



## August - October 2024 Newsbrief



The CDS had an eventful Summer with numerous missions taking place worldwide. This News-Brief will focus on two major events: The **Great Commission Dental Conference (GCDC) and the recent in person CDS Board meeting.**

The inaugural GCDC was held on October 4-5 at the beautiful Irving, Texas, First Methodist Church. It was an encouraging opportunity to learn about Christian missions, network, and enjoy sweet fellowship with like-minded servants from around the world. Check out the event website on [www.cmda.org/gcdc](http://www.cmda.org/gcdc)



225 registered for the GCDC with 25 speakers presenting on a wide range of Christian mission topics, including 40 dental students from numerous schools attending.



A powerful group of Christian missionary speakers



Dental students from across the country



at \$110 which included delicious free breakfasts and airport shuttle services. There were 12 exhibit booths focused on dental missions which were well received and attended, including a CDS booth.



Meals and snack times were a wonderful opportunity to connect about Christ and missions

There were eight hours of CHE credits. \$150,000 of CDS, donated dental instruments, supplies, and equipment to be given away to help with missions—all disappeared on the first day.

This first GCDC was a resounding success and the planning committee consisting of CDS and CMDA members, are already looking forward to **doing it again on September 12-13, 2025 in Dallas**, so please save these dates on your calendar.



Your CDS Board, several Advisory Council members, a few guests, and several leaders Zoomed the meeting, shown on the picture screen. An evening meal was paid for by the CDS, prepared by the hotel, and served halfway through the meeting. The Wyndham DFW Airport hotel was the conference hotel and they provided the CDS with the \$1,000 Diamond conference room for the meeting for free.

Dr. Chad and Sharyn Araki gave us delicious snacks from Hawaii and we thanked them.

The CDS has been holding its yearly, in person Board meeting at

attended and all Board and Advisory Council Members favored the venue, topics, fellowship, and Christian encouragement offered at the GDCD.

**The CDS Board meeting opened with Prayer by Dr. James Wolf** who called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Central time on Thursday evening, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Board agenda, old minutes, and organizational reports were e-mailed to the Board and the Advisory Council members ahead of time and were available in paper form at the meeting.



As the CDS Board, we seek to discover how God is leading and guiding our decisions. The CDS performs a vital function of encouraging, assisting, training, and equipping dental teams for His glory. Dr. Denny Scharine was thanked for setting up the Zoom conference call.

**1. CDS Leadership Changes:** The CDS organizational chart was referenced.

**a. The CDS President, Past-President, and President-Elect will remain** in place for another year and will change at the in person, Board meeting which will most likely be on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 on the evening before the next Great Commission Dental Conference. Please be praying about the next President-Elect.

**b. Board of Directors Changes:** The CDS currently has 11 Board Members and is required to have from 8-12. Two Board Members (Dr. Andrew Walls and Dr. Victor Bradford) are required to step down (CDS by-laws) after six years of service and will go to the Advisory Council. The CDS sincerely thanked them for their service to the leadership team.

**Dr. Victor Bradford**, as he prepared to leave the CDS Board said, "First, being a member of such a group is a highlight of the profession and I hope you also have this memory. You are working for good, from many different and valid viewpoints, on a path with

the Kingdom.

Since beginning membership years ago, I have noticed many impressions of our organization and would like to share some.

First, we seem to have increased the effectiveness of our efforts. Years ago, it seemed uncommon to encounter dentists who shared Christianity on mission trips; today, not only is it more common, but we are also sharing our caring with dental students as well as dentists. Although I do not have statistics, we seem to no longer have a shortage of qualified and dedicated young dental professionals.

Second, we have been able to share our dental wisdom not only with our fellow DMDs and DDSs, but with overseas dental professionals as well, expanding the ability of non-dentists to perform simple but life-changing procedures in remote areas. We have also been able to expand our knowledge to physicians and other caregivers.

