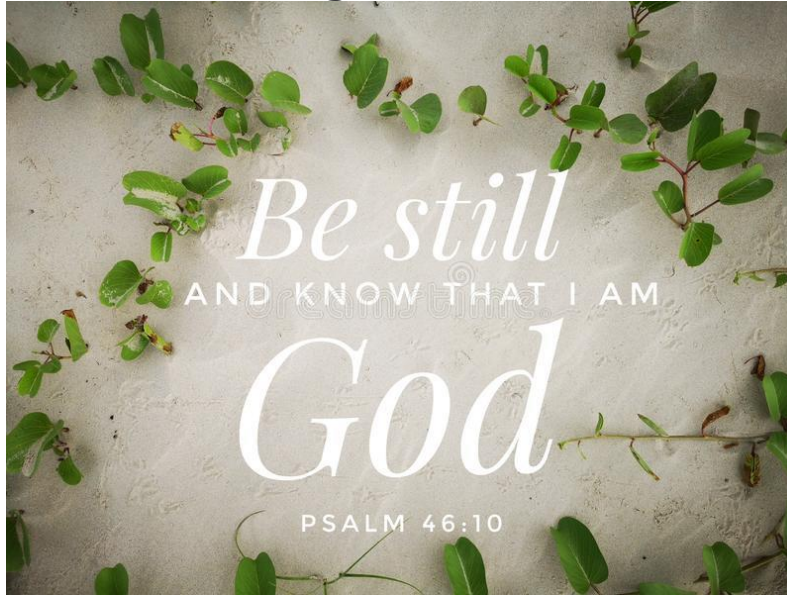


Christian Dental Society News-Brief August 2022



The Christian Dental Society Board and Advisory Council held a Zoom meeting on Saturday, August 13th to connect the CDS leadership, pray and encourage one another, and to discuss any issues that may be pertinent.

Dr. Michael Vaughn called the meeting to order and opened with prayer, thanking God for His presence and praying that He might be glorified in the meeting. Members shared about their mission trips, how they were serving at home and in their dental practices, and how the Lord is working in their lives.

Dr. Jim Carney is recovering well from reconstructive surgery stemming from his cancer treatment. Several trips to Jamaica have been canceled and he is hoping the trip from the Louisville Dental School will go in December. He is planning on building an additional 10-chair clinic.

Dr. Dennis Scharine is recovering well from his neck surgery. Dr. Bill Griffin was on the Zoom from the airport in Uganda as he was returning from a successful mPower trip. Dr. Jim Wolf's trip to Nicaragua this summer was plagued by plane difficulties and problems requiring cancelation. Dr. Jon Spenn reports that I-TEC is active and that he is trying to help Samaritan's Purse with dental needs. Dr. Katy Barlow has started a new job with the prison system and is adjusting to doing extractions and other duties as there is currently no assistant. Dr. Vic Bradford talked about his beekeeping endeavors and is helping CDS members conduct a booth at the Greater New York Dental Meeting this November.

Dr. Randy Sanders has extra, donated, restorative and surgical instruments that will be made available at the Houston ADA meeting. Dr. Randy is looking for CDS members or other professionals to recirculate these items to ministries that can use them. It would be appropriate to ask for a small donation to the CDS for those taking the instruments.

research and quotes in this 280-page book and we are grateful for the message that comes from it concerning the “heartwarming stories and encouraging research on volunteerism.” The book has 200 color pictures, 400 endnotes, and 250 resources. It is available on Amazon, Kindle, Barnes and Noble, iTunes, and through Christian Faith Publishing.

Dr. Bob Meyer asked for nominations to the CDS Advisory Board as our membership desires to keep young, mission-minded dental professionals joining the CDS leadership. If any CDS member would like information on joining the CDS leadership team, becoming a CDS Advisory Board member, or nominating someone please let Dr. Meyer know at bdmeyer@comcast.net. Members were reminded that Dr. Michael Vaughn will remain as President until after the October 2023 Board meeting. Due to COVID-19 shutdowns, the CDS Board voted last year to extend the Presidential changes for one additional year.

We discussed the upcoming ADA meeting. The CDS has booth D3513 and the CMDA has booth D3517—across from each other. Leadership meetings by the CDS and the CMDA will be held in the afternoon with the Mission Banquet following in the evening at the Houston First Baptist downtown church at 1730 Jefferson Street on Friday, October 14th. This church is close to the convention center in Houston. A Hawaiian meal will be prepared and catered by Mrs. Sharyn Araki from Hawaii whose husband, Dr. Chad Araki, is a CDS member. The Arakis are active in missions and are great supporters of the CDS at many convention booths.

