

UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

News, Praise & Prayer



Adewuyi Photography

EDITORIAL	PG 1
FROM THE REGIONS	PG 2
ICMDA HIV INITIATIVE DESK	PG 14
WORK A DAY	PG 15
CONFERENCE CALENDER	PG 16



EDITORIAL

From the ICMDA Vellore office:

Since the last time the NPP was sent in March, many new developments have taken place.

Some doctors from ICMDA had visited China in April and attended a conference of Christian doctors/health care workers in a major city. Christian health care workers from many provinces had come and prayer is needed that they would form a cohesive fellowship. They want to send out missionaries to all parts of the globe!!

Drs. Kevin, Ralph, Robin Fisher and I had gone to Amman in June Jordan to attend the HOME conference and we have begun a dialogue for a joint Middle East secretariat to help foster work amongst medical students and young graduates. The other important activity of the secretariat would be to develop training tools to disciple Christian doctors.

In early July, I had gone to the Caucasus to attend the trination (Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia) conference in Ureki in Georgia. Please pray that the leadership of all the three countries represented would be strengthened and would be a voice in difficult places.

We had the ICMDA Board meeting in Lagos from the 23rd to the 25th July and some of the important decisions taken include:

- ◆ In countries that have difficulties in getting registration of an NGO, ICMDA would waive that requirement and in place would have an MOU.



- ◆ ICMDA made policies/ criteria regarding “projects” that it could undertake.

- ◆ ICMDA decided to make “position statements” regarding abortion, euthanasia and physician assisted suicide.

- ◆ We also decided to take a relook at our vision/mission statements.

- ◆ Finally we also decided that ICMDA should move from being just a “net work” body to a “partnership” body. This should also reflect in the way we hold out international conferences.

Please do pray for all these decisions and if you feel like giving feedback, it is more than welcome.

Soon after the Board meeting, we had this extraordinary Pan-African congress where we had over 1700 participants.

Finally I went to Taipei where Japan, Taiwan and Korea came together for a regional conference. I had the privilege of being a plenary speaker and also being on the historic first regional committee meeting conducted during the conference. Pray that they would be a powerful force for the gospel in the region.



Hope you enjoy reading and praying,

Vinod Shah

SOUTH AMERICA

CHILE

Haniel Eller the AR from South America (Working in partnership with Jorge Patpatian) writes:

“In August 2012 South America had the big pleasure to seize some of the fruits of our world Congress in 2010. The team of regional secretary, Jorge Patpatian and Student Regional Representative Haniel Eller, went to visit the newborn medical fellowship ASOCHIMEC in Chile.

The newborn started in the country with already 4 groups in different cities and very excited members. We had the opportunity to visit all of them spread in this long country and see how they are working and encourage and give some guidance. What we were most impressed was with the variety of the group having students, medical doctors, dentists and some other healthcare professionals. They as well are really eager to do a great variety of activities.”

Praise

- ▲ God for Chile and we hope to have many other good opportunities of announce more and more national organizations around our continent.



Pray:

- ▲ For the continuous growth and for the maintenance of all the healthcare professionals enthusiasm, faith, and hard work, all for the glory of our Lord.



EURASIA

LITHUANIA

On the first week of July about 40 health care students, junior graduates, doctors, spouses, child as well as a retired couple (medical doctor/dentist) were gathered for the 9th Baltic Christian Medical Students` Summer Camp close to Ignalina, Lithuania. It was a highly international camp as there were attendants/contributors not only from Latvia and Lithuania, but also from Poland (Malaysia), South Africa, Sweden, UK, USA and Norway. The theme of the camp was "Matters of Life", giving allusions to a book familiar to most of the ICMDA family and beyond.



A Lithuanian gynecologist/theologian and a neonatologist spoke about infertility/ family planning and perinatal psychology respectively. Mauldin led us also through inspiring Bible studies on the principles of bearing fruit in our Christian life. There were practical trainings/seminars on mission, evidence-based practice, family planning, suturing, plaster cast, and trauma care.



