

in Luke 17:31-33, NIV: *“On that day no one who is on the housetop, with possessions inside, should go down to get them. Likewise, no one in the field should go back for anything. Remember Lot’s wife! Whoever tries to keep their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life will preserve it.”* Although Lot’s wife was only mentioned once in the old testament and there were other biblical characters He could have chosen, Jesus used her example to stress the importance of holding on to the things of this life with a very loose grip. In contrast, we should cling to Jesus with a very tight grip. When Lot’s wife looked back, she was clinging to her old life and was turned into a pillar of salt.

The story of both Lot and Lot’s wife can give us hope that God forgives and can bring about positive outcomes from evil. God wants us to do more than just drift through life – he wants us to be a godly influence, functioning as “salt” for Him and witnessing to others about the saving grace that is available only through Jesus Christ. We should also be thankful for what we have, rather than resentful for what we do not have. Our focus should not be on this world, but on Jesus Christ and our heavenly home. In Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV), Jesus says this: *“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

If you were a character mentioned in the Bible, what information would be included on your profile page? Would it be like Lot’s wife, who is only briefly mentioned and not even by name? Or would your description be more akin to that of Lot, who was indeed a flawed human being, but one who loved God and was considered righteous in the eyes of the Lord? Our stories are still being written and it is not too late to shape a new narrative if you are not happy with your current one. Little acts of love that are performed in concert with the Holy Spirit can produce miraculous results. In so doing, each of us can write a compelling human story that is punctuated with divine overtones. May God bless your story and may you craft it for His glory.

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## 2020 CPFI Hands and Feet Grants

CPFI awards numerous Hands and Feet Student Chapter Grants each year. Grant money is funded through a portion of the Silent Auction that occurs at the CPFI Annual Meeting. The purpose of the Hands and Feet Student Chapter Grant is to financially support student chapters so they have funding to serve others in need. The CPFI Board of Directors implemented this Grant to enable student chapters to be the hands and feet of Jesus through Christian service and evangelism. It is the hope of the CPFI Board of Directors that students will give back to their communities while sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Student Chapter Grant recipients receive \$500 to foster the expansion of community service involvement. In support of these efforts, Student chapters may serve in partnerships with communities, nonprofit agencies, schools and governmental bodies. The articles that follow were submitted by the Hands and Feet Student Chapter Grant recipients. Recipients are required to submit a report describing their project. Many of these student chapters also provided a virtual poster presentation at the 2020 CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat.

### **UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY: Operation Christmas Child Project**

The Student Chapter of CPFI at the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy (KU SOP) is proud to report that the Operation Christmas Child Project through Samaritan’s



Purse raised a grand total of \$2100.13 and packed 100 shoeboxes with the help of students, staff, and faculty at the KU SOP and the 2020 CPFI Hands and Feet Grant. The Operation Christmas Child Project is an opportunity for students to pack shoeboxes with toys, clothing, or care products for children around the world who normally do not receive any Christmas gifts. The children also receive the message of the Gospel and prayers from those who packed the shoeboxes.

The 2020 Operation Christmas Child Project goal was to raise \$200 (in addition to the \$500 Hands and Feet Grant) and to fill 60 shoeboxes with the help and donation of shoeboxes from pharmacy students. The Operation Christmas Child Project was approved as an event for the KU SOP Professional Development Program (students are required to complete several events throughout the year). Students who participated in the Operation Christmas Child



Project event for Professional Development credit were asked to fill 1 shoebox with 6 items (2 school supplies items, 2 hygiene/personal care items, and 2 toy items). The funds raised for the Operation Christmas Child Project along with the Hands and Feet Grant were used to cover the cost of filling the student-packed shoeboxes with additional items and to cover the \$9 shipping cost per shoebox.

KU CPFI held a 2-week donation drive from November 2-13, 2020, during which friends and family of CPFI members, former pharmacy students, and current students, staff, and faculty at KU SOP generously donated \$1571 via Venmo and Zelle. KU CPFI also partnered with a local Chick-Fil-A restaurant for a percentage night and raised an additional \$29.13. Finally, the KU CPFI Student Chapter was granted \$500 through the 2020 CPFI Hands and Feet Grant so that a grand total of \$2100.13 was raised.

In total, 100 shoeboxes (including those packed by students at home) were donated and sponsored. Sixteen students participated in the Professional Development Program and packed a total of 24 shoeboxes at their homes. The KU CPFI Community Service Chair, Sara Strand, inspected the student-packed shoeboxes to ensure there were no inappropriate items such as liquids or food items in the shoeboxes. Then she filled the student-packed shoeboxes with additional items and packed an additional 76 shoeboxes with the purchased items.

Thirty tracking labels and 30 Samaritan's Purse shoeboxes were donated to KU CPFI by a family member of a CPFI member. KU CPFI registered the 30 tracking labels through Samaritan's Purse for \$9 per label (\$270) for 30 shoeboxes which included the 24 shoeboxes that were packed by students. Each student took a picture of themselves to include in their shoeboxes, and they were provided with the tracking numbers to follow where their shoeboxes were delivered. \$1189.92 was used to purchase additional plastic shoeboxes and items to place in the shoeboxes such as toys, coloring books, brushes, deodorant, tissues,

pencils, pencil sharpeners, crayons, lip balm, toys, soap, water bottles, playing cards, flip flops, socks, nail files, and hair elastics. The remaining 70 boxes were paid for through Samaritan's Purse with a lump donation of \$630 (\$9 per box) and the remaining funds of \$10.21 were donated to Samaritan's Purse for Operation Christmas Child. The 100 shoeboxes were delivered to the designated Operation Christmas Child distribution site in Kansas City on November 23, 2020 during the designated shoebox collection week.

