

## Christian Dental Society News-Brief February 2021



Dr. Michael Vaughn, our CDS President, called a CDS Zoom Board Meeting last week to discuss mission trips and dental conferences, inquire about the needs of individuals and their practices, and to basically pray for CDS members, the CDS, and our nation as a whole.

No one that the Board knows of has participated on an overseas mission since the middle of March, 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Individuals have been called to go and are willing to take the risk for themselves, but the risk to others, the fear of hurting ministries, the governmental restrictions, and difficulty of traveling and quarantine, among other considerations has made it prudent to delay overseas mission work. Most of the developing countries are being more restrictive than America and since the U.S. generally has the highest reported percentage of infections and deaths from COVID-19, many countries do not want people from the U.S. coming to their countries yet.

As a CDS Board, we are hoping and praying that dental mission travel will be viable by the summer, 2021 and the student Jamaica trips are being optimistically scheduled starting in June 2021.

In light of the inability to travel overseas, the CDS Board would like to encourage individuals to seek opportunities to serve locally and in your State. Please continue to share the message of hope found in Christ Jesus. Remote Area Medical has started running several mobile clinics each month and many States are planning for the Mission of Mercy clinics which are now active in over 30 States. Many dentists have reported working in local mission clinics to help the underserved in both fixed and mobile settings. Many dental professionals are helping the needy in their offices and have found

ways to use their talents to further God's kingdom. The CDS prays that all who serve will be blessed and encouraged.

The American Dental Association is planning for an in-person conference from Monday October 11<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Mandalay Bay Resort center in Las Vegas. **Be aware this is a change in the normal venue for ADA meetings** which normally holds conventions on Thursday to Saturday. When asked why the venue has changed from the normal weekend meeting time, the CDS was told that only in Las Vegas does the venue change because "dentists as a whole do not drink or gamble as much" so Las Vegas does not want to schedule a major dental meeting during the weekend. Praise the Lord for this positive consequence and kudos to the profession of dentistry. CDS plans to be there with an exhibit booth, conduct the annual CDS Board Meeting, and enjoy a Mission Banquet. Please add the dates of October 11-13, 2021 to your calendar.