We enjoyed the fellowship in prayer and worship, swimming and other activities in these wonderful summer days. It was a strong moment when we sent out the fresh juniors with a common prayer. We praise God for what is happening in the Baltics and look forward to the anniversary camp!

As the theme indicates subjects as sexuality, abortion, family planning and infertility were addressed during the camp. Bill Mauldin from US (missionary to Latvia with his wife Donna) started out with a lecture on Integrating our Sexuality in the Bigger Picture, looking at sex in the Biblical view, while Alex Bunn from UK (GP and CMF officer) followed up with talking about effects of sex outside of marriage and pointed out the different meanings of "freedom from" and "freedom to" as maybe could be even more reflected in our contact with an increasingly secular society.



SERBIA

Klara Kisgeci Dudas of CMF Serbia writes:

Dr Marina Rastovic: "On Saturday 28.04.2012. Serbian National CMF conference was held in Belgrade close to the Lovely Park and Saint Sava temple in the apartment of Dr Angela Field and her husband. About 16 people attended conference.

The topic of conference was very interesting and entitled: "Unexpected events". IFES National Director Samuel Petrovski was preaching on subject of work of the apostles and the unexpected events in their lives. Then Dr John and his wife Dr Sue shared their experience in Taiwan and gave lectures with subject TRIAGE and ABORTION. It was more than encouraging to hear them talking on these subjects. We then had worship with the guitar."

Pray :

✘ Plans and upcoming events: The vision for Balkan through Healthcare was proclaimed a few years before, and we

praise our God for his mercy upon us and broken Balkan countries. The ICMDA Regional Conference - Balkan is planned to held next year 27-29 September 2013 in central part of Serbia. Pray that it will be His miracle!

✘ The first committee meeting will be in Vrnjacka Banja on 2/3rd of June 2012.



National Leaders from Balkan countries at ICMDA Open board Meeting, Belgium. Need prayers

✘ We are thankful to the Lord and individuals for helping and encouraging us to have this First International Saline Training for trainers. Location CMF Office, Novi Sad, Serbia. (Dates: 8-10 June 2012.)

✘ National CMF-Medical Students and Youth Camp 21-23 September 2012, Location "Bethel" near Novi Sad.



GEORGIA

Trination conference in Ureki

A conference of the Caucasus nations namely Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia was held in Kolkhida Hotel, Ureki from the 5th to the 9th of July. There were about 120 delegates from the 3 countries and the organizers had done a remarkable job of coordinating this.

The Plenary speakers included Dr Vinod Shah (Secular Medicine versus Christian medicine), Jim Pipon (What is a Christian doctor), David Chaput (Can Compassion be taught?) and James Tomlinson (God's calling in my life). There were small group discussions and poster presentations besides some parallel sessions in the afternoon.

The beach along the black sea provided just the foil from the serious conference situation. On the last day all the participants, political realities notwithstanding, broke bread in a moving spirit of unity.

Eurasia Regional Secretary Dr. James provides further news about the region:

Says Marina Rastovic: We are about to have first conference for young medics



21 to 23 of September in the mountain Fruska Gora near Novi Sad. The topic will be "unexpected event". We will have guests from Ukraine, who will give lectures; Serbian medics will also contribute especially Dr Klara Dudas. I will help in worship with one another sister. Not many people have responded about being able to come but we have decided to have the conference anyway! Please pray for us.

James continues: "I am also starting to think more about next year's Eurasian team meeting. The provisional dates are 20 to 24



March 2013 in Albania. The Eurasia officers (includes the RRs) will be discussing this when we Skype together. Following on from past meetings and recent discussions with some of you we are likely to make the focus on developing our work as a team and looking at how we develop the work in the region in the coming years.

Sarah, Abi and I will be in Kazakhstan for meetings with the Central Asian union of groups from the 29 September to 14 October.



WEST AFRICA

Asemota Osemwen , our regional secretary reports:

MY VISIT TO BENIN REPUBLIC

The delegates Drs Nnaji Blessing and Ola Ibukun met with the staff of Bethesda Hospital a Christian NGO in Cotonou, Benin on 04/11/12. There were a total of 9 participants, 7 members of staff and 2 delegates.

