



The Faith Script

Vol. 34 Issue 11

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But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone; nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days. Galatians 1:15-18 (ESV)

**~A note from the President~
Jeff Copeland**

A Bump in the Road

Saul, as a young man had his life all figured out. He was dedicated to finding and putting to death those who belonged to “the Way”, the ones who would later be called “Christians”. He took on this task with zeal; however, God had other plans for him. After an encounter with a bright light coming from heaven while he traveled on the road to Damascus, he was then addressed by a voice that no one could see where it came from. Saul knew by what was said that it was Jesus, whose followers he was persecuting. After hearing the loud voice and being blinded by the light his friends escorted him to Damascus. For 3 days he could not see and he did not eat, pondering what had happened. In Damascus a disciple of Jesus was led by the Lord to go to where Saul was staying. This disciple reluctantly went, but when he did and shared with Saul that Jesus had chosen Saul to follow Him, Saul responded. He was baptized, his sight was restored, and he ate food and was strengthened. A miraculous recovery! He began to proclaim what had happened to him. It is interesting that he did not consult with any of the local believers what he should say (v. 16) and he did not go up to Jerusalem to consult with church leaders. Instead it says in this passage that he went away into Arabia. He went out to the desert to spend time alone; reading the scriptures and in prayer getting to know Jesus and God’s plan for his life. After a bump in the road, when Saul meets Jesus, he takes time to understand this new calling, this new direction in his life.

Moses as a young man in Egypt became a leader amongst the Egyptians, but also sought to understand his own heritage as an Israelite. One day when trying to defend a fellow Israelite he killed a man and alienated his own people. God sent him off for a period of time in the desert near Midian. That bump in the road was a time that God used to mold and equip Moses for the role He planned for him.

Moses led the nation of Israel out of Egypt but they did not follow the straight highway to the promised land. The nation had some lessons to learn before they could experience the blessings that God had in store for them. There were several bumps in the road for God’s chosen people. They wandered in the desert 40 years before they were able to enter the land of Israel.

Last year at this time I had the privilege of sharing with you a bump in the road that our family was experiencing. My wife and I have 4 children. Our only son, at 27 years of age, was diagnosed with brain cancer on July 15th, 2016. A bump in the road for our journey.

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It’s hard to imagine 2017 is almost completed. We’re less than 60 days from 2018. It seems like we were enjoying a great CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat only a few weeks ago. As the year winds down, life’s pace seems to accelerate even though a minute remains 60 seconds. Not only is it time for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s celebrations, it is the time for “lists.” There is the “to do list,” the “done list,” and the ever popular “Nice List” along with its dreaded alternative – “Naughty List.” The “to do list” somehow grows faster than the “done list.” Gifts are purchased for all on the “Nice List.” Two items that I hope are on your “done list” or are in the process of being crossed off of your “to do list” are essential to CPFI’s ministry – membership renewal and financial contribution. These are two critical methods for supporting CPFI’s mission. CPFI is THE Christian organization dedicated to assisting pharmacists and pharmacy students serve Christ and the world through pharmacy. We certainly hope that CPFI is on your “Nice List.”

There is at least one more list – the “Thankful List.” As we celebrate Thanksgiving, let us pause and purposefully create a Thankful List composed of who and what we are thankful for. Since we are truly a blessed people, we should truly be a thankful people. “Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give Him thanks! Praise His name!” Psalm 100:4 (NET Bible)

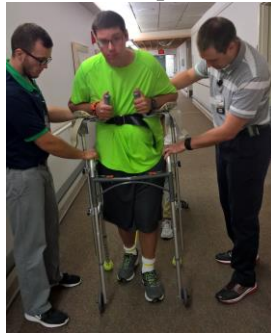
Jeff

(Bump in the Road, continued from page 1)

This past 17 months has taken us on a journey that we did not plan on taking. Ninety percent of the tumor that was growing from the brain stem was surgically removed. Our Josh was in a comma for 7 weeks, and then spent 4 months in a rehabilitation facility that cares only for brain injury patients. At that time he returned home with us the middle of January and he began 7 weeks of radiation therapy to destroy the remaining 10% of the tumor. The most recent MRI shows no evidence of tumor, only some scarring, so we are trusting that he is and remains cancer free.

Throughout this journey God’s hand has been obvious. He has faithfully watched over and protected Josh through many difficult times. He has raised up caring friends that have walked along side us; helping us along the road to Damascus when we could not see. He brought friends with words (and cards and emails and text messages) of encouragement even when they did not think they knew what to say. He has provided skilled caregivers and therapists who know how to motivate and guide us through the various stages of this journey. For these many blessings, we lift our hands in Thanksgiving during this season.

Is the journey over? Far from it. Josh has never lost any cognitive ability. His sense of humor continues to be strong. He still has his opinions, on many topics but his speech is slower than what he would like. That does allow him to sometimes think before he speaks, which was not always the case before the cancer. The area of the surgery has resulted in lost control of his core abdominal muscles, which are essential for maintaining our balance. Josh walks with the assistance of two people to help maintain his balance, but only for short distances. A traditional walker is not able to support him.



