



National CMDA Membership

Are you interested in being a part of the largest national movement of Christian medical professionals?

If so, then you should consider joining the National CMDA! (Membership is free for students.)

As a member, you have access to an abundance of resources and training opportunities geared towards Christian medical professionals and students.

For more information, visit www.CMDA.org and go to the "Membership" tab on the left side of the web page.



DATES TO MARK:

Saturday, August 18

Annual welcome picnic with special guests Sunil & Jeena John @ the home of Mike & Debbie Joyce



Saturday, August 25

An evening with the Thelanders. Details TBA



Thursday, Sept. 13

NEOCMDA Advisory Board Meeting @ CVC



September 27-30

Women in Medicine & Dentistry Annual Conference
Huron, OH

Christ ~ My Primary Motivation

Gabon, Africa Trip Report

By Kevin El-Hayek, MD

I wanted to participate in medical missions since starting medical school at Case Western Reserve University in 2002. Specifically, I wanted to share the Gospel and the love of Christ by helping to meet the medical needs of those in underprivileged communities. My opportunity to serve came after meeting missionary surgeon, Dr. David Thompson, at a Medical Missions Conference. Dr. Thompson transformed a small medical dispensary in the jungle of Gabon, Africa, to Bongolo Evangelical Hospital—a well-equipped and busy 160-bed hospital.

While Bongolo's growth is impressive, what really makes it stand out among other missionary hospitals is its surgical residency program. Dr. Thompson helped found the Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) at Bongolo in 1996. PAACS is an "international organization dedicated to developing quality training programs in general surgery at Christian hospitals in Africa, and to assuring a high level of professional competence among its members." As a PAACS hospital, Bongolo embodied all of my goals for missions work: to demonstrate the love of Christ by providing both superior medical care and surgical education.

Therefore, I traveled to Bongolo as a fourth-year medical student in October 2005. Although I had not yet begun my surgical training, I spent the majority of my time in the operating rooms and got a first-hand look at how surgery is performed and taught in Africa. I logged these observations away and



PAACS residents and faculty at Bongolo. (From left to right: Drs. Fabruce, Loua, Anatole, Tchoba, Thompson, Thelander, and El-Hayek)

planned to return to Bongolo following my General Surgery residency at the Cleveland Clinic.

By the time I returned to Bongolo in April 2012, I had completed my residency and was finishing a surgical endoscopy/laparoscopy fellowship. Since becoming skilled in minimally invasive surgery, the benefits of which include decreased pain and faster recovery, I planned to establish a basic and sustainable laparoscopic training curriculum for the PAACS residents at Bongolo. While laparoscopic surgery can be expensive, I knew from my prior visit that Bongolo had the basic equipment and foundation necessary to achieve my goal.

So each morning I taught the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) provided by the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES). I would begin my lectures immediately following morning devotions and prayer. Then I would round with the residents, which included spending time with each patient

Con't on page 2

Mission Update from Naomi Tyree

God is doing great things in Hato Mayor, Dominican Republic! Earlier this summer, I had the privilege to journey on a medical mission trip through Lake Center Christian School and Meeting God in Missions.



Many Haitian refugees have traveled to the DR in search of better living conditions. They are often employed by the sugarcane landowners and are allowed to live on the property. During my stay in Hato Mayor the medical team traveled to several villages where we held medical clinics for the villagers who have virtually no access to health care. We held four days of clinic, one which was a combined medical/dental team. Approximately 250-300 patients were treated. The villagers suffer from many chronic diseases that are common in the US such as diabetes and hypertension. Infections of the skin and intestine as well as malnutrition are also prevalent.

The main village our team ministered in was Village 106. In addition to the medical clinic, a children's bible school and sports ministry was held for four days. A latrine was completed which was a combined effort on behalf of the team and the village men. A water sanitation project is also well underway – a great blessing to see! Our team was able to attend and minister to the local Dominican and Haitian churches in the evenings through worship, preaching, drama, and fellowship. At the end of our trip, over 150 people of village 50 received a meal and 110 families in village 106 received a package of food items, clothes, and most importantly a Bible.

to discuss the treatment plan and to pray. Following rounds, I would head to the ORs to perform two or three laparoscopic cases with the residents. I would provide instruction and guidance, helping them perfect their technique. During my last visit, I recognized that many patients in Gabon suffer from hernia, so I wanted to incorporate the recent advances of minimally invasive hernia surgery at Bongolo. In total, we performed the first seven laparoscopic hernia repairs at Bongolo with excellent short-term outcomes.



