

From the President's Kitchen Table



Connected to God, connected to each other and connected to CDF- Vision and mission.

A few years ago I wrote myself a life plan. It was at a time when I needed to seek God's direction for my life. As I put my plan together I considered what I already had, then my work and finally, where I felt God was leading me. Every year since then I have prayed over this plan that I now call "My mission and ministry" and asked God to refresh, confirm or renew my direction.

Currently my plan has three strands. First God expects me to be a wise steward of what I already have. Not hoarding but maximising its potential. He challenges me to reflect on my current mission and ministry as I seek to play my part in His Kingdom. God has given me gifts to use, belongings to enjoy and family to celebrate. He has entrusted me with many family pieces, pictures and

memorabilia. As I travel through life I consider what I need for my journey, leaving aside those things that hinder me from achieving all that God has prepared for me.

The second strand considers my work; God expects me to work alongside others taking opportunities to reach out as they present themselves. I have found the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity (LICC) to be a valuable source of inspiration for me in my places of work and helps me to see that "every situation brims with divine possibility", to quote their welcome page.

Thirdly, God challenges me to discern where the Spirit is leading me to explore new possibilities and opportunities for mission and ministry. I have been challenged recently to look at the things God has placed in my hands and to put some of them down. I have a picture of the farmer, in the parable of the sower, spreading the grain on his land. In his hand is good ripe seed ready to

germinate when it is sown in the ground. In order to produce a plentiful harvest, the seed-grain must be of good quality and drop to the ground. I believe God may ask us to put down some of the good things we have in our hands in order for them to grow and flourish.

It was the vision of Vicky, our Past President, to offer hospitality for a day retreat intended for Council members to come together and seek God's vision and ministry for the work of CDF. At the beginning of June CDF Council members were welcomed by Vicky and Jonathan Graham to their delightful home in rural Norfolk for a Day Retreat to review the "life-plan" of the Fellowship; the mission, ministry and direction over the next two years. When we take time to stop and be open to God's voice, we will hear him speak.

In the morning Karen Paterson, our Pastoral Care Coordinator, led the group in a guided meditation, Listening to God - staying connected. The key texts were "For my yoke is easy and the burden I give you is light" Matthew 11:25-29 and Isaiah 40:29-31. We began by praising God and singing, allowing time to put aside our busyness, which can so easily fatigue. Karen then sent us off individually to the quiet of the garden to explore where God is leading us both personally and in the service of CDF. How do we work in partnership with God and with those in the membership and those outside? By renewing our minds, *testing and approving what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will*, (Romans 12:2). Like two oxen pulling together to prepare the ground ready for planting.

In the afternoon, we turned our thoughts to renewing the vision of CDF, to seek

continued over...



Your Family Conference Needs You!

Those of us who go regularly to the annual conference will no doubt tell others what a refreshing and relaxing time it is. Whether it is meeting up with friends you only ever see at conference, being inspired by the Bible teaching or just chatting with students and those newly qualified, making you feel quite old; all go away from conference telling me what a great time they had. It is an amazing privilege to serve on CDF as conference secretary - it's not that much hard work, but you get a lot of reward!

So can I encourage you to come along? If you haven't been before, we promise you a weekend of lovely accommodation, very good food, excellent Bible teaching and evenings to remember (how can we forget the Jelly Beans Quiz?!). If you haven't been for a while - why not re-join us? You might be surprised at how many old faces are still going (no offence to all you retired dentists!)

If you would like to come but the cost is prohibitive – please email me in person via the website. Many delegates are very generous with their donations to the Bursary Fund – and it is there to be used by *anyone* who needs it – including families. We will find a way to get you there!

The conference only runs smoothly with the help of several volunteers, who we couldn't do without. As the years go by, it is only fair that those people have a rest and so we are always looking for new volunteers to help out. If you think you may be able to help in any of these areas please do get in touch – it won't take up all your time at the weekend and I'd be SO grateful.

