



Christian Veterinary News



Volume 9, Issue 2

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Table of Contents

IT IS YOUR CHOICE!

Dr. Conrad Van Dijk, Executive Director

A Message from the Executive Director 1

Fellowships Groups - Get Connected! 1

Mongolia Update 2

Short Term Missions - How to get Involved! 2

Poultry Project Update 3

CVM US Annual Short Course 3

Calendar of Events / CVMC Contact List 4

This is written in Freetown on Sierra Leone's 44th Independence Day. Most of the Sierra Leone people are poor, poorer than you can imagine. Over 50% of the population earns less than \$1 a day. They are in bondage to poverty. But, unfortunately, Satan has many people in Canada in all kinds of bondage too. **How about us as Christians? Are we free of bondage?** When we became Christians, we confessed our sins and gave our lives to Jesus. He forgave all our sins and through the Cross, our debt was paid and **we are free indeed.** Praise the Lord!

The process of sanctification is a lifetime process whereby every part of our lives eventually comes under the lordship of Christ. **But during this process, Christians may still have areas of their life in bondage.** We may be controlled by fear and not faith. We may be in the bondage of sins of the past, or idolize our lifestyle, our successful practice or business, our good looks, abilities or skills.

The good news is that the Lord wants to set us totally free. **John 8:32** says "... the truth shall set you free". **Deuteronomy 30:19-20** is very profound. "*This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life...for the Lord is your life....*"

Many Christians have not yet chosen life nor have total freedom in Him. Pray that the Lord will lead and guide you in *choosing life* in all areas, especially during your busiest times when you need His guidance most. It may well be a life changing experience, freeing you in more ways than one.

CVMC
Annual General Meeting
Sept 23-25, 2005
Saskatoon WCVM

Friday: AM & PM Board Meeting follow by Student Oriented Program

Saturday: 9 AM-5PM Special Speaker
6 PM Banquet/Speaker

Sunday: AM Worship
PM Board Meeting

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Christian Veterinary Missions of Canada
P.O. Box 31059
Guelph ON
N1H 8K1

Phone: (905) 304-6146
E-mail: cvandij@attglobal.net
Website: www.cvmcanada.org

Editorial Committee:
Anna Van Dijk
Conrad Van Dijk
Sonya Doty

Design, Production & Distribution:
Sonya Doty

Printing:
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GET CONNECTED with CVMC FELLOWSHIP GROUPS!

Dr. Brent McLaughlin

Feeling isolated? Join a CVMC fellowship group in your area! We have and it has been a tremendous blessing! My wife, Sue and I live in a little town on the east shore of Lake Simcoe in central Ontario. Sue works part-time as a small animal practitioner while I work as a 100% large animal practitioner. My dream was to someday do tent-making ministry in a foreign country using veterinary medicine as a platform. **I was feeling so isolated from the Christian veterinary community until I attended the Saline solution seminar at Dr. Len Carr's in Burlington last fall.** At that meeting, we had the privilege of meeting Christian vets who wanted to talk more about the Lord than shop talk. Wow!! Now this was a group I would love to get to know. Since then, we have had 2 fellowship meetings where we ate delicious food, sang powerful worship songs with 2 wonderful guitar players, discussed topical issues that combine veterinary practice and faith, prayed fervently and developed lasting relationships with our brothers and sisters in Christ!

I cannot describe how wonderful it feels to know that other veterinarians have the hope of our Saviour and desire to make him known not only in their personal lives but also in their work environment. Thank you to Eva and Ken Lee for hosting our first meeting in February, and then Peter and Gisela Weidlich for hosting it at their home in Stouffville last Saturday evening. And now, I finally don't feel guilty about choosing to evangelize my local community- we can all do tent-making ministry right here in Canada! If we can't do this here, what makes us think that we will do a better job in a foreign land! Thank you, CVMC- you have been a tremendous answer to our prayers!

Contact CVMC for more information about Fellowship Groups in your area.



SIERRA LEONE - 44 Years of Independence - Restoring Hope

Conrad Van Dijk, Executive Director



It is a very muggy day - about 35C - and I am sitting in my bathing suit on the third floor of the YMCA in Freetown, Sierra Leone, enjoying a breeze. Today is a national holiday, Independence Day. **On the real Independence Day forty-four years ago, there was a lot of joy and excitement because they believed that independence would bring freedom, self rule and prosperity. Over the years, the hope and excitement gradually gave way to disappointment, frustration, anger and finally, despair.** The dictatorial government had control over large diamond fields and through corruption, allowed the benefits to drain away until it triggered an brutal 11-year civil war in the early 1990's, which further destroyed the country, especially its infrastructure.

The only one city of significance in SL, Freetown, had till recently only 100,000 people, but during the peak of the civil war was estimated to have up to one half of the country's population, about 5.8 million people. The population of the city is now estimated to be between 1 and 2 million people, as some people have gone back to their rural homes or left for other countries, mainly as refugees.

Today sickness and dying is a daily occurrence in SL even though the war has been over for three years. The main cause of this is malnutrition and a totally inadequate or non-existent health care system. I just visited a makeshift health clinic run by a paramedic and five nurses (all on a volunteer basis), which was built last June and now has to be rebuilt because the roofs are leaking. When I visit them again in two days I will bring them a large suitcase full of medical supplies that will likely more than double their supplies. We hope to ship another container soon which will have a lot of medical equipment and supplies (surplus supplies for Tsunami relief) to SL, where conditions permanently are equal or worse than the Tsunami regions. Witnessing the frequent funerals and hearing people share that their son, father etc. just passed away (life expectancy is just 35 years), you ask yourself "Where is God in all this? What are we to do?"