Laparoscopic surgery in the jungle

Unlike my trip in 2005, this visit provided the unique opportunity to participate in a laparoscopic workshop at the military medical school and hospital in Libreville, Gabon's capital. At the end of my trip, I traveled to Libreville with Dr. Keir Thelander (PAACS Program Director at Bongolo and former Cleveland Clinic Fairview Surgeon) and two PAACS residents. Thanks to tremendous help from my French speaking parents and the Bongolo team,

I was able to translate and give three hours of didactic lectures in French to about 30 surgeons and residents. Following these lectures, I assisted in laparoscopic simulation training using training boxes, and finished the course with three live cases at the military hospital. But the culmination of my trip was when I was able to share Christ as the primary motivation for helping to improve healthcare and surgical education in Africa.

After eighteen packed days, I was looking forward to resting on the flight home. Unfortunately, I was called into action as the passenger next to me experienced a cardiac arrest. Thankfully, I was able to resuscitate him and provide enough basic care that we were able to land in Frankfurt as planned. As I sat with the passenger to monitor his condition, I was able to share the Gospel and encourage him to consider his spiritual condition.

The trip was sponsored by World Medical Mission—the medical missions arm of Samaritan's Purse—and funded by multiple sources including grants from the Cleveland Clinic, Parkside Church, Northeast Ohio Christian Medical and Dental Associations, and donations from several close friends. I am tremendously grateful for all the support I received from so many facets of my life, and I look forward to more opportunities to participate in the PAACS mission in the future. ☺

Abundant Life
Living Water for Thirsty Women
WIMD Annual Conference 2012

DATES: Sept. 27 - Sept. 30, 2012

TIMES: 6pm Thursday - 11am Sunday
(optional preconference Thursday 12-4:30pm)

LOCATION: Huron, OH (on Lake Erie)

HOTEL: Sawmill Creek Resort

RESERVE: From link to hotel on WIMD site,
or call: (800) 729-6455

ROOM COST: \$119.00 / night

To register or for more information visit:
www.cmda.org/wimd or contact
Amber Smith, WIMD Executive Assistant
(423) 844-1022 • Amber.smith@cmda.org



Abundant Life
Living Water for Thirsty Women



WOMEN IN MEDICINE & DENTISTRY

Annual Conference 2012

SAWMILL CREEK RESORT | HURON, OHIO

REGISTRATION OPEN

SEPTEMBER 27TH - 30TH

A First Timers Perspective... By Stacey Curtis Prestegaard

It was a night of much anticipation. After months of “behind the scenes” details and numerous emails to coordinate the details of the Annual Banquet, it was such a joy to see it all come together. Working with NEOCMDA for less than a year, I am still learning many names & particulars of this busy and passionate community. I had been in constant communication via phone and emails with Mike & Debbie Joyce, who I could tell had been and still are the backbone of this event. I had yet to meet them face to face, but knew from our conversations that they truly have invested a lot of heart and prayer into this celebration. It was evident that it was appreciated by all that attended. As guests started arriving, it was obvious that a true community of Christ followers were here to celebrate the 2012 Grads and connect with new and old friends in the healthcare field.

After a wonderful meal, Laura Bobrowski, our chairperson greeted the group. Not only was the evening a celebration of the recent graduates from surrounding medical schools and residency programs, we were honored to recognize a Godly man, a retired missionary physician and friend & mentor to many in the audience ~ Dr. Quentin Kenoyer.



Dr. Mike Joyce (R) presenting a plaque of gratitude & appreciation to Dr. Quentin Kenoyer (L)

After Dr. Kenoyer shared from his heart, we had the pleasure of hearing from Dr. John Chae as he presented the “Kingdom Mindset and the Healthcare Professional” to all in attendance. Not being in the healthcare field myself (my only connection is my husband who is a family physician), I found Dr. Chae’s presentation to be powerful and eye-opening to any Christ follower. He challenged not only the new grads, but all of us to reflect on our goal & purpose in Christ, as well as the importance of having a Mission Statement for all areas

of your life (personal & professional). He ended with several convicting questions:

- **Who will you love?**
- **Who will you serve?**
- **What will you do with your talent?**



Dr. John Chae presenting “The Kingdom Mindset”

The remaining time was devoted to the Commissioning Service and recognizing the graduates. It was a moving experience: Doug Wenger, MD shared his gift of song; healthcare providers throughout the room stood and recited the Christian Practitioner’s Oath and a prayer over all closed the evening.

