Black grew up in a small town in Minnesota. Pursuing a love for horses, she attended undergraduate at Virginia Intermont College and received a bachelor's degree in biology and a bachelor's degree in equestrian studies. In 2004, she graduated from the University of Minnesota as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Black has experience with a wide variety of species having worked as a mixed animal practitioner for six years, and she is a Certified Fear Free Practitioner. She enjoys performing soft tissue surgery, dentistry, and medicine. Dr. Black is married to a specialist in zoo and exotic animal medicine and they have two sons.



Cade Coffee

Cade Coffee serves as the Vet School and Student Manager at Nutramax Laboratories, where he leads initiatives focused on engaging and developing the next generation of veterinary professionals. Cade entered the veterinary industry after graduating from Moody Bible Institute with a Bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies and Biblical Languages. Since then, he has worked in veterinary medicine in a variety of contexts, including sales, marketing, university engagement, and international work. Through these experiences, Cade has developed a passion for integrating faith into veterinary medicine and seeing the Lord glorified throughout the profession.



Sara Croft, DVM

Dr. Sara Croft is a large animal veterinarian south of Atlanta, GA. She is from Griffin, GA. She received a Bachelors degree in Biology from Gordon College in 2015. Sara then went in to receive her DVM from the University of Georgia in 2019. She returned home after vet school to work as an associate for her mentor. Dr. Sara shares her home with her two dogs, Rue, 7, who was adopted in vet school, and Ollie, 2. Outside of work, Sara enjoys spending time with family and friends, hiking and kayaking with her pups, crafting, and watching college football. Dr. Sara has been a part of CVM's UGA Navajo/Apache mission team since her first year of vet school and co-led the trip with Dr. Mary Peter in 2021.



Lynn Hagood, DVM

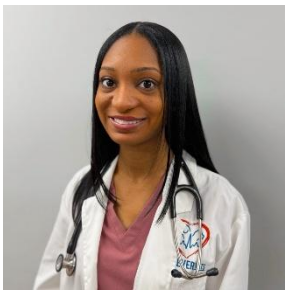
Dr. Lynn Hagood is a 1988 graduate of Auburn University who began his career practicing mixed animal veterinary medicine in Alabama. In 2000, he relocated to Florida, where he has focused in small animal practice ever since. For Dr. Hagood, veterinary medicine is more than a profession; it is a calling. He views his practice as a meaningful opportunity to mentor others and share his faith, especially with the young people who work alongside him. His commitment to service extends through his participation in Christian Veterinary Mission (CVM) short-term missions, having served on the Navajo reservation for the past few years. Deeply rooted in his faith, Dr. Hagood continuously witnesses God's goodness, mercy, and love reflected in his life and family. He has been married to his wife, Hallie, for 39 years, and together they are blessed with three children and five grandchildren.



Ralph Hamor, DVM, ACVIM (Ophthalmology)

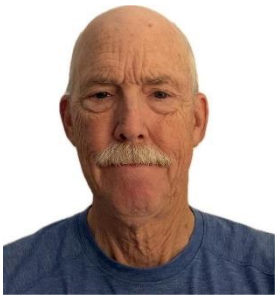
Dr. Hamor graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1987, and completed a small animal rotating internship at Auburn University in 1988. He was in private practice for two years. He then completed a residency and master's at Colorado State University in 1993 and became board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists in 1994. Ralph taught at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for 23 years where he also was an advisor to U of I's CVF. Dr. Hamor has been involved in his local church as a children's leader, youth leader, a deacon and an elder. Ralph has been on multiple short-term mission trips to Haiti, Dominican Republic and Africa with CVF, his family and with his church. In April of 2016, he began his seven years of dedicated work at the University of Florida. Ralph lives in

Gainesville with his lovely wife, Marcia. They have been married for 37 years and have 3 adult children and one grandchild. He currently provides relief work locally and across the country. If you can't find him at his house in his garden, look for him on the Pickleball court.



Chelsea Henry, DVM

Dr. Chelsea Henry is an associate veterinarian at Forever Vets Animal Hospital in Jacksonville, FL, specializing in comprehensive companion animal care with a dedicated interest in exotic animal medicine. Originally from West Palm Beach, Dr. Henry holds a B.S. in Biomedical Science from Southern Adventist University and earned her DVM from the University of Florida in 2026. Prior to vet school, she built a strong foundation in emergency medicine and triaging as an ER and surgical assistant in South Florida. Driven by a passion for unique species, she have completed multiple zoo externships and aim to advance their work with exotic animals. Beyond her clinical duties, she is an avid reader and artist who enjoys video editing, horseback riding, traveling with family, and volunteering in local church ministries.



