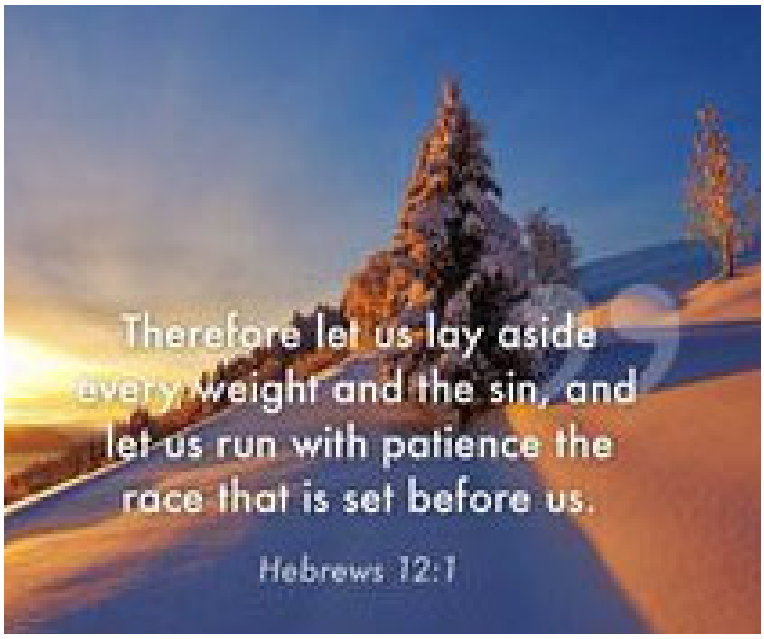
Christian Dental Society News-Brief
January 2022



CDS members are looking forward to brighter days ahead with dental missions starting to open up. We hope 2022 becomes a great year for you!

The CDS Board and Advisory Council met for a Zoom meeting on January 15 and the following is a summary of the meeting in which 10 of the 11 CDS Board members participated, along with several of the CDS Advisory Council.

Dr. Michael Vaughan, our CDS President had called the meeting to connect with the CDS Board and Advisory Council, for prayer and encouragement of members, and to discuss pertinent issues. Dr. Michael opened the meeting in prayer, thanking God for His presence and praying that He might be glorified in the meeting.



CDS Board Meeting Zoom picture: top, left to right: Dr. Denny Scharine, Dr. Bob Meyer and Dr. Diane Meyer, Dr. Tom Love, Dr. Katy Barlow, Dr. James Carney
Middle row left to right: Dr. Jim Wolf, Dr. Jody Yarbro, Dr. Michael Vaughn, Mrs. Tina Wendel, Dr. Vic Bradford and bottom row, Dr. Frank Cho, Dr. David Moretz, Dr. Randy Sanders, Dr. Jon Spenn, Dr. Bill Griffin with Dr. Blake Westra and Dr. Dan Hudson on Voice only

Dr. Jim Carney reported on the student dental trips to Jamaica, noting that the island is essentially closed due to COVID-19 and the fact that only about 10% of the population is vaccinated and outside exposure is a concern. Dr. Jim is hoping to start trips this summer. He has plans to add a ten-chair facility to the existing eight-chair clinic at Treasure Beach, Jamaica. At present, two large compressors, two dry vac systems, and a panorex are in the country. There are ten chairs with delivery units and lights ready to ship to Jamaica. Dr. Jim is also working on a streamlined application form. He stated that financial support is going well for these projects. Dr. Jim is feeling well, optimistic about his cancer recovery, has many more plans, and believes God is not finished with him.

Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer and Dr. Jody Yarbro will be going on the student dental trip to Guatemala (March 19-26, 2022). Other available students and mentors are welcome (see website www.guatemalansmiles.org). Guatemala City Dental Students are expected to participate as well.

Dr. Jon Spenn is working with I-TEC to plan trips to Liberia (possibly in April) and new training in Pakistan (possibly in May).

Dr. Michael Vaughn and Dr. Bob Meyer spoke on continuing to support efforts to get student trips to Matamoros, Mexico, and will be preparing for missions there along with Dr. T. Bob Davis. Dr. Michael plans to go in April to visit the clinic and check on progress.