My husband & I had invited several couples from our medical school days and church to join us. We were very grateful to have our friends Drs. Mark & Sue Meyer attend the banquet with us. The following morning after church, our LifeGroup met and the words & challenges of both Dr. Kenoyer and Dr. Chae spurred on great conversation for our small group time. Since we were both “first timers,” I asked Sue if she would be willing to share a few thoughts about the banquet and this is what she said:

“For Mark and I, it was the first time to attend the annual NEOCMDA banquet. We were so impacted by the whole evening. The highlight of the evening was the speakers. The retired missionary, Dr. Kenoyer, who laid out a life of serving his God, his patients and his family made you want to be a better doctor and a better person and to serve God in a more intimate way. We could only hope to retire leaving a legacy of someone so faithful. The keynote speaker [Dr. John Chae] was a younger doc by far, but left the same kind of message swirling in my head; to live our lives as a faithful servant for God’s glory in our practices, in our families and in our walk with Christ. What an evening for these young graduates to experience. I left changed to make a difference and I can only pray that these doctors of tomorrow did the same.”

It was a wonderful evening. We hope to see you all there next year! Blessings. ☺

Dear Northeast Ohio CMDA members,

As I prepare to make the transition from being the NEOCMDA treasurer to Chairperson starting next year, I look back on the past couple of years and see God’s faithfulness in providing for our ministry in trying economic times. He has been so kind to us, giving us people who have sacrificially given of their limited means to the greater glory of Christ. I praise God for this- it builds upon my faith for the future of the ministry. At the same time, one of our “giving heroes” retired recently and as such, there is a sizable deficit in our budget for the next year. We are striving to be good stewards of the means that God has given us, so we are adjusting our spending, but it would mean so much if we our members and friends would join us in our mission to see the gospel preached to Northeast Ohio- both in our jobs and in our practices of medicine and dentistry. I have personally increased our family’s giving and it has been a joy to release it to the Lord to use for His glory. Though these are trying and uncertain times, I strongly believe that the money to we give back to God (it’s all His anyways!) will be, as Jesus promises in Mark 10:30, paid back a hundred fold. That’s like putting \$100 in your savings account and getting back \$10,000. You’re unlikely to find a better investment than that on this side of eternity. So please join me in giving to support NEOCMDA- your support and prayers are appreciated. All of the great things you read about on these newsletters wouldn’t be happening if it weren’t for your joining with us.

If you’d like to give to our local ministry, you can call the National CMDA office at: **1-888-230-2637** and tell them that you’d like the donation to go to the **Northeast Ohio CMDA ministry**. You can also send a check (with the designation **Northeast Ohio CMDA**) to:

PO Box 7500, Bristol, TN 37621



Thanks again for laboring alongside of our ministry.

Mike Chen, MD

Christian Medical & Dental Associations
Northeast Ohio
2035 E. Swan Lake Circle
Kent, OH 44240

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

“Motivating, educating, and equipping Northeast Ohio healthcare professionals to reach their patients, colleagues, and communities for Christ!”

neocmda.com • cmda.org

Please Join us for a Welcome Picnic

Saturday, August 18th • 3 - 7 pm

Come meet & hear from: *Sunil and Jeena John*
Serving with Interserve Nepal

Hosted by:

Dr. and Mrs. Michael & Debbie Joyce
8 Hunting Hollow ❖ Pepper Pike OH 44124



3:00 Swimming & Fellowship
5:00 Dinner

Please bring a dessert to share, if possible

**☀ Come and meet fellow students,
residents & faculty from area hospitals
and medical/dental schools**

**☀ Picnic will be rain or shine, pool is
indoor, bring your suits and towels.**

**☀ Families, children, and significant
others welcome.**

**RSVP to Debbie Joyce 216-464-3284 or
nursedt1950@aol.com**

Ministry Focus

Sunil and Jeena serve under Interserve mission agency. Sunil and his family were sent out by Calvary in January 2000 as medical missionaries to serve in the country of Nepal. Sunil is a Pediatrician and has been working at Tansen Mission Hospital in rural Nepal. Jeena is an engineer and has also had many opportunities to use her skills at the hospital. They are involved in teaching and equipping new believers in Tansen. Nepal is officially a Hindu nation. In addition to meeting the physical needs of the people at the hospital and the community, Sunil and Jeena seek to minister to the spiritual needs of the Christians and to lead others to Jesus Christ.



Background

Sunil and Jeena both grew up in Christian homes and each prayed to receive Christ at an early age. Sunil was convicted under the ministry of Rod Gilbert, an evangelist who presented the gospel during a school assembly. Jeena came to know Jesus through the ministry of a Billy Graham Crusade at the age of eight. In Sunil's fourth year of medical school at the University of Michigan, he shared his passion for missions with his fiancé, Jeena. They were married in June 1993 and serve alongside each other in ministry. They have three children: Stephen, Anna and Daniel.

 **Christian
Medical & Dental
Associations**
Changing Hearts in Healthcare

For general inquiries or to
update contact information,
please contact:

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Make sure to keep
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