Discussion included

- ❖ A brief introduction about ICMDA pamphlet in the French language was passed around.
- ❖ The possibility of holding a medical missions program
- ❖ The Pan Africa 2012 conference
- ❖ Structural and administrative aspects of the ICMDA

Praise God that ICMDA was well received.

Challenges

- ✦ Communication, language – French speaking.
- ✦ Being a Private hospital NGO, the possibility of reaching students was low.

- ✦ Commitment as they are a part of an association that covers francophone countries
- ✦ Being a resource poor country, fears regarding finances exist.

It is important that continued communication via e-mails and phone calls is done to bridge gaps and that definite steps be made towards official inauguration.

Benin Republic needs our prayers that they might run well with the vision of becoming a part of a global movement of ICMDA.

TOGO

A one day Christian doctors' (ICMDA) meeting in Lome Togo on 28th of April 2012 was attended by Martin Osse from Benin



republic. It was a very warm and encouraging and interactive session with plenary on Christian medical ethics.



Please pray for open doors and growth of the work of God through ICMDA in west Africa especially the Franco phone countries.

ICMDA MEETING IN SIERRA LEONE

The delegates arrived in Freetown and met with Dr Kojo Carew, Spokesperson for the Sierra Leone Christian Doctors.

Discussion with him included

- ❖ Brief introduction of ICMDA
- ❖ The need to establish and continue fellowship
- ❖ Incorporation of the students
- ❖ Registration with the Nations corporate affairs
- ❖ Communication with other sister countries.

The news of ICMDA was well received and they promised to attend the Pan Africa conference. The passion to serve through healthcare was renewed and there was great enthusiasm as regards involving the students. They covet the prayers of fellow stewards in building the healthcare and student mentorship.

NIGERIA

PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS

An extraordinary Pan African congress with delegates numbering more than 1700 met in Lagos in July!! Here are some details.

Host: Christian Medical and Dental Association Nigeria



Theme: Healthcare Challenges in Africa – THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSE

Dates: 25th July – 29th July, 2012

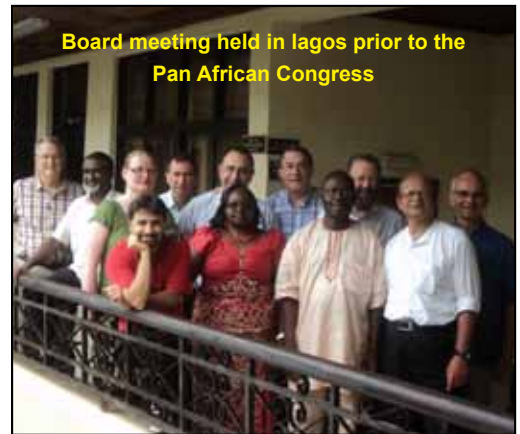
Venue: The Covenant University, Ota-Via Lagos, Ogun-State, Nigeria

Some glimpses into the rich program:

The Plenary devotions were taken by Br. Gbile Akanni and then on the second day when he called for recommitment of those who wanted it, they numbered in hundreds.

Dr Kevin Vaughan took the keynote address and he focused on the qualities of a Christian doctor.

Dr Osemwen (The Christian response), Dr Vinod Shah (Paradigm shifts needed in mission and leadership), and Dr Peter Saunders (Understanding the times and ethical challenges posed by abortion and euthanasia) were the other plenary speakers.



There were symposia which were debates and the topics were “Corruption in Africa”, “Intergenerational issues” and “conflicts in Africa”.

Dr Santosh Mathew and Dr Jachin Velavan brought some insights from India which they thought they could replicate in Africa.



The most interesting aspect of the program was the parallel sessions and more than 40 topics were covered and there was a wealth of information for the delegates; the choice proved very difficult.

On the final day there was a communion service led by the Bishop Oyedepo which was very meaningful as he focused on wholistic healing.

We need to pray that Nigerian doctors and dentists will take charge of reaching out not only to West Africa but indeed to the whole of the continent.

