



# The Faith Script

Vol. 31 Issue 11

## In Everything Give Thanks

*Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thess. 5:18 (ESV)*

November 2014

## A message from the President



Autumn leaves remind us of change. The warm lush days of summer are rapidly passing away as the temperature outside begins to drop. Some of us have even had our first dusting of snow. Some change is gradual, expected and even longed for. However, there are times when change takes us by complete surprise. The apostle Paul had visited the church in

Thessalonica during his second missionary journey. Intense persecution of the church in the area forced Paul to leave abruptly. He writes this letter to encourage the new believers in this church to stay strong and live godly lives in spite of the circumstances around them. Paul says to give thanks in all circumstances. There will be seasons of "Thanksgiving" where we are filled with joy, but there may also be times when it seems the world is crashing in around us. Let's heed Paul's advice to give thanks, because even these circumstances are God's will for our life.

This past year there have been changes in my role at the University that were unexpected and what I do today is very different from a year ago. I know that these changes are part of God's plan for my life and I can rejoice and give thanks in this circumstance knowing that God's perfect will is being accomplished through me. I trust that as you approach this Thanksgiving holiday that whether you are filled with joy that wells up from within, or merely are responding in obedience, that prayers of Thanksgiving can fill your heart and be expressed personally and publicly.

I am rejoicing as executive director for CPFI that we have moved our office from Palm Beach Atlantic University (PBAU) to the Christian Medical and Dental Associations (CMDA) offices in Bristol, TN. PBAU has been a gracious host and met critical needs for our organization during a time of transition. However, the time has come to strengthen our ties and relationships with some of the other organizations that represent other groups of Christian healthcare professionals. Inter-disciplinary healthcare has become very important at this time, so we felt a need to expand our Christian influence in the public arena by working more closely with doctors, dentists and physician assistants affiliated with CMDA.

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The older I get the more I have come to realize the value of living each day in a spirit of thanksgiving because I have experienced God's blessings on a daily basis. I have come to appreciate that each day, when I wake up; I have another gift from God. I only wish I could love Him more and show His love to others more. However I don't want to minimize the value of Thanksgiving either. The advantage of having a holiday like Thanksgiving is that we can come together as a family (both earthly and church) to reflect together on God's goodness to us, His people.

This year I have been reading through the Bible in the Message. Recently I was reading in 1 Timothy 6:7-8, where Paul shared with Timothy this truth: "A devout life brings wealth, but it is the rich simplicity of being yourself before God. Since we entered the world penniless and will leave it penniless, if we have bread on the table and shoes on our feet, that's enough". For me there are a number of truths in these verses but let me share a few as we approach the Thanksgiving season.

1. The simple life is really the best life. We spend a lifetime accumulating "things" which have no eternal value and often neglect the things that matter; God, Church, Family, Friends. Blessed is the person who realizes this early in life but for some of us it takes a lifetime of living wrong before we realize how to live right.

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The office move took place in October and Nena Lindrose, our administrative director, is settling in nicely. It was a major move for a native Floridian, but she has been welcomed into the new setting warmly and I have heard nothing but praise from the CMDA staff and from Nena about how well the transition has been going.

CPFI had its Fall board meeting at the GMHC (Global Missions Health Conference) on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> in Louisville. We spent a significant amount of time reviewing eighteen ethical position statements that have previously been approved by CMDA. We have personalized the statements and will soon post them on our website and introduce them to our membership. Because of the move, the finance team was not able to finalize the budget for next year, but that will be completed soon and submitted electronically to the Board for approval. Additional time was spent at the meeting talking about membership and the significant number of members who have not renewed, many of whom are recent graduates. Some of the Board members have begun to call and e-mail people on this list to encourage them to renew. If you would like to help with this project, please contact the CPFI office. We would love to enlist your help!

Ron Herman, Executive Director



## GLOBAL MISSIONS HEALTH CONFERENCE

The GMHC hosted another very successful conference on November 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>. Over 2900 medical professionals and students attended the three day event. The morning and evening worship services were amazing with four plenary session speakers who provided powerful and thought provoking presentations. Several of the plenary sessions and breakout sessions focused on the Ebola virus. We heard from men and women who have been on the front lines caring for Ebola patients, a couple of whom had developed the disease and completely recovered, with God's help and the dedicated care of fellow missionaries serving under challenging conditions. What a blessing to hear from and learn from those that have been the hands and feet of Jesus!

CPFI was one of over 100 exhibitors that were able to showcase their marketplace or mission ministry at the conference. At least 100 pharmacists and pharmacy students visited the CPFI exhibit booth during the three day conference.

2. Wealth is not financial security; real wealth is spiritual security. Just as it takes hard work to accumulate financial security it takes hard work to become spiritually mature. It takes a life time to achieve but it requires daily practice. As you become more spiritually mature you come to realize the value of simplicity.
3. Although we will leave this world penniless if we have been devout in our pursuit of God we will have a treasure chest of good deeds waiting for us in heaven and we can look forward to that word of encouragement we will receive from our Creator: "Well-done my good and faithful servant". I am not sure how these treasures will be used in heaven but I suspect that they will just be given away so no one will seem better than anyone else because there is another truth we need to ponder.
4. God accepts us when we repent and call on Him for salvation, whether that occurs as a child or on our deathbed. The implication of this truth to me means when we get to heaven we will have no past because our sins have been forgiven and forgotten. We will only have a future of eternity with "The Lamb" in an environment free of sin and its consequences.