Dave Langford, DVM, Diplomate ABVP

Dr. Dave Langford is a retired veterinarian from Southern Maryland with a distinguished 41-year career dedicated to clinical excellence and practice management. Over more than four decades of service, he combined advanced board-certified expertise with a deep commitment to leadership and faith-based service. Dr. Langford earned his DVM from the University of Georgia in 1977. He began his career in mixed-animal practice for seven years before transitioning exclusively to small animal medicine. Demonstrating a lifelong commitment to high-quality care, he became a Diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP), specializing in canine and feline practice, in the early 1990s. To pair his clinical skill with business excellence, he also graduated from the Veterinary Management Institute and actively engaged with the Veterinary Study Group organization to master advanced practice management. Outside of his clinical career, Dr. Langford's life is anchored by his faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. Since 2011, he has channeled his veterinary skills into humanitarian work through annual mission trips with the Christian Veterinary Mission to the Pine Ridge Reservation. Reflecting his commitment to this Native American ministry, he has served as a co-leader of the Lakota Sioux trip since 2019. Today, he enjoys his retirement in Southern Maryland, spending cherished time as a devoted husband, parent, and grandparent.



Bo Little, DVM

Dr. Bo Little owned and operated a small animal veterinary practice for the past 35 years. He serves periodically on short-term mission trips with Christian Veterinary Missions, using the platform of veterinary medicine locally and internationally to share the gospel and train veterinarians and assistants to do the same. He has served on salvation response teams in the local church for over 25 years and has been a Walk Thru The Bible OT instructor for over 10 years with WTB ministries. He continues taking online Christian certificate courses in apologetics such as I Don't Have Enough Faith To Be An Atheist, Why Does God Allow Evil and various courses in evangelism. Using his experience in discipleship and training in evangelism programs, including Experiencing God, Evangelism Explosion, FAITH, Alpha, and Relational Evangelism, he began Start The Conversation For Life, a non profit ministry. STC4Life focuses on how to have engaging conversations with friends, family or strangers that allows you to present the gospel in a winsome manner and within a short amount of time if needed. STC4Life does training and outreach events including practical on-the-job training at conferences and churches.



Mary McDonald, DVM

Dr. McDonald worked as a large animal ambulatory vet in Virginia until moving to Bolivia, South America to serve with Christian Veterinary Mission. While there, she trained rural animal health care workers and taught at the vet school in Santa Cruz. She currently does revolving goat trainings and distributions in East Africa. Yearly she teaches F.A.R.M. (Farm Animal Refresher for Missions) course on her farm in Virginia where she teaches vets, techs, and students how to share their faith cross culturally, and offers hands on practice with horses, cattle, poultry, swine, and sheep/goats.



Nancy Moore, DVM, MA

Dr. Moore is a Nebraska native. Scholastic blessings led her to the University of Florida for vet school, graduating in 1995. Small animal private practice and a love for the Lord propelled her into short-term missionary work with CVM's Native American Reservations and Urban Outreach. In obedience to the Lord, she completed a master's degree in Ministerial Leadership at Southeastern University in 2020. She is based in Tampa, Florida now with her family. While Dr. Moore continues with CVM as a short-term missionary, she also serves with CVM as the US Southeast Region Representative. She connects and ministers to veterinarians, professors, vet students, technicians, donors and prayer partners encouraging them to fix their eyes on Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. In addition, she helps leverage them in their positions to love the Lord and others through veterinary medicine across her region of nine states. She is blessed to witness how the Lord multiplies His power through His people for His Kingdom.



Julie Mosher, DVM

Dr. Julie Mosher was a 2020 graduate of the Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine. She has an interest in internal medicine, canine rehabilitation therapy, and high-quality care. She works as the medical lead at Edge Animal Hospital, a 5 doctor AAHA certified clinic in downtown St. Petersburg. She has mentored 3 new graduates and loves watching the profession grow. She is from Fort Myers, FL and attended undergrad at the University of Central Florida (Go Knights!). In her free time, Dr. Mosher enjoys running and exploring the outdoors. She and her husband Kevin just welcomed their first son, a joyful baby boy named Jack. She is also the proud fur momma of Lucas (chocolate lab), Birdie (black lab mix), and Oliver (domestic shorthair cat). She looks forward to meeting and praying with you!