Techy stuff: recording the talks (i.e. pressing a button!), laptop, ppt and sound for talks and worship sessions etc

Worship: playing instruments, singing, leading

Crèche: helping parents of very small children get a break

Evening entertainment

Non-dental activities: Would you take a session for an hour or so on a topic of your choice? (Off site activities are allowed!). Past events have been Fairtrade (having to taste chocolate - tough one!), visit to the Blind Centre and this year is Photography.

Hoping to see as many of you as possible this year October 13th-15th at Hothorpe Hall.

Frances Vose confsec@cdf-uk.org

God's leading for the Fellowship and to decide what we are called to do as a result of our vision.

We began by creating a picture of CDF as we considered the question; Where are we now? Our picture started as a triptych of Membership, Conference and Mission, and developed into one of concentric circles. We pictured a core of active members involved in many areas of the Fellowship surrounded by others who drew strength from involvement in some areas of the Fellowship with an outer circle or fringe of members and non-members who had perhaps a little experience or knowledge of the Fellowship. Conference was an event to be valued, celebrated and nurtured, and Mission support in all its forms was our response to Jesus command to "go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19).

What is our vision?

The predominant theme was one of strengthening work already established in the Fellowship. Our desire is that individuals will grow in their faith and thrive where God has placed them; to be salt and light in their sphere of influence. We are especially keen to help students and young dentists start well in their careers, and for members further on in their careers to continue to develop their God-given skills and vision. Personally, I

am looking into the second half of my life and believe the Fellowship has a role to support me and others in this time of transition and change

What is the Fellowship called to do as a result of our vision?

Membership and organic growth of the Fellowship is key, with a steadily growing membership to sustain our vision. We will always need more members and seek to be relevant to all colleagues in the dental team. Paul, in 2 Corinthians 2:14-16, writes that God leads us from place to place, in victory, and through us he brings knowledge of Christ. We are the fragrance of Christ which is recognised by others.

Connection to each other is vital and we look to strengthen our regional groups in their fellowship and pastoral roles, and build on the current student work within regions. We look to find ways to allow members to intentionally develop their gifting and skills for the benefit of all, with a focus on increasing involvement with Family Conference.

I look forward to playing my part in steering the Fellowship forward in the light of the vision God has given us. Thank you for reading this and I would value your prayers, thoughts and comments. Please email me, president@cdf-uk.org

Susie Matthew
CDF President

Filling the Gaps in Dental Care in Burundi



Christopher Southwick, a CDF member was recently featured in The Dundee Alumni magazine reporting the work he has carried out in Burundi. He graduated from Dundee in 1975 and has had a varied career including working in Community dentistry as a Senior Dental officer for Access Centres Fife and as a Tutor on Outreach Clinics for final year students as well as working as a GDP part time 25 years and as a Staff Dental Surgeon in the Children's Department part-time for twelve years.

In the heart of Africa, when an abscess forms around a rotten tooth, infecting the gum and bone tissue, it can quickly become a life-threatening complication.

While treated with a simple procedure in the UK, in the province of Rutana, South-West Burundi, a swelling jaw can mean life and death when the nearest dentist is over 200km away. There are only 16 doctors to the 400,000 people in the region and the closest health clinic does not extract teeth, this was the reality faced by many in landlocked Burundi that is until Chris Southwick began travelling there to provide dental aid.

For almost a decade, the University of Dundee graduate has been extracting teeth in the rural clinics of Burundi. During his time he has been training local nurse practitioners as well as guiding

young Dundee dental and medical students how to deliver oral health amongst the terraced hillsides in the country the size of Wales.

“You are dealing with people who have nothing,” said Chris. “When my son, John, first told me there were only 13 qualified dentists for the 10 million people in the country, I couldn’t believe him. The exploratory trip to assess how the Scottish Christian Community could help the war-torn country proved beyond exaggeration. Having previously done similar work in Guyana, I joined up with a team from Mission International and for the next eight years organised the instruments and materials and appropriate medicines to care for at least 400 people per trip.”