God has put it in my heart to help the people here and restore hope through a poultry project that gives poor farmers a way to earn an income. The challenges we face are enormous. My current visit is focused on further organizing and encouraging the project leaders to move from the pilot phase to a permanent phase that will give the farmers what they need to have a continuous income. The more we work at this, the more we realize that this is totally faith based – we are totally dependent on the Lord. The most important part is the prayer teams that we are developing both in Canada and in SL. We have not given up our goal of helping 1000 farmers giving them a long-term income.

We are asking you to pray for Sierra Leone and the work that we are doing, and that all involved will have the wisdom and knowledge to further develop this project to help the farmers who currently have no income and no cash to start earning an income. Pray for the finances and tools needed to make this all happen.

Most importantly, pray that the people will see Christ's love and His hand at work in what we are doing to help.

SHARE WITH US!

Do you have a story to share of how God is working in your practice? We'd love to hear about it!

THOSE INTERESTED IN MISSIONS:

You are invited to attend the CVM US Annual Short Course Focus - "Blessed to be a Blessing"

When? August 25 & 26, 8 a.m.—5 p.m.

Where? Kansas City, Missouri

There are 3 different tracks on which participants can focus:

1. Long term missions
2. Short Term Missions
3. Workplace Ministry

Contact CVM US for more info at (206) 546-7569 or sign up at www.cvmusa.org !

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Please take the opportunity to look at our **webpage!**

**WWW.
cvmcanada.org**

**webmaster
Jim Fairles**
jim@skyvet.com

Prayer Director:

Aviva Wielinga -

For Prayer or Praise, Contact:

**frankavivaw
@sympatico.ca**

****VETERINARIAN WANTED****



for small animal hospital beginning in September or October.

Servicing regular clients in the Oakville area. No after-hour emergencies and closed on Sundays. Work with our great staff in a beautiful city!

For more information please call:
Dr. Len Carr @ 905-319-6523 or Charlene Dobb @ 905-884-6786

DATE (2004-05)	EVENT/LOCATION	NAME /CONTACT
Second Saturday Monthly 5:30 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner	CVMC Fellowship Group Burlington, ON	Contact: Corrine Loh (905) 331-0238
Saturday, August 6th 1 p.m. - 6 pm. (or later)	CVMC Pool Party & BBQ Dr. Len Carr's house, Kilbride, ON	corrine_loh@hotmail.com
Saturday, May 14th 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner	Toronto Fellowship Grp. Ken & Eva's (McCowan & 401)	Contact: Sal & Effie Rocha (905) 472-4177
Saturday, August (no date yet) 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner	Toronto Fellowship Grp. Brent & Sue McLaughlin's	salefrocha1125@rogers.com OR Eva Lee
Saturday, Sept. (no date yet) 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner	Toronto Fellowship Grp. Sal & Effie Rocha's	(416) 279-0098 evaleedvm@yahoo.ca
Every other Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Breakfast	CVMC Fellowship Group Edmonton, AB	Contact: Ed Neufeld (780) 434-7802 or eneufeld@shawbiz.ca
Every Tuesday 12:00-1:00 p.m.	OVC Staff Bible Study University of Guelph	Contact: Bonnie Mallard bmallard@ovc.uoguelph.ca
July 13-16, 2005 7:30 a.m. Saturday Breakfast	CVMA Annual Convention Victoria, BC; Conf. Center Room: Saanich 2	Contact: Conrad Van Dijk cvandij@attglobal.net
September 23-25, 2005	CVMC Annual Meeting Saskatoon, SK	Contact: Conrad Van Dijk cvandij@attglobal.net

PARTY ANYONE?? All Vets (and all others interested) **in Ontario are invited to a BBQ / Pool Party at Dr. Len Carr's house on August 6th** for a time of Fellowship and Fun!
Come at 1 p.m. for swimming/sports followed by a BBQ at dinnertime.
Contact Corrine Loh at (905) 331-0238 for more info.

CVMC Board Member/Contact List

Chairman - Dr. Wayne Lees (204) 855-3000, wlees@escape.ca (Oak Lake, MB)
Executive Director - Dr. Conrad Van Dijk (905) 304-6146 cvandij@attglobal.net (Hamilton, ON)
Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, ON
Dr. Gary Partlow (519) 824-4120 Ext. 54917, gpartlow@uoguelph.ca
Dr. Dongwan Yoo (519) 824-4120 Ext. 54729 dyoo@uoguelph.ca
Mr. James Schulenburg (905) 659-4380 jaschule@uoguelph.ca
Western College of Veterinary Medicine, Saskatoon, SK
Dr. Mark Wickstrom (306) 966-7446, mark.wickstrom@usask.ca
Dr. Becky Corrigan (306) 373-3194 rla549@mail.usask.ca (Secretary)
Atlantic Veterinary College, Charlottetown, PEI
Dr. Chris Riley (902) 566-0999, criley@upe.ca
Ontario, Morrisburg - Dr. Devin Hunt (613) 543-2616 dshunt1@mac.com
Ontario, Innisfil - Dr. Andrea Alfred , (705) 428-3287 andrea.alfred@sympatico.ca (Vice-Chair)
Ontario, Oakville - Dr. Len Carr , (905) 844-6786 len_carr@hotmail.com (Treasurer)
Saskatchewan, Saskatoon - Dr. Wally Kononoff , (306) 373-3800 kononoff@sasktel.net (Past Chair)
British Columbia, Coquitlam - Mr. Dirk Jol , (604) 936-9885, jol@sfu.ca
CVM USA, Seattle, WA - Dr. Kit Flowers , (206) 546-7569, kflowers@cvmusa.org (Exec. Director)