Billy Myers, DVM & Lee Myers, DVM, MPH

Dr. Lee Myers and Dr. Billy Myers are a veterinary team profoundly dedicated to serving Jesus Christ through veterinary medicine, with Christian Veterinary Mission (CVM) serving as a central avenue of their life's work. Dr. Lee Myers graduated from the University of Georgia (UGA) College of Veterinary Medicine in 1984 and later served as the Chief Executive Officer of CVM from 2022 until her retirement—passing leadership to current CEO Shane Rootes—following a distinguished global career with the USDA and the United Nations FAO. Dr. Billy Myers graduated from the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine in 1979 and built a legacy in equine medicine and surgery. The couple met on a CVM mission trip to Mongolia, married in 1998, and spent the next decade leading student mission trips to Navajo and Apache reservations. As CVM Associates, they relocated to Europe to plant and support Christian veterinary clubs across Romania, Moldova, and Bulgaria. They are also the founders of UGA's Dorminy House, a safe gathering space named after CVM founder Dr. Leroy Dorminy that stands as the only dedicated chapter house for a Christian Veterinary Fellowship in the nation. Though "retired," they remain diligent to serve the Lord in various ways because Kingdom work is eternal! They continue serving with the local church, maintaining Christian student advocacy, and supporting many missionaries' work while enjoying farm life in Monroe, Georgia.



Jennifer Peterson, MS, DVM

Dr. Jennifer Peterson is a dedicated veterinarian, mentor, and community leader with a heart for service—both locally and globally. A 2009 graduate of the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine, she began her career in a mixed animal practice before purchasing Firehall 4 Animal Hospital in 2016. Today, she leads a team known for providing gold-standard medicine with a holistic approach to wellness and preventive care. Dr. Peterson is passionate about mentoring young adults and regularly visits local public schools to inspire students and teach them about veterinary medicine, animal welfare, and responsible pet care. Her faith plays a central role in her life; she serves actively at her church and has participated in mission trips to Belize and Nigeria, combining veterinary care with spiritual outreach. In 2025, she began pursuing a Master's in Ministry and Leadership degree through Western Seminary to integrate her faith, veterinary work, and mentoring more deeply. Dr. Peterson has been happily married for 25 years and is the proud mother of two human children—and many furry ones.



Grant & Amy Piper, DVM

Amy and Grant Piper are married speaker and ministry leader team who share a passion for faith, family, and purposeful discipleship. Having met a year before Amy entered veterinary school at the University of Florida—and marrying a week after her graduation—they have navigated the intense seasons of higher education, early career building, and parenthood as a unified team. Central to their lives is a mutual devotion to the Lord. Together, they have actively served in short-term and local missions, as well as various community-based ministries, dedicating their lives to fostering spiritual growth and supporting local communities. Professionally, Amy is a distinguished veterinary executive, serving as an Area Chief of Staff overseeing multiple Banfield Pet Hospital locations across the Tampa region. She also holds an active background in animal health advocacy with the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). The Pipers reside in a rural area just north of Tampa, Florida, where they balance leadership with raising their children and managing a lively farm filled with misfit animals. As speakers, they bring an authentic, faith-centered perspective to balancing career ambitions, marriage, and family life.



Sheri Randell, DVM

Dr. Sheri Randell has owned and served as managing partner of Carrboro Plaza Veterinary Clinic, an AAHA-certified 6-doctor practice in Carrboro, NC, since 1992. She has been involved with Veterinary Management Groups, a veterinary business group, since 2003 and has been a facilitator since 2018. She has participated and co-led CVM short-term trips to Pine Ridge, South Dakota, since 2011. She is married to Guy. They have four adult children, two grandchildren, and two dogs. For fun, she enjoys traveling and gardening.



Shane Rootes, PhD

Pastor Shane Rootes serves as CEO of Christian Veterinary Mission, inspiring veterinarians worldwide to live out their calling where faith and skill meet in service. A transformational leader with more than two decades of global experience, he is passionate about advancing mission, mentorship, and impact through the veterinary profession. Read more at: our CVM website https://cvm.org/our-team-detail/shane-rootes. Join him on mission or invite him to a speaking engagement.



Patty Scharko, DVM, MPH, Diplomate ACVPM

Dr. Patty Scharko is with Clemson Livestock Poultry Health as an extension veterinarian and Ruminant Health Director in Columbia, SC. She is involved with cattle, goats and sheep production/management/herd health. She received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from University of Georgia and a Masters in Public Health in Epidemiology from UNC - Chapel Hill. She completed an internship at Tufts University Ambulatory and a residency in production medicine at North Carolina State University. Patty is past president for AABP (American Association of Bovine Practitioners), ACVPM (American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine), AASRP (American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners), and AAEV (American Association of Extension Veterinarians). She served on Christian Veterinary Mission board of advisors and did a short term CVM shuttle to Mongolia and Haiti to teach about livestock health. Dr. Patty Scharko is a 1983 UGA graduate. She became involved with CVM while a student at UGA and interacting with Dr. Dorminy. She helps at several national meetings with CVM, participated as a board member and in short-term trips. She is married to Tommy and has a daughter in Orlando, Florida.



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.



