

Christian Dental Society News-Brief January 2024



Your CDS Board and Advisory Council held a Zoom Board meeting on Saturday, January 13th, and would like to share how God is working through the CDS.

1. There was a Discussion about initiating a specific Christian dental mission conference which has not been done in the past and it will be called the **Great Commission Dental Conference (GCDC)** to be held on **October 4-6 in Dallas, Texas**. This will involve the CDS, CMDA, Residency Plus Program, and numerous other Christian dental mission organizations like Samaritan's Purse dentists and others. This will be a conference specifically dedicated to Christian Dental Missions. Numerous, key, Christian dental leaders (Dr. Jim Wolf, Dr. Bob Meyer, Dr. Bill Griffin, Dr. Katy Musser from the Dental Residency Plus, Dr. Ryan Bowles, and others) have Zoomed about this exciting prospect, prayed about it, are very much behind it, and are looking forward to how God will assist His servants in putting this conference together.

It was recommended, voted on, and approved by the CDS Board, that the CDS yearly, in-person Board meeting be held at this upcoming GCDC this year rather than at the ADA meeting. The CDS Board meeting will most likely be at a local hotel close to the conference at 5:30-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 3rd, in conjunction with dinner to allow time for people to arrive for the meeting and be available for the conference to be held on October 4th and 5th. There are numerous family activities in Dallas at that time of year including the Texas State Fair, a rodeo, museums, lakes, a zoo, etc. so hoping to have family members join in on this exciting conference. More information will follow, but the

CDS wants to recommend that you put this event on your calendar and plan to attend the first annual Great Commission Dental Conference

2. The CDS has wanted to assist the Global Health Outreach (GHO) of the CMDA with doing more restorative dentistry. They do not have the personnel to put together restorative or hygiene instrument kits and have requested that their members contact the CDS to rent kits and equipment. In discussion with Dr. Randy Sanders, Dr. David Moretz, Dr. Bill Griffin, and Dr. Bob Meyer, and with CDS Board approval, the CDS has forwarded a Memorandum of Understanding to the CMDA to allow CMDA dentists and hygienists going on Global Health Outreach mission trips to rent kits and equipment from the CDS.

3. Dr. Bob Meyer and Dr. Bill Griffin have discussed the new dental student mission trip “*Guidelines, Code of Conduct, and Needle Stick Guidelines*” which CDS and CMDA worked up for CMDA to support student trips. If you would be interested in these documents, please feel free to contact Dr. Bob Meyer at bdmeyer@comcast.net and he will send them to you.

The student trip to Guatemala on March 8-16 with Dr. T. Bob Davis and other CDS members would like some more students if you know of any interested. The Iowa dental school is planning on leading a student trip to Guatemala in July using the clinic that CDS members have set up there. A student trip to El Salvador is being planned with GHO and CDS members on June 8-16, with an attempt to open up more schools and get GHO involved in student mission trips. GHO is offering \$1500 scholarships to each student and a one-time offer of \$1500 to new dentists going on a GHO mission trip.

4. The CDS and CMDA have combined the free student membership handout to include both organizations so that students going on Christian mission trips can have one document that states the benefits of going on a mission and that gives students the chance to sign a single, essential “Concept (Statement) of our Christian Faith” to become a member of both organizations. If you would like a copy, contact Bob Meyer.

5. CDS exhibit booths at major dental meetings continue to encourage and assist many toward missions. The CDS plans to exhibit at the Rocky Mountain meeting on January 18-20 with Dr. Randy Sanders and Dr. Bob Meyer. CDS will be at the Yankee meeting in Boston on January 25-27 with Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer. Dr. Jon and Amy Spenn will also run a CMDA booth at the Yankee meeting. The Hinman meeting CDS booth in Atlanta will be manned by Dr. Randy Sanders and Dr. Dave Moretz on March 21-23. Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer will be at the Portland, Oregon conference on April 4-6 and the Star of the North conference in St. Paul, MN on April 25-27. Mrs. Glynn Reser (Hygienist on the CDS Advisory Council) will run the CDS booth at the Texas Dental Association meeting in San Antonio, TX on May 16-18.

6. The CDS just ordered six more ultrasonic units to support the increased need for hygiene kits. The CDS is blessed to be able to assist more missions with kits and equipment as mission trips have been picking up. Praise the Lord.

7. Dr. Jon Spenn, CDS President-Elect, closed in prayer, which included petitions concerning personal requests, upcoming dental missions, success at the convention booth, and guidance with the GCDC plans.

The CDS would love to share your mission trip experience with others and if you are willing, please send your stories and pictures to Dr. Bob Meyer at bdmeyer@comcast.net.

The CDS is truly a volunteer organization, which does not reimburse or support its numerous volunteer leaders for their expenses or hours of time spent. CDS expenses are limited to supporting Tina, the CDS Executive Secretary, and taking care of administrative costs associated with running a non-profit organization, which are covered by membership dues that have not been raised for over 15 years. The CDS spends no time or resources raising support and depends upon membership dues to support this ministry, the only Christian dental organization that encourages, assists, trains, and equips dental missions worldwide. If you have paid your dues for 2024, the CDS sincerely thanks you.

The CDS appreciates all members for their support during 2023 and looks forward to continue serving as a volunteer organization for our Lord through dental missions. May God bless your lives in 2024.

"Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but
whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe."

Proverbs
29:25 (niv)