Third, the vision and mission have not changed much. Like those who have come before us, we still engage with prayer, courage, and humility. We still maintain our faith in the presence of hardship (Habakkuk 3: 17 - 19), and we still maintain stable flexibility in central tasks like stocking instruments, sharing knowledge, camaraderie, etc.

I am so impressed with the, yes, saintliness of exemplary people and many professionals whose uniqueness and similarity, humor and dedication, resilience and stability, and example will shine forth in my professional memory. It would take longer than I want to spend to list them all by name and memory."

Vaya Con Dios, and keep up the good work and your faith.  
Vic Bradford. September 2024



Dr. Vic in the Philippines treats abused children

New Board Members are nominated by the CDS Board and require a majority vote of the CDS membership before becoming a Board Member.

**Nominations for CDS Board Members:** Nominations of new Board Members come from the Advisory Council and are made by majority approval of the CDS Board and then the CDS membership is allowed to approve the Board's recommendations. If any CDS member has any issue with the three candidates (listed below) representing you as a CDS Board Member, please let Dr. Bob Meyer know at [rdmeyer7@gmail.com](mailto:rdmeyer7@gmail.com) before November 6<sup>th</sup>. Otherwise, the CDS will assume that you support the Board's recommendations. The CDS Board has vetted these three outstanding candidates as they bring a love for Jesus Christ, a heart for service, and a wealth of mission and leadership experience. The CDS feels honored and blessed to have a full, 12-member Board of dedicated leaders.

**Dr. David Moretz**, the CDS Equipment Manager, stepped off the Board last year, after serving as President-Elect, President, and Past-President, to serve a mandatory year off the Board. He has been on the Advisory Council for the past year and is eligible to be nominated to the CDS Board. Read more about Dr. Moretz, as he and his wife, Gail, received this year's Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary Award for 2023. **Discussion, a motion, a second, and a unanimous vote occurred.**

**Dr. Chad Araki**, a generous, missionary dentist and contributor to the CDS, has helped the CDS at exhibit booths. For the last two years, Chad, his wife, Sharyn, and his family have prepared and served food at the CDS Board Meetings and mission banquets. They continued to be helpful this year and brought special Hawaiian snacks to the meeting. Their family is active in church and Dr. Chad is an experienced leader who has served on many missions and is dedicated to the CDS. Dr. Bob Meyer was honored to nominate Dr. Chad to become a CDS Board Member. **Discussion, a motion, a second, and a unanimous vote occurred.**

**Mrs. Glynn Reser** is a dynamic hygienist who created and runs her non-profit organization (Starfish Ministries), which has conducted large Christian, dental mission trips for the last 20 years. She has run a CDS Exhibit booth and spoke at the GCDC. She enthusiastically hopes to help the CDS obtain more hygienists involved in missions and Dr. Bob was honored to nominate Glynn to become a CDS Board Member. **Discussion, a motion, a second, and a unanimous vote occurred.**

**c. Advisory Council Elections:** Nominees to the Advisory Council are CDS members with the desire to help the CDS. Nominees are briefed about the CDS and nominated by a CDS member. Advisory Council Information Questionnaires are sent to nominees by the CDS Advisory Council members and are voted in by the Board.



Advisory Council. Dr. Tanner is a strong Christian and he and his wife have been very interested in missions for years. They are involved with helping students with missions. The CDS is excited to bring Dr. Tanner's youthful enthusiasm to the CDS Advisory Council.

**Discussion, a motion, a second, and a unanimous vote occurred.**

**Dr. Bob Meyer introduced Dr. Loc Quang Huynh** to be considered for the CDS Advisory Council. Dr. Loc lives with purpose and understands that everything we have belongs to God. Dr. Loc is passionate about Jesus, about dental missions, and loves to share his testimony. He is interested in helping with the mission of the CDS and would like to join the Advisory Board. He has gone to Thailand on a mission, has run seven dental offices in the Bay Area, and is on the Board of Healing California to help with dental needs. He was raised Buddhist, trusted Jesus in 2014, and is actively involved with several Christian churches. He has lots of energy along with great ideas on how the CDS can continue to share the Gospel. **Dr. Loc would like to start a CDS Zoom, monthly Bible study and asked if anyone would be interested. If interested, please contact Dr. Loc at [lochuynh@yahoo.com](mailto:lochuynh@yahoo.com)** as he would love to hear from you. **Discussion, a motion, a second, and a unanimous vote occurred.**

