



# The Faith Script

Vol. 34 Issue 3

March 2017

*If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.  
1 Peter 4:11 (NIV)*

**A Note from the Executive Director**  
By Ron Herman

## Is there any longer a need for CPFI?

By Fred Eckel, President

This question was recently brought to my mind again when a friend and pharmacy colleague sent our office a notice that he has not renewed his pharmacy license and had decided not to renew his CPFI membership. He mentioned that he was 81 and had faithfully been a member for many years. If one has left pharmacy as their occupation and can no longer travel to participate in CPFI meetings I can understand why one might not feel a need or desire to maintain CPFI membership. This incident provided me a chance to reflect again on this question and I share my perspective with you. Hopefully you will reflect on this question and share your answer with me at: [fredeckel77@gmail.com](mailto:fredeckel77@gmail.com).

We can probably all agree that pharmacy has plenty of organizations although there always seems to be a place for a “niche organization,” and a Christian pharmacy group may still have a purpose, especially now that we are living in a post-Christian era. One purpose may be to help pharmacists learn how to live as a Christian in a secular society that often doesn’t acknowledge biblical truths as foundational to decisions needing to be made. Of course we have to acknowledge that there are many churches and para-church groups that are engaged in this role. Local church membership and active participation in its ministry may be the best way to learn how to follow Jesus in a secular culture. I would not want anyone to think that CPFI membership can take the place of local church membership in teaching Christians how to live. It doesn’t and it can’t. But maybe CPFI can contribute a unique insight on how a Christian pharmacist can model Jesus’ teachings in the workplace.

If that is what CPFI can do then maybe it should focus attention primarily on Christian student pharmacists. After all this is a formative period in their lives where they are being “professionalized” to think and act as a pharmacist.

*(Continued on page 2)*

President Eckel has provided us with a thought provoking insight on the role of CPFI and I encourage you to accept his challenge and share your thoughts and insights with him. As I reflect back on the history of CPFI God has provided some amazing leadership to shepherd and guide many young professionals desiring to make an impact. Thirty-six years ago (in 1981) I had been in practice only 3 years, serving on the mission field. I sat in on a meeting with a group of pharmacists led by Dean Warren Weaver. They were discussing the possibility of starting an organization of Christians who were pharmacists to establish a fellowship of like-minded professionals that could spur one-another on in a market place ministry.

CPFI was incorporated in 1984 and the ministry that began then has been blessed with great leadership. We have a wonderful Board of Directors and amazing officers, and a small but dedicated staff. Recently the Board recognized a need to continue to draw on the rich history of our leadership. This year at our annual meeting in Glen Eyrie (Colorado Springs) we are asking that all past presidents of CPFI that can attend the meeting get together for a

*(Continued on page 2)*

---

*(Continued from page 1 ...President's Challenge)*

Having a strong CPFI student chapter at the school may be helpful in the professionalization of Christian student pharmacists as they learn how to live and practice pharmacy with a biblical perspective. That may be reason enough for needing CPFI and clearly students have become an important part of CPFI activities and we are a stronger organization because of it.

Recently I attended a 3 week Sunday School session at my church on "Issues in Health Care." All of the panelists and most of the participants were health professionals. A question that the moderator kept raising was what role our church should play in helping Christian health professionals practice appropriately and deal with difficult issues they will face. For me this activity was very helpful in answering the question I posed at the beginning of this article. If the local church could address these needs of Christian health care professionals then maybe an organization like CPFI isn't needed. I left each week's session pondering my question. The last session clarified my perspective. There are many health issues that are of interest to both patients/consumers of healthcare as well as providers of healthcare that have a biblical component to them. These may be important topics that a local church can address and they would be as beneficial to health professionals as to consumers. The presence of both groups in these sessions would lead to richer insights than sessions that only had health professionals present.

As the only pharmacist present in these sessions I realized health professionals have many similar issues in common but there are nuances that are unique for each discipline, too. It would also be hard for a local church ministry to meet all the needs of each health professional, so it became clear that an organization like CPFI is needed until such time as a Christian healthcare organization emerges in which each healthcare discipline has equality and each discipline can address its unique practice issues. For myself, I need a local church for a sense of community and to be held accountable. I need CPFI to be part of a community of Christian pharmacists where I can address unique issues faced by a Christian pharmacist: how to practice pharmacy in a secular society; discuss ethical issues that might confront a Christian pharmacist and learn how to handle them; and be encouraged and find help if I find myself discriminated against for following my conscience.