Since 2011, Chris and his team of keen students have spent two to three weeks of their summers in the Nyembuye Clinic in Rutana, dealing with 35-40 patients



each day, some of whom including the pregnant had to walk seventeen km to receive treatment and across quite hilly terrain.

“We were determined to provide acute dental care to maximise our effectiveness but this also limited our ability to perform all the extractions needed. At an altitude of 3500 feet, we sterilised our instruments in a pressure cooker.”

Using household chairs and equipment brought from the UK, Chris began to train the male nurse practitioners at the clinic in safe and effective oral health. He also helped train and support a young Doctor to perform extractions. As he says, there is a need to blur the boundaries between the jobs.

“The vast majority of treatments are very simple but are crucially life-saving. Each year I have been helped by students who have, through their actions helped transform the lives of those living. Medical students who joined me were taught to provide all anaesthesia and then I extracted the teeth. We had to adapt to the patients’ needs.”

Devastated by fourteen years of ethnic conflict between the Tutsi and Hutu, Burundi has been left undeveloped. Yet Fanta is being sold amongst the mud-baked brick huts high on the plateau. Foreign aid represents 42% of Burundi national income.

“There are signs of improvement but it is slow. In the country the size of Wales, many aren’t able to get the healthcare we take for granted.”

Chris has returned in June 2017 for Mission International with his wife Heather as Dental Assistant and another medical nurse Violet to help. They have completed training Bosco and Norbet, two Burundian nurse practitioners, to be able to safely, competently and kindly extract teeth and left a full set of instruments and a Dentaaid Dental Chair for their continued use.

Don't Give up the Day Job!



Some of you may recognise my name as the person who does the administration and accounts for CDF. That is very true but I also have a few other roles in my life. I am a mum (taxi?) to three active boys, a wife to Geoff who is minister in a very active Church and for three days a week I work as the Accountant for the UK office of the charity International Justice Mission (IJM).

I am told that accounts can be quite dull so it's probably not a good idea to give you a breakdown of my daily spreadsheet work. However, the work that IJM does could never be described in the same vein, so in this article I hope to share some of my passion for the work that IJM is involved in.

Founded in 1997, IJM started taking seriously the words from Isaiah 58:6-7: "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen ... to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?"

The organisation began to actively work to "loosen the chains of injustice" for people (including many children) caught in human trafficking, forced labour camps and other forms of violent injustice. Since small beginnings in 1997 in the US, IJM is now a collection of lawyers, social workers, investigators, advocates, educators (and some accountants of course!) working in

seventeen communities across the world to rescue and restore some of the world's poorest who are trapped in violent oppression and have no means of seeking justice on their own.

The important, life changing work happens through field offices, mainly in the developing world, but it is fuelled and funded by six offices in the western world, including the UK office where I work. IJM collectively has around 600 staff. To give you an idea of the scale of the work:

In 2016 IJM:

- Rescued 5,880 victims
- Secured the conviction of 167 criminals
- Saw 3,760 victims participate in aftercare support
- Trained 30,000 justice system officials and community members in countries where the justice system is broken.

The most impactful way to communicate the work of IJM is through stories. Every day we meet to pray for the work around the world. Some days (actually most days) the prayers are deep and dark but there are often stories of hope. We had been praying for Ghana for nearly a year. We had been praying that all the investigations and evidence gathering that IJM undertook would result in a partnership with the authorities and



ultimately in the rescue of boys held as slaves. In January this year we had some good news.

Early in the morning of 24th January IJM and Ghanaian authorities prepared themselves as the sun rose over the calm waters of Lake Volta, one of the world's largest man-made lakes. The mission was to rescue the boys who were trapped on fishing boats on the lakes, forced to use their small bodies every day to dive into deep water to untangle nets for their masters. The dangerous work was made worse by violent abuse and lack of food and sleep.

