Christian Dental Society News-Brief
October-November 2026



Thanksgiving is central to the Christian life because it expresses gratitude to God, aligns the believer's heart with His will, and fosters spiritual health and worship.

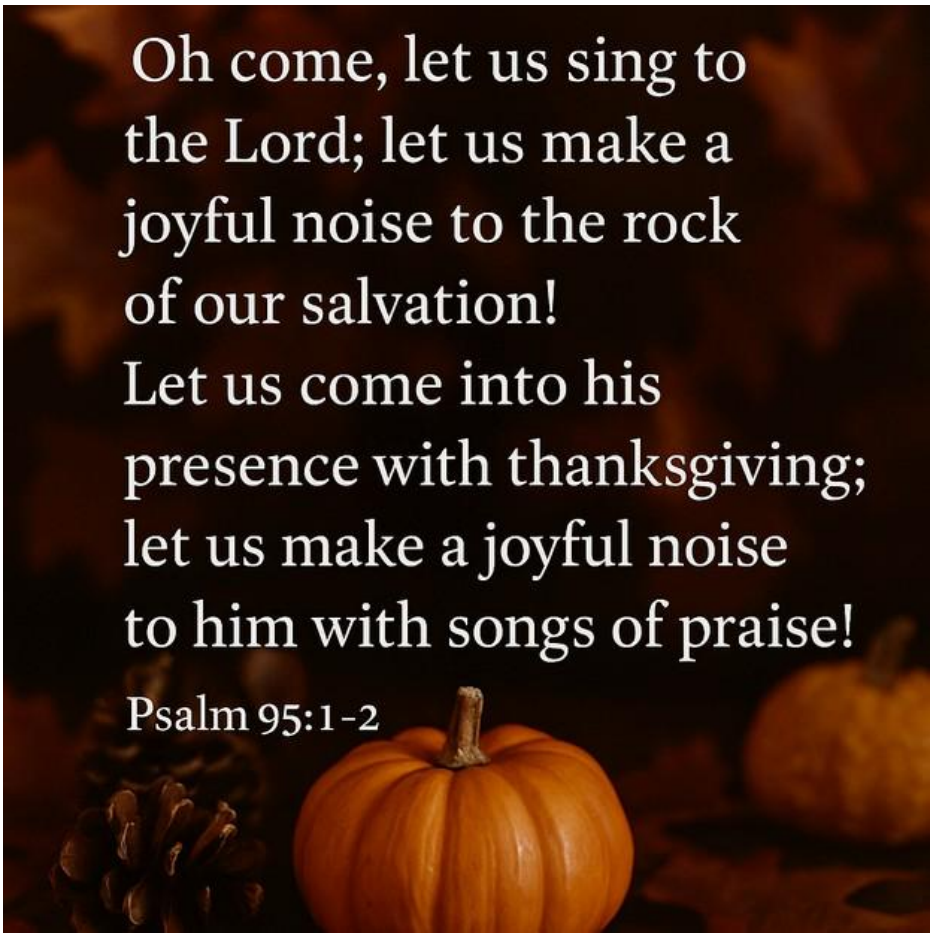
Biblical Foundation

Thanksgiving is deeply rooted in Scripture. In the Old Testament, it is often expressed through offerings and sacrifices, such as the thank offering described in Leviticus 7:12-15, which was a voluntary act of worship acknowledging God's provision and goodness. The Psalms frequently call believers to give thanks, for example, Psalm 100:4 instructs, "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and bless His name." In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul emphasizes thanksgiving as a constant posture of the heart, writing in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in every circumstance, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Spiritual Significance

Thanksgiving is more than a polite expression; it is a **spiritual discipline** that nurtures humility and dependence on God. By recognizing that all blessings come from Him (James 1:17), believers cultivate a heart harmonized with God's desires. It also serves as an antidote to anxiety and discontent. Philippians 4:6-7 encourages Christians to present their requests to God with thanksgiving, promising that His peace will guard their hearts and minds. Pastor John

Piper describes Christian thankfulness as a heartfelt response to God's blessings that increases one's enjoyment of Christ and sustains spiritual vibrancy.



Communal and Personal Practice

Thanksgiving is both personal and communal. Individually, it strengthens prayer life and worship, acknowledging God's sovereignty, goodness, and provision. Communally, it fosters fellowship and shared recognition of God's blessings, reflecting His glory in the world. Observing Thanksgiving Day can serve as a reminder to focus on God's provision and grace, encouraging believers to maintain gratitude throughout the year.