If I am right, what should be the response of all Christian pharmacists? Support CPFI by membership and gifts. Pray regularly for the organization. Actively participate in its activities as you have time and interest.

---

*(Continued from page 1 ...E.D. Note)*

Past-Presidents reception to establish an advisory board to provide additional council to the organization and provide a mechanism to help mentor new leaders within CPFI. God raised up many servant leaders over these past three decades and we thank God for His faithful provision and for their servant hearts.

On a personal note, thanks for everyone who has faithfully been praying for my son's recovery from brain cancer. He was hospitalized for 6 months, but is now home with us and will be completing the last of his radiation therapy next week. He is still not walking and has a lot of issues with tremors and ataxia, but we have seen great progress and we praise God for His faithfulness during this season of our spiritual journey.

### **Register Today!**

**2017 CPFI Annual Conference  
& National Student Retreat!**

**Glen Eyrie Conference Center  
Colorado Springs, CO**

**Conference: June 15 to 18**

**Student Retreat: June 14 to 18**

**(Registration closes May 12<sup>th</sup>)**

*Tour Glen Eyrie*



**Speakers  
Program**

**Student Program**

**Silent Auction**

**Virtual Poster Session**



**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:**

- **CPFI Prayer Breakfast  
APhA Annual Meeting  
& Exposition**  
San Francisco, CA  
Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
7:30 am to 8:45 am
- **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)
- Wagdy W. Wahba (since 2012)
- John E. Corkrean (since 2012)
- J. Michael Ross (since 2012)
- Martin Dale Parker (since 2013)
- 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)

**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!**

[Learn more](#)

[Join](#)

*“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 (919) 967-2237  
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) 692-5670  
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  
joygreene@yahoo.com

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

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

**Student Representative  
Tristram Ford**  
Manheim, 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 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](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

<b>Mar 4 – 12, 2017</b> Nicaragua	<b>Jun 24- Jul 2, 2017</b> Nicaragua
<b>Mar 4 – 12, 2017</b> El Salvador	<b>Jul 8- 16, 2017</b> Dominican Republic
<b>Mar 11 – 18, 2017</b> Haiti	<b>Jul 14 - 22, 2017</b> West Africa
<b>Mar 18 – 26, 2017</b> Ecuador	<b>Jul 15 – 23, 2017</b> Nicaragua
<b>Mar 18 – 26, 2017</b> Dominican Republic	<b>Jul 28 – Aug 7, 2017</b> Ghana
<b>Mar 18 – 26, 2017</b> El Salvador	<b>Jul 29 – Aug 6, 2017</b> El Salvador
<b>Mar 31 – Apr 7, 2017</b> Vietnam	<b>Aug 5 – 13, 2017</b> Nicaragua
<b>Apr 1 – 9, 2017</b> Nicaragua	<b>Aug 12 – 20, 2017</b> Nicaragua
<b>Apr 13 – 24, 2017</b> Eastern Europe	<b>Aug 18 – Sep 2, 2017</b> Pacific
<b>Apr 22 – 30, 2017</b> Ecuador	<b>Aug 26 – Sep 3, 2017</b> Guatemala
<b>May 12-27, 2017</b> North Africa/Middle East	<b>Aug 29 – Sep 10, 2017</b> North Africa/Middle East
<b>May 13 – 21, 2017</b> Nicaragua	<b>Sep 15 -23, 2017</b> Moldova
<b>May 27 – Jun 4, 2017</b> Honduras	<b>Sep 15 – 27, 2017</b> North Africa/Middle East
<b>Jun 10 – 18, 2017</b> Nicaragua	<b>Sep 16 -24, 2017</b> Nicaragua
<b>Jun 17 – 25, 2017</b> Dominican Republic/Haiti	<b>Sep 16 – 26, 2017</b> East Africa
<b>Jun 17 – 25, 2017</b> El Salvador	<b>Oct 5 – 15, 2017</b> North Africa/Middle East
<b>Jun 24 – Jul 1, 2017</b> El Salvador	<b>Oct 23 – Nov 4, 2017</b> Myanmar

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.