

Christian Dental Society News-Brief November-December 2025



The **Christmas season is a time for joy, love, and hope**, and it is the perfect opportunity for each of us to reflect on the true meaning of this special time. Here are some powerful Bible verses that can provide encouragement during the Christmas season.

- **"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.' – Luke 2:10"**
- **"The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." – Psalm 126:3**
- **"Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." – Nehemiah 8:10**
- **"I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." – John 15:11**

Last month, the CDS sent out a call for **help regardubg the Helping Hands Dental Clinic near Treasure Beach, Jamaica for Hurricane Melissa Disaster Relief**. This clinic had already hosted 12 teams of dental students this year, had to cancel three trips due to the hurricane, but plans on hosting a team from Louisville on December 6-13. Dr. Jim Carney is there now repairing and preparing the clinic. The CDS is excited to report an amazing outpouring of love from so many generous people who donated over \$60,000 through the Christian Dental Society for disaster relief. Pictured below is Dr. Jim and others loading a second container, which left for Jamaica just before Thanksgiving. It holds food, building materials, and dental supplies.



Packing dental supplies, food, and materials to help in Jamaica

At this time, there is still no electricity or water, but there is a generator and a truck to purchase water. The Lord is providing, as it says in Philippians 4:19, “And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus.



Partially loaded container and Dr. Jim (on the left) with his workers

The **CDS welcomes Dr. Jennina Townsend to the CDS Board**, and greatly appreciates her willingness to serve and contribute towards encouraging, assisting, training, and equipping dental missions to further Christ’s kingdom.

The CDS is always excited to share comments from **mission trips** that encourage and further His kingdom. For example:



Dr. Trish's team is using CDS equipment in the Dominican Republic

Dr. Trish Manning sent this **thank you to the CDS** after her mission trip to the Dominican Republic in June with her local church: "I cannot express how much I appreciate all the help the CDS has provided. The portable equipment made the mission trip run smoothly and predictably. Every time I called someone from the CDS, they were willing to help me and provide guidance. Thank you so much for making my mission trip a success! I look forward to working with you again in the future!"

The mission and joy of the CDS is to encourage, assist, and equip dental missions around the world, and this is an outstanding example of God's calling to serve from a willing dentist who joined her local church, overcame obstacles on her first trip, and returned to provide dental care in an austere setting. Below is **Dr. Trish Manning's report**:

"I went to the Dominican Republic in June of 2024 and 2025 with St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Cypress, TX. I first heard about the medical and dental mission trip from a patient several years prior, and when I attended the mission trip in 2024, my experience was less than ideal. In 2024 the group had rented a portable dental van that had the promise of having everything we needed to do dentistry, but that could not have been further from the truth. From no working sterilizer, to no working instruments, and our team getting carbon monoxide poisoning from the van, we knew something had to change in order to help the incredible need present in the DR for the next year.

One night, scrolling through Facebook, I saw pictures of another mission trip that looked like it took place in the DR. I reached out to that person, and they told me about the Christian Dental Society. They mentioned that the CDS rented portable dental equipment that allowed you to do remote dentistry anywhere in the world. This was amazing news to me! I was put in touch with Dr. Meyer and Dr. Sanders, and they talked me through everything and put me at ease that I could make this work in 2025.

The CDS allowed myself and my team to seamlessly do dentistry for a week in the DR. We had proper sterilization techniques, a durable patient chair, all of the instruments we needed, and we were able to serve the ministers and their families. One of the most important things to me was being able to do restorative dentistry rather than only extractions, and through

the equipment we rented, we were able to make that happen. It was almost like doing dentistry in the US, but just outside under the shade of a tree!

Unfortunately, **I will not be able to attend the mission trip this year from June 6-13** because I will be welcoming my first baby, but **if someone is interested** in taking on the role with the church's mission trip, I would be very grateful! Please reach out to me with any questions you may have at 832-429-8832."



Cancun, Mexico, with Starfish Ministries

Starfish Ministries from Texas, founded and run by Mrs. Glynn Reser RDH, went to **Cancun, Mexico** on April of 2025 for the fourth year in a row with Vida, Life of Cancun as their host. Praise the Lord, 19 people gave their lives to Christ with a team of one dentist, two assistants, and four hygienists who saw 227 patients. Two RNs performed 48 consultations and provided medicine to those in need. An optometrist saw 171 people received eyeglasses.

In October 2025, Starfish Ministries sent **two teams to Limatambo, Peru**, which marked their 20-year partnership with Casa del Agula, with whom they have developed a deep, meaningful relationship of shared ministry, service, and love for the communities of the Andes. The two teams consisted of 41 members from six different states, united through Christ, and showing love through dental, medical, and optical care. In six locations, with eight clinic days, they saw 578 dental patients, 461 medical consultations, and over 300 receiving glasses. They joyfully celebrated 32 salvations.



Starfish Ministries in Peru

If interested in joining this amazing Starfish Ministry team, which is going back to **Cancun on April 10-18, 2025, and to Peru from October 8-18**, sign up at starfishministrytx.org.

The Christian Dental Society seeks to help hundreds of mission organizations, churches, NGOs, and individuals go on short-term dental mission trips. Below are a couple of major Christian missionary organizations that have a **short suspense need** for a dentist.