The KU CPFI Student Chapter is incredibly grateful for the kindness and generosity of all who donated to the Operation Christmas Child Project and for the 2020 CPFI Hands and Feet Grant which helped surpass the goal and spread the Gospel to as many children as possible.

**CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PHARMACY:  
Providing a Local Community with Free Influenza Vaccines  
Through a Local Free Health Clinic**

The Cedarville University School of Pharmacy's student chapter of CPFI was given the opportunity to purchase and administer influenza vaccines to a local community of individuals by partnering with a local free health clinic and a local independent pharmacy. Erin Ballentine, the current president of Cedarville's CPFI chapter, completed her fall semester IPPE rotation with the Health Partners Free Clinic in Troy, OH. One day, Erin was talking with the executive director of the clinic, Dr Justin Coby, and it was mentioned that the clinic knew of a local community of individuals who were not able to afford their annual flu vaccines. The clinic wanted to be able to serve these individuals; however they did not have access to a supplier, nor did they have funding for the vaccines.

Upon hearing of this need, Erin shared this information with the CPFI chapter who applied for the Hands and Feet Grant in order to purchase vaccines that could be provided to this community free of charge. We were able to purchase the flu shots through a local independent pharmacy, Cedar Care Village Pharmacy, who provided the shots to us at a stock price (about \$16 per shot) allowing us to purchase about 30 vaccines.





On November 14, 2020, CPFI members met staff from the Health Partners Free Clinic at the Lincoln Community Center in Troy, OH to hold the free flu shot clinic. CPFI members were able to administer 16 flu shots as well as perform blood pressure and blood glucose screenings to the individuals who attended.

Because we had additional vaccines, we were able to set up another flu shot clinic at the local Shared Harvest Food Drive in Piqua, OH on November 21, 2020. CPFI members were to administer the rest of our flu shot donations as well



as a few extras that had been donated to the clinic for a total of 34 vaccines. This clinic not only provided opportunities for members to practice administering vaccines, but it also allowed members to have countless conversations with people who were hesitant about receiving vaccines. Members were able to encourage them by explaining how

vaccines work, information about their safety and efficacy, and by answering other general health questions.

The goal of this project was to not only serve the community through administering free flu vaccinations, but also to assist the Health Partners Free Clinic by promoting their free services to those in need. Dr Justin Coby told us that our donation was an answer to prayer as they had been looking for both a supplier and funding to be able to support this initiative. We were honored to represent the working hands and feet of Christ by filling the needs of those in the community. We were also thankful for the opportunity to practice administering vaccines and to see firsthand the reluctance that some people have regarding vaccines. This was a great learning experience for our members as we were able to practice motivational interviewing and talking with patients in order to answer their vaccine-related questions.

In the future, our CPFI chapter hopes to continue to build our relationship with the Health Partners Free Clinic and to find ways to help serve their local community. Whether that be through holding more flu shot clinics or meeting other areas of need, we would love to be able to continue serving the local community and glorifying God in this way through future involvement.

We are very appreciative of CPFI for supplying us with this year's Hand and Feet Grant to be able to pour into our local community in this way. Without these funds, 30 individuals may not have received their annual flu shot, and we would not have a working relationship with the Health Partners Free Clinic. Thank you, CPFI, for allowing us to grow as student pharmacists through this opportunity!

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## Yarn and Thread, Blessings Ahead By Susan B. Smith

My mother always found that one special Christmas present for me. It was a present I didn't ask for, and quite honestly never even thought to ask for, but every year it became my favorite gift. On Christmas Day in 1974, when I was 8 years old, my mom gave me my first-ever cross-stitch kit. Over the next several years I received kits to make latch-hook rugs, embroidered sachets, beaded ornaments, and more cross-stitch projects. During that time, my mom also taught me how to crochet and sew.

For as long as I can remember, I've always had at least one project in the

works. Always. While I do have several other hobbies such as reading, baking, gardening, and watching sports, I am most at peace when I have a project in the making that involves a needle and thread. Or a crochet hook and yarn. I have several framed cross-stitch pieces displayed on the walls or propped up on dressers, and my couches are adorned with crocheted afghans. Most of my early projects were made with me or other family members or friends in mind.

My craft interests turned to smocking when my daughter Melanie was born. Smocking is decorative needlework

stitched over pleats to embellish a dress or shirt. I spent the next 8 years making smocked dresses for her, but alas, little girls eventually grow out of wanting to wear this classic heirloom look. But that was okay, since I was able to go back to my other crafty projects! For 12 years, my sewing supplies sat dormant until one day I was walking through the public library and saw a display for the Smocking Arts Guild of America (SAGA).<sup>1</sup> Their stated purpose is "to preserve and foster the art of smocking and related needlework for future generations through education, service, communication and quality