**Dr. Bob Meyer introduced Mr. Jamie DiBease from Day One Dental Marketing** (whose name comes from Genesis 1:1) for consideration for the CDS Advisory Council. Mr. DiBease will be managing the CDS website as a Christian ministry without cost, as did Mark and Susan Curtis. Jamie is a strong Christian who believes in the CDS Statement of Faith and is an Elder in his church. He wants to use his talents and that of Day One Dental Marketing to further God's kingdom. Day One has recently upgraded the CDS website operating system, which was outdated, making it more user-friendly. On May 11, at the CDS Zoom meeting, the Board unanimously voted to approve Day One and Jamie DiBease taking over the management of the CDS website. The CDS website will remain [www.christiandental.org](http://www.christiandental.org) with the updated site being launched shortly. **Discussion, a nomination, a second, and a unanimous vote occurred.**

**d. CDS Executive Secretary:** The CDS sincerely thanked Tina Land (formally Tina Wendell) for her 30+ years of admirable devotion to dental missions as she continues to serve as the CDS Executive Secretary. She recently moved, due to family changes, from Sumner, Iowa to Cedar Falls, Iowa, a larger town about 30 miles away. With Tina's move, the CDS headquarters has changed to Tina's lower-level room, where the CDS will be renting space from Tina. The **CDS post office box has been changed to 1403 State Street #4; Cedar Falls, Iowa 50674.** Tina updated the group on her move and her happiness with all the changes currently

## **2. Surgical, Restorative, Hygiene, and Sterilization Report by Dr. Randy Sanders.**

- a. Kit rentals have been increasing.
- b. All kits are in storage at Dr. Sanders's new office, and the number of kits remains the same: 24 surgical, 24 restorative, 11 hygiene, and 6 pressure pots.
- c. Wholehearted appreciation was expressed to Dr. Randy Sanders for the ongoing work he does to provide clean, well-equipped kits and supplies to members who rent through the CDS. There was a **motion, a second, and a unanimous vote to approve Dr. Randy's report.**

## **3. Equipment, Chairs, and Dental Operating Units Report by Dr. David Moretz:**

- a. Dental mission trips and equipment rentals are increasing.
  - b. Dr. David discussed the CDS equipment cache and stated that four task force units have been added to the CDS inventory.
  - c. Aseptico has discontinued producing the current Taskforce unit as they could not get anyone to create an appropriate case and CDS bought the last unit for a 30% discount. Aseptico is in the process of using a molded plastic case to hold the Taskforce, which is an air-driven, lightweight, dependable dental unit and should be available shortly.
  - d. There are portable compressors and tower units not being used and, if anyone would like to purchase them, please contact Dr. Moretz.
- Wholehearted appreciation was expressed to Dr. David Moretz for his ongoing dedication to CDS in storing, shipping, repairing, and coordinating equipment rentals to members who rent them through the CDS. There was a **motion, a second, and a unanimous vote to approve Dr. David's report.**

## **4. Financial Report by Dr. Robert Meyer and Dr. Jody Yarbrow:**

- a. The CDS is financially sound and has not raised membership fees or rental fees for many years.
- b. The CDS continues to equip teams by selling portable chairs, stools, and pressure pot weights. Mission trips are picking up which brings moderate income to the CDS. The CDS is always glad to accept donations, yet spends no resources trying to raise support at this time.
- c. The CDS thanked Dr. Gayle Cheatwood for helping produce the CDS blue portable chair and the pressure pot rings.
- d. The CDS thanks Dr. Jody, the CDS Treasurer, and Tina, the Executive Secretary, for their exceptional financial diligence. There was a **motion, a second, and a unanimous vote to accept the financial report.**



a. Dr. Bob Meyer and Dr. Bill Griffin, CDS Advisory Council member and Christian Medical and Dental Associations (CMDA) Vice President for Dental Ministries have worked diligently this past year to create three shared CDS and CMDA documents which further student ministries and missions listed below. If interested in any of these documents, please contact Dr. Bob Meyer at [rdmeyer7@gmail.com](mailto:rdmeyer7@gmail.com).