Dr. Michael Vaughn discussed his upcoming trip to Matamoros, Mexico, and will report at the next meeting on the readiness of their new clinic to host student trips. Dr. Michael also mentioned there is a Christian revival movement going on in Tennessee and encouraged the CDS with this Scripture: “And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart” (Gal. 6:9).

The CDS holds a CD with Edward Jones that is earning minimal interest. The CDS leadership is putting those reserve funds into a 6-month CD earning 2.75% interest.

Dr. Ron Lamb and World Dental Relief (WDR) are still supplying dental teams with various dental supplies and surgical kits, but are decreasing their operations. Visit their website to see what they have available. The WDR Board has just contributed \$5,000 to the CDS to set up a designated fund to provide \$500 towards the Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary Award for the next 10 recipients. Historically, WDR has contributed \$500 worth of dental supplies to the Dr. Ron Lamb Missionary awardees, but as WDR is decreasing their operation they want to keep supporting each missionary awardee with a \$500 cash award. If any member wishes to nominate a worthy missionary dental provider for the Ron Lamb Missionary Award, please contact Dr. Bob Meyer. All members present were extremely thankful for the years of support to missions given by Dr. Ron and Pam Lamb and the WDR.

The next CDS Board/Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for 1 p.m. Central time on Friday, October 14th in the First Baptist Church Downtown in Houston, Tx during the ADA meeting. Please add this date to your calendar and plan on attending. Dr. Denny Scharine has arranged to Zoom the October meeting for those unable to attend in person. All CDS members are welcome to the Board meeting and if you are not part of the CDS leadership team and would like to attend the Board meeting by Zoom, let Dr. Meyer know and he will send you a link to the meeting. We are always grateful for Dr. Denny’s efforts and contributions in providing for our Zoom meetings.

It was mentioned that the CDS website and News-Briefs were looking great and the CDS gives Mark and Susan Curtis much credit, as they assist the CDS and its members in many essential

and indispensable ways. Mark had been recently hospitalized with heart problems and we are making his recovery a matter of prayer.

Dr. Jim Wolf closed the meeting in prayer.

The next CDS dental conference will be from September 8-10 at the Moscone Center in San Francisco where the CDS will have an exhibit booth with Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer.

The weekend after the ADA meeting, CDS will be exhibiting and speaking at the Global Medical Missions Conference in Irvine, California from October 21-22. The CDS will also exhibit at the Pacific Northwest Dental Conference in Seattle, Washington on November 10-11. CDS will have a booth at the largest dental meeting in the United States at the Greater New York Dental Meeting at the Javits Convention center in Manhattan on November 27-30. CDS members will hold a booth at the Rocky Mountain Dental Convention in Denver, Colorado on January 19-21 and members will be speaking on the 20th. Please consider joining CDS members for a few hours at an exhibit booth or just drop by to say hello.



WDR shipping chairs to Ethiopian Dental School Dr. Ron Lamb sitting and Dr. John Balikowski standing, teaching dental students in Ethiopian dental school which is now closed.

There are many nations around the world needing earnest prayer. Ukraine is frequently in the news and CDS members are helping in many ways during this tragic war. Places like Ethiopia and Haiti and many other regions of the world are rarely in the news, yet are facing very difficult situations. In Ethiopia's Tigray region, Dr. John Balikowski has been working training dental personnel for 15 years. The UN reports that upwards of 500,000 have now been killed in the genocide there and seven million are closed off from the outside world. The civil war has choked off their food supplies and there is no end in sight to the civil war.

Closer to home, Haitian cities are in the grip of gang warfare. The new government is struggling to maintain any possible control. The average Haitian does not feel safe on the streets, food is in short supply, and inflation has made their money almost worthless. We know the Lord is in control and that the world will face many tribulations before God returns. When we look through the lens of a glorious, future kingdom in heaven, it reveals an optimistic perspective on this temporarily fallen world.

We can each do our part by living a Christian life and holding on to the peace and joy of knowing that God our Savior has a plan.

Dental missions are on the upswing and CDS members are optimistically heading out to serve and share the Gospel message around the world. The CDS wants to encourage and help any who are willing to use their dental skills to serve others.

Thank you for your continued support of mission work!



**"Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight."**

Proverbs 3:5-6