

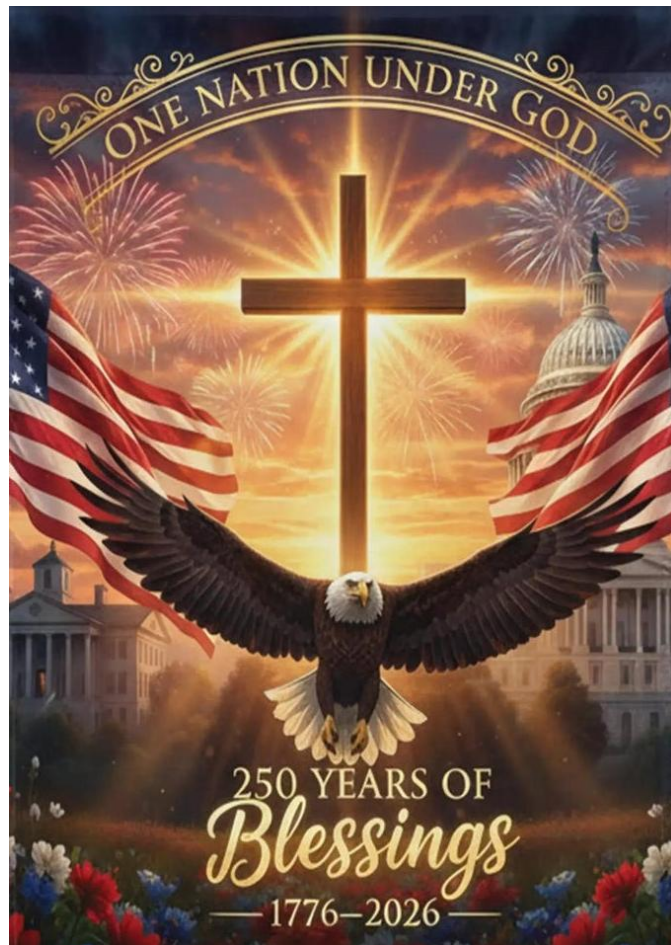
Christian Dental Society News-Brief May-June 2026



From the Christian perspective, the 4th of July is more than a patriotic holiday — it is a moment to reflect on **freedom, God’s providence, and the Christian heritage of the United States.**

At the heart of the Declaration of Independence is the assertion that all people are “endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” For Christians, this acknowledgment of a Creator points directly to the God of the Bible, who grants inherent dignity and worth to every individual, from Genesis 1:27. Christians emphasize that the deepest freedom is spiritual, freeing us from sin and death, “If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed,” from John 8:36. The Apostle Paul reminds believers to, “use your freedom to serve one another in Love,” in Galatians 5:13. May we use the liberties afforded by a free nation, and the talents/gifts we have, to advance God’s kingdom at home and abroad.

The Bible teaches that God is sovereign over nations and history (Daniel 2:21). Believers are urged to pray for leaders, recognizing that good governance can promote peace and godliness (1 Timothy 2:1-2). However, patriotism should not overshadow discipleship: the call is to, “seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness” (Matthew 6:33). Christians are called to be “in the world, but not of it” (John 17:14-16).



For Christians, the 4th of July is more than a secular holiday; it is a chance to celebrate God's gift of freedom, reflect on His providence, and recommit to living as faithful stewards of the liberties we all enjoy. Christians can honor the nation's founding, while keeping our eyes fixed on the ultimate source of liberty—Jesus Christ. As we watch fireworks light up the sky, may we be reminded of the "Light of the world" (John 8:12) who calls us to shine His love and truth in a nation blessed with freedom.

The CDS held a Zoom Board and Advisory Council meeting on June 20, primarily to encourage and connect with our leadership and to discuss involvements, gather input, and pray for the CDS and its members. Below are a few items of interest:

1. The CDS has helped equip and provide assistance to 38 dental mission teams so far this year and has requests for numerous more. The CDS is also helping dental teams from the Global Health Outreach ministry of the CMDA. God is using the CDS in mighty ways to help teams provide physical and spiritual healing, using dentistry to open the doors.
2. Several of the CDS Task Force, self-contained, portable dental operating units have cases that have broken and are unrepairable. Aseptico has recently reconfigured and packed the Task Force unit into a stronger, more resistance, Pelican-type case. The CDS discussed the need to replace the broken, unfixable, old style Task Force units to keep up with the demand. Aseptico will give the CDS a 30% discount, charging \$3,000/unit, and Dr. Tom Love volunteered to donate \$6,000 for the CDS to purchase two of the units. Those two units have been ordered and the CDS thanks Dr. Tom Love for his generous donation. The CDS would like to see if others would consider donating towards future purchases to replace many of the 20 old units that will

need replacement in the future. If so, you can designate donations to the CDS for portable units, and ask Tina for a tax donation receipt. Blessings!!!