SOUTH AFRICA

Dr. Jan Kunene our acting regional secretary from South Africa writes

about the recently concluded South African regional conference held from the 4-8th of July (after Zambia 2000, Malawi 2004, South Africa 2008).

It was called: ICMDA2012 'Fusion' Southern African Conference in Nyanga, Zimbabwe. He recalls the main Bible thrusts in the meeting:

- ✘ Rom 8:18-21 "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.
- ✘ As result of a fractured world after the Fall, with the disconnection in the realm(s) of the relationship with God/ with myself/in the context of social relationships/and our relationship with our own body and physical world, these contribute to ILLNESS in our society.
- ✘ God has given us the task as health professionals to fuse this broken creation. But it starts with us being healed. And then we can bring healing, as a fused healed person, a 'wounded healer', to push back the suffering in each of these realm(s).



Here is a wonderful fusion photograph of the South African regional conference



✦ God has given us some apostles, prophets, teachers, pastors, evangelists, and administrators to prepare God's people for the work of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and become mature in the Christian Health Profession. (*Ephesians 4:11-13*).

SOUTH ASIA

Dr Sam David, our Regional Secretary Writes:

I encouraged the Christian doctors and dentists in Nepal to come together for a short 2 day retreat in Kathmandu in August 2012. Dr. Samundra along with Dr. Indra Napit of HCF & NCMDA took extraordinary pains to arrange this retreat at Anandban, near Kathmandu. The theme of this retreat was "...they couldn't be stopped..." We had studies from the lives of NT apostles from Acts and we were encouraged to look for



applications in everyday life.

As I have been personally involved with Nepal for

many years, it was very encouraging to see a good number of keen Christian doctors from within Nepal taking leadership roles in the context of missionary enterprise as well as market place witness as Christian health care workers. We had 24 delegates attending this conference and we also experienced good times of interacting and reviewing our own positions for the future.

Please Pray: Following this meeting I have been invited to go to Pokhara in Nepal to conduct a retreat for the students there. This is planned for October 18th to 20th 2012. Interestingly, I am convinced there is good potential for our brethren out there to stand out as lighthouses for Jesus in their area of work and in the country as a whole.

I followed up this visit with one to HCF – Srilanka. Dr. Rajan Rajasingham helped me make a 12 day long itinerary to Srilanka from 23rd August to 3rd September 2012. This was an eye-opener to me. The interesting part is how the IFES movement in Srilanka namely FOCUS & GCF work so closely with medical personal as well as HCF Srilanka to carry on the vision of reaching out those in health care fields.

I had the privilege of travelling with Dr, Rajan Rajasingham as well as the FOCUS General Secretary Mrs. Savithri. During this travel we witnessed how God has an-



INDONESIA

swered prayers of many over years to open doors for partnership, and networking in Srilanka. We could witness initiation of Fellowships among medical students in Peridinia University and Jaffna University.



I realise that how much some of the faculty members have been praying for a movement among the medicos in their universities. It was also my joy and privilege to meet with very keen members of HCF and GCF.

It is time ICMDA continue to partner with our brethren for a fruitful time ahead. Pray for follow up as well as some plans to help plan leadership workshops as well as work on a seminar on relevance of Family Medicine as Christian Response... Praise God as well as pray for His guidance along the way.

Praying for some inroads into Bhutan and Myanmar...

In the process of forming the regional committee and we need His choice for this... Praying for a group that would stand together...

I was able to support the CEO of ICMDA in a small way in the Head Quarters.

World Prayer Assembly-ICMDA sends representatives for concerted prayer: On the evening of May the 17th during the WPA, 100,000 believers of all denominations gathered together in the national stadium of Jakarta for a massive historical prayer meeting.

These were linked live to 200 cities of Indonesia where in similar meetings a gathering estimated at about 2 million were present. Satellite TV broadcasting further enhanced the viewing to several million worldwide. ICMDA wanted to be part of this great event and so we sponsored two doctors who we sponsored to enable them to take a leadership role in praying for health



worldwide. The doctors were Dr Latha Paul and Dr Joel Selwyn. They reported: The following are topics were discussed during the World prayer assembly.

