



# The Faith Script

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*Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together.  
Psalm 34:3 (NIV)*

**A message from the President**

## CPFI 2016 Annual Conference & National Student Retreat

Nena Lindrose, Administrative Director

This year the CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat was held at Springmaid Beach Resort in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. A total of 170 pharmacists, student pharmacists and family members travelled from 27 states, some from as far as Oregon and California and several travelled from the DR Congo, Africa, to gather together to renew old friendships, find new friends, and enjoy a time of inspiration, education, and spiritual rejuvenation.



The CPFI Board of directors came in early this year to meet for their semi-annual Board meeting and to participate in strategic planning for the organization. Other events included a National Student Retreat that began on Wednesday evening and concluded on Thursday afternoon just prior to the start of the Annual Conference. Dr. Gevette Ocasio, 2016 graduate of the Lloyd L. Gregory School of Pharmacy at Palm Beach Atlantic University, West Palm Beach, Florida, did an outstanding job of coordinating the 2 day National Retreat for students and all of the additional student activities that were provided throughout the conference, some of which provided students with opportunities to connect with and be mentored by pharmacists.

A silent auction was coordinated by Susan Lutz to help raise money for upcoming student activities within the 87 CPFI student chapters across the country. A family style beachside cookout on Friday evening, the CPFI Awards Banquet and singing under the stars on the beach on Saturday evening provided additional opportunities to fellowship. The conference concluded on Sunday morning with a worship service and a challenging and timely message from CPFI President, Fred Eckel. A special surprise on Sunday morning came from Fred's grandson, Joshua Myatt, who led worship by playing several hymns on his trumpet.



CPFI Treasurer, Greg Carlson, was recognized with CPFI's highest award, the Dr. Warren E. Weaver Service Award. This award is given to an individual who has exemplified our Lord's example in service to others. Dr. Carlson has been a member of CPFI for many years and has held various  
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**~Elijah's Example~**  
By Fred Eckel, President

Several things have caused me to think about the future of our country and especially how Christians will be treated. The recent decision by the Supreme Court not to hear the Stormans case, letting the lower court ruling stand is one of these things.

As these issues have been going on, I have had the opportunity to spend 6 weeks in a Sunday School Class studying the life of Elijah. I learned much but wanted to reflect briefly on 1 Kings 19:14(ESV) He (Elijah) said, *"I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of Hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, killed your prophets with the sword, and I even I only am left, and they seek my life, to take it away."*

The Biblical content related to many of the incidents described in these 3 Chapters related to the life of Elijah leaves much to the imagination and this specific incident is an example. I believe that the Bible is the inerrant word of God so he has given us all we need. Therefore as I reflect on this verse I do so using the rest of the Bible, my own experience and the Holy Spirit.

After a successful mountain top experience where God dramatically defeats the prophets as fire comes down from heaven and burns up Elijah's offering including the stones he placed on the repaired altar, we find Elijah in an apparent spiritual and emotional low point. Afraid of Jezebel's threat to kill him he runs away. When confronted by God he seems to say to God: "Why are you treating me this way? I seem to care more about your reputation

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positions on the Executive Committee as well as serving as a director on the CPFI Board of Directors. Dr. Carlson has served in numerous international mission trips throughout the world as far as Nepal, twice in Ethiopia and twice in the Ukraine. Dr. Carlson is a humble and joyful servant for God through his contributions to CPFI and missions.

CPFI also recognized Dr. Tom Robertson, Assistant Dean for Students at the Lloyd L. Gregory School of Pharmacy in West Palm Beach, Florida, and long-time member of CPFI, with the Psalm 145 Award. This award is given to honor an individual's service to the Lord and to student pharmacists. Dr. Robertson has been passionate in his service to students and to CPFI for decades and is a devoted servant to Jesus Christ.



This year the Dr. Fred M. Eckel Student of the Year Award was given to Shenandoah University School of Pharmacy 2016 graduate Dr. Shawn Kohlhaas, for his leadership in promoting CPFI student activities. Dr. Kohlhaas was also instrumental in coordinating a CPFI event at the 2016

American Pharmacy Association Annual Meeting & Exposition in Baltimore, MD, titled 'To Dispense or Not Dispense: Should that even be the question?' Dr. Kohlhaas served on the CPFI Board of Directors as the student representative for the past year. Finally, the CPFI Student Chapter of the Year Award which recognizes the outstanding achievements of a CPFI student chapter was awarded to Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Dr. Virgil Vandusen is the advisor for this chapter.

All of the speakers did an excellent job of presenting on a wide range of topics from short-term missions and tropical medicines to recent court decisions affecting pharmacy practice, e-cigarettes, the latest discoveries in treating diabetes, senior care, harnessing conflict to assure excellent care and more. Our speakers donate their time and pay their own travel expenses to speak at a CPFI conference and/or retreat. Another highlight this year was having Dr. Dan Hussar join the conference again to provide his very popular New Drug Update. Dr. Hussar just finished a year-long battle with Leukemia.