Shortly before 6am, eight boats launched and reached the fishing boats. The Ghanaian commander instructed his unit to arrest the sixteen suspected boat masters. Twenty four boys were found, they were scared and unsure of what was happening, the youngest was seven years old. The road of recovery and healing ahead for them will be long. Many will be in aftercare for many years. The rescues continue; these twenty four are just the start.

The extent of the work is huge. From 564 rescued from being held as slaves in a brick kiln factory in India in 2016 to the smaller rescues of young girls held as prostitutes in the Philippines, IJM partners with authorities to ensure that justice prevails.



N. I. Regional Day

Families can get trapped into Indian brick kiln factories due to a "debt" that will never be repaid but the brick kiln owner tricks families into believing they can work to pay it off. The reality is that they are working eighteen hour days, get no money, are violently abused, cannot leave and so are working as slaves.

Before any rescue IJM painfully gathers evidence, and works within fragile justice systems to uphold the rule of law. Evidence must be strong and prosecutions must hold up in a court of law. IJM works where slavery is illegal but so often the justice system does not work and slavery is rife. IJM works to make justice work.

Another type of trafficking that IJM is actively involved in is cybersex trafficking. The details are harrowing as we hear of children as young as two-years-old being rescued from their own homes where their own mothers are facilitating and allowing men in the western world to direct the live abuse of these children via webcams. If you are stirred to find out more about this or read any of the many stories of rescue and restoration then please do visit our website IJMUK.org. I find this particular type of violent abuse too hard to write much more about.

I often say that I could be an accountant anywhere and work for any organisation but for what or who would I be working? I could be working for someone else's profit but I choose not to. I choose to work for an organisation that actively pursues God's heart for justice, that has Biblical principles at its core and that sees the violently oppressed set free and restored.

So, "Don't Give up the Day Job" is the title of this article and I don't plan to do that anytime soon!

Sarah Felton



We met in 'The Thinking Cup' social enterprise café in Belfast which incorporates 'The Book Reserve' second hand book business, founded to employ, train and support young ex-offenders who are parents. It aims to reduce recidivism and break the cycle of familial crime.



Seventeen came from north and south of the border, including dentists, spouses and a few children – it was great to see some new faces and all ages and backgrounds coming together, from GP to specialist oral surgery and orthodontics.

London North Regional Day

A pleasant afternoon was had at the home of Tony and Ann Giles, near Bedford.

Beverley and Neil updated us on their recent trip with Mercy Ships Then Tony showed slides of his work in Guinea and

We chatted over tea, coffee and some caries-inducing treats before moving upstairs to 'The Reading Room' where we were very honoured to welcome our guest speaker, Iain Corran during his visit to Ireland. Iain's presentation and videos of Dentaid's work in Europe and overseas were fantastic, including the Rotary Dentaid box, Aquabox and Dentaid's mobile dental unit touring the UK, as well as current dental training in Timor Leste and opportunities to serve on refugee camps in Thessaloniki, Lesbos and Samos. We could have chatted all night as a question and answer time turned into deep discussions about faith at work and everyday challenges we all face in the highs and lows of dentistry. Very many thanks to Iain Corran for sharing from his depth of wisdom and experience and encouraging us all in the joys and challenges of health care delivery in the UK and overseas.

Helen Douglas

Kenya and introduced us to his plans for a coast to coast charity walk

A very good tea was then provided by Ann including a delicious piece of butternut squash cake.

Jonathan Longhurst

CDF Mission Partners

As part of the CDF family you help to support the following dental mission partners financially and prayerfully. We receive quite regular updates and they also value contact with individual members, enjoying news of back home, although there may need to be some sensitivity in what is shared for those working in some parts of the world. For more information or to be put in touch with any of the mission partners please contact Jonathan Longhurst via CDF admin.

Tony & Anne Giles (Maxillofacial surgeon and nurse)

By the time you read this report, Tony and Anne will have completed their epic 220 mile 22 day walk from the west to the east coast of England across three hilly National Parks: the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors. At the time of writing they have experienced torrential rain, 60 mph winds and had to cross raging streams in the Lake District, but are keeping to their timetable!

