

The Faith Script

CPFI Serving Christ and the World Through Pharmacy

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*You will keep him in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You,
Because he trusts in You. Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV)*

[Prayer Wall](#)

Through Sorrow and Joy – Our Lord is Faithful

This past year has been one of great change, joy and sorrow for me. It has come with great excitement, great challenges and great personal loss. It has been a tremendously humbling experience, and one which has prompted me to draw even more strength from my Lord and Savior. Despite the challenges, I am confident that my Lord is faithful through it all. *He who began a good work, will be faithful to complete it. Philippians 1:6 (NIV)*

In January 2015, I began my term as Interim Dean of the Wegmans School of Pharmacy at St. John Fisher College. Although it was a wonderful opportunity and privilege to serve in this role, the opportunity came as the result of the passing of my dean, mentor and close friend, Dr. Scott Swigart. Scott went home to be with the Lord after a lengthy fight with pancreatic cancer. The personal loss of my friend and mentor was numbing, but it was also compounded by the important responsibility he had entrusted to me before his passing - to carry the torch in leading our school of pharmacy. I was extremely humbled, sorrowful and unsure how I could possibly fill the shoes of my mentor.

Humbled by the responsibility, I could only rely on God to help guide me each day. Each morning I asked the Lord to give me wisdom and to help me with every decision of the day. With the Lord's strength and guidance, and the support of my loving husband, I have weathered the storm, made the transition and helped to bring my team through a time of loss and transition. As a result, the experience has taught me the importance of relying on God for each and every step along the way.

In the midst of this same year, I was provided an even greater challenge and landmark event in my life. After three years of waiting, my husband George and I traveled to Thailand to pick up our newly adopted daughter, Priscilla. What a great privilege to be a mom! My little Priscilla is a bundle of joy and keeps me on my toes. Being a mom for the first time has taught me so many things, most of all to serve the Lord by serving my family. This too is a full time job, but one for which I know that if done well, the Lord is well pleased. I am relying on God's guidance, His wisdom and his strength, to do be the best mom and wife that I can possibly be!

As I reflect on this past year, recalling the sadness, the joys, the excitement, the challenges, and the changes, there is one thing I know that will never change. That is my loving Heavenly Father. *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8 (NIV)*. He is there for us through sorrow and joy, and will give us the wisdom, support and strength we need for each day! All we have to do is to trust in Him.

In His Grace and Mercy,

2016 CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat

Student Retreat: 6/8 to 6/12/16
Conference : 6/9 to 6/12/16
Springmaid Beach Resort
Myrtle Beach, SC

[Schedule-at-a-glance](#)

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(Speaker directory, full program, and student program will be available soon.)

CPFI North Pacific Regional Student Retreat

January 8 to 9, 2016
Loma Linda, CA

[Agenda](#)

[Outreach Opportunities](#)

Christine R. Birnie, RPh, PhD, CPFI Member
Pittsford, NY



(George, Christine and Priscilla)

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The theme for this issue: *Your Mission Field at Home*

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