Barry Ewy, CEO for Blessings International, was a speaker for the National Student Retreat as well as for the Annual Conference and our only exhibitor this year. Dr. Ewy stayed busy at the conference. One of our members, Dr. Joseph Rogowski, shared his inspirational story during Dr. Eckel's panel discussion about how God led him to write his new book, 'Seeing Others Successful.' Dr. Rogowski conducted a book signing during the conference. (Continued on page 3)



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than you do. I did all you asked me to do and here I am fearing for my life and besides I am the only one left who cares about you. This is no way to treat your faithful servant.”

Some reflections on this verse:

1. When God doesn't do things the way we expect Him to we can become upset with Him as happened to Elijah.
2. Sometimes our great spiritual mountain tops can lead to real spiritual lows where we feel lonely, afraid and fatigued; Elijah's apparent situation here.
3. God wants His children to interact with Him, even when we want to question His ways, because He loves them and wants the best for them. Elijah certainly confronted God.
4. God always has a plan to accomplish His purposes (yes even in America today) but because His ways are not our ways we often cannot see it very clearly nor even understand it. God shared some of His plans with Elijah.
5. God is always communicating with us but it may be in a "still small voice" that we miss because we are not listening closely. After a strong wind, earthquake and fire God communicated with Elijah in a quiet voice.
6. We are not alone in our service for the Lord, even when we feel we are. God has his people serving Him where He wants them. We just need to join Him in His plan, not try to get Him to adopt our plan. God shared with Elijah that He had 7000 workers on His team.

As we face the future as Christian Pharmacists remember God is in control, even in America today. He has a plan, even if we cannot see it clearly, that includes us but it may be that He wants to use us differently than we want or think. Are you open to His plan for you?



Each year the combined Annual Conference and National Student Retreat seem to become more and more enjoyable for attendees as reflected on their conference evaluations. There is so much information about the conference to cover it is virtually impossible in this brief message to convey the quality of the experience one can have by attending a CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat. However, I have shared below several of the many positive comments we received from our attendees.

- *“I was able to make the trek from northeast Pennsylvania to enjoy what was simply one of the most valuable conferences I’ve ever attended. As a result, I was able to engage in excellent networking opportunities and student programming. Most importantly, I was able to strengthen my faith in Christ and make lasting connections with those who share the faith.”*
- *“I cannot wait to see how CPFI continues to change lives.”*
- *“It was my first time going to the student retreat and the memories and connections that I have made there I will cherish forever.”*
- *“I learned so much from the sessions and from getting to know the pharmacists that attend. As a fourth year student who is considering several different career paths, it was so helpful to meet pharmacists in a wide variety of professions and to hear how they serve the Lord through pharmacy. The devotionals and worship were encouraging, and it is fun to reunite with friends from across the country that attend every year.*
- *I am greatly looking forward to going to Colorado next year as a professional after I graduate.”*
- *“Thank you so much for putting on such a good conference and I hope to be back again next year.”*
- *“I always enjoy the fellowship and community with like-minded individuals who share a love for Jesus and are passionate about the profession of pharmacy. I also value the integration of pharmacy with faith in the continuing education sessions. It’s also always a lot of fun to reconnect with old friends and have the opportunity to network with other student pharmacists and professionals.”*
- *“My favorite part of the conference is meeting friends again that I only get to catch up with at the CPFI conferences. You are doing an excellent job!!!”*
- *“My favorite part of the conference was the integration of faith and pharmacy and that everyone was so nice!”*

Hopefully these comments along with the photos included in this message will help to provide you with a sense of what you are missing if you are not attending. You can begin to plan now for the CPFI 2017 Annual Conference & National Student Retreat which will be held at the Glen Eyrie Conference Center, owned and operated by The Navigator’s ministry since 1953, in Colorado Springs, CO, from June 14 to June 18, 2017.





**Christian Pharmacists Fellowship  
International**

**Mailing Address:**

PO Box 1154  
Bristol, TN 37621-1154

**Shipping Address:**

504 Old Jonesboro Rd  
Bristol, TN 37620

**Email:** [office@cpfi.org](mailto:office@cpfi.org)

**Web:** [www.cpfi.org](http://www.cpfi.org)

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

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

**Upcoming Events:**

- **Global Missions Health Conference (GMHC)**  
Louisville, KY, November 10 to 12, 2016 and CPFI Board Meeting at GMHC November 10, 2016
- **CPFI 2017 Annual Conference & National Student Retreat**  
Glen Eyrie Conference Ctr. Colorado Springs, CO  
Student Retreat: June 14 to 18, 2017  
Annual Conference: June 15 to 18, 2017



