If I had to pick one word to describe the retreat this year it would be incredible. From the first moment of registration on, God was at work. He was answering prayers and forming friendships among a group of students from all over the country. It was incredible to see the bonds form between everyone as we share our love for God and pharmacy. One of the students’ favorite talks was on what our value system is. Each system had a color assigned to it, and it was neat to see us apply it to everyone we met at the retreat. As far as the other talks go they were incredible as well. It was so great being with pharmacists from all over and having them ask you about your life, school, and your future plans. They were so unbelievable in the way they loved and poured into us. They took the time to try to get to know the students and teach us about things like slide rulers and Duran Duran. All in all the talks were remarkable, whether they were about generations, new drugs, or serving overseas. A very special moment for everyone who attended the retreat was the time of singing that we did with everyone there. It was amazing to worship with pharmacists and students of all ages that share the love for our amazing, incredible God.
Southwest Region Hosts a Successful Retreat!

The LORD really moved and made his presence known at CPFI’s First Annual Southwest Regional Retreat! We learned to have joy in all that we do, even in the times of unwanted circumstances. Dr. Copeland, UIW-FSOP CPFI advisor, shared with us that “fear/anxiety prevents the absorption and distribution of joy” in his teaching, The Prescription for Joy. He also explained to us that joy is relationship dependent rather than situation dependent. Dr. Eckel, CPFI National President, helped us to understand that we can't control our circumstances but we can control how we respond in his teaching, Joy is a Choice.

Lastly, in his leadership training titled, Traffic: Leadership on the Highways of Life, Pastor Kevin Duhart, Lead Pastor of the Rock Fellowship Church, explained to us that leadership is the act of inspiring others and that leadership starts with servant hood. The highlights of our retreat were our Night of Worship with Tantivity, a local worship band in San Antonio, TX, our reading of inspirational stories to the assisted-living residents at The Village, and our water balloon fight at our BBQ dinner.

One of our most impactful moments of the retreat was our chapter discussion and updates, where many ideas were bought forth and inspiration and encouragement was shared between chapters. The most impactful moment overall was that one person received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and three people rededicated their lives to Christ.

It was amazing to see how awakened and revitalized everyone left the retreat, set on fire to spread the joy of Christ to his or her respective chapters. For we know “A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones.” (Proverbs 17:22 NASB), was our retreat’s scriptural theme.

Germesia Kwame
CPFI Southwest Regional Director

How to Survive Pharmacy School

1. Study as hard as you can and perform at your best.
2. Try not to pull all nighters. Make time to rest. Eat well! Remember, our bodies are the "temple of the Holy Spirit" (1 Corinthians 6:19).
3. Try to get involved in school. Join student pharmacy organizations. All of the student organizations need Christians in leadership positions whose lives point to God!
4. Talk to upperclassmen regarding rotations and jobs.
5. Talk to your advisor or faculty member regarding your career plans.
6. Research job opportunities and the process of how to get the job you desire.
7. Work in retail or hospital for experience.
8. Network. Cast your net far and wide. Participate in not only school organizations but in local and national organizations.
9. General Attitude: Say "yes!" to opportunities. Then pray to God for strength and endurance.

Carla Cobbs, Joy Chou, and Dan Lee Graduates of University of Maryland Baltimore

National Student Council Restructure

The NSC has been re-vamped to better serve you! Some features are the addition of three positions, and descriptions for all positions. Check it out on the next page!
Who’s Who in the NSC

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You… Can be part of the NSC too!

If you are part of the Northeast Region, Great Lakes Region, Rocky Mountain Region, Central Plains Region, or the North-Pacific Region: You should consider applying for regional director. Find your region here!

Contact Kelly Niedzwiecki for more information or apply here.