- Expectancy for God working in the health care scenario.
- Nazarene Manifesto is the manifesto given for Healthcare professionals
- Opportunities in health care – “more people pass through the hospitals of the world than through the churches.”



We prayed for:

- Infectious and preventable disease
- Mental illness – sufferers and their families, care givers, psychologists,



psychiatrists,

- Cancer. We don't know how to solve this. We need to seek God for answers
- Reproductive technologies, especially their use unethically – abortion, gender selection
- Life and death issues, euthanasia.
- Commercialization in health care
- Restoration of Biblical health care – ethical and Godly values, compassion, Godly training, mission hospitals
- WHO

- Corruption in health care
- Healing of the health care team – humility
- The 12 ICMDA regions.
- HCFI
- Indonesia – the opportunities for Christian health workers and need for training and full time workers.
- Egypt – testimony of how Christian health workers responded in the demonstrations to bring care and compassion
- India – the responsibilities and opportunities for health workers who go all over the world
- Africa – Poverty and AIDS are huge problems
- There were times of group prayer as well as corporate prayer. These can well be items that ICMDA regions can pray for.

EAST ASIA

TAIWAN

Dr. Heng-Der Chern, our East Asia Regional Secretary reports

1. In Aug. 9-12, we had the 41st ACMWSEP (Asian Christian Medical Workers and Students Exchange



Program) regional conference in Xitou, Taiwan. The theme of the meeting is “Promoting networking and collaboration in Medical Missionary”. About 100 attendee from Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore, China, Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan and India (Dr. Vinod Shah, CEO of ICMDA) spoke at the meeting.

2. We had a preconference Asian Junior medical workers and medical students (33 attended) field work of an English camp for the elementary students and community services for the elders of the aboriginal Tsou tribe in Mount Ali on Aug. 6-8



3. Through the help of International Health Service, we had the first International Saline Solution Training workshops for both basic and train the trainer sessions in Pu-Li Christian Hospital and Taipei Glory Cell Church on Aug. 9- 11. There were about 100 participants in total for the workshops.



4. ICMDA East Asia Regional Committee has been formally proposed in the executive committee of ACMWSEP on

Aug. 10, 2012. The staff will be Dr. Chul-Min Ahn (Chairman, upon confirmation by KCMA general assembly), Dr. Jeon-Soo Shin (Treasurer, upon confirmation by KCMA general assembly), Dr. Masaki Imamura (vice chairman from JCMA), Dr. Leo Poon (Regional Student Representative from Hong Kong CMDF) and Dr. Heng-Der Chern (East Asia Regional Secretary).



Praise

- ✦ Have the first East Asia regional committee during the 42nd ACMWSEP meeting in AJOU University, Suwon City, GG-do, Korea on Aug. 6-11, 2013. Many regional activities, including International Saline Solution training workshop, will be greatly facilitated via this platform.

Prayer

- ✦ JCMA is considering application for hosting the 2018 ICMDA world congress (7 year after the 311 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami of Japan in 2011). However, JCMA is evaluating the feasibility of meeting management, collaborating organization and etc.



EAST AFRICA

TANZANIA

Dr. Mesfin Beyero, Regional Secretary, writes about his Visit to the Tanzanian Christian Medical Doctors Fellowship under the Image doctors

Tanzania is one of the countries in the Eastern Africa region where there was no formal association of Christian medical doctors and dentists. Efforts to initiate the fellowship back in 2007 have failed because of some strategic issues. We, as a region, were praying for Tanzania to have a Christian association of doctors and join the brothers and sisters within the region for fellowship, witness and service.



In answer to that prayer, God has been working among our Tanzanian colleagues where they come together under the umbrella of an association called Image Doctors. I visited Tanzania in May 2012 where I was able to spend two days with Image Doctors. It was a time of excitement to discover that their vision and mission is in line with the ICMDA. They were also eager to be part of the international community under the ICMDA and get engaged with all the good works the Lord has intended them to do with their brothers and sisters in the region. We praisethank the Lord!



