

The  
**Faith Script**  
CPFI Serving Christ and the World Through Pharmacy

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*“But He said to me, My grace is sufficient for you,  
for My power is made perfect in weakness.”  
2 Cor 12:9 (NASB)*

Prayer Wall

**Changing seasons and transitions:  
Pharmacists never retire, they just turn into pills**

I had the privilege of attending the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Virginia Pharmacists association meeting in Virginia Beach the weekend of September 8-10, 2017. CPFI sponsored a prayer breakfast on Sunday morning. Gene Erb, CPFI board member coordinated the event with the VPhA administrative staff, along with John Cowley (former board member), plus Mark Johnson, Professor and Director of Postgraduate Education Shenandoah School of Pharmacy and CPFI board member was the prayer breakfast speaker. Dr. Johnson spoke of the call of God on his life and God calling him to be a lay-pastor.

God has a calling for each of our lives as well. What is that calling for you? We all may have wished at some point in our lives that God would just give us an audible call as in Acts 9:6 where Jesus said to Saul (later to be known as Paul) “But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” (ESV) Thanks be to God we do have His Word and prayer. “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.” John 15:4 (NASB)

As a young 31-year old pharmacist, I moved my family from Atlanta to be the director of a then 77-bed hospital in rural southwestern Virginia. Now over 30 years later I reflect on James 4:14 “Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.” (NASB) The years have indeed gone by like a mist. In this healthcare environment we are in today, the hospital, now a 25-bed hospital critical access has been in bankruptcy for 18 months and for sale. Recently, we were told that a buyer had come forward.

The Wednesday of September 13<sup>th</sup>, just following the VPhA meeting, I received a call at home from the hospital. The buyer withdrew the offer. We were told to close it down. So, we are now in shut down mode.

To where or to whom does one turn? For us as Christians, we turn to the Lord! “But He said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Cor 12:9 (NASB)

The next several days have been spent preparing to close both the hospital and the pharmacy. Who would have ever thought that I would be overseeing the closing down of a pharmacy? In seeking God’s Word for comfort and guidance, I was led to Matthew 6:19-34 which is part of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, specifically verses 25, 33-34: “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?...But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” (ESV) God’s grace is sufficient and He will provide for your needs as well as mine.

Where does the saying “Pharmacists never retire, they just turn into pills” come from? The VPhA had a

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silent auction similar to the one that CPFI has at our annual meeting. At the auction there was a work of art with that caption underneath it. Speaking for myself, I cannot imagine retiring now but I do want to be fruitful for the Lord. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full." John 15:5,11 (NASB)

Paul reminds us in 1 Cor 13:12 "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known." Isn't it wonderful that God fully knows us now? He also knows our circumstances. We must stand on the promises. God rewards those who have faith in Him. "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11 (NASB)

Greg Carlson, Pharm.D.  
CPFI Treasurer  
Pioneer Community Hospital  
Director of Pharmacy  
Stuart, VA

## **Dr. Mark Johnson spoke at a CPFI Prayer Breakfast at Virginia Pharmacy Association 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

CPFI Treasurer, Greg Carlson and Board members, Mark Johnson and Gene Erb organized and hosted a CPFI prayer breakfast at the VPhA 136<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Virginia Beach, Va. on Sunday, September 10, 2017. Dr. Mark Johnson, faculty member of the Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy, Shenandoah University, was the speaker for the event.



(Dr. Mark Johnson speaker for the 2017 VPhA/CPFI Prayer Breakfast; Dr. Greg Carlson, Dr. Mark Johnson, Dr. Gene Erb)

## **Keith W. Allhands presents CPFI Student Chapter of the Year Award to Palm Beach Atlantic University**

This summer in Colorado Springs, Palm Beach Atlantic's Gregory School of Pharmacy CPFI Chapter was presented with the CPFI Student Chapter of the Year Award. During the conference several PBA students invited Keith to visit their campus to re-present the award to the entire student chapter. Keith accepted the invitation. On October 3<sup>rd</sup> he presented the award to P-3 student pharmacist and chapter president Pakou Vang, who accepted the award along with PBA chapter members.

The students warmly welcomed Keith by providing accommodations at the West Palm Beach Hyatt Hotel one block from the university and dinner at Cityplace. GSOP faculty members Dr.

Tom Robertson, Dr. Dana Brown, and Dr. Wagdy Wahba took Keith to lunch before the presentation of the award. Pakou Vang and Tom Robertson provided transportation to and from the airport.



(Keith W. Allhands presents CPFI Student Chapter of the Year Award to Palm Beach Atlantic University Student Chapter; P-3 and Chapter President Pakou Vang, Keith Allhands, Dean Jeffrey Lewis; Keith and PBA students.)

## Global Missions Health Conference

November 9 to 11, 2017  
Southeast Christian Church  
Louisville, KY

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**Annual Conference: May 31 to June 3, 2018  
National Student Retreat: May 30 to June 3, 2018**

**Bonclarken Conference Center  
500 Pine Drive  
Flat Rock, North Carolina 28731**

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