

# Christian Dental Society News-Brief

May 2021



This inspirational picture shows the top of Monica Wendel's High School graduation hat which she created herself. Monica is the youngest daughter of Tina, our CDS Executive Secretary. The CDS is also celebrating Tina's 27 years of faithful service to the CDS on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Tina! We also extend congratulations to all graduates.



Umal in the center back is receiving his certificate after training with CDS members Dr. Bill Griffin in blue, Dr. Bob Meyer on right, and Linda Webster (center) with mPower in Uganda

The CDS has been supporting Umal, a dental student in Uganda, for the last two years by paying his dental school tuition expenses. He was trained to extract teeth by CDS members through mPower. Umal removed 1,000 teeth during the year following his training because the closest dentist was 62 miles away. He has helped I-Tec train other indigenous people to extract teeth in several other countries in Africa and will be going to Tanzania in July with Dr. Bill Griffin and I-Tec in July. Umal, with some help from CDS members, has set up and manages three medical clinics in Uganda to support his living expenses and pay for his remaining three years of dental school. Umal is a strong, influential Christian who leads, teaches, and mentors many people with his dentistry and through his Christian walk.



Umal, with CDS members and I-Tec, helped train local Christians to do extractions in a large, South Sudan, refugee camp.

The CDS Board received a letter this week from Umal in which he wrote that COVID restrictions had closed his clinics down during the last year, therefore causing insufficient income to pay his dental school expenses. If he does not come up with \$5,000 by the end of May to pay for his third year of dental school, he will not be able to continue with his dental education. Umal has no hope of getting a loan for school in Uganda and his family and friends are not able to fund his school costs. His three medical clinics are now beginning to generate income again and he believes that he will be able to pay for his last two years of dental school.

The CDS Board unanimously believes that God has mighty plans for Umal as a dental servant for Christ and feels that investing in Umal, with a one-time gift of \$5,000, is a worthy goal. The CDS has set up a designated account for Umal and, with full CDS Board support, are asking CDS members to donate to Umal's third-year, dental school expenses. Tax deductible funds designated for Umal may be sent to Tina at the CDS office or you may transfer funds from your designated



account. We are asking you to pray and consider helping this CDS Ugandan dental missionary fulfill his potential to serve God through dentistry.



The CDS exhibit booth at the 2019 ADA Meeting

The first dental convention to be held in-person since March 2020 will be the Florida dental convention held this June 24-26 where the CDS will have an exhibit booth with Dr. Jon and Amy Spenn, Drs. Bob and Diane Meyer and Dr. Katy Barlow.

The American Dental Association is planning for an in-person conference from Monday, October 11 to Wednesday, October 13 at the Mandalay Bay Resort center in Las Vegas. **Be aware that this is a change in the normal days for ADA meetings** which usually holds conventions from Thursdays to Saturdays. The CDS recently received an invitation to have a complimentary exhibit booth at the convention. Please consider attending this conference as there will be many other

national and international organizations participating including the CDA, FDI, ICD, ADI, ACD, and state and specialty organizations.

Great News! The CDS is starting to receive requests for equipment and kits for dental missions. Many are planning on traveling and serving the Lord through dental missions before the end of the year and into next year. As you bless others, may you also be blessed!