Dr Micheal Burke writes:

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The "Dignity and Right to Health Award" is an international award established to address health and development issues including HIV. The "Dignity and Right to Health Award" is an activity of the International Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) Leadership in Christian Health and Development Initiative.

The award provides an essential opportunity to recognize, support and publicize the most outstanding role models and champions acting to address health and development issues including the HIV global epidemic. It is well positioned to become an important symbol for ensuring that voices from diverse communities and countries are acknowledged and have the opportunity to share the story of their work. The Dignity and Right to Health Award aims to model, mobilize and encourage creative and sustainable ways that enhance the dignity and human rights of people and communities living with a range of health and development challenges including the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

The award will be given to individuals and/or community based and national organizations for excellence, outstanding leadership and compassion in responding to health and development issues including HIV/AIDS. The process will seek nominees who demonstrate the following criteria.

Criteria 1. Leadership

Demonstrated visionary and innovative leadership

Criteria 2. Target group - Marginalized / Hard to Reach Communities

Provision of health services for communities who have difficulties in accessing care due to ethnicity, caste, behavior, and or other reasons, or are hard to reach due to geographical difficulties, violence or conflicts.

Criteria 3. Program outcomes

Significant impact at local and wider level, Empowers others in integrated community responses, Facilitates church integration and participation in best practice models of care Demonstrates excellence in full community involvement and empowerment of the target communities Works, facilitates and advocates for gender equality in community participation and response to issues faced by the target communities Links well with government and other actors in a comprehensive approach to issues faced by the target communities Models creative and compassionate responses that inspire many to similarly enhance the dignity and human rights of the target communities.

Criteria 4. Personal Life



Exemplifies a life that does justice, loves kindness and walks humbly with God. Assists individuals to be worshipers of the Living God

An important part of this award process is to seek appropriate publicity that will allow Christian witness and action to be an encouragement and a model to others.



WORK A DAY

Those participating in 'Work a Day for ICMDA' are invited to support the work of ICMDA with a focus on ICMDA's regional work through giving the equivalent of one day's salary for the work of the ICMDA.

In adopting 'Work a day for ICMDA' this encourages the same proportion of giving from all who choose to support the work of ICMDA through 'work a day'. Those not receiving a salary, including students, are also encouraged to participate in giving what they feel able to. Monies given through this initiative will be directed to the work of the ICMDA undertaken within the regions.

This includes the encouragement and support given by our team of Regional Secretaries and Regional and Area Representatives for Students and Junior Graduates alongside the support of regional activities such as student leadership training and regional conferences.

Gifts for ICMDA made as part of the Work a Day initiative may be given through the following means:

1. Direct to your regional ICMDA account (where applicable)
2. Online or by cheque or bank transfer to the ICMDA (UK) Trust account
3. Through national member movements

Donations identified as being given under work a day will be directed to the region the donation comes from unless otherwise stated.

If the cost of bank transfer or impact of exchange rates would significantly decrease or prevent donation consider setting aside the sum you plan to give and hand it to a member of the ICMDA team in cash at the next opportunity. Please contact your Regional Secretary or the ICMDA office on office@icmda.net if you plan to give in this way.

Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

- Isaiah 64:8



CONFERENCES CALENDER

2012	NATIONAL CONFERENCES
25 - 28 October	Biennial national conference EMFI, India
15 - 17 November	CMAI, National conference, India.
2013	NATIONAL CONFERENCES
8 - 10 February	National Students Conference, CMF, UK.
4 - 7 April	National Conference, CMF, Newzeland.
2014	WORLD CONGRESS
July 2014	Rotterdam, Netherlands



PLEASE NOTE: ICMDA has an international address - office@icmda.net. Please change details to this preferred address. For useful websites and resources, visit the ICMDA website resource bank. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of ICMDA. Translations of NPP are encouraged and permissible

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE - JANUARY 2013

ICMDA, No.4, Moovendar salai, Bagayam, Vellore - 632 002. South India
Tel: +91 416 2266686, **Website:** www.icmda.net, **Email:** office@icmda.net

