Abounding

August 2019

This week, some of my dear students from the Universities of Georgia, Florida, Auburn, and Lincoln Memorial are working with the Navajo and Apache Native Americans in Arizona. How I would love to be there serving alongside them! We considered going, as it would have been a nice trip to take Angie on with me, but this week, Angie is serving on her own short-term mission trip to Mexico! If only we could be everywhere at once…

Thank you all who helped support Angie’s trip. She was surely the most funded student on the team and any excess she had went to help cover the expenses of the rest of her teammates. She’s having a wonderful time, starting to feel at home with the food and the Spanish. Yesterday, the heat index got up to 107, so they’re taking full advantage of the pool on the property where they’re staying to cool off every afternoon during siesta time.

When she’s not swimming with a beautiful view of the Monterrey mountains or savoring the delicious food, she’s working hard though. Alongside Youth With a Mission (YWAM), they’ve been putting on skits for the community, throwing parties in the park, visiting orphanages, nursing homes, and houses with Bibles and offers to pray for people. Here’s a quote from their trip leader,

“Your kids are being bold and speaking to people as we knock on doors. They are using their Spanish. They are seeing God answer prayers instantaneously and people’s hearts being touched by the Gospel. You should be incredibly proud of your kids!”

And of course, we are proud of her! As well as incredibly excited to get her back in a couple of days. Then, next week we head to the beach for my first conference in a while, which kicks off a long string of travel again through November.

In the meantime, I’ve been working from home, equipping others. We’ve had about 100 students join our summer leadership training webinars to prepare for their Christian Veterinary Fellowship groups to launch again this
fall. We’ve also begun a New Vet Discussion Group online to address various topics that apply specifically to our new grads such as wellness, balance, and finances.

I’m honored to have built a relationship with some of them so they feel they can open up to me. In the past month, new vets have poured out their challenges with imposter syndrome, self-doubt, lack of confidence, anxiety, stress, and questioning their decision to become a veterinarian. It hurts my heart to hear they are struggling with such deep issues in the profession, but it’s nice to be able to reassure them that they are not alone and that it will get better. This community we’re building of Christian vet is a wonderful support network that leads each one of us back to Jesus as the One who we can really lean on. When we are not enough, He always is.

Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve in this way for ten years so far. I’m looking forward to so many more!

Creating Community,
Lauren for Jon, Angie, Isaiah, and Paul

“...do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” –Joshua 1:9

From the CVM Home Office: 2019 Prayer Cards have been mailed! This year we changed our approach to a postcard-style piece. Due to post office processing, you may have received a blemished item that we feel does not represent our best efforts. If you would like to view an unblemished version of the prayer card, you can view it here https://cvm.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Charles-2019-PC.pdf

If you prefer to receive an unblemished prayer card to post or display, we would love to send another to you! Please make that note on the back of the detachable portion of the return slip, place it in the enclosed envelope and place it in the mail. Thank you for your support for the work and ministry of Jon and Lauren.

Jon, Lauren, Angie and Isaiah Charles
lcharles@cvmusa.org
spendyourselves.blogspot.com

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