"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know." John 14: 1-4 (NKJV)

Dear CPFI Members,

This summer I took (my 10 year-old son would use the word “dragged”) my family up to Michigan where I spent a majority of my childhood to the place I still call “home.” Since I no longer have any family or relatives living in Michigan, it had been over 20 years since I had gone back to my hometown. Visiting my old neighborhood to see the home I grew up in and even meeting the current homeowner who purchased our house almost 30 years ago from my parents was a trip I had looked forward to. We drove by Memorial Presbyterian Church where my family had worshipped. It was so big it covered an entire city block and was actually as huge as I remembered it when I was a young boy. Seeing our former church home brought back many memories of Boy Scouts, VBS, Wednesday night fellowship dinners, and my least favorite – children’s choir practice. We drove downtown and I showed my family what was left of the former men’s clothing store I had worked for all through high school and into college. I even happened upon the baseball field where I played little league baseball, and to my surprise, the big oak tree my folks would sit under to cheer on their son with “keep an eye on the ball!” was still there. Later that night after driving back to where we were staying, I shared with my wife how much I enjoyed going back “home” to visit where I had grown up, even though there were no longer any family members or friends to see. I was blessed and fortunate to have loving parents who raised my brother and me in a strong Christ-centered home with many great memories.

Having worked with hundreds of students and young adults over the past 30 years, I am aware not everyone has fond memories of where they are from, let alone wish to return to visit. Most of us know someone or have personally experienced a family impacted by a failed or unhealthy marriage. Others know the mental anguish and mistrust as a result of abusive relationships by those we depended on. The good news is it isn’t where we are from that matters - but more importantly where we are headed! Through our belief and faith in our Lord, Jesus, we can begin a new life. “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new.” II Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV). What a glorious and gracious gift from God that is…far better than any memory of the past!

No matter what this world presents to us, in the past or future, we have a foundation in Jesus. “But those who hope in the Lord, their strength shall be renewed. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” Isaiah 40:31. How encouraging to have God’s promise that He will not leave us and let us falter from life’s challenges.

As Christians of this world, we are reminded by Jesus that our eternal “home” is with God, prepared by God, and planned by God. He has a place for all who come to Him through our personal faith in Jesus. The road to our heavenly home is clear. Let Jesus show you the way. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

Thomas A. (Tom) Robertson, Ed.D
CPFI Member and Student Chapter Advisor, West Palm Beach, FL
The LORD really moved and made his presence known at CPFI’s First Annual Southwest Regional Retreat held August 2nd to August 4th in San Antonio, Tx! We learned to have joy in all that we do, even in the times of unwanted circumstances. Dr. Jeffrey 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. Fred 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.

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 Student Chapter Director

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**132**nd Annual Virginia Pharmacy Association Convention

CPFI Board members, Greg Carlson and Mark Johnson hosted a CPFI Prayer Breakfast and exhibit booth at the 132**nd** Annual Virginia Pharmacy Association Convention. CPFI member, Gene Erb, presented a message at the prayer breakfast titled “Medical Mission Service”.

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**Global Missions Health Conference**

Louisville, KY • 7-9 November 2013
Save the date!
CPFI Annual Conference returns to Myrtle Beach in 2014!

2014 CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat
National Student Retreat June 11 – 15, 2014
Annual Conference June 12 – 15, 2014
Springmaid Beach Resort
Myrtle Beach, SC

Your support is needed

CPFI needs your continued support this year. Please consider giving a gift or a monthly gift to help our organization meet its operational and ministry expenses.

Dear Scholarship Donors,

On behalf of the students who received a scholarship to attend the 2013 CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat, I would like to thank you for your contribution towards the Student Scholarship Fund. Many students have individually expressed gratitude and surprise at your generosity. Is it such a blessing to receive support from the professional members of CPFI. The gift that you have given really touched the students and we are so grateful for your support.

In Christ,
Charlotte Taft
CPFI National Student Council Chairperson

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2013-2014 CPFI Leadership Team

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