Historical Context

While the modern American Thanksgiving often emphasizes feasting, its origins were rooted in giving thanks to God for provision and survival. Early celebrations, such as those by Spanish explorers in 1541 and English settlers in 1621, were acts of gratitude for God's guidance and sustenance. For Christians, this historical practice reinforces the biblical principle that gratitude should be central to life, not just a seasonal observance.

Conclusion

Thanksgiving is vital in the Christian life because it **expresses gratitude to God, strengthens spiritual health, fosters humility, and enhances worship and prayer**. It reminds believers to recognize God's provision in all circumstances, cultivating a heart of continual gratitude that aligns with His will and glorifies Him in both personal and communal life.

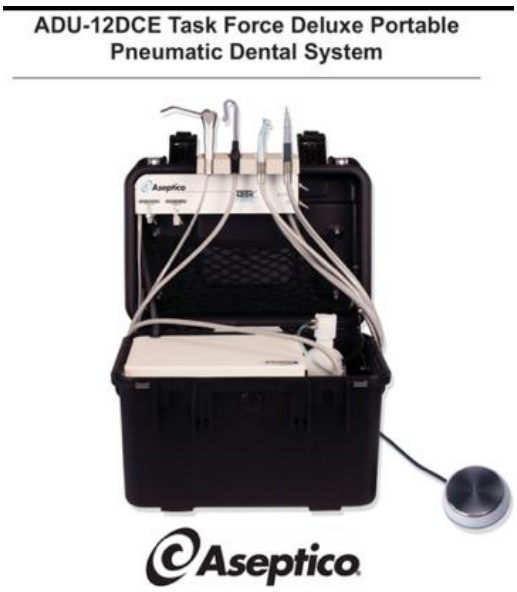
Nominations for CDS Board Members are made by majority approval of the CDS Board and then voted on by the CDS membership before becoming Board Members. **The CDS is excited to welcome Dr. Josh Lachine, DDS and Dr. Tanner Swanson, DDS to the CDS Board!** The CDS Board and our membership gave their unanimous approval and we praise God for raising up such sterling leaders to guide the CDS. A short bio of each can be viewed on last month's News-Brief which is available on the CDS website under "About Us."

The CDS has recently purchased five of the newly renovated Aseptico Task Force Deluxe portable, self-contained, 34-pound, dental operating units, thanks to generous contributions from CDS members.

Thank you Notes to the CDS from Those Serving the Lord

Dr. Wes Chan, who rented equipment and kits for a mission to El Salvador, wrote a thank you to Dr. Randy Sanders (CDS Kit Manager) saying, ". . . our dental team of five, plus three in the sterilization area and four in the translating team, saw over 200 patients in the dental clinic. We did many restorations, extractions, scalings, and prophys. We prayed with many patients at the end of treatment."

Dr. O'Brien wrote to Dr. David Moretz (CDS Equipment Manager) saying, "I appreciate all you do to support volunteer dentists across the country and the world! I am sure I don't know half of all you are responsible for! Christian Dental Society rentals sent me off to work in "houses" 20 years ago, and now we use CDS units and instruments in a medical/dental clinic just outside Copan Ruinas, Honduras. Our church built this two years ago."



Portable Dental Unit


Corrugated Plastic 13-pound Dental Chair

The CDS will continue to rent this chair, but has decided not to try to produce, store, sell, and distribute the blue portable dental chair anymore. The CDS sincerely appreciates the countless hours and untold expense that Dr. Gayle Cheatwood has taken to provide these chairs, which

have helped thousands of missions. **If you want to own a CDS, blue chair, please order now, by contacting the CDS office to purchase the few remaining chairs.**

Exhibiting at dental conventions has been an extremely valuable opportunity to encourage, assist, and connect. Upcoming CDS Dental Conference/Exhibit Booths and Speaking Engagements planned to date include:

November 29-December 1, 2026, **The Greater New York Dental Meeting** in New York City, NY, with Dr. Victor Bradford and Drs. Meyer.

January 21-23, 2027**, Rocky Mountain Dental Convention** in Denver, CO with Dr. Tanner Swanson, Dr. Jennina Townsend, and Drs. Meyer.

January 28-31, 2027, **Yankee Dental Meeting** in Boston, MA with Drs. Meyer.

March 18-20, 2027, **Hinman Dental Meeting** in Atlanta, GA with Dr. Randy Sanders and Dr. Dave Moretz.

April 1-3, 2027, **Pacific Northwest Dental Meeting** in Seattle, WA with Drs. Meyer.

April 29-May 1, 2027, **Tennessee Dental Meeting** in Nashville, TN with Dr. Michael Vaughan and Drs. Meyer.