Global Health Outreach is a short-term, international missions ministry of CMDA dedicated to providing healthcare while spreading the gospel by sending medical, dental, and surgical teams around the world. Each year, GHO sends 40 to 50 mission teams to various areas, including Central America, South America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. Through these trips, they disciple participants, grow national churches, pray with each patient and share the gospel, as well as provide care to the poor and needy. They have numerous short suspense needs, but the most urgent is to SE Asia to help with human-trafficked women, primarily with restorative dentistry from Jan 30-Feb 8. Go to the Global Health Outreach site, www.cmda.org/gho or directly to the trip website, www.gho.servicereef.com/events/global-health-outreach-2/b94dd944-41d9-4daa-99b6-4b3ef16a72ed to find more information.

Global Mission Medical Alliance (GMMA) is primarily a national organization, currently working in 39 universities, whose focus is on awakening and mobilizing Christ-passionate, healthcare workers to join in God's Kingdom work and to network with others who are already in the mission fields. You can join a GMMA mission trip and be a blessing and great satisfaction. They train and serve at ten different mission sites each year. Visit www.gmma7.org for schedules or missions@gmma7.org for questions. Following is a mission opportunity to help train pre-dental students primarily:

GMMA Honduras Jungle Medical Mission

Dates: January 2–10, 2026

Location: Remote jungle communities near San Pedro Sula, Honduras

Team: 45 undergraduate students, healthcare providers, and GMMA mentors

Need: We currently do not have a dentist on the team, so the specific dental scope will depend on the provider who joins us. At minimum, we anticipate simple care—likely basic extractions—but we are fully open to adapting to your professional insight to best serve these

jungle communities. This could include patient education, primary diagnosis, professional advice, and cleanings, if capacity and supplies allow. Your expertise will shape what is realistically possible in these mobile village clinics, which currently have *no access to any medical or dental care*.

Impact:

You will not only provide much-needed dental care to families who rarely receive treatment, but your obedience and service to Christ will deeply touch the hearts of the villagers **and** inspire our next generation of healthcare professionals. Every provider who has served in the jungle has seen God use simple acts of compassion to soften hearts, open doors for the gospel, and shape the spiritual journey of our students. Your presence will have an eternal impact.

Contact:

Grace Brewer, CRDH – 813-841-9906 | rememberamazinggrace@gmail.com



Dr. Bob Meyer's garage with 15 pallets of supplies

The CDS and Dr. Bob Meyer often receive donations of instruments, supplies, and equipment from organizations and individuals so these items can be redirected to mission work. Water Pik recently donated 15 pallets (8,000 pounds) of dental supplies to the CDS, which was distributed to numerous Christian and volunteer organizations to help the needy around the world, all done within one week of delivery. The CDS sincerely thanked Water Pik and was able to provide them with a tax receipt. If you have items to donate for missions, the CDS and Dr. Bob Meyer are happy to provide you with a tax receipt. Contact Dr. Bob at rdmeyer7@gmail.com.



Packing up and sorting by Project Cure for worldwide distribution

Pharmaceutical Discounts: Dr. Jim Carney is recommending Dave and Lisa Hasser who he has used for years, to purchase antibiotics, analgesics, and other medications at a significant discount for mission trips. Their contact information is www.laadpharmaceuticals.com or info@laadpharmaceutivals.com or phone 219-329-9144.



Sharing the Gospel message and handing out crosses (see phones) to international dentists

The CDS Exhibit Booths at Major Dental Conventions have been an extremely valuable opportunity to encourage, assist, and connect with dental personnel. Thank you to those who have participated in various conferences. **Upcoming CDS Dental Conference/Exhibit Booths and Speaking Engagements Planned to date** (Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer will represent the CDS at the booth unless others are noted):

4. January 8, 2026, **Remedy Chicago**, where Dr. Jon Spenn and Drs. Meyer will speak.

5. January 22-24, 2026, **Rocky Mountain** Dental Conference, in Denver, CO, with Dr. Randy Sanders, Dr. Bob Meyer, and Dr. Jennina Townsend.

6. January 29-31, 2026, **Yankee** Dental Meeting in Boston, MA.

7. March 12-14, 2026, **Hinman** Dental Meeting in Atlanta, GA, with Dr. David Moretz and Dr. Randy Sanders.

8. April 8-11, 2026, **Oregon Dental Meeting** in Portland, OR.

9. April 23-26, 2026, **CMDA National Convention** in Loveland, CO.

10. May 7-9, 2026, **Texas Dental Association** meeting in San Antonio, TX, with Mrs. Glynn Reser, RDH.

12. May 14-16, 2026, **California Dental Association Meeting** in Anaheim, CA, with Dr. Gayle and Nita Cheatwood, and Drs. Meyer.

13. June 28-29, 2026, **GMMA conference** in Irvine, California, with Dr. Frank and Tina Cho, where Drs. Meyer will speak on missions.

14. Sept 11-12, 2026, **GCDC** in Dallas, TX. www.cmda.org/gcdc

You do not want to miss **next year's Great Commission Dental Conference (GCDC)**, which will be held in Dallas, Texas, on September 11-12, 2026, at a local church venue to be announced later.



“For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” – Isaiah 9:6