NOW THAT IS SOMETHING TO BE  
THANKFUL FOR.

*Fred*

Fred M. Eckel, President





If you have an opportunity to visit the new CPFI office, located at the Christian Medical & Dental Associations headquarters (pictured at left), here is the **physical** address:

**CPFI**  
2604 Hwy. 421  
Bristol, TN 37620

*(See below left for CPFI's new mailing address.)*



**Christian Pharmacists Fellowship  
International**

**New contact information:**

**Mailing Address:**

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Bristol, TN 37621-1154

**Shipping Address:**

504 Old Jonesboro Rd  
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**Web:** [www.cpfi.org](http://www.cpfi.org)

**Tel.:** (423) 844-1043

**Toll free:** 888-253-6885

**Upcoming Events:**

- 2015 CPFI Annual Conference  
& National Student Retreat  
Flat Rock, North Carolina
  - Board Meeting June 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Retreat June 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>
  - Conference June 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>



*We thank God for our 1% Group Members and other faithful  
CPFI members for their generous support!*

**2014-2015 Members of The 1% Group**

Jeffrey T. Copeland  
Fred M. Eckel  
Gregory C. Carlson  
Daniel C. Spadaro  
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Wagdy W. Wahba  
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J. Michael Ross  
Janet A. Lei  
Maj. Don A. Belt  
Wayne G. Myers  
Michele L. Lennox  
John E. Corkrean  
Martin Dale Parker  
Michael G. Merrick  
Sarah Roth  
Kellie Zentz  
Herbert Hames

**[Learn More and Join Now](#)**

*“For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more.  
And they did it of their own free will.” II Corinthians 8:3(NLT)*

## CPFI Board of Directors

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### CPFI is subject to Financial Accountability

CPFI is a registered 501(c)3 organization. We depend entirely on your tax-deductible gifts and membership dues for the financial support of our ministry. Gifts are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. (Consult an accountant regarding tax deduction of dues.) We are grateful for the many members who make regular contributions beyond their dues to support this ministry.

CPFI welcome's articles with a Christian focus. If you are interested in contributing an article for possible publication in our journal, Christianity & Pharmacy, please submit your manuscript directly to the CPFI office or to the editor. The deadlines for the journal: Spring Journal, December 1; Fall Journal, July 1.

## Short Term Foreign Mission Opportunities

CPFI partners with the Christian Medical and Dental Association, the Fellowship of Christian Nurses and the Fellowship of Christian Physician Assistants to send out short term medical teams through Global Health Outreach. The primary care teams are usually one or two weeks, and our goal is to have two pharmacists on each team. Below is a list of upcoming trips. For a complete list of the projects and dates, visit the [GHO website](http://GHO website) which can be accessed from the CPFI website [www.cpfi.org](http://www.cpfi.org) or the CMDA website [www.cmda.org](http://www.cmda.org).

### Upcoming GHO Short Term Projects

<i>Jan 10 – 17, 2015</i> Nicaragua	<i>Apr 23 – May 4, 2015</i> Moldova
<i>Jan 23 – Feb 7, 2015</i> Cambodia	<i>May 8 – 23, 2015</i> Afghanistan
<i>Feb 7 – 15, 2015</i> Nicaragua	<i>May 16 – 24, 2015</i> Nicaragua
<i>Feb 20 – Mar 6, 2015</i> Eth*opia	<i>May 23 – 31, 2015</i> Honduras
<i>Feb 21 – Mar 1, 2015</i> Honduras	<i>Jun 6 – 13, 2015</i> Nicaragua
<i>Feb 28 – Mar 8, 2015</i> El Salvador	<i>Jun 13 – 21, 2015</i> Ecuador
<i>Feb 28 – Mar 8, 2015</i> Nicaragua	<i>Jun 13 – 21, 2015</i> El Salvador
<i>Mar 3 – 14, 2015</i> Tikapur, Nepal	<i>Jun 20 – 28, 2015</i> Nicaragua
<i>Mar 6 – 15, 2015</i> Vietnam	<i>Jun 20 – 28, 2015</i> Dominican Republic
<i>Mar 7 – 15, 2015</i> Honduras	<i>Jun 20 – 28, 2015</i> El Salvador
<i>Mar 13 – 22, 2015</i> Jordan	<i>Jul 11 – 19, 2015</i> Dominican Republic
<i>Mar 14 – 21, 2015</i> El Salvador	<i>Jul 11 – 19, 2015</i> Nicaragua
<i>Mar 21 -28, 2015</i> Haiti	<i>Jul 25 –Aug 2, 2015</i> El Salvador
<i>Mar 21 -29, 2015</i> Dominican Republic	<i>Jul 31 – Aug 15, 2015</i> Nairobi, Kenya
<i>Mar 21 -29, 2015</i> Nicaragua	<i>Aug 1 – 9, 2015</i> Nicaragua
<i>Mar 21 -29, 2015</i> El Salvador	<i>Aug 8 – 16, 2015</i> Nicaragua
<i>Mar 26 –Apr 6, 2015</i> Ukraine	<i>Aug 14 – 29, 2015</i> Sumba, Indonesia

The GHO website provides a link for each trip, the name of each team leader, and the estimated cost of each trip. You may apply on-line to participate in the trip of your choice or e-mail Keith Allhands, the Mission Committee Chair at [kwa@dch.org](mailto:kwa@dch.org) for additional information.