May 13-15, 2027, **Texas Dental Association Meeting** in San Antonio, TX with Mrs. Glynna Reser.

June 24-26, 2027, **Florida Dental Convention** in Kissimmee, FL with Drs. Meyer

September 10-11, 2027, **Great Commission Dental Conference** in Dallas, TX.

Possibly more TBD.

There are CDS e-mailed **News-Briefs** that keep the membership informed and encouraged about dental missions. If you are not receiving News-Briefs or e-mail correspondence from the CDS, please check the CDS website to see if your contact information is correct. Dr. Bob Meyer invites all to contribute to the News-Briefs and asks members to send contributions to rdmeyer7@gmail.com, including thoughts, ideas, photos, and Scripture verses.

b. The next CDS in-person Board Meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 9th, 2027, at the GCDC hotel conference room. All Board Members, Advisory Council Members, and those interested in the CDS are encouraged to attend next year's in-person **CDS Board Meeting.**

Great Commission Dental Conference

He said to them, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
Acts. 1:8

The 2027 Great Commission Dental Conference (GCDC) conference is scheduled for September 10-11th in Dallas, TX. At the 2026 GCDC, over 250 attendees enjoyed 32 breakout sessions (eight hours of CE available), three plenary sessions with music, preaching, and speakers, and delicious food and fellowship. The CDS encourages members to participate and to invite dental professionals, students, and others to the fourth, annual Great Commission Dental Conference (GCDC).

A Call for Volunteer Dental Servants in Teouma Valley, Vanuatu

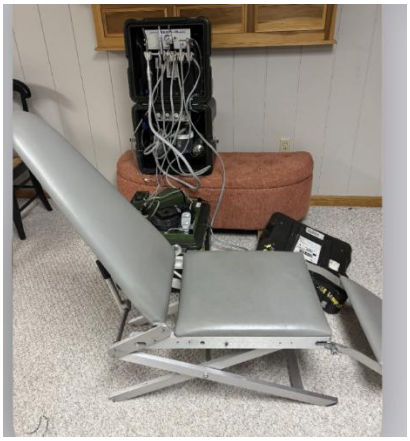
The Family Care Center, a ministry of Marine Reach/YWAM Vanuatu, in the South Pacific, is looking for short or long-term, volunteer dentists and support staff for their fully resourced clinic, which bridges the gap for vulnerable surrounding communities by providing essential dental care.





Serve alongside a passionate team of local and international staff running medical clinics, community development, and youth ministries. On site accommodations cost $30/day or $376 for a month. Information can be found on www.youtube.com/watch?v=DsN3YCJriPI or https://familycarecentre.org/. If interested, you can contact director Anna Harris at anna@familycarecentre.org.

Dr. Rodney Becket from Ohio has a portable dental operatory that he used to work on Amish people. He wishes to donate it for dental missions. If interested, call him at 740-390-5480 or email at Rodney.becket324@icloud.com.






Dr. Rodney's Portable Clinic

The CDS recently received a donation of portable dental equipment which is very mobile, somewhat like Dr. Rodney's clinic, yet it is a little heavy or bulky to easily transport on a plane. Shown below is an Aseptico chair with two stools, a Transport II dental unit, an AD-10 dental unit with a compressor, and a goose neck light, all in excellent condition. The CDS would like to get this equipment back in operation and is only hoping for a donation. If interested, contact Dr. David Moretz at pamlicopop@yahoo.com or call him at 910-389-8897.





The CDS normally ships equipment and kits to teams going overseas in support of dental missions, but occasionally supports local volunteer endeavors within the United States:

The Ohio Air National Guard and a Joint Medical Task Force has expressed their sincere gratitude to the CDS for partnering with them and renting out dental equipment and kits for the Athens County Joint Individual Readiness Training (IRT). They set up a portable clinic inside the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine to provide dental care to those in need from July 32-August 2, 2026. "The CDS equipment and kits were absolutely vital to our mission's success. We could not have achieved this profound community impact without the CDS's generosity and reliable equipment." The CDS gained several Christian members with this endeavor, and know that God was glorified.




The Ohio National Guard Serving Dentally and Medically

The Christian Dental Society thanks our members for their ongoing support. We have had record-setting demand for equipment and kit rentals in 2026, have purchased new equipment, and have updated the CDS kits to equip missions worldwide. Your membership dues support the only organization which exists primarily to encourage, equip, and train Christian dental volunteers toward short-term missions. For 64 years, God has blessed the CDS, and we humbly ask that you continue to do so through your continued membership.