He would tip it over. He can sit on a zero turn riding lawn mower and was back volunteering (not working) at church for about 10-15 hours a week this summer on the mower. Now that it is cold, he is on the riding vacuum cleaner at church a few hours a week. The tremors that affect his hands, arms and shoulders make it difficult to feed himself (at least in public), write and do any work that involves fine motor skills. We are trusting that in due course that the neurological pathways that control these activities will all regenerate, but that will take time. We are hoping that it will not be 40 years like the people of Israel, but we are



willing to wait on God’s perfect timing. A bump in the road, yes, but just as Paul acknowledged in the passage above “*but when he who set me apart ... was pleased to reveal his son ... in order that I might preach him....*” we come to understand that journeys all has to do with God’s timing.



Ron Herman, CPFI Executive Director

CPFI Fall Board Meeting

The Board of Directors, as is our custom, met just before the Global Missions Health Conference in Louisville, KY on November 9th.



The Board reviewed our financial reports for the first 3 quarters and then examined and approved the budget for next year. God continues to meet our needs and our desire is to be faithful stewards of all that has been entrusted to us. Time was devoted to consider committee reports from the membership and marketing committees to identify ways to continue to reach out to members and strengthen both the growth and the outreach of this ministry.

The GMHC conference, which started right after the Board meeting was attended by many of the members and quite a number of other pharmacists and many pharmacy students. In all there are over 2,000 medical professionals that attend the conference.



There are also several hundred exhibitors, including CPFI.





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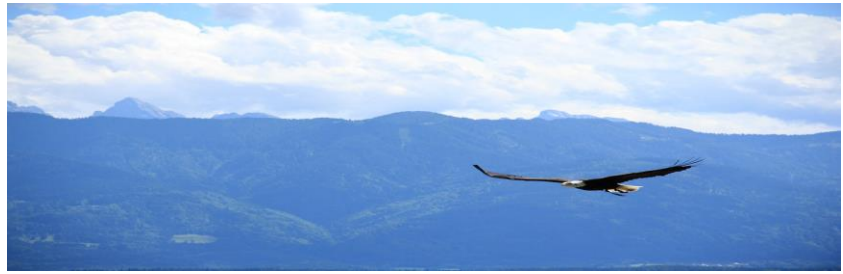
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Upcoming Events:

- **CPFI 2018 Annual Conference & National Student Retreat**
Bonclarken Conference Center
Flat Rock, North Carolina
Student Retreat: May 30 to June 3, 2018
Annual Conference: May 31 to June 3, 2018



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)

Wagdy W. Wahba (since 2012)

John E. Corkrean (since 2012)

J. Michael Ross (since 2012)

Michael G. Merrick (since 2013)

Gene I. Erb (since 2015)

Daniel & Suzanne F. Hussar (since 2015)

Daniel J. & Charlotte Wilson (since 2015)

Ronald A. Herman (since 2015)

Jennifer Sands (since 2016)

Earle P. Barton (since 2016)

Ludmilla Malmberg (since 2017)

Monthly Sustaining Gift

Babajide O. Oguntimein (since 2011)

Power Hour Gift Group

Several members continue to contribute 1 hour of their monthly salary to CPFI through the Power Hour Gift Club

Join The 1% Group Today!

[Learn more](#)

[Join](#)

Join The Power Hour Gift Group Today!

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“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)

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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 our many members who make regular contributions beyond their dues to support this ministry.

CPFI welcomes 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 or the CMDA website www.cmda.org.

Upcoming GHO Short Term Projects

Nov 11 – 19, 2017 Ecuador	May 8 – 17, 2018 Pacific
Nov 11 – 20, 2017 Pacific	May 13 – 28, 2018 North Africa/Middle East
Jan 6 – 13, 2018 Managua, Nicaragua	May 19 – 27, 2018 Nicaragua
Jan 12 – 20, 2018 North Africa/Middle East	May 28 – Jun 5, 2018 Honduras
Jan 13 – 21, 2018 El Salvador	Jun 9 – 17, 2018 Nicaragua
Jan 25 – Feb 10, 2018 South East Asia	Jun 9 – 17, 2018 Ecuador
Jan 27 – Feb 4, 2018 Nicaragua	Jun 18 -26, 2018 Dominican Republic
Feb 10 – 15, 2018 Honduras	Jun 18 -26, 2018 El Salvador
Feb 17 – Mar 3, 2018 East Africa	Jun 24 –Jul 2, 2018 El Salvador
Mar 3 – 11, 2018 Nicaragua	Jul 8 – 16, 2018 Dominican Republic
Mar 10 – 17, 2018 Haiti	Jul – Aug, 2018 Ghana
Mar 17 – 25, 2018 Dominican Republic	Aug 5 -13, 2018 Nicaragua
Mar 17 – 25, 2018 Ecuador	Aug – Sep, 2018 Pacific
Mar 17 – 25, 2018 El Salvador	Sep, 2018 Middle East
Apr 14 – 22, 2018 Nicaragua	Sep, 2018 East Africa
Apr 14 – 22, 2018 El Salvador	Sep, 2018 North Africa/Middle East
Apr 14 – 23, 2018 Eastern Europe	Nov, 2018 Pacific

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 the Mission Committee Chair for additional information.