1. Memorandum of Understanding for Global Health Outreach to Rent Equipment and Kits From the CDS
2. Guidelines for Christian Medical and Dental Associations Affiliated Student Dental Mission Trips, Code of Conduct, and Needlestick Guidelines
3. Free Student Membership into the CDS and CMDA

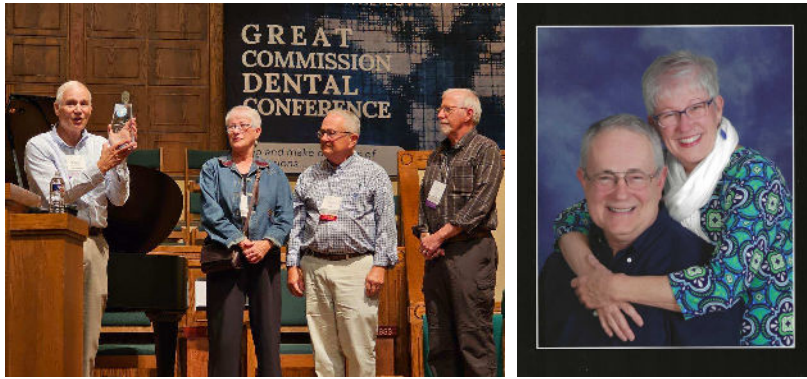
b. **Dental and Hygiene** students who participate in a mission trip with CDS members are eligible for a free student membership into the CDS and the CMDA through the calendar year of their graduation. This requires their signed agreement with the CDS/CMDA Statement of Faith.

c. **Dr. Jim Carney** reported on dental student trips to Jamaica, **Dr. Bob Meyer** reported on the Guatemala student trip and the 21-chair clinic, **Dr. Mike Hadow** reported on his mission trips with students, and **Dr. Jonathan Spenn** reported on his work as regional director of CMDA students and trips to Guatemala and Nicaragua. Several leaders spoke to the ongoing challenges with some dental schools discouraging missions. Discussion occurred concerning Christian values, standards, and expectations of students for these trips. All agreed that student trips were very worthwhile and should be encouraged. CDS continues to work with the CMDA to increase student participation.

## **6. The Dr. Ron Lamb Mission Award:**

a. Dr. Ron Lamb's World Dental Relief is helping dental teams with supplies and surgical kits and in 2002, the CDS leadership helped set up the Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary Award to honor an outstanding Christian missionary leader each year. They have supported this award with a \$500 prize. The CDS again thanks Dr. Ron and WDR.

b. The Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary Award this year was presented to Dr. David and Gail Moretz at the GCDC Plenary session on Friday evening by Dr. Bob Meyer and Dr. Jim Wolf. Here is a little information about David and Gail.



Dr. David and Gail Moretz receiving the Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary award by Dr. Bob Meyer the CDS Executive Director on the left and Dr. Jim Wolf, the CDS President at the GCDC. They received a well-deserved standing ovation from over 200 participants.

Dr. David Moretz has been the CDS equipment manager for 13 years. He maintains and sends out portable chairs, dental units, compressors, and x-ray units to many dental teams each year and says, "I take this huge responsibility seriously knowing the consequences of failed equipment on a mission trip." What many do not know is that his wife Gail significantly influenced him to accept this critical job as a volunteer and actively supports him. For example, when David had hip replacement surgeries, Gail did all the lifting and much of the cleaning and packing of the equipment being shipped out to dental teams around the world while David healed. Without her support, David could not be such an impactful servant. David and Gail have four children, who have all been on mission trips. David started as a Peace Corps worker in Nepal after high school which spurred him on to become a Christian dentist. The CDS is very thankful for David's and Gail's many contributions to Christian ministry and dental teams over the years and sends a well-deserved congratulations to them.