Their reason for this charity walk is to raise funding for two important projects. The first is to build a clinic in the remote town of Gueassou, southern Guinea, which will be a satellite of Hope Medical Centre (hopeguinea.org) and the second is to purchase a much needed special Maternity bed for Dreamland Mission Hospital, Kenya (icfem-mission.org/dmh). Any surplus will go to Mercy Ships which has been their main focus previously,



having worked with them over much of the last 20 years. Their goal is to raise around £25k.

Andy & Eira Patching (Sachabondu NW Zambia)

They have nearly all materials needed for finishing the hospital and they hope to



finish building by September. Furnishing and equipping the hospital is still a matter of prayer.

Both Andy and Eira are mentoring a group of recently qualified medical staff into good habits and sharing their Christian testimony.

Andy had taken on two clinical officers keen to be trained in simple dental techniques.

A self-catering chalet, the first of ten and a prayer shelter is being built to offer as a retreat for anyone wishing to stay in a beautiful rural location and seek God. They have been joined by Eira's niece Becky and husband Jon and their children to help with the retreat.

Barbara Koffman (Hygienist Dentaid)

As Dentaid's Volunteering Advocate, Barbara has been taking dental volunteers out to Uganda for many years. Details of current volunteering opportunities can be seen at www.dentaid.org/volunteer/

Neil and Jane

Neil and Jane are serving in a sensitive part of the world working in a new University dental department .treating students and staff but also teaching the dental students. They speak of long hard hours of preparation of material for teaching and a fairly restrictive lifestyle.

Simon Grace Stretton –Downes (Liberia Trinity Hospital)

Following acceptance from the Liberia Dental Council, Simon and Grace's commissioning service was held in June at St Gregory's Church, Crakehall.

They have raised over 50% of £2500 per month of the funding required, including support from CDF.



Simon mentions Eddie a dental nurse practitioner and head of the Trinity dental team who would like to undergo full dental training in India for six months then in the USA with Keith Chapman. Ideally on qualification he would return to Trinity.

Finally, they share concern about leaving behind their son who needs heart surgery. At present there is no fixed date for the operation.

Chonde

Chonde has worked tirelessly particularly with Global Child Dental Fund (GCD Fund) treating many school children in the Copperbelt area of Zambia. After three years however, funding seems to have run out with no assistance from the government. Chonde is obviously concerned about this. He does have Andy Patching's dental unit fully functioning on the Isubilo site, but business is slow and he has been attending to the children's project. He has, with the backing of Isubilo been able to send his son Andy to China on a five year medical degree course. His daughter, Eira, is studying nursing in Zambia.

Please pray the valuable work with GCD Fund gets further funding and that the private practice generates a liveable income especially with the expenses of two children at university.

Jonathan Longhurst
Mission Partner Secretary

North-West Regional Day



Around seventeen of us met on a cold, yet sunny day in the beautiful Eden Building of Liverpool Hope University, (the only Christian University in Western Europe!), to hear the latest update from Dr Tony and Ann Giles, Maxillofacial surgeon working in Africa, and Prof Dr Daniel Jeyaraj, Director of the Andrew Walls Centre for African and Asian Christianity, Liverpool Hope University.

In the morning, Tony explained his work repairing cleft lip and palate defects, treating advanced pathology and training local surgeons, formerly with Mercy Ships and currently with The Smile Train charity in Africa. We were treated to lots of slides, some of advanced pathology, not for the faint hearted! As usual, this was an inspiring presentation, certainly two of the delegates were inspired to volunteer their talents in Africa at

varying levels and hope the seeds of "mission volunteers" were sown in many more hearts.