Dr. Bill Griffin spoke about CMDA and GHO trips. Don Sappington with the "Remember Nhu" anti-trafficking organization may have CMDA support for a dental

team to Tanzania (July 14-24) and/or Kenya (Sept. 15-25) in 2022. Dr. Bill offered $1500 from a GHO/CMDA scholarship for dentists to apply to their first GHO trip with the CMDA. He also mentioned the availability of "Faith Prescriptions" videos for groups to discuss/teach Christian doctors how to present Christ and Christian values to patients and others.

A $15,000 donation from Al-Wood (a lumber company whose daughter is a hygienist) was sent to the CDS with a request that some monies go to Belize, an area of past interest by the company's past President. Discussion followed with Dr. Dan Hudson bringing up a relevant point requesting that all organizations have Christian emphases with follow-up plans. Dr. Bob Meyer reassured the group that the organizations that were receiving these amounts did have strong Christian objectives and staff. After discussion, Dr. Jody Yarbro moved (seconded by Dr. Jim Wolf) that the CDS donate $2,000 to the Belize Mission Project, $1,000 to Mission to the World—Belize Clinic, $1,000 to Global Outreach Mission in Belize, and $1,000 to Hillside Health Care International in Belize.

Also, $5,000 would be given towards the dental clinic in Matamoros, Mexico, and $5,000 to the Guatemala Dental Clinic in San Raymundo in support of new clinics working to impact young dental and hygiene students towards service, teach them about missionary dentistry, coach mentor dentists and hygienists, share the love of God, and help the under-served. Voting was unanimously in favor of these donations.

Dr. Tom Love volunteered to pay the $500 booth fee for the CDS to attend the Anaheim Dental Convention on May 12-14, 2022. Thank you, Dr. Tom! Generally, the CDS receives Complimentary Exhibit Booth space, but this year the CDS is getting charged for the space in Anaheim. Other dental conventions that the CDS will attend with complimentary booths in 2022 include Denver, Colorado; the Yankee meeting in Boston, the Portland, Oregon meeting, and the ADA meeting in Houston.

Dr. Frank Cho showed his new book concerning his mission years in Cambodia, which were supported at times by the CDS. The book is entitled *Oh, My Love Cambodia.* Dr. Frank is planning on having the book available on Amazon.com in the future. The CDS is proud of Dr. Frank and his wife, Tina, for all they have done for God's kingdom and for the great accomplishment of publishing a book about it!

CDS Board/Advisory Council members as well as CDS members are asked to send reports, pictures, and other items for inclusion in the CDS News Briefs, Website, and Facebook page and can be sent to Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer at bdmeyer@comcast.net. Dr. Bob Meyer has been updating the list of over 200 mission organizations needing dentist/dental personnel volunteers as there have been numerous changes in the past three years.

CDS volunteers are also calling CDS members who have not rejoined the CDS in the past few years. If you have not rejoined for 2022 the CDS would greatly appreciate your support and could not function without your contribution. You can easily join on the CDS website, www.christiandental.org or just contact Tina at 563-578-8887 to rejoin.

CDS Board members, Advisory Council members, and all CDS members are urged to attend the ADA meeting in Houston, October 13-15, 2022. The CDS Board Meeting and Banquet will be held on October 14th.

The CDS thanks Dr. Denny Scharine for closing in prayer and for setting up our Zoom call.

To encourage you in missions, the CDS is showing this article from The Central Asian People publication in October 2015, written by Dr. Dan Hudson, a CDS Advisory Council member. Dr. Dan had recently returned from a dental/medical trip in Central Asia treating Yazidi refugees who escaped ISIS and these are his words titled,



Dr. Dan Hudson with mission patient and assistant in Haiti

“Break My Heart: An American Dentist’s Prayer”

I first became involved in humanitarian work when I returned to the U.S. after serving in the military as a dentist. My expertise in dentistry, my ability to work in austere and dangerous environments, my understanding of different cultures, and my involvement in a church willing to go to the nations all came together. God had a plan and I could be a part of it if I was obedient to the call.