## **7. The CDS Website:**

a. Mr. Jamie DiBease was introduced as a new Advisory Council member. The CDS will continue to work with Jamie and Day One to improve the website and the CDS welcomes any input. Day One will run the site at no charge, and the CDS thanks Jamie for his generosity in using his talents to further Christ's kingdom.

b. The CDS leadership encouraged all members to contribute with stories, pictures, resources, international missions, and USA missions to continue to make the CDS website and Facebook a valued resource and outreach ministry of the CDS. Stories and pictures show how CDS impacts lives. Send input and contributions to Dr. Bob at [rdmeyer7@gmail.com](mailto:rdmeyer7@gmail.com)

c. The CDS website allows members to sign up for automatic dues renewal either on the website, through the mail by check, or by

years.

d. The CDS News-Brief is a great place for CDS members to share stories and pictures to encourage missions and they are all posted on the CDS website under "About Us." It was noted to please send member stories to Dr. Bob (please note the change in Bob's email).

e. The CDS greatly misses Mr. Mark Curtis as he passed into the hands of our Lord in February of 2023. The CDS was very grateful for the generosity of Mark and Susan Curtis Mrs. Susan Curtis has managed the CDS since Mark's passing but has turned the reigns over to Day One. Mark and Susan have been a huge part of the CDS ministry and we thank them for all they have done to support us. We praise the Lord for their invaluable contributions to the CDS. The CDS Board will be sending Susan a monetary thank you, flowers, and a special CDS Badge, along with a thank you letter for her service to the CDS.

### **8. The CDS Exhibit Booths at Major Dental Conventions:**

Exhibiting at dental conventions has been an extremely valuable opportunity to encourage, assist, and connect. Those who have participated in various conferences were sincerely thanked. The CDS has run 14 exhibit booths during the last year across the U.S. A special thanks went to Dr. Tom Love who has contributed financial support to pay several booth fees so the CDS could procure exhibit space. Transportation, lodging, food, and misc. fees are covered by those exhibiting at the various booths. The following is a list of the upcoming conventions CDS is planning on exhibiting at during the next 12 months. Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer will represent the CDS at the booth unless others are noted,



The CDS booth exhibit at the GCDC

1. October 17-19, 2024, **ADA meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.**

with Dr. Victor Bradford helping the Meyers.

3. January 23-25, 2025, **Rocky Mountain** Dental Conference, in Denver, CO with Dr. Randy Sanders and Dr. Bob Meyer.
4. January 30-February 1, 2025, **Yankee** Dental Meeting in Boston, MA.
5. March 21-23, 2025, **Hinman** Dental Meeting in Atlanta, GA with Dr. David Moretz and Dr. Randy Sanders.
6. March 27-29, 2025, **Western Regional Dental conference** in Phoenix, Arizona.
7. April 4-3, 2025, **Oregon** Dental Meeting in Portland, OR.
8. May 8-10, 2025, **Texas Dental Association** meeting in San Antonio, TX with Mrs. Glynn Reser running the CDS booth.
9. May 8-10, 2025, **Pacific Northwest** Dental Conference in Seattle, WA.
10. May 15-17, 2024, **California** Dental Meeting in **Anaheim**, CA with Dr. Frank and Tina Cho and Dr. Gayle and Nita Cheatwood joining the Meyers.
11. June 19-21, **Florida Dental Convention** in Kissimmee, FL.
12. August 22-24, 2025, **Kentucky Dental Conference**, in Louisville, KY.
13. September 12-13, 2025 **Great Commission Dental Conference** in Dallas, TX.
14. October 17-19, 2024, **ADA Meeting in Washington DC.**

Please join the CDS at any of these meetings to talk about missions and, if you have a recommended conference not listed that you might be interested in helping out at, please contact Bob Meyer.





Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.  
Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for —

**GOD IS WITH YOU  
WHEREVER YOU GO.**

JOSHUA 1:9