After a delicious Indian lunch, we were treated to an exposition of the power of thanks by Prof Dr Daniel; what thanks means in different languages and cultures. We looked at English, Hebrew/Greek and Tamil cultures. We were then challenged to consider how being thankful can influence our emotions, disposition and actions, leading to wellbeing, enabling us to transcend self-pity, self-importance and feelings of victimhood. Prof Daniel speaks very engagingly, without notes. All too soon the afternoon was over and it was time to go. It was a very pleasant and relaxed day, well organised, with wonderful hospitality.

Audrey Kerr-Taylor

South West Regional Day



Our regional day was held at the beautiful home of Sue and Martyn Green in Tiverton on Saturday 20th May.

We were treated to a sumptuous lunch followed by a talk on Bridge2Aid with some slides following Martyn's recent visit to the clinic in Tanzania.

The day concluded with a short time of prayer and afternoon tea with cake.

It was really encouraging to share experiences and stories; discovering common themes of a love for the Lord, a love for Africa and a desire for mission.

Malcolm Prideaux

Volunteering In Cambodia with Dentaid



Edward Walker, a retired dentist, and his wife Suzanne, a retired primary school teacher, working as part of a team with Dentaid recently volunteered in Cambodia. They spent the first week of their trip in a Cambodian prison, providing treatment for the inmates. They were the first dental team allowed into the prison for several years.

“The dentists were working out in the open with all sorts of things going on around them and they did an amazing job,” said Suzanne. “I was teaching the prisoners about oral health and tooth brushing. It was shocking how young some of the prisoners were, and to hear how easily and for such small offences people can be locked up in Cambodia.”

The team also spent time in a slum area of the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh helping to serve lunch and play with children who lived near the railway tracks. “It was very sad seeing that much poverty,” said Suzanne. “One little girl didn’t even know her own name – I’ll never forget her.”

In the second week of the trip, the team travelled to the remote region of Samlout.

Working with a team from the Maddox Jolie Pitt Foundation, named after the adopted son of Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt, they visited schools and treated some children who had never seen a dentist before. Desks in the school library were used as dental chairs and all of the children had sealants put on their teeth to prevent decay.

“Unfortunately, lots of people add sugar to water and make their own sweet drinks which they falsely think they need for energy,” said Suzanne. “I talked to the parents and new mothers about dental health, because education is key. The slightly wealthier children had more dental problems, because they could afford sweets.”

The Walkers also visited Cambodia’s Killing Fields, which now serve as a memorial to those who died at the hands of Pol Pot’s Khmer Rouge. “They lost a whole generation,” said Suzanne. “That is why there aren’t enough dentists or teachers in Cambodia – the schools have to operate split shifts, so children either go in the mornings or afternoons. Cambodia is one of the youngest countries in the world, due

to the genocide which started in the 1970s and carried on much longer than most people think.”

Dentaid sends teams of volunteers to Cambodia at least twice a year and also supplies equipment and portable surgeries to Cambodian dentists working in remote areas. The Walkers have been busy fundraising for Dentaid and their support will enable the charity to fund more dental projects around the world including sending equipment to Uganda and Malawi and funding a tooth brushing programme in Honduras.

“After a career in dentistry I wanted to give something back,” said Edward. “We wanted to volunteer somewhere that we could both use our skills. The whole team was fantastic and worked together really well. Despite the poverty in Cambodia, the people we met seemed very happy and friendly and it was a wonderful thing to be part of. We know there are many people in the world who urgently need dental treatment but can’t get it, which is why we were delighted to support Dentaid.”



“We are very grateful to God for the many good things in our lives, and were delighted to be able to share his love and goodness in a tangible way. We were very aware of people praying for us whilst we were there, in the host of specific answers.”

For more information about the Dentaid visit www.dentaid.org

Deadline for the next issue of Three-in-One is 1st October 2017. Please send contributions to Tracey Dalby: editor@cdf-uk.org

CDF, PO Box 12023, Colchester, CO1 9NX

Email: cdf.sarahfelton@gmail.com Website: www.cdf-uk.org

The opinions expressed in these articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily express those of the Christian Dental Fellowship council or their members

Christian Dental Fellowship is a registered charity. Charity No. 261350