Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the father except through me.”
John 14:6 (ESV)

While Walking Down the Tracks of Life, Don’t Get Hit by the Train
I remember an adventure two friends and I had as a young teenagers one warm summer day. There was a railroad track that went through our village and went along the Erie Canal. We decided to walk the tracks and discover the mysteries of what lay beyond our little village. All was going well until we got to the bridge that crossed a busy highway and the Erie Canal. At this point we had to carefully navigate the railroad ties as the spaces between them were large enough to cause us to trip and fall. We went over the bridge single-file. I went first, followed by Keith, and then Terry. Terry’s job was to put his ear to the rail to get an early warning of any oncoming trains. As I made it about one-third of the way across, I heard Terry yell, “Train coming!” I, turning around went as quickly as I safely could back across the bridge as I heard the train whistle and saw the engine approaching. I remember getting off the bridge and jumping to the side of the tracks just as the train passed by.

I thought about this story recently as I heard a sermon on John 3:14-21. One point the pastor made had to do with Nicodemus coming to Jesus, sincerely seeking truth about Him. This sounded to me like evidence-based theology, and brought to mind an observation and a question. My observation is that many pharmacists have a difficult time believing the gospel message. As a result of not believing, they refuse to take the same evidence-based approach to Biblical claims of Jesus as they take every day to determine therapeutic claims for drugs. Why do they insist on evidence-based medicine and reject evidence-based theology? Could this approach be useful when presenting the gospel message to them?

As I think about unbelievers and their eternal destiny, it reminds me of that train headed for me while I was on the bridge. If I did not respond to my friend’s message that a train (eternal separation from God) was coming (truth), the train would have hit me. To save my life, I had to hear and respond to the truth. Jesus is the dividing line between eternity in heaven and eternity in hell. This passage from John tells us that Jesus did not come to judge the world, but at the same time judgment does come. Condemnation and judgment come passively. One doesn’t have to do anything to go to hell. If we do not believe and take hold of the salvation that comes from Jesus, then we are condemned. If one wants to go to hell, just do nothing.

As members of a Christian organization made up primarily of pharmacists, we have a unique opportunity to share the gospel with well-educated, scientifically-trained individuals. Perhaps appealing to their evidence-based mindset is a method we can use to prevent them from getting hit by the train as they walk down the tracks of life.

Daniel Spadaro, Pharm.D., CPFI Treasurer
Little Rock, AR
Check out CPFI’s new mentorship program established by the National Student Council! **Click here** to learn more and sign up by October 15<sup>th</sup>!

## CPFI’s Prayer Ministry

The CPFI Past Presidents Committee was asked to implement a prayer ministry on behalf of CPFI. In March, we started a weekly Prayer Meeting on Sunday evening at 5 p.m. ET, initially to pray about Covid-19 needs. In August, we began meeting monthly on the 1st Sunday of the month. We’ve been having around 12 participants. We want to give other members a chance to join us. If you would like an invitation, e-mail Nena Lindrose at [Office@cpfi.org](mailto:Office@cpfi.org). She will send a reminder e-mail with instructions on how to join and some suggested prayer concerns during the week prior to the meeting. We hope you will join us September 6 for our next session. By signing up you are only committing to participate when able and praying out loud is voluntary.

Fred Eckel, Past President

## CPFI Matching Gift Update

The matching gift challenge to provide funds for the Hands and Feet grants for CPFI student chapter community service projects was successful! Two members provided challenges and CPFI members met and exceeded the challenges for a total of $4,380. Funding for these grants typically comes from the silent auction held every year at the CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat. This year, due to canceling our in-person meeting, we did not have a silent auction. CPFI thanks the two members who each contributed $1,000 to initiate the challenge and the eleven members who responded to the challenge with their donations. We look forward to hearing about the 2020-2021 academic year service projects through poster presentations at the 2021 Annual Conference & National Student Retreat.

## 2020 Online Global Missions Health Conference

**November 13 to 14, 2020**

*Register for GMHC*

*Sign up to attend the Meet & Greet*

Be sure to check out the CPFI exhibit booth in the virtual exhibit hall and plan to attend our Meet & Greet on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 5 PM to 6:30 PM. The CPFI Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, November 12, 2020. If you would like to sit in on the Board meeting, please send an e-mail to [office@cpfi.org](mailto:office@cpfi.org).

## Save the Dates!

**May 26 to May 30, 2021**
CPFI 2021 Annual Conference & National Student Retreat
Theme: Declaring God’s Glory Through Pharmacy
Matthew 17:20
Promo Video

DoubleTree Resort by Hilton
Myrtle Beach Oceanfront
3200 South Ocean Boulevard
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, 29577

Student Retreat: May 26 to May 30, 2021
Annual Conference: May 27 to May 30, 2021

Register before March 15th and be entered in a drawing for prizes!
Registration opens January 1, 2021

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