ADU-12DCE Task Force Deluxe Portable
Pneumatic Dental System



The newly designed
Task Force Deluxe
Portable Dental Unit

3. The CDS encouraged members to participate and to get the word out to dental professionals, students, and others about the third Great Commission Dental Conference (GCDC) on September 11-12 in Dallas, Texas at the Bent Tree Fellowship Church (where it was held last year). This year we are planning on having 32 breakout sessions to include Christian mission plenary speakers, preaching, music, and eight hours of CE available. Register for next year's GCDC at: www.cmda.org/gcdc



GCDC Students at Last Year's Conference

4. The annual CDS in-person Board Meeting will be Thursday evening, Sept 10th, at 5:30 in the same conference room as last year at the Fairfield Inn and Suites, Dallas Plano in conjunction with the GCDC conference. The meeting will include a meal, and anyone interested in the CDS is welcome to attend.

5. The CDS discussed student mission trips, which are going well. Dr. Mike Haddow talked about an outstanding trip to Jamaica this year, taking 11 specialists and over 20 dental students. Dr. Jody and Nancie Yarbrow are leading a trip (that includes mentor, Dr. Jim Wolf) of Texas students in August to Jamaica which has 13 trips planned this year. Dr. Bob Meyer mentioned the large Dr. T. Bob Davis trip to Guatemala had 27 chairs running with a team of about 90, who saw 850 patients. This was followed with a large pediatric team lead by Dr. Dylan Patrick who took over 50 children to the operating room, who would not have been treated otherwise. Dr. Jon Spenn and the CMDA chapters have three trips to the Guatemala clinic planned this summer. Other groups are also using this clinic, and we praise God for the student trips.

6. Mr. Jamie DiBease and Day One are running the CDS website and the CDS leadership are still working to make additions and to improve the site.

7. Mrs. Robbi Jan runs a successful dental social media organization, www.brightsmilesdigital.org. She was led by God to the CDS booth in Washington DC to help with social media (Instagram, Facebook, etc.) She hired a dental videographer, Aidan (aidan@aquaproductions.com), a strong Christian from Denver, who came and interviewed several CDS members at the Rocky Mountain meeting in Denver, and came to Bob and Diane's home to make more videos to help Robbi increase the CDS' social media presence. All this is at no cost to the CDS. **If you have not checked out the CDS' social media, Facebook and Instagram, there have been numerous positive changes and videos.**

8. Ms. Tina Land, our CDS Executive Secretary, has worked for 32 years for the CDS. Her new address and the location of the CDS office is 2335 Terrace Drive in Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613. The CDS mailing address is PO Box 1005 in Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613. The CDS e-mail and phone number remain the same. The meeting confirmed that Ms. Tina Land, will be this year's Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary Award recipient, to be awarded at the GCDC.

9. CDS exhibit booths at major dental meetings continue to encourage and assist many towards missions. Since our last meeting, CDS has exhibited at the Hinman in Atlanta (Randy Sanders and David Moretz), San Antonio (RDH Glynn Reser), Portland Oregon (Bob and Diane Meyer), Anaheim California (Gayle and Anita Cheatwood and Chad, Sharyn and Ronnie Araki), and the Missoula, Montana meeting (Bob and Diane Meyer). Upcoming meetings include the GMMA meeting in Anaheim (Dr. Jon and Amy Spenn), and the Greater New York meeting (Drs Bob and Diane Meyer), so far. The CDS thanks Dr. Tom Love, who has been funding the booth fees at several conferences that are now charging minimal fees to exhibit: Tom donated \$4,000 to cover booth fees for 2016.

10. Dr. Gayle Cheatwood, who has developed and coordinated the blue portable dental chairs from the beginning, is asking to be relieved of this responsibility. He is looking for someone to store, coordinate logistics, and ship the CDS chairs. We anticipate that the CDS will pay for storage and a coordinator, so we are praying for God to provide.

11. The CDS Board thanked Dr. Jon Speen for organizing our Zoom meeting and Dr. Jim Wolf, our past president, closed the meeting in prayer.

God's Blessings to all and a Happy 250th, 4th of July!