*Leadership, Service, Support! Thank you!*

**The 1% Group**

**Jeffrey T. Copeland, Founding Member (since 2012)**

**Fred M. Eckel (since 2012)**

**Gregory C. Carlson (since 2012)**

**Daniel C. Spadaro (since 2012)**

**Keith W. Allhands (since 2012)**

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**Michael G. Merrick (since 2013)**

**Kellie Zentz (since 2014)**

**Herbert J. Hames (since 2014)**

**Daniel & Suzanne F. Hussar (since 2015)**

**Mark S. Johnson (since 2015)**

**Gene I. Erb (since 2015)**

**Daniel J. & Charlotte Wilson (since 2015)**

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**Monthly Sustaining Gift**

**Earle P. Barton (since 2011)**

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**The Power Hour Gift Group Monthly Pledge**

**14 CPFI members have joined this group!**

**Join the Power Hour Gift Group Today!**

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**Join The 1% Group Today!**

**[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 Officers & Board of Directors

**Executive Director, Ron Herman**  
Iowa City, IA (319) 530-9867  
ronald-a-herman@uiowa.edu

**Administrative Director,  
Nena Lindrose** Bristol, TN  
(888) 253-6885 office@cpfi.org

**President, Fred Eckel**  
Chapel Hill, NC (984) 439-1646  
fred@ncpharmacists.org

**Vice-President, Gene Lutz**  
Altoona, IA (515) 771-6626  
lutzrxel@gmail.com

**Secretary, Susan Lutz**  
Altoona, IA (515) 771-5897  
lutzrxsl@gmail.com

**Treasurer, Greg Carlson,**  
Stuart, VA (276) 694-8627  
gccarlson@hotmail.com

**Jeff Copeland**  
San Antonio, TX (210) 883-1051  
jtcopela@uiwtx.edu

**Jordan Daniel**  
Providence, RI (317) 287-4152  
jordant.daniel@gmail.com

**Gene Erb**  
Forest, VA (757) 710-1323  
geneerb47@gmail.com

**Joy Greene**  
Trinity, NC (704) 989-8891  
joybgreene@yahoo.com

**Mark Johnson**  
Winchester, VA  
(540) 533-6250  
Mjohnson@su.edu

**Daniel Wilson**  
Solberry, IN  
(812) 606-6888  
danielwilson938@gmail.com

**Student Representative  
Tristram Ford**  
Mankeim, PA (717) 598-3755  
Tristram.ford@wilkes.edu

**Prayer Coordinator, Wagdy  
Wahba,** Singer Island, FL  
561-252-3376  
Wagdy\_Wahba@pba.edu

**Editor, Mary Ferrill**  
West Palm Beach, FL  
561-803-2053  
Mary\_Ferrill@pba.edu

### 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](#) 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

<b>Sep 2 – 11, 2016</b> Middle East	<b>Feb 21 – Mar 5, 2017</b> Central Asia
<b>Sep 8 - 19, 2016</b> Southeast Europe	<b>Mar 4 – 12, 2017</b> Nicaragua
<b>Sep 16 - 28, 2016</b> North Africa	<b>Mar 18 – 26, 2017</b> Dominican Republic
<b>Sep 16 – 30, 2016</b> East Asia	<b>Mar 18 – 26, 2017</b> El Salvador
<b>Oct 1 – 9, 2016</b> Dominican Republic	<b>May, 2017</b> Middle East
<b>Oct 1 – 9, 2016</b> Nicaragua	<b>May, 2017</b> Asia Pacific
<b>Oct 14 - 23, 2016</b> Asia Pacific	<b>Aug, 2017</b> East Africa
<b>Oct 15 – 23, 2016</b> Ecuador	<b>Sep, 2017</b> Southeast Europe
<b>Oct 15 – 29, 2016</b> Ethiopia	<b>Sep, 2017</b> North Africa
<b>Oct 24 – Nov 5, 2016</b> Myanmar	<b>Sep, 2017</b> East Asia
<b>Nov 1 – 12, 2016</b> East India	<b>Oct, 2017</b> Ecuador
<b>Nov 5 - 13, 2016</b> Ecuador	<b>Oct, 2017</b> East Asia
<b>Jan 7 - 15, 2017</b> El Salvador	<b>Oct, 2017</b> East Africa
<b>Jan 28 – Feb 5, 2017</b> Nicaragua	<b>Oct, 2017</b> Myanmar
<b>Feb 3 – 18, 2017</b> Southeast Asia	<b>Nov, 2017</b> Central Asia
<b>Feb 11 – 18, 2017</b> Honduras	<b>Nov, 2017</b> Ecuador
<b>Feb 19 – Mar 4, 2017</b> East Africa	<b>Nov, 2017</b> Honduras

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, [kwallhands@gmail.com](mailto:kwallhands@gmail.com) the Mission Committee Chair for additional information.