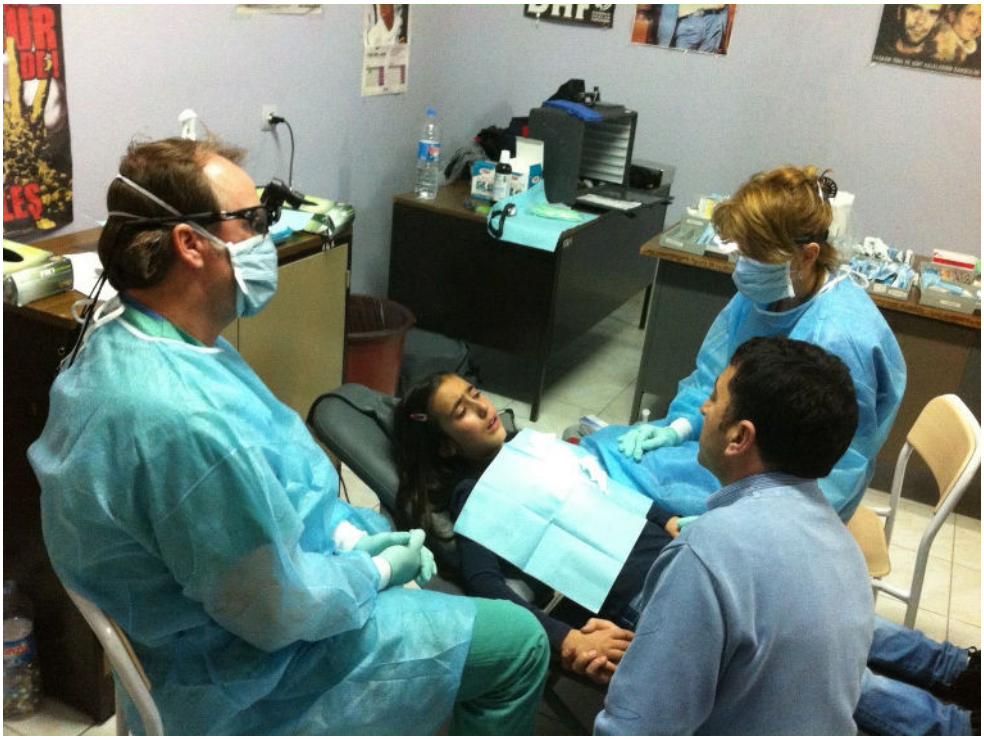
So began my journey. I went all over the globe: Latin America, India, and Germany.

I became aware of the exciting opportunity to serve in Central Asia in a region where almost no one believes in Christ or has even heard the Gospel. Of the half a million Yazidi Kurds, only a handful know Jesus. There is a deep need, both physically and spiritually.

The passage kept coming to mind: “Here am I, Lord. Send me.” I responded, “I’m in.”

When we arrived at the refugee camp in Central Asia, my team did what we usually do on medical trips: we treated many people, some of whom had never seen a dentist. We worked hard all day and lay down at night with full hearts and sore hands, thankful for the training we had received, good teammates, and portable equipment.

I soon realized this place was not like the multitude of places I had gone to before. This was a place so ancient, a place near where Paul had walked and taught, a haunting place of emptiness and fullness at the same time, a place of pregnant expectations. But the expectation of what, I wondered? Why do I feel like something big is going to happen?



Dr. Dan, interpreter, and assistant treating aYazidi patient in Turkey

While we served in the camp, our team pulled teeth, filled teeth, and gave medications. We moved along caring for one patient after another until a beautiful young child arrived to be treated. We had to make the difficult decision to pull two teeth. I would have been able to save them if I were "home" in the U.S. The girl was totally unengaged. Back home, we usually see this look only with children who have been molested. She lay still as we gave her a shot, her eyes open and glassy. After the procedure was finished, she sat up, never making eye contact, stood, and shuffled over to the woman waiting in the corner that I thought was her mother.

The woman turned and spoke to us. "This child is not mine," she explained. "Her entire family has been destroyed by ISIS. She watched as they killed her mother, and others fled. She is all that was left of her family as far as we know. We found her hiding in a ditch and brought her here with us."

My heart broke. This innocent child was alone in this world, a victim of unspeakable evil. I thought, "Why did this happen?"

Then I realized the Lord sent us here to find her and others like her. He sent us to be His hands, His healing, His heart.

We have since been able to work in an unexpected way on behalf of these crushed people. The Lord has opened a path only He could see. Our job is to be obedient. We are

called to go, to work, to strive, to love, to cry tears of anger and heartache. “We must do the works of Him who sent Me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work” (John 9:4).

I once heard a Christian worker pray, “Lord break my heart for these people as your heart is broken.” I had always been afraid to ask the Lord to “break my heart.” But on this trip to Central Asia, I prayed “break my heart for these people.” And God did—completely.

You and I have been given grace and forgiveness. We have been purchased at a cost, the cost of Jesus’ innocent blood. It is a high and holy gift to work with Him among those who are still looking for hope.

In Christ,

Dr. Dan