Ben Stoughton, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM

Ben Stoughton is a large animal veterinarian and incoming Associate Professor at Clemson University's Harvey S. Peeler Jr. College of Veterinary Medicine. After nearly nine years at the Atlantic Veterinary College on Prince Edward Island, he is transitioning into this new role in large animal internal medicine and veterinary education. Originally from Merritt Island, Florida, Ben has been involved with Christian Veterinary Mission (CVM) USA since 2004 and joined the CVM Canada Board in 2022. As an educator and mentor, Ben is passionate about helping veterinary students grow in wisdom, skill, and character. He teaches from a Christian worldview, encouraging students to see their identity as secure in Christ and to approach both success and failure with humility, reflection, and dependence on God's grace. He has also served as an advisor to the AVC Christian Veterinary Fellowship, mentoring students in both their faith and their professional calling. Before moving to Prince Edward Island in 2017, Ben taught at Texas A&M University. He completed his undergraduate studies and DVM at the University of Florida, followed by an internship at the Equine Medical Center of Ocala, a residency in Large Animal Internal Medicine at Texas A&M, and later a Ph.D. studying Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Ben is now continuing his work at the new, Lincoln Memorial University in the outskirts of Jacksonville, FL. Ben and his wife Aubrey live Coram Deo with their four children, four horses, two cats, and two dogs, and he enjoys photography, vegetable gardening, and spicy salsa.



Diana & Anna Sullivan

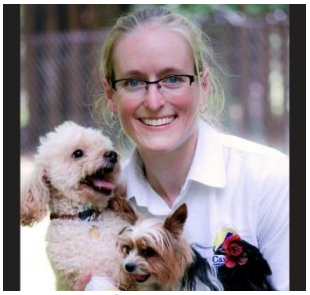
Diana Sullivan and her adult daughter, Anna Sullivan, are committed to serving the Lord Jesus Christ by stepping out in faith and sharing the Good News through veterinary medicine. Together, they serve with Christian Veterinary Mission (CVM), using their God-given gifts to minister two by two to veterinary professionals and communities. Anna completed an online veterinary technician assistant program through Penn Foster and now is enrolled in their vet technician program! She offers her medical training in service to the Lord. Diana contributes her organizational skills, leadership, and encouragement. Over the past five years, they have participated in local Tampa, Florida-area veterinary outreach and numerous international

short-term mission trips. They also represent CVM at professional events helping set-up/tear-down and run exhibitor booths at locations including IVECCS, VMX, FVMA, and the ECHO missionary conference, engaging veterinary professionals about serving Christ through their careers. They volunteered at CVM's annual conference in Tennessee, assisting with merchandise sales. In 2024, Anna also participated in a mock evangelism skit at the CVMC onstage! Together, Anna and Diana faithfully follow God's leading, trusting Him to use their unique gifts and shared passion to spread the love and hope of Jesus Christ wherever He sends them.



Fred Van Gorkom, DVM

One month after vet school graduation (Washington State University (1983), Dr. Gorkom went to Ethiopia with Christian Veterinary Mission. While working in veterinary projects, famine relief, refugee and discipleship ministries, he met his wife, Vicki (also a veterinarian – graduated Oregon State University, 1982). They married in 1986, returning immediately to remote southwestern Ethiopia where they raised their four children while doing community development and church planting among unreached people groups. In 2008 they moved to CVM's home office where Vicki served in Donor Services until retiring in 2024, and Fred continues to serve as deputy director for missions, helping mobilize and mentor others for the privilege of international missions. Fred also serves in CVM global security and CVM affiliate ministry—mobilizing Christian veterinary professionals in other countries for the Great Commission. Fred also speaks in a number of churches and is passionate about sharing God's heart for all peoples.



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.



Dustin Weaver, DVM, MPH, DACVPM

Dr. Dustin Weaver is a veterinary preventive medicine specialist serving as a Public Health Faculty member at the Clemson University College of Veterinary Medicine, which launched in early Fall 2026. Board-certified in 2018, his diverse expertise spans public health inspection, mixed-animal and beef cattle practice, and state-level agricultural leadership, including his former role as Deputy State Veterinarian for the Georgia Department of Agriculture. Dr. Weaver holds a Master of Public Health from the Colorado School of Public Health and earned his DVM from Colorado State University in 2011. Before entering public service and academia, he spent five years managing a large cattle ranching operation in eastern Colorado. His extensive background in epidemiology and livestock health is further enhanced by specialized training as a Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician from Plum Island, New York. Outside of his professional roles, Dr. Weaver is dedicated to community and faith-based outreach. He serves as an elder and missions coordinator at Covenant Park Church in Madison, Georgia, and is a frequent speaker for Christian Veterinary Mission. He has been happily married to his wife, Janeah, for 20 years, and they have three children.

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