

6 Marshalsea Road
London
SE1 1HL
T 020 7234 9660
F 020 7234 9661

www.cmf.org.uk

CMF

Christian Medical Fellowship



November 2015

2015 Christmas Appeal Connect & Grow, Speak & Serve – £70,000 needed



Peter
Saunders

In January 1992, I stepped out of clinical medicine to become CMF's Head of Student Ministries. It was a path I had never anticipated.

I had finished my specialist training in general surgery in New Zealand, served for a year at a mission hospital in Kenya and completed two years of mission training at All Nations Christian College. Kirsty and I had two children under five, were expecting a third, and had been looking forward to returning to Africa as a surgeon/paediatrician team.

But God is full of surprises and he tells us things on a 'need to know' basis. His word is a light to our path but not necessarily to our horizon! God had other plans for us, and almost a quarter of a century later I am still with CMF, now as Chief Executive. Kirsty serves as a community paediatrician in Hertfordshire and our three boys are now grown up and seeking to serve Christ in new paths.

Serving Christian doctors alongside the CMF team over these 24 years has been a massive privilege, and I remain excited about every aspect of CMF's ministry. But what thrills me most is seeing Christian doctors, nurses and medical students growing in Christ – finding God's path for their lives, discovering in practice that all their days are 'written in God's book' (Psalm 139:16), and finding that God, who saved them 'by grace through faith' has also 'prepared beforehand' good works for them to do (Ephesians 2:8–10).

CMF exists to help Christian doctors and nurses **connect** with each other for encouragement and support, **grow** in Christian maturity, **speak** for Jesus Christ and his kingdom and **serve** God by serving one another and those in need.



prayer
summit

Building capacity

2015 has been a year for building capacity in order to serve our members better. Our main priorities have been largely achieved: organisational development (a CMF prayer summit along with Board and Senior Staff training), laying the framework for a volunteer programme, completing the upgrade of our database and the advancement of the Human Journey course.

Our team has also been strengthened by new staff members – John Greenall (Head of Student Ministries), Pippa Peppiatt (Nurses Student Staffworker) and Graham Crosbie (Membership and IT Manager).



There is so much to thank God for – and the Student and National Conferences this year were amongst our biggest and most successful ever. We have also had some significant victories in advocacy with the defeat of the Harvie and Marris assisted suicide bills in Scotland and Westminster respectively. But the challenges keep on coming.



Moving forward

In 2016–2020 we expect to face new threats. Financial pressures on the NHS will grow, hostility to Christian faith and values will intensify and medical needs both here and abroad will increase. But there will also be new opportunities to touch a broken society with the message of the gospel and the love of Jesus Christ.

Christian churches, communities, charities and corporate ventures are growing to fill the gaps and Christian health professionals need to be at the centre of these new developments.

The CMF Senior Staff Team and Board are now working on our '2020 Vision' – our plan for the next five years – which we will be unveiling in the next six months.

This new plan will focus on resourcing our members to '**Connect and Grow, Speak and Serve**'. We are currently working on a new look website built around this theme, better designed to meet members' needs.

In addition, plans are being laid for **six new strategic priorities** to help prepare our members for the continuing challenges they will face. Watch this space.

All this requires that we maintain our income at this critical time of transition.

Can you help?

Due to the generosity of our members and through careful control of costs we are currently on target to reach our budget this year. But this depends on the response to this annual Christmas appeal running according to plan.

Only 40% of our annual income comes from members' subscriptions and we deliberately try to keep subscriptions for students and F1 doctors low at £6 and £45 respectively.

We therefore continue to rely heavily on our 4,500 qualified members who are able to make gifts over and above their subscription.

Knowing that many members prefer the flexibility of giving in response to specific appeals rather than regularly, we had already planned at the beginning of this year to raise £70,000 (6%) of our £1.3 million budget through this Christmas appeal.

Your gift this Christmas will make a real difference in 2016:

- £10 pays for a free copy of *Foundations* for a FY1 graduate
- £50 covers the subsidy for a student member to attend the Student Conference
- £100 puts *Nucleus* magazine into the hands of 100 students
- £100 covers the cost of a student leader attending the National Conference
- £250 keeps a part-time regional Student Staffworker on the road for a week
- £500 sponsors an international student leader for one week of training
- £1,000 covers the cost of an evangelism day conference for 40 students
- £1,500 covers the cost of *Tropical Doctor* given free to CMF members working in resource poor countries.
- £3,000 covers the cost of publishing a 50 page booklet like *Facing Serious Illness*. CMF is planning three new titles for 2016.

The CMF Board of Trustees meets on 5 December to agree budgets for 2016. **Your prompt response will help us plan responsibly and wisely for next year.** Would you help us by making a special gift to CMF today?

If you would like to give regularly by direct debit this allows us to plan our ministries even more effectively. If your gift is eligible for Gift Aid we can claim your tax back as well, at no extra cost to you. You can also give online at: www.cmf.org.uk/appeal

Thank you for prayerfully considering this request.

Yours sincerely



Peter Saunders
Chief Executive